



Minister outlines people-centered heritage policy in Semnan

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts, Reza Salehi-Amiri, outlined a people-centered approach to heritage management during a two-day visit to Semnan Province on February 11-12, saying restored historic sites should function primarily for public benefit rather than commercial gain. Addressing reporters after touring key historical sites in Semnan city on Wednesday, Salehi-Amiri said the ministry's "definitive policy" is to transfer the functional use of restored monuments to the people while ensuring that any revenue generated is reinvested into maintenance and administration rather than commercial profit, IRNA reported. He described Semnan as a civiliza-

tional crossroads linking eastern Iran to the central plateau, citing its strategic position from Greater Khorasan to Rey and present-day Tehran. Strengthening tourism infrastructure and completing pending cultural projects, he said, could elevate the province into a significant national tourism hub. As part of the policy shift, the Safavid-era Shah Abbasi Caravanserai of Semnan is to be converted into a regional museum with heritage and ethnographic functions. The project, coordinated with provincial authorities, is designed to anchor cultural activity in the historic core and enhance visitor retention. Salehi-Amiri also confirmed that the Jameh Mosque of Semnan, noted for its architectural layers spanning the Seljuk to Qajar periods and its millennium-old minaret, is among the properties on Iran's UN-

ESCO tentative list. He said the mosque remains on the pathway towards eventual world heritage nomination, subject to international review procedures. During meetings with local officials, lawmakers and cultural practitioners, the minister endorsed the establishment of a permanent handicrafts exhibition venue in Semnan to provide direct market access for artisans and integrate provincial production into national distribution networks. He framed handicrafts as a pillar of Iran's identity-based cultural economy. Addressing the growing threat of land subsidence to historic structures, Salehi-Amiri said the issue is being handled through a national, science-based mechanism. Comprehensive assessments have been submitted to the government, and heritage sites have been prioritized



Iran's Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts, Reza Salehi-Amiri and accompanying officials visit the historic Jameh Mosque of Semnan, north-central Iran, during an official trip to the province, February 11, 2026.
● IRNA



according to vulnerability. Specialist conservation teams have begun preventive interventions in affected provinces, he added, stressing that sustainable water management reform remains central to long-term mitigation. The visit included inspections of Semnan's historic bazaar and urban fabric, as well as heritage sites in Damghan and Shahrud. In Shahrud, the minister said the city should secure a dedicated museum facility, with the ministry prepared

to equip the building once provided by municipal authorities. Salehi-Amiri announced that a coordinated national program for

Nowruz and Eid al-Fitr celebrations will be submitted to the cabinet, with around 1,000 cultural events planned nationwide.

Iran salutes Shahin Farhat's enduring fusion of Western symphony, Persian music

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's Deputy Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Mehdi Shafiei, on Friday praised veteran composer Shahin Farhat for what he described as an unparalleled role in blending Western classical structures with Iran's cultural and civilizational heritage, during a visit to the musician's home in Tehran.

Shafiei, accompanied by Mohammad Allahyari Foumani, the CEO of the Rudaki Foundation, and Babak Rezaei, director-general of the Music Office at the ministry, met Farhat one day before the closing ceremony of the 41st Fajr International Music Festival, IRNA reported.

Shafiei described Farhat, widely known as the "father of Iran's symphony", as a composer whose oeuvre stands as a durable reference point for scholars, musicians and students alike.

He cited the symphonic poems 'Persian Gulf' and 'Damavand' as emblematic works in which Western compositional frameworks are interwoven with Iranian melodic modes, historical memory and landscapes. "The distinctive hallmark of Professor Farhat's work lies in his ability to anchor Western classical music in the atmosphere and identity of Iranian music," Shafiei said. He added that the composer had produced works with universal form while preserving a distinctly Iranian sensibility shaped by nature, history and culture.

Shafiei noted that the 1,500th anniversary of the birth of the Prophet of Islam this year provided an opportunity to publish and promote Farhat's dedicated symphony for the Prophet, describing it as one of the composer's significant religious works.

Allahyari highlighted Farhat's tenure as secretary of two editions of the Fajr festival, crediting his structured planning and professional outlook with broadening participation across musical genres and raising artistic standards. He said those editions ranked among the most enduring in the festival's four-decade



The combo shows Iran's Deputy Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Mehdi Shafiei meeting veteran composer Shahin Farhat at his home in Tehran, Iran, ahead of the closing ceremony of the 41st Fajr International Music Festival, in this handout image released in February 2026. Shafiei was accompanied by Mohammad Allahyari Foumani of the Rudaki Foundation and Babak Rezaei, director-general of the Music Office at the ministry.
● IRNA

history.

He also pointed to Farhat's sustained engagement with regional and ethnic Iranian music, calling it evidence of the composer's commitment to safeguarding diverse musical traditions within a symphonic framework.

Allahyari added that the Rudaki Foundation could program selected symphonies by Farhat for performance by its orchestras in order to familiarize wider audiences with his artistic legacy.

Farhat, who has spent years living and studying in the West, said his attachment to Iran had never diminished. "I have always loved Iran," he said, noting that many of his works bear explicitly Iranian titles, including symphonies inspired by the Persian Gulf, Mount Damavand and the poet Omar Khayyam. He said he had drawn on Iranian modal systems in these compositions.

Referring to Mount Damavand as an enduring source of inspiration, Farhat said he had long aspired, since childhood, to compose a piece reflecting the grandeur of what he described as an ancient national symbol.

مزایده صادراتی بیلت آلیاژی ریخته‌گری مداوم

شرکت فولاد آلیاژی ایران

شماره مرجع مزایده: IASCO-EXPT-07 مورخ: ۱۴۰۴/۱۱/۲۱



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Iran Alloy Steel Company

Tender Announcement for Export of CC-Alloy Steel Billet



Tender Ref. No.: IASCO-EXPT-07 Date: 02/10/2026

Please be informed that Iran Alloy Steel Company (IASCO) intends to launch a general Tender for the export of CC-Alloy Steel Billet under the following terms and conditions:

1. Product Specifications and Commercial terms:

Main Tender Grades & Quality	Acc. to attached specification No.
9403I	C07KU9403I40411A042

* Other Grades may also be considered By Customer Request with related premium price. (Please clearly specify the desired grade, analysis and etc).

- Size & Dimensions: (130*130) *12,000 mm.
- Quantity: 20.000 MT (±10%).
- Delivery Time: approximately 3 weeks after receipt of advance payment.
- Delivery Term: FOB Bandar Abbas.

Note: Other delivery ports including BIK, Parsian, and Chabahar may be considered upon buyer's request, subject to amended delivery time and mutual agreement. FCA Yazd may also be considered under the same conditions.

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- The offer must remain valid for at least **seven (7) Iranian working days** from the submission deadline.
- Vague, conditional or incomplete offers will not be considered.
- The buyer's company must be legally registered outside the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- IASCO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers at its sole discretion.
- All payments shall be deemed valid only upon the Seller's receipt of official bank confirmation.
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For instructions and further information, kindly contact the Export Department using the following details:

Tel: +9835-31222675 & +9821-88322621.

Email: Salesexp@iasco.net (For registration only, not to send any offer).

4. Closing Date:

Deadline for Offer Submission: **Tuesday, February 17, 2026- by 3:00 p.m. (Tehran Local Time)**