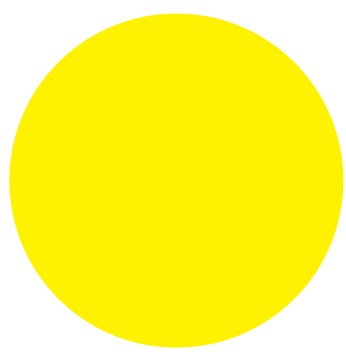


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Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (c) addresses members of Parliament's Legal and Judicial Committee and officials from the Drug Control Headquarters during a meeting on drug law enforcement and reform in Tehran on October 6, 2025.

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Iran should keep all doors open to dispel nuclear impasse

INTERVIEW
EXCLUSIVE



After the United States withdrew from the 2015 nuclear deal (the JCPOA) in 2018 and reimposed unilateral sanctions, Iran—having not reaped the promised benefits of the agreement—was compelled to scale back its nuclear commitments gradually. Negotiations between Tehran and Western countries to reach a new accord continued, and a fresh round of talks with the United States had also begun until June when Israel launched a military aggression against Iran and the United States bombed certain Iranian nuclear facilities. Tehran, reacting to what it saw as the International Atomic Energy Agency's passive stance and biased positions, suspended its cooperation with the watchdog. Meanwhile, the three European parties

to the JCPOA – France, Germany and the UK – seized on Iran's remedial measures and the suspension of cooperation with the IAEA to invoke the so-called "snapback" mechanism to restore UN. They even judged the Cairo understanding reached between Iran and the IAEA on a framework for new cooperation to be insufficient and Iran's final diplomatic efforts on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York failed to shift the hardline positions of Western states. Ultimately, on September 19, the UN Security Council voted against extending the suspension of sanctions and previous resolutions were effectively revived at the end of the 30-day period, although Russia and China, as permanent Council members, did not deem the enforcement of those sanctions mandatory. With the revival of UN resolutions, Iran's cooperation with the IAEA and the future of the country's nuclear file have been thrown into uncertainty. Iran now faces decisive choices—decisions that must find a way out of the current deadlock without jeopardizing the country's national

interests.

Iran Daily spoke with Heydar-Ali Masoudi, an analyst of international affairs, about these developments.

IRAN DAILY: Considering Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi's recent remarks that the Cairo understanding has become ineffective following the instigation of the snapback mechanism, is Iran seeking to redefine its cooperation with the IAEA, or are there signs that Tehran is moving toward suspending or cutting off collaboration?

MASOUDI: I think the Foreign Ministry, by necessity, should seek to strike a balance between domestic legal requirements on cooperation with the IAEA on one hand, and diplomatic imperatives and realities on the international stage on the other. At present there is some limited cooperation with the IAEA—primarily for oversight of the Bushehr power plant—but if cooperation were to be extended to other matters, such as monitoring sites that were bombed, three conditions would need to be met.

First, there must be a consensual decision within the Supreme National Security Council. Second, any such cooperation with the agency would need to be considered part of a broader diplomatic agreement with the major international powers. And third, there must be an agreed technical framework with the IAEA to ensure that cooperation can begin in a way that is secure and non-detrimental to Iran's nuclear industry.

Araghchi has said that the three European countries have weakened their role in the negotiation process by activating the snapback mechanism and by showing bad faith toward Iran's proposals. Yet he continues to stress Iran's adherence to diplomacy. Can this stance be read as Tehran sidelining the European troika and preferring to negotiate directly, without intermediaries, with Washington?

Previously the foreign minister spoke of completely sidelining Europeans from diplomacy should the snapback mechanism

be triggered. More recently, however, his remarks have focused on the weakening of Europe's position in negotiations. This could signal a tentative willingness in Tehran to remain open to diplomacy, even with European actors. Moreover, by "Europeans" one might mean more than just the troika; in recent months there have been occasional mentions of mediation by other European states, such as Norway, between Iran and the United States.

Overall, irrespective of European participation or absence in nuclear diplomacy with Iran, it appears that Tehran still maintains direct channels of communication with Washington, including through the US special representative for talks with Iran [Steve Witkoff]. The issue, though, is that with [US Secretary of State] Marco Rubio's ascendancy over many aspects of US foreign policy decision-making, the influence of figures like Witkoff has diminished, and the United States now seeks a different model of negotiations with Iran—one of direct, public talks. Yet, there may not be a domestic decision now in Iran to pursue such talks openly.

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Iran calls US 'law-breaking actor' after Trump's threats of new strikes

Tehran has 'no plans' to enter new nuclear talks with Europe

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Ismaeil Baqaei called the United States a "law-breaking" country after its president threatened Tehran with new military strikes.

US President Donald Trump on Sunday warned that Washington would bomb Iran again if it restarted its nuclear program, while speaking at a ceremony marking the 250th anniversary of the US Navy at Naval Station Norfolk in Virginia.

"We'll have to take care of that too if they do," Trump said, referring to Tehran's potential resumption of nuclear activity. "You want to do that, it's fine, but we're going to take care of that and we're not going to wait so long."

Trump also praised the June 22 US airstrikes on Iran's nuclear

facilities as "perfectly executed," saying American B-2 bombers and submarine-launched Tomahawk missiles hit every single target.

The operation targeted three key Iranian nuclear sites following the Israeli aggression that began on June 13.

"Admitting and acknowledging a criminal and illegal act brings no credibility to the US. Rather, it only proves to the international community and the Iranian nation that the United States is a law-breaking actor who fails to live up to the accepted international rules and regulations," Baqaei said during his weekly press conference.

No negotiations for now

The Iranian official also said that Tehran has no plan to enter new nuclear negotiations with the European parties to

the 2015 nuclear deal, which triggered the reimposition of international sanctions by invoking the snapback mechanism of the nuclear agreement.

"We currently do not have any plans to enter negotiations. At this stage, our focus is on considering the impacts and consequences of the actions of the three European countries and the United States." However, Baqaei said that, "Whenever we feel that diplomacy can bear fruit, we will definitely make decisions based on the interests and benefits of the country."

EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said on Sunday that the snapback of sanctions and nuclear restrictions must not be the end of diplomacy.

"In this spirit, I will continue to reach out to all stakeholders, including Iran. Because a sustainable solution to the Ira-



Ismaeil Baqaei
● IRNA

nian nuclear issue can only be achieved through negotiation and diplomacy", she said.

Western countries, spearheaded by the United States, accuse Iran

of pursuing nuclear weapons and define uranium enrichment as a red line.

Iran categorically rejects the accusations, insisting that its

nuclear program is solely for civilian purposes and that it has a right to enrichment under the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Tehran voices support for bids to halt crimes, ethnic cleansing in Gaza



People run for cover during an Israeli airstrike on a high-rise building in Gaza City, on September 5, 2025.

● Yousef Al Zanoun/AP

posal for Gaza and called on Israel to "immediately stop bombing Gaza," while Israel has continued its deadly bombardment of Gaza, killing at least 20 more Palestinians since dawn.

The ministry stressed that stopping the violence must be accompanied by "legal and judicial" action to hold the regime accountable, and to "identify and prosecute the commanders and perpetrators of war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity in the Gaza Strip, with the aim of ending the decades-long impunity of the Zionist regime."

The statement was referring to a Trump-proposed cease-fire plan, which demands the rapid release of captives held in Gaza, staged Israeli withdrawals, and the creation of a transitional administration.

On Friday, Hamas submitted its response to the 20-point proposal, with the group agreeing to hand over administration of the besieged territory to Palestinian technocrats and free all Israeli captives.

The Gaza-based resistance group's response said it was willing to "immediately enter" peace negotiations through mediators.

The statement said that decisions over any cease-fire or political settlement must rest with the Palestinians themselves, including the armed resistance.

It said Tehran welcomes any decision by them that "entails stopping the genocide of Palestinians, the withdrawal of the occupying Zionist army from Gaza, respect for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, the entry of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction of Gaza."

Tehran also warned that a cessation of hostilities would not absolve international actors of their duty to pursue legal accountability.

US President Donald Trump welcomed at the weekend Hamas's positive response to a peace pro-

International Desk

Iran reacted to a recent peace plan proposed by the United States to end Israel's onslaught on Gaza, saying that it will support any decision aimed at halting war crimes and ethnic cleansing in the Palestinian territory.

In a statement on Sunday, Iran's Foreign Ministry said Tehran has always supported initiatives aimed at halting war crimes and ethnic cleansing in the Gaza Strip and securing Palestinian self-determination, citing the 1948 UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the legal and moral responsibility of states to support the legitimate struggle of Palestinians to achieve freedom.

Araghchi raps Israel's social media push to sway US public opinion

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi denounced a recently revealed Israeli propaganda campaign aimed at drumming up support for the regime on social media.

In a post on his X account on Monday, Araghchi said, "We don't pay people to lie on social media. That's what Israel does." The comment followed a report by the Quincy Institute, which said that the Israeli regime pays a group of approximately 14 to 18 social media influencers around \$7,000 for each promotional post aimed at creating a positive image of the regime in American public opinion.

As global public opinion shifts decisively against Israel's genocidal campaign in Gaza, the regime is intensifying efforts to dominate the space through a network of paid influencers, algorithm manipulation, AI content framing and covert media partnerships.

At the center of the campaign is a covert influence operation, exposed in documents filed under the US Foreign Agents Registration Act. The Israeli foreign ministry, through its contractor Bridges Partners, has reportedly paid up to \$7,000 per post for influencers to publish pro-Israel content on platforms such as TikTok and Instagram.

According to Responsible Statecraft, the



Abbas Araghchi
● TASNIM

"Influencer Campaign" was budgeted at \$900,000 to cover 75-90 posts between June and September 2024. The content is being produced under an initiative called the "Esther Project."

The name bears resemblance to a separate initiative by the right-wing US think tank, the Heritage Foundation, which launched its own "Project Esther" in October 2024. The Heritage campaign aims to identify and counter what it describes as "antisemitic" rhetoric on US campuses and in public discourse — an effort that critics say equates legitimate criticism of Israel with support for terrorism.

Iran should keep ...

Given the uncertainty and stalemate that have followed provocation of the snapback, how long can this situation persist, and what options does Iran have to break the impasse? What demands could Tehran put forward to return to the path of agreement?

A few points come to mind for exiting the deadlock. First, keeping diplomatic channels open with all influential parties to the nuclear file, including Europe, the United States, and other Security Council members.

Second, engaging in direct, public or private, interaction with US counterparts to speed the transmission of diplomatic messages at times of crises or in order to create openings in relations in case Iran formulates a strategy for comprehensive negotiations with the United States. Next, developing a post-snapback diplomatic strategy. Such diplomacy could involve a broad array of engagements with China and Russia aimed at forestalling the enforcement of Security Council sanctions, or at least finding new avenues for economic and secu-

rity cooperation with those states. It could also include outreach to regional actors to build new coalitions or strengthen existing partnerships in security and economic spheres. Finally, rebuilding the country's defense capabilities—through consultations with states like China for the purchase of air defense systems and weapons—and bolstering missile capabilities to raise the costs of any new military action against Iran. Those are the principal courses of action that come to mind for steering Iran out of the current impasse.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Major gas, oil reserves discovered in southern Fars: *Minister*

Economy Desk

Iran's Oil Minister Mohsen Paknejad announced on Monday the discovery of large gas and oil reserves in the Pazan field in the southern province of Fars, describing it as a significant step toward addressing the country's future energy shortages. According to Paknejad, exploration operations in the Pazan field have revealed an estimated 10 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of gas in place. "If we assume a 70% recovery factor, this equals about 7 tcf of extractable gas — roughly the equivalent of 7,000 days, or 17 to 18 years, of production from a single South Pars phase," he explained. The discovery adds 10 tcf to Iran's total proven gas reserves. After nearly eight years of halted exploration, drilling of the second exploratory well resumed and was

recently completed, leading to the latest findings, Paknejad noted.

Oil reserves found

In addition to its substantial gas potential, the minister said that exploration teams from the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) have, for the first time, entered a horizontal layer estimated to contain at least 200 million barrels of crude oil. "Further studies could reveal even larger volumes," he said. The development contract for the Pazan gas and oil field has already been awarded, and operational work is expected to begin soon. Production from the field is projected to start within 40 months, Paknejad added. Iran, the world's second-largest holder of natural gas reserves, expects the newly discovered field to help offset supply shortages and strengthen its long-term energy security, he said.



Steel output up 3.2% to nearly 15m tons, rebounding after Q1 dip



Economy Desk

Iran's steel production reached nearly 15 million tons in the first half of the current Iranian calendar year, which began on March 21, marking a 3.2% increase from the same period last year, the Iranian Steel Producers Association (ISPA) said on Monday. The six-month growth contrasts with a 4.8% decline reported in the first quarter, suggesting improved performance across the industry despite persistent power shortages, IRNA reported. According to ISPA, the rebound likely reflects better planning by steelmakers to secure electricity through purchases of "green" and open-market power as well as self-supplied power plants.

In Iran, some major industrial producers such as steelmakers have started purchasing electricity from "green" and open-market sources — renewable energy sources — or generating it through their own power plants to offset shortages from the national grid. Producers had expected severe power restrictions this year, but unexpected 90% electricity cuts in May and June forced them to adapt quickly, the report said. Among steel chain products, rebar and iron ore concentrate saw the highest growth, attributed to their lower power consumption. The surge in iron ore concentrate exports also supported higher output. In contrast, production of various steel sheets declined due to weak market demand and continued imports. Although imports of steel sheets have trended downward, the association said their volume remains unjustified given the country's significant unused domestic capacity.

Minister says Aras corridor remains intact despite US-backed Zangezur plans



Economy Desk

Iran's transport minister said the Aras (Kalaleh) rail and road corridor remains active and under Iran's control, rejecting claims that Tehran has been sidelined by new regional transit initiatives involving the United States and Armenia. "The Aras rail and road corridor, with Iran at its core, is still in place," Minister of Roads and Urban Development Farzaneh Sadegh Malvajerd told ILNA on Monday. "This route, which reconnects Azerbaijan to Nakhchivan through Iranian territory, continues to operate, and Iran remains at the heart of it," she said. Her remarks came amid reports that the

so-called "Peace and Development" plan — which includes US participation in the Zangezur, or TRIPP, corridor — aims to establish an American foothold in the South Caucasus and exclude Iran from regional transit routes. The plan reportedly grants the United States a 99-year exclusive management right over the Zangezur corridor, raising concerns in Tehran over potential constraints on Iran's regional trade links. Sadegh Malvajerd dismissed such concerns, saying, "The idea of removing Iran from the corridor has no meaning." "The route on which Armenia has reached preliminary agreements with the United States has essentially

no connection to Iranian territory," she said. She added that Tehran remains committed to completing the Aras corridor, contingent on the allocation of necessary financial resources. "With financial support prioritized, we will rapidly complete the Aras corridor, and this route will strengthen the region," Sadegh Malvajerd said. However, the minister questioned the feasibility of the US-Armenia initiative, noting, "The path they have agreed on passes through steep, mountainous terrain, making it unlikely to be completed in the near future. However, the Aras-Kalaleh corridor remains intact, provided we can complete its infrastructure as quickly as possible."

Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan sign new rail cooperation pact

Economy Desk

Iran, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan signed a new rail cooperation deal aimed at optimizing rail capacities among the three countries and increasing international rail transport volumes, ILNA reported. The agreement, titled "Procedures for the Movement, Registration, and Auditing of Iranian Wagons" in Turkmen and Uzbek territories, was signed in the presence of Jabbar Ali Zakeri, CEO of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways, Silap Norberdiev, Deputy Minister of Rail Transport of Turkmenistan, and Zaufer Nerzulayev, Chairman of Uzbekistan Railways. Under the terms of the framework, the parties emphasized conducting international freight transport based on existing rail cargo agreements and reached consensus on several key issues. The agreement covers the operation of Iranian wagons with different technical specifications — including covered wagons, tankers, grain wagons, and container wagons — in the territories of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. It also establishes regulations for wagons and bogies with a track gauge



of 1,520 millimeters, whether state-owned or private. A notable provision allows Iranian wagons and bogies manufactured in Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries to operate in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, provided periodic maintenance is observed and written approval is obtained from the host countries. This facilitates the transport of packaged, bulk, and liquid cargo in tanks. The framework further details the handling of cargo carried by Iranian wagons to domestic destinations within Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, as well as the transit of goods through their territories, including transshipment to local wagons. The agreement is described as a significant step toward strengthening regional rail connectivity and boosting cross-border trade in Central Asia.



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War still looms two years after Operation Al-Aqsa Storm

Only free elections in Palestine can end conflict: *Chief rabbi*



By Sadeq Dehqan
Staff writer

INTERVIEW

It has been two years since the surprise assault of the Palestinian resistance group Hamas on Israel on October 7, 2023, dubbed "Operation Al-Aqsa Storm". The attacks were then used by Tel Aviv as a pretext for widespread slaughter in Gaza and for spreading insecurity throughout the region, sparking a war that has displaced over two million Palestinians and resulted in over 67,000 deaths in Gaza.

The October 7 Hamas attacks, or Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, were carried out in response to the Zionist regime's killing of Palestinians and desecration of Al-Aqsa Mosque. During these attacks, Hamas forces targeted areas within the occupied territories with rockets, killing more than 1,400 Israelis and wounding 3,000. The operation also saw Hamas taking over 250 captives. Many senior military officials and politicians of the Zionist regime regard Operation Al-Aqsa Storm as their greatest military defeat.

In retaliation, Israel launched a large-scale military operation in the Gaza Strip and gradually expanded the war to other areas hosting resistance supporters, including Lebanon, Syria, and Yemen. Ultimately, on June 13, 2025, the Israeli occupation regime, which had long been beating the war drum under the pretext of Iran's peaceful nuclear dossier, launched a surprise operation targeting several military and nuclear facilities in Iran, marking the start of a short-lived war with Iran.

Despite two years passing since October 7, it seems the Zionist regime's justifications for stepping up the war and creating turmoil in the region show no signs of letting up. The Zionists' war-mongering has not only tangled the Palestinian conflict further but has also pushed tensions in the Middle East to a boiling point. Meanwhile, ongoing attacks by the Zionist regime have thrown the region's future into uncertainty and fueled instability. What is more, since October 7, the Zionists have been laying the groundwork for a new Middle East that has the occupied territories of Israel significantly expanded. To explore these developments and the future of the region, Iran Daily has reached out to two prominent Jewish figures within Iran, namely Chief Rabbi Younes Hamami Lalehzar and lawmaker and head of Tehran Jewish Association Homayoun Samayeh Najafabadi, and they graciously provided us with their insights, which you can read in the following two pieces:



IRAN DAILY: As the religious leader of Iranian Jews, please tell us: How has your community reacted to Israel's war on Gaza and its crimes against Palestinians?

LALEHZAR: Iranian Jews have spoken out against Zionist crimes and actions for many years, even before the country's Islamic Revolution. This opposition became more prominent after the Revolution and especially since the October 7 incident and the start of the Zionist attacks. From the outset, Iranian Jews stood up against the war and expressed their support for the oppressed people of Gaza, with anti-war gatherings held by the Jewish community in Tehran and other cities.

Unfortunately, the Zionist regime does not comply with any international law as war principles dictate that civilians and public centers — such as schools, hospitals, and civilian gathering points — should not be targeted, and defenseless people must not be killed. Such crimes are condemned by every god-fearing and free human being. As a result, people world-

wide have taken to the streets in protests against the Zionist regime's unlawful actions, and as these reactions have continued, governments have gradually been compelled to condemn these crimes as well. These condemnations have also come from Jewish communities worldwide and even within Israel, the US, UK, and Canada.

How has the war that erupted after October 7 affected the Jewish community in Iran?

The war has woken up and raised awareness among the people. The Iranian Jewish community's responses to Zionist crimes have helped the Iranian public see the difference between Judaism, as a divine religion, and Zionism, as a political party. Zionists, like Daesh (ISIS), have hijacked religion to carry out massacres under the guise of faith. The separation between Judaism and Zionism was clearly stated by Imam Khomeini from the beginning of the Islamic Revolution, who said that Judaism and Zionism were separate and that Judaism

should not be blamed for Zionist actions.

Jews inside and outside Iran oppose Zionism's views. We hope people worldwide will recognize the distinction between Judaism and Zionism, and that Jews will no longer face attacks on their centers in some countries, allowing Jews to live peacefully alongside followers of other religions, as they do in Iran.

As you mentioned, Iranian Jews have lived for thousands of years in this land. Can the peaceful co-existence of Iranians serve as a model for peace in the Middle East?

This long-term cohabitation has built strong ties between us. According to historical and religious Jewish documents, Cyrus the Great freed the Jewish community from captivity upon conquering Babylon, and since then, Jews have lived alongside other Iranians. Today, Jewish communities are present in nearly all Iranian provinces.

Over the years, the Jewish community has become deeply woven into Iranian society, and this coexistence is not just about

tolerance between religions but reflects deep cooperation, empathy, and solidarity. We are genuinely one nation. Iranian Jews stood alongside other Iranians during the Islamic Revolution, the Iraqi-imposed eight-year war, and the recent conflict, even sacrificing martyrs for the country.

The way followers of different religions, including Judaism and Islam, live and interact peacefully in Iran can indeed serve as an ideal model for other countries and peoples worldwide.

After witnessing what has transpired in the past two years in Gaza, what message do you have for your society, in general, and your Jewish community, in particular?

The crimes committed by the Zionist regime against the people of Gaza over these two years have laid bare the depth of Gaza's suffering to the world. Despite Zionist propaganda trying to justify their actions, their crimes have been so blatant that there is no room for excuse. Now, almost the entire world has acknowledged the Palestinians' plight and the Zionists' brutality.

If you could talk directly to Israel's current leaders, especially Netanyahu, what would you say?

Unfortunately, the Zionist leaders show no willingness to listen to advice regarding their criminal acts. However, if they seek peace and stability for themselves and their people, they must respect the rights of others and call off the oppression and genocide in Palestine. In my opinion, the only way to end the conflict is to respect the rights of all residents in that land and implement the proposal of the Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution for free elections in the Palestinian territories to establish a government chosen by the people. This would pave the way for peace and stability there and bring calm to a large part of the Middle East.



The leader of Iran's Jewish community, Chief Rabbi Younes Hamami Lalehzar (R), waits in line to cast his vote at a polling station in the Hosseinyeh Ershad mosque in the capital Tehran during the country's presidential election on June 18, 2021.
● ATTA KENARE/AFP



The war has woken up and raised awareness among the people. The Iranian Jewish community's responses to Zionist crimes have helped the Iranian public see the difference between Judaism, as a divine religion, and Zionism, as a political party. Imam Khomeini also repeatedly said that Judaism and Zionism were separate and that Judaism should not be blamed for Zionist actions. Zionists, like Daesh (ISIS), have hijacked religion to carry out massacres under the guise of faith.



Iranian Jews, headed by their religious leader, Rabbi Younes Hamami Lalehzar (2nd-R), protest in condemnation of Israel's massacre of innocent civilians in Gaza on October 30, 2023.
● ATTA KENARE/AFP



Israel’s plan to dominate all Mideast countries



By Homayoun Sameyah Najafabadi
Jewish Iranian
lawmaker

OPINION
EXCLUSIVE

The Operation Al-Aqsa Storm was a reminder of the Palestinians’ zeal for martyrdom and courage to defend their rights. Palestinians showed the world the vulnerability and fragility of the Zionist regime with minimal military means and proved how easily one could break into the heart of the occupied territories and even achieve victories. However, I believe the operation could have been carried out with better planning and foresight and might have even led to Hamas’s control over some of those areas. Unfortunately, after this operation, the occupying regime laid into the defenseless people of Gaza with brutal attacks, killing thousands of women, children, and innocent civilians. Many hospitals, schools, mosques, churches, and religious sites were destroyed, causing severe damage to Gaza’s infrastructure. Currently, the situation in Gaza is such that many citizens are grappling with hunger and death. The Zionists do not even allow international humanitarian aid to get through to the people of Gaza. All routes by land, sea, and air have been closed,



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu holds a map of “The New Middle East” that does not include Palestine, during his address to the United Nations General Assembly in New York on September 22, 2023.
● RICHARD DREW/AP

preventing assistance from reaching those in need, which has sparked widespread global outrage. Many countries and Jewish communities worldwide have condemned these actions of the Zionists. Even inside the occupied territories, people have taken to the streets to protest against the war crimes. Jewish communities around the globe, alongside people from many countries in Europe, South America, North America, and Muslim nations, have denounced these atrocities. In Iran, strongly worded statements have been issued by our Jewish parliamentary and Jewish associations from various cities, with numerous gath-

erings organized to condemn the crimes in places like Esfahan, Shiraz, Tehran, Kermanshah, Kamyaran, and Yazd. The Zionist assault on Gaza has made Jewish communities in various countries, even in those that support the Zionist regime, insecure. Several Jewish religious sites were set alight, and armed attacks occurred against Jews and their homes. However, Iran has seen none of this against its Jewish community. Despite everyone knowing the depth of hostility between Iran and the Zionist regime, no issues or concerns have arisen for Iranian Jews, either from the public or the government. Yet, as the Gaza war drags on, the anxiety among Iranian Jews



This frame grab from video released by the Global Sumud Flotilla shows Israeli navy soldiers aboard one of the flotilla’s vessels after it was intercepted as it approached the coast of Gaza on October 2, 2025. The flotilla was the largest yet to try to break the blockade on Gaza.
● GLOBAL SUMUD FLOTILLA/AP

over the conflict’s consequences only continues to build. Since Iran’s Islamic Revolution, the peaceful coexistence among religions has increased, and Jews in Iran live in harmony alongside other groups. In contrast, the Zionist regime’s leaders take no such approach, always aiming to stir up conflict in Palestine and elsewhere. We Iranian Jews hope the Zionist officials will soon come to their senses and stop the bloodshed so Palestinians can live safely in their lands alongside followers of other religions. Two years of war in Gaza and Zionist attacks on other areas, including Lebanon, have made it clear that the Zionists’ aim in continuing their assaults

after October 7 is to create a new Middle East where all countries fall under their domination. Therefore, it is incumbent upon all of us to stand up to these Zionist designs and stop them from achieving their goals. Netanyahu is an extremely autocratic and selfish individual who is willing to set the whole region on fire just to keep his seat. As a member of the Jewish community, I urge Netanyahu to step down swiftly for the sake of his people’s welfare, so the world will no longer have to witness the slaughter of innocent men, women, and children, and the region can be freed from further conflict and turmoil.

“ Since Iran’s Islamic Revolution, the peaceful coexistence among religions has increased, and Jews in Iran live in harmony alongside other groups. In contrast, the Zionist regime’s leaders take no such approach, always aiming to stir up conflict in Palestine and elsewhere. We Iranian Jews hope the Zionist officials will soon come to their senses and stop the bloodshed so Palestinians can live safely in their lands alongside followers of other religions.

Two years of genocide in Gaza, 77 years of denial



By Jamal Kani
Author, columnist

OPINION

Following the revolt of the besieged against their jailors on October 7, 2023, the Zionist hasbara machine mobilized across the world to impose a false narrative. Its goal was clear: erase history, distort reality, and present Israel as the eternal victim. According to this framing, Israel was a peaceful entity blindsided by an unprovoked attack that supposedly emerged out of nowhere. October 7 did not fall from the sky. It was the culmination of decades of dispossession, siege, and systematic dehumanization. Long before October 2023, Gaza was described by international observers as the world’s largest open-air prison. It was subjected to a starvation diet blockade for more than 16 years, or 5,800 days. Long before that, its 2.3 million inhabitants, of whom 1.3 million are refugees or their descendants, were driven from their homes and villages in 1948 during the Nakba, a catastrophe created by Zionist terror militias who ethnically cleansed the native Palestinians to create a state for Jews escaping European hatred. To understand October 7, one



must place it within the continuum of Palestinian suffering. That single day was not an aberration. It was one out of nearly 28,000 days since 1948 of Zionist hate and Israeli oppression. Each day carried the weight of exile, siege, humiliation, poverty, and hopelessness. Yet hasbara wants to delete those decades from recorded memories, 28,000 days of Palestinian statelessness, and reduce history to a single day divorced from context. The “first October 7” was not

in 2023; It was in 1948, when Zionist terrorist militias, transformed into today’s Israeli army, committed massacres, razed villages, and expelled Palestinians en masse. That foundational act of ethnic cleansing continues today. The daily bombardment, the starvation, the denial of basic human dignity to the people of Gaza are extensions of that original Zionist sin. The hasbara’s greatest weapon is controlling the media, re-framing narrative, and selective memory. It seeks to decontextu-

alize memory and conceal the structural violence that made October 7 inevitable. To remember the 28,000 days that preceded it is to expose the ongoing injustice at the heart of this so-called war: a colonized, besieged people struggling for survival against an occupying power that insists on their permanent subjugation. Two years have passed since Israel unleashed its genocide plan. A strategy of systematic destruction, of homes, hospitals, schools, infrastructure, and of

life itself. Gaza today is not a war zone. It is a graveyard of a people suffocated before the eyes of a world that lost its humanity. Two years, 24 months, and 730 days more than that one October 7 day. However measured, life since October 2023 has been an eternity of suffering for the people of Gaza. A chronicle of genocide streamed live on TV. The most fundamental measure of this holocaust is the destruction and staggering loss of life. Gaza today stands as the most ruthlessly bombarded place in history: measured by explosives per square meter, Israel has dropped nearly 70 times more bombs on Gaza than the Allies did on Germany in World War II, and 100 times more than the US dropped on North Vietnam during Operation Rolling Thunder. This genocide isn’t Israel’s alone; it’s the collective moral failure of the so-called Western civilization. By enabling indicted war criminals, providing them with the genocide tools, and diplomatic protection, Western governments have exposed the selective value system they uphold. Their conspicuous silence, even as a war minister labels 250,000 civilians “terrorists,” reveals “Western values” as nothing but a cynical façade masking their hypocrisy and racial hierarchy.

The article first appeared on CounterPunch.

◀ The photo above shows one of the earliest instances of the genocide of Palestinian lives by Israel, while the photo below it shows the Nakba day, where Palestinians were forcibly displaced and driven out of their homes in 1948.
● ARAB CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND POLICY STUDIES

World Para Athletics Championships: Record nine golds propel Iran to historic third place



Iran's Sadeq Beit Sayyah, pictured in last year's Paris Olympics, won the javelin throw F41 gold at the World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi, India.
● khabarvarzeshi.com

Sports Desk

Iran clinched a best-ever finish in 12 editions of the World Para Athletics Championships, placing third in New Delhi with 15 medals, including a record nine golds.

Mehran Nikoueimajd and Sadeq Beit Sayyah capped off the glorious nine-day campaign for the country at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in style by adding a couple of golds to Iran's medal haul on Sunday.

Nikoueimajd registered a world record-breaking 12.27m throw on his final attempt in the shot put F34 showdown.

Jordan's Ahmad Hindi, who had his world record shattered by the Iranian, settled for the silver with 11.87m, and reigning Paralympic champion Mauricio Valencia finished on 11.50m to take the bronze.

Later in the day, Beit Sayyah, who was stripped of the

Paralympic title last year for his controversial celebration, redeemed himself by improving on his 2023 world silver in the javelin throw F41 contest.

The Iranian finished atop the podium thanks to a personal-best 48.86m effort, with India's Navdeep Singh (45.46), who was handed the Paralympic gold in Paris, and China's Sun Pengxiang (43.60) in the following spots.

Sunday's glory came after the Iranians had also collected a couple of gold medals on the penultimate day of action in New Delhi.

Reigning Paralympic champion Yassin Khosravi was one of the three Iranian world-record breakers in the competitions, retaining his shot put dominance with a third successive world title in the men's F57 class.

Khosravi registered a 16.60m effort on his final attempt in the men's F57 class to improve his own world record – set in July

2023 – by an impressive 59 centimeters.

Ali Baziya won the javelin F54 gold earlier on Saturday, with his compatriot Erfan Bondori settling for the bronze.

Saeid Afrooz, also a gold medalist in Paris, broke his own world record en route to glory in the javelin F34 division, while Amirhossein Alipour (F11), and Aliasghar Javanmardi (F35) claimed the ultimate prize in their respective men's shot put events, with Mahdi Olad completing an all-Iranian one-two finish in the F11 category.

Hassan Bajoulvand, meanwhile, grabbed the gold medal in the men's discus throw F11 division. Elham Salehi was the sole Iranian gold medalist in the women's competitions, winning the title in the javelin throw F54 contest – the Iranian girl's second medal in New Delhi following a bronze in the

shot put F54 event.

Zeinab Moradi won a bronze in the women's javelin throw F56 class, while Iran's only medal in the track events came in the women's 400m T12 category, where Hajar Safarzadeh won a precious silver. Amanollah Papi got Iran of the mark with a consolation bronze in the men's javelin throw F57 on the second of the competitions.

Meanwhile, Brazil became only the second country, after Russia in 2013, to finish atop the overall medal table other than China, securing 15 golds, 20 silvers, and nine bronzes. The Asian powerhouse finished as the runner-up with 13 golds, 22 silvers, and 17 bronzes.

The team of Neutral Paralympic Athletes collected 11 golds, 16 silvers, and 19 bronze medals, though their results were excluded from the official standings by the sport's international governing body.

CAVA Women's Volleyball Championship:

Iranian girls relish 'character-boosting' milestone

Sports Desk

Winning the title at a four-team tournament may hardly be regarded as a significant achievement by any measure. Still, opposite spiker Aytak Salamat was thrilled to be a part of Iran's milestone campaign at the CAVA Women's Volleyball Championship.

Iranian women's volleyball captured its maiden international gold since the first national team was established in 1963, thanks to a straight-set victory (25-14, 25-14, 25-19) over Uzbekistan in Sunday's final in Tashkent.

Salamat was joined by Reihaneh Karimi, Fatemeh Khalili, Shabnam Alikhani, Negar Hashemi, and Elah Poursaleh in starting the final showpiece for Iran.

Shaqayeq Hassankhani, Zahra Karimi, Paria Hajatmand, Noura Mohammadi, Fatemeh Manzouri, Nazanin Alizadeh, Zahra Salehi, and Ghazaleh Bostan were the other members of the

history-making squad in the Uzbek capital.

The triumph rounded off an emphatic run for the Iranian girls, who did not concede a single set throughout the tournament, breezing past Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and the host nation in the league phase.

"I hope we can win this championship again and also secure a shining medal at the Islamic Solidarity Games.

"Winning a first gold medal in 62 years is just an incredible feeling; it builds solidarity within the team and strengthens our character. I truly hope we can repeat this success and experience this wonderful feeling again," said Salamat, who was joined by two of her teammates, middle-blocker Reihaneh Karimi and outside-hitter Fatemeh Khalili, in the tournament's Dream Team.

"Thank Gold we won all of our games here and ultimately lifted the tro-

phy," said Khalili, who was named the Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

"The CAVA tournament served as a warmup for the upcoming Islamic Solidarity Games. We won the silver medal in the previous edition three years ago [in Konya, Turkey] but this year we will be a much stronger team and will compete for the title," added the Iranian player.

The sixth edition of the Islamic Solidarity Games will get underway on November 7 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Reihaneh Karimi, meanwhile, was pleased with the significance of the CAVA crown, saying: "This tournament was very important for us as the champion won direct qualification for next year's Asian Championship. It was also influential for the world ranking and improved Iran's position. We are very happy about all that."

"Furthermore, the event served as an effective training camp for our

team, allowing us to implement our tactics in a competitive setting. We are now preparing for the Islamic Solidarity Games and will be dispatched to the competition in about twenty days."

Following the four-game domination in Tashkent, the Iranian team jumped 15 slots to an all-time high of 47th in the latest FIVB Women's Ranking, released on Monday, with 74.24 points.

South Korean head coach Lee Do-hee said she would be looking to build on the latest success to steer Iranian women's volleyball to further success in the future.

"I was just told this is the first time this medal has been won, and I am very proud to be a part of this great success," Lee said.

"Thank God we finished the tournament with a decent result.

"I think the players have improved significantly, and since we are preparing for the Islamic Solidarity



Iranian players and coaching staff celebrate lifting the CAVA Women's Volleyball Championship trophy in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on October 5, 2025.
● volleyball.ir

Games, I felt the team had more time to build coordination. This event was a very good opportunity for Team Iran.

"One of my immediate goals is to have a success-

ful run with the under-18 team at the Asian Youth Olympic Games. After that, the Islamic Solidarity Games is another key objective where we aim to reach the final with

the team.

"Beyond that, I have other long-term goals. We will work progressively to achieve them, with the aim of properly developing Iranian women's volleyball."



Sports Desk

Iran men's futsal head coach Vahid Shamsaei named a 14-man squad for the two friendly games against Russia.

Shamsaei's men will play away to the European side on October 14 before the two teams square off in a rematch two days later.

Star players Moslem Oladqobad and Salar Aqapour, nominated for the Asian Futsal Player of the Year

award, will miss the double header due to involvement in the AFC Awards in Riyadh on Oct. 16.

Prolific forward Saeid Ahmad-Abbasi, who was ruled out September's Asian Cup qualifiers with injury, has been named in the squad, while Baqer Mohammadi, the best Asian goalkeeper in 2024, received a first international callout since last year's Futsal World Cup in Uzbekistan.

Behrouz Azimi, who missed Mes Sungun's previous two

games in the Iranian top-flight for disciplinary reasons, has also been trusted with a place in the squad. Iran dominated the Asian Cup qualification group in the United Arab Emirates, breezing past Bangladesh (12-0), the host (10-0), and Malaysia (4-0) to progress to next January's finals in Indonesia, where Shamsaei's team will be chasing a record-extending 14th title. The following is Iran's full squad for the upcoming

friendlies:

Goalkeepers: Baqer Mohammadi, Saeid Mo'meni
Defenders: Mohammadhossein Derakhshani, Amirhossein Gholami, Hossein Sabzi
Left alas: Mohammadhossein Bazayr, Ali Akrami, Ali Khalilvand
Right alas: Masoud Yousef, Amirhossein Dehqani, Sajjad Yousefkhah
Pivots: Hossien Tayyebi, Saeid Ahmadabbasi, Behrouz Azimi.

Larak Island offering unique natural experiences

Iranica Desk

Hormozgan Province, with its 14 small and large islands, is considered one of Iran’s natural and cultural treasures. Each of these islands holds a story of history, culture, and nature within itself. Among these islands, Larak Island stands like a hidden jewel in the heart of the Persian Gulf, overshadowed by more famous islands such as Qeshm, Hormuz, and Kish. This island, with its stunning natural landscapes, unique wildlife, historical heritage, and indigenous culture, holds great potential for sustainable tourism and offers a distinct experience. Larak Island, with an area of approximately 49 square kilometers, is the fourth largest island in Iran and is located strategically southeast of Qeshm Island and southwest of Hormuz Island. It is about 16 kilometers from Qeshm, 31 kilometers from Bandar Abbas, and 42 kilometers from Hormuz Island. This location not only makes Larak an ideal spot for marine tourism but also highlights its importance in the trade routes and maritime exchanges of the Persian Gulf, chtn.ir wrote. Compared to other islands in Hormozgan Province, Larak boasts a tranquil and pristine nature. Low-lying vegetation, scattered palm trees, and shoreline meadows create a poetic and charming atmosphere. The island’s coastal and mountainous trails not only offer visual appeal but also provide opportunities for walking, hiking, and close encounters with nature for tourists. One of Larak’s most astonishing natural phenomena is its glowing phytoplankton, which transform the water’s surface into a



glowing blue light on island nights. This natural spectacle sparkles like tiny stars on the seabed with every movement of the water or step of passersby, offering a unique and memorable experience for both visitors and photographers. In the north of the island, a salty river with sparkling crystals and attractive natural formations creates a distinctive landscape. This dry river shines like a silver ribbon amid the island’s red soil and is considered one of

Larak’s rare attractions for nature lovers and documentary filmmakers. Larak Island hosts a remarkable biodiversity. On land, the gazelle deer, rabbits, hedgehogs, and wild goats live freely. Various bird species, including flamingos, kingfishers, falcons, and eagles, are also observed on the island. This diverse wildlife reflects the island’s tranquility and its distance from intense human disturbance. The beaches of Larak are also



the habitat of hawksbill turtles, a rare and endangered species that return annually from March to August for nesting. The presence of these turtles, especially in the area known as “Turtle Beach,” highlights another ecological significance of Larak Island. The surrounding waters are known for their diverse fish and marine species, including parrotfish, groupers, rabbitfish, red snappers, and sea bream, as well as shell s, corals, sharks,

and various snails and crabs. These features make Larak a promising destination for diving and underwater tourism. Larak is also historically rich. The Portuguese Castle in the north of the island is a reminder of the presence of Portuguese colonizers in past centuries. This quadrilateral fortress, with its watchtowers, arched vaults, and structures made of coral stone and mortar, has retained its grandeur and majesty, offering a great opportunity for

those interested in ancient history and architecture. Near the castle are Larak Mosque and the old cemetery. The cemetery attracts tourists with a unique custom practiced by the island’s people for each grave; every grave has a small brazier in which they burn wild rue, incense, and frankincense. This ritual combines the island’s native culture with its spiritual values, symbolizing respect for ancestors and a connection with nature and deities. The Larak Lighthouse is also located in the north of the island, and with its red and white colors, it not only serves as a guide for sailors but is also considered one of the island’s historic and scenic symbols. Larak, with all its simplicity and tranquility, holds the potential to become one of Iran’s sustainable tourism destinations. The silence of the mountains, the blue sea, the glowing plankton, diverse wildlife, and historic buildings offer a unique experience for nature lovers, researchers, and tourists. For those seeking a calm, pristine, and different destination, Larak is ready to welcome them. Walking along the beaches, observing free-roaming animals, exploring historical paths, and immersing oneself in marine experiences combine pleasure, education, and reflection. Larak Island, a hidden jewel in the Persian Gulf, not only represents the history and culture of southern Iran but also reminds us of the importance of protecting nature and cultural heritage for future generations. It only takes a renewed gaze upon this peaceful island to reveal its untouched secrets and forgotten beauties to all.

Barberry inspires creativity in Persian cuisine, local recipes

Iranica Desk

Barberry (Zereshk) holds a special and cherished place in Iranian cuisine, where it is not only highly popular but also integral to many traditional dishes. One of the most famous Iranian dishes featuring barberry is Zereshk Polo ba Morgh (barberry rice with chicken), celebrated for its unique blend of flavors and as a staple where barberry plays a key role. The cool nature of barberry, when

combined with fragrant saffron and crunchy pistachios, creates a harmonious balance that is both flavorful and visually appealing. Iranians skillfully use barberry alongside saffron to enhance the appearance and taste of their rice dishes. To achieve both the tart and sweet notes in barberry, it is often sautéed with sugar, producing a delightful contrast that complements savory and aromatic meals perfectly. Beyond rice dishes, barberry is



a versatile ingredient in Iranian food culture. It is commonly used to make jams that are delicious and widely enjoyed. Aab Zereshk (barberry juice) is another beloved traditional drink, known for its refreshing sourness and historical popularity dating back to ancient times. Additionally, barberries are made into Lavashak, a type of fruit leather consumed especially during colder seasons as a nourishing and tasty substitute for fresh fruit. Among the varieties of barberry found in Iran, one of the most prized is the seedless black barberry known as Zereshk-e Siah Bi Daneh or Kermanshahi Barberry.

This rare and expensive variety is treasured, especially in Kermanshah, where it is used to prepare a local delicacy called Khorosht-e Khalal. This dish highlights the prized qualities of the black barberry and is a significant part of the regional culinary heritage. Iran is the world’s largest producer of barberry, with South Khorasan Province alone accounting for about 97% of the land cultivated for barberry and producing 95% of the global supply. This makes barberry not only culturally important but also economically significant as an agricultural product in Iran.

In Iranian traditional medicine, wild barberry is valued for its wide range of health benefits. It is used to treat digestive disorders, liver conditions, and gallbladder cleansing. Barberry contains berberine, a potent compound known for fighting bacteria and viruses. It is also rich in B-group vitamins essential for maintaining good health. Rich in antioxidants, barberry helps combat free radicals, thus reducing the risk of premature aging and sup-

porting overall wellness. Scientific studies have highlighted barberry extract’s positive effects on cardiovascular and nervous systems, as well as its cancer-preventive properties due to its antioxidant richness. Apart from its culinary and medicinal uses, barberry also has traditional applications in dyeing, where it is employed to color natural fibers like wool, silk, and cotton, showcasing its multifaceted importance in Iranian culture.



Zereshk Polo ba Morgh
● mirito.ir



Khorosht-e Khalal
● virgoool.io

Talks with Egypt, Greece and Azerbaijan in Spain

Tehran, Cairo plan major cultural exchange on manuscripts, literature

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Abbas Salehi, outlined plans for enhanced cultural cooperation with Egypt focused on Islamic manuscripts and literary translation during a meeting with Egyptian Minister of Culture Ahmed Fouad Hanno at the UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies (MONDIACULT 2025) in Barcelona, Spain.

Salehi highlighted the vast collection of Islamic manuscripts in Iran, spanning heritage from various Muslim nations, and proposed joint projects for preservation, study, and exhibition, IRNA reported. "The 1,500th anniversary of the Prophet Muhammad's birth offers an unprecedented opportunity for cultural collaboration," he said. The ministers also discussed translating contemporary Egyptian and Iranian works, including poetry and novels, to strengthen cross-cultural understanding.

UNESCO cooperation, media initiatives

The meeting further explored leveraging UNESCO platforms to safeguard tangible and intangible heritage shared by the two nations.

Hanno welcomed the initiatives, noting Egypt's own significant manuscript collections and the potential to host exhibitions of Iranian works. Both ministers agreed on expanding media cooperation and participation in each other's cultural festivals to promote mutual understanding and visibility of shared heritage.

Iran, Greece heritage reignited

Salehi met Greek Minister of Culture Lina Mendoni to discuss the historical and cultural ties between Iran and Greece. "Culture is the driving force of nations' growth," Salehi said, highlighting opportunities for collaboration. Key proposals included joint cinema projects, academic



Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Abbas Salehi (2nd L), meets with Greek Minister of Culture Lina Mendoni (2nd R) on the sidelines of the MONDIACULT 2025 conference in Barcelona, Spain, on October 6, 2025.

exchanges, and literary initiatives such as poetry sessions and critical publications on contemporary and classical literature.

The ministers also explored cooperative measures to combat illicit trafficking of cultural artifacts, safeguard historical sites from climate impacts, and promote handicrafts.

Regional cultural diplomacy

In discussions with Azerbaijani Minister of Culture Adil Karimli, Salehi emphasized activating cultural centers and organizing cultural weeks to strengthen bilateral engagement. "As neighbors, we can achieve remarkable results in economic, political,



and cultural areas,” he said. The two ministers covered the finalization of a film cooperation agreement and media collaboration to enhance the portrayal of both nations. Cinema, tangible and intangible heritage, and participation in international cultural organizations and festivals were also prioritized for joint action.

Barcelona hub for regional culture

Salehi's engagements during MONDIACULT 2025 reflect Iran's strategic approach to cultural diplomacy. By focusing on heritage preservation, liter-

ary translation, cinema, and academic exchange, Iran aims to foster deeper regional ties. The discussions with Egypt, Greece, and Azerbaijan demonstrate a multifaceted approach, combining centuries-old civilizational connections with contemporary cultural collaboration.

The minister's proposals are expected to lead to formal agreements and programs that will extend Iran's cultural influence, support heritage preservation, and provide platforms for collaborative creativity across literature, cinema, and the arts.

Iran unveils five new museums, 520 rare artifacts on view

Arts & Culture Desk

Mostazafan Foundation of Islamic Revolution inaugurated five new museums nationwide, showcasing over 520 previously unseen artifacts. The launch coincides with the opening of the Dafineh Museum in Tehran, which now houses a rare collection of 7,500 historic manuscripts dating back 130 years. The new museums span diverse themes, including ancient art, classic automobiles, and Islamic heritage. Notably, the Millennia of Art Museum on Kish Island features more than 320 artworks spanning various historical periods, IRNA reported. Housed in the former Prime Minister's Palace, the museum occupies 900 square meters and is open to the public free of charge for two weeks. The Kish Free Zone Organization has leased the building to the Mostazafan Foundation for 15 years, with the foundation responsible for its upkeep.

In Tehran, the third museum, Artistic Vignettes, displays 78 pieces of ceramics, paintings, and tiles. The museum also offers a newly restored library with 7,500 volumes of rare books and manuscripts. The fourth museum, Artistic Ornaments, located in Ramsar, showcases 200 pieces of jewelry and decorative items dating from 3,500 BC to 500 BC. The fifth museum, Classic Cars Phase III, features 75 meticulously restored vintage vehicles, all of which are now on display. Hamidreza Soleimani, CEO of the Dafineh Museum Group, announced plans to launch Iran's first digital museum in the coming months. He also revealed that inventory checks are underway to update the foundation's extensive collection.

The Mostazafan Foundation, a significant cultural and economic institution in Iran, was established after the 1979 Islamic Revolution to manage assets previously held by the Pahlavi regime. It operates as a charitable foundation, focusing on social welfare and cultural preservation.




شرکت خدمات حمایتی کشاورزی

Date: 1404/7/15 - No.:55/4/14796

INVITATION TO RENEWAL OF ONE STEP INTERNATIONAL TENDER

Second Announcement

AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES COMPANY



وزارت جهاد کشاورزی

The Agricultural Support Services Company, hereinafter will be referred as ASSC, affiliated to Ministry of Agriculture-Jihad of I.R of Iran, is considering the purchase of the below 4 items of pesticides technical materials, through renewal of one step international tender.

	Name	PACKING	Quantity/kg
1	Cartap Technical min 98%	25 or 50 kg waterproof cardboard drum	40,000
2	Propargite Technical min 90%	200 kg drum	96,000
3	Deltamethrin Technical min 98.5 %	50 kg drum	3,700
4	Glyphosate Isopropylamine Salt Technical 62%	200 or 250 kg drum	80,000

All of the qualified and interested companies are invited to receive tender documents from **Monday** dated **06/10/2025** until **Saturday** dated **11/10/2025** (4 working days) from our purchasing committee (located at the 9th floor, no. 1, fourth alley, Gandhi St., Tehran, Iran).

The bidders are requested to submit their letters of introduction, along with remittance bill of IRI. Rials 1,200,000 to ASSC's account no. 4001039704005791 with SHEBA no. IR250100004001039704005791 at the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran through payment order of SATNA or PAYA with the 30-character identification code of 3390397822635006500000000000008.

The bidders are requested to submit their sealed and stamped envelopes containing offers latest on **Sunday** dated **09/11/2025** until 10:00 AM to our security office located on the 8th floor. Meanwhile the meeting for the opening of the envelopes will be held on **Sunday** dated **09/11/2025** at **02:00 PM** with the presence of bidder's representative(s) at our purchasing committee (9th floor, no. 1, Fourth Alley, Gandhi St., Tehran, Iran).

We would like to emphasize that the value of the bid bond amount must be only submitted by the bidders

in bank guarantee as follows:

- 1- € 30506.88 for Cartap Technical min 98% equivalent to Iranian Rials 24,923,568,000.
- 2- € 36402.86 for Propargite Technical min 90% equivalent to Iranian Rials 29,740,481,280.
- 3- € 10110.25 for Deltamethrin Technical min 98.5% equivalent to Iranian Rials 8,259,892,266.
- 4- € 10475.95 for Glyphosate Isopropylamine Salt Technical 62% equivalent to Iranian Rials 8,558,659,200.

- The bid bond value should be in Euro or in equal value of any other foreign currencies, except US dollars, based on the exchange rate of Telegraphic Transfer on CBI's ETS website, www.fxmarketrate.cbi.ir, on 27/9/2025.
- The bidders are also permitted to submit the bid bond in Iranian Rial.
- After approval of ASSC's Financial Manager, the bidders are permitted to use their previous and definite outstanding claims as the bid bond.

For more information, you may refer to our website www.assc.ir,
and <http://iets.mporg.ir> or contact us by phone no. 00982188776325.

Public Relations and International Affairs of Agricultural Support Services Company

شماره 2016842 - م. الف 495

Pezeshkian urges overhaul of drug laws to crack down on trafficking



Social Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Monday called for a sweeping reform of the country's anti-narcotics laws, urging a strategy focused on demand management and harsher penalties for traffickers.

Speaking at a meeting with members of Parliament's Legal and Judicial Committee and officials from the Drug Control Headquarters, Pezeshkian said the approach had proven effective in reducing drug use and related crime in other nations, president.ir reported.

The proposed framework would make illicit drug markets redundant by offering legal, monitored access to substances for users, while simultaneously tightening enforcement against traffickers and illegal distributors.

"This dual approach will not only curb consumption but also reduce crimes such as theft, family disintegration, and the spread of drug dealing among addicts," Pezeshkian said.

Under the new plan, all drug users, regardless of the type or intensity of their consumption, could access services in legal centers under official supervision.

The aim, he explained, is to eliminate demand for the illegal market while ensuring users are monitored and treated for addiction-related consequences.

Pezeshkian emphasized that alongside user support, enforcement would be intensified, with traffickers and illegal distributors facing tougher penalties.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (c) addresses members of Parliament's Legal and Judicial Committee and officials from the Drug Control Headquarters during a meeting on drug law enforcement and reform in Tehran on October 6, 2025.

● president.ir

He described the approach as a way to both dismantle the illegal market and generate accurate data on drug use, enabling targeted interventions and treatment.

The president also addressed the broader challenge of public sector reform. He noted repeated resistance to structural changes across government institutions and called on lawmakers for support.

"We encounter numerous justifications to abandon reforms," he said. "It is unacceptable to divert resources from improving public welfare and the economy to maintain inefficient bureaucracies. Success depends on cohesion, serious collaboration, and effective synergy across all branches of government."

Officials at the meeting discussed proposed legal amendments, with Pezeshkian urging Parliament to quickly add clauses that would guarantee the implementation of the demand management strategy.

He expressed confidence that the plan would sharply reduce drug use, the social consequences of addiction, petty drug dealing among users, arrests, and prison populations linked to narcotics.