



International lawsuit demands truth, accountability for war crimes perpetrators in Iran's Minab School



Mourners prepare graves for the victims of a US-Israeli attack on an elementary school in the city of Minab, southern Iran on March 3, 2026.

SNN

International Desk

Initiated by the "In the Name of Iran" campaign, which operates with the slogan "Caring for Iran" during the U.S.-Israel conflict, a lawsuit drafted by a broad and diverse spectrum of prominent Iranian figures, civil society activists, and political figures condemning and pursuing legal action against the U.S. and Israel's war crime in bombing the Shajareh Tayyebeh Elementary School in the city of Minab, which resulted in the martyrdom of 168 of Iranian students, has been published in both English and Persian. The lawsuit is addressed to competent international and national bodies for the legal pursuit of this crime. It has been signed by over 1,144 well-known Iranian researchers and civil and political activists. The signatories of the lawsuit urge all responsible international and national authorities, including the International Criminal Court, the UN Security Council, the UN Human Rights Council, and national courts and prosecutors with universal jurisdiction, to act with urgency and decisiveness to uncover the truth, achieve justice, and hold the perpetrators of the crime accountable.

The legal document, citing a clear violation of Article 4 of the UN Charter, describes the attack as a "war crime" and a "blatant act of aggression," emphasizing the deaths of 168 young students. The signatories of this statement, rejecting claims of self-defense, have called on prosecutors in countries with "universal jurisdiction," including Germany, France, and Belgium, to initiate international arrest warrants for those responsible for the incident, regardless of political

considerations. The English version of the statement has also been published by the Global Conscience Initiative and has been signed by dozens of prominent global figures. Jeremy Corbyn, Ahmed Davudoglu, Abdullah Gul, Mohammad Javad Zarif, and Mohamed El-Baradei are among these international signatories. The full text of the lawsuit and a complete list of over 100 signatories from among global figures, are provided below:

To:

- The Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court
- The United Nations Security Council
- The United Nations Human Rights Council
- The Secretary-General of the United Nations
- Prosecutors and national judicial authorities in countries that recognize the principle of universal jurisdiction over international crimes, including: Germany, France, Belgium, Spain, Norway, the Netherlands, and other countries whose domestic laws allow for the prosecution of international crimes under the principle of universal jurisdiction.

The signatories of this lawsuit, with utmost concern and a sense of responsibility for upholding fundamental human principles and international law, draw the immediate attention of competent international and national authorities to a series of actions that occurred following the illegal military attack by the United States of America and Israel against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran on February 28, 2026; an attack that,

according to established principles of international public law, constitutes a clear and serious violation of the principle of non-use of force enshrined in Article 4 of the UN Charter.

The principle of non-use of force is one of the fundamental pillars of contemporary international legal order and is only admissible in two exceptional circumstances: first, upon the express authorization of the UN Security Council; and second, within the framework of exercising the right of self-defense in response to an actual, ongoing, or imminent armed attack, in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter.

In the case of the attack in question, neither of the above conditions has been met. The Security Council has not authorized the use of force, and no credible and reliable evidence has been presented to prove the existence of an armed attack or an imminent and unavoidable threat against the United States of America or Israel. Therefore, the claims made by American and Israeli officials to justify this operation within the framework of the principle of "self-defense" lack legal basis from an international law perspective and are inconsistent with the accepted interpretation of Article 51 of the Charter.

Consequently, the aforementioned attack must be assessed within the framework of international law as an unlawful use of force and an act involving elements of aggression. This action was not a necessary response to an imminent and real threat, but rather a pre-planned action, coinciding with diplomatic negotiations and completely lacking military necessity. Furthermore, this illegal aggression has

led to serious violations of international humanitarian law and the commission of war crimes against the civilian population, and its effects have become apparent from the very initial stages of the operation.

Among these violations, the deadly attack on an elementary school in the city of Minab – which resulted in the deaths of dozens of children – is a striking example of blatant disregard for the fundamental principles of the laws of armed conflict in terms of its severity and human impact.

In light of the nature of this event and the international community's commitment to combating impunity for international crimes, the signatories of this lawsuit request that competent international and national authorities initiate an urgent, independent, impartial, and effective investigation into this attack and prosecute those responsible at all levels of command and decision-making.

Moreover, given that many countries recognize the principle of universal jurisdiction over war crimes, crimes against humanity, and crimes of aggression, national courts and prosecutors in European, American, and other judicial jurisdictions with this jurisdiction can initiate criminal investigations independently of the location of the crime or the nationality of the perpetrators and, if responsibility is established, issue arrest warrants and indictments. This includes countries such as Germany, France, Belgium, Spain, Norway, the Netherlands, and other countries whose domestic laws allow for the prosecution of international crimes under the principle of universal jurisdiction.

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Global economy braces for potential financial crisis

By Majid Shakeri
Economic affairs expert

OPINION

The world's economic response to surging oil prices following regional tensions is reminiscent of the oil shocks of the 1970s. Should prices remain elevated for a sustained period, not only will global inflation be exacerbated, but the risk of a financial crisis distinct from that of 2008 looms large. Regardless of what political pronouncements suggest, the on-the-ground reactions mirror those seen during the major oil shock of the 1970s. In Bangladesh, universities have been entirely closed to conserve energy. In the UK, drivers are being urged to curtail car usage and Germany has declared that no options for reducing energy consumption will be off the table.

While the market remains sensitive to statements from political figures – for example, when Donald Trump claims the war is largely over and prices subsequently fall – prices quickly rebound once the market confronts reality. Countries are scrambling to prepare for this emergency, which has multiple facets. The immediate concern is that current prices are underpinned by existing oil inventories in the logistical chain, at refineries and so on.

The oil currently being consumed by Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan – nations in the Far East that are 90% reliant on Persian Gulf oil – was purchased three weeks before the outbreak of hostilities. Everyone knows that once these reserves are depleted, conditions will fundamentally change.

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IRGC pounds Israel's Nevatim base with ballistic missiles

Regional states advised not to trust US on security, defense: **Military spox**

National Desk

The Public Relations Department of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) announced on Saturday that Israel's Nevatim base was targeted by the Iranian missiles during the 47th wave of Operation True Promise 4.

The Israeli base was struck with the solid- and liquid-fuel "Kheybar Shekan" missiles and they achieved successful hit on the occupied territories.

The commander of the IRGC Aerospace Force said the accuracy rate of Iranian missiles hitting the American and Israeli targets has doubled in the past two days.

In a post on his X account, Brigadier General Majid Mousavi wrote, "Over the past 48 hours, the accuracy rate of Iranian missiles hitting targets associated with American and Israeli criminals has doubled."

The commander noted that the skies have opened up to the "massive Iranian missiles," stressing that the punishment for the aggressors continues unabated.

The strikes came on the same day that Aziz Nasirzadeh, Iran's Minister



ISNA

of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics, was laid to rest after he was martyred in Israeli-American attacks on Iran on February 28.

"Today, Iran is standing on the shoulders of men who have sacrificed their lives for the homeland's dignity and security. The path of martyrs shall continue and aggressors will invariably be responded until the realization of Iran's lasting security," Vice President Mohammadreza Aref said at Nasirzadeh's funeral ceremony.

US launch sites at UAE warned to be struck

Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquar-

ters warned the UAE that it would consider targeting enemy missile launch sites in some cities of that country as a "legitimate right."

"We declare to the leaders of the United Arab Emirates that we consider it as our legitimate right to target the origin points of enemy missile launches in some cities of that country," spokesman of the headquarters Lieutenant Colonel Ebrahim Zolfagari stated on Saturday.

The Iranian Army also announced that the Israeli intelligence and cyber units have been targeted by a drone attack.

Moreover, the spokesperson of the

Iranian Armed Forces advised leaders of Muslim countries in the region on Saturday not to put their trust in the facade of US military power as Washington would not be able to provide security for them.

"Have trust in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Muslim people. Let us unite in the Islamic world to counter infidelity, idolatry, and sedition led by America and the Zionists," Brigadier General Abolfazl Shekarchi said.

"Do not trust in the facade of US power. The US, which cannot even defend its shaky army, will not be able to provide security for Muslim countries and the region," he said.

Shekarchi pointed out that the largest US warship, the USS Abraham Lincoln, which he said instilled fear and pillaged Muslim resources, was made out of operation by Iran.

"After a historic defeat, [the USS Abraham Lincoln] was forced to flee, and this defeat became immortal in history," he added.

Shekarchi also said that the United States is no longer a world power, emphasizing that the terrorist US government must be expelled from the West Asian region.

US, Israel seeking to disintegrate 'powerful' Islamic countries: *Pezeshkian*



Abdel Fattah el-Sisi

Masoud Pezeshkian

International Desk

Iranian president said the United States and Israel are seeking to weaken and disintegrate major Islamic states as they cannot tolerate the presence of "great and powerful" countries like Iran, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Turkey in the region.

Masoud Pezeshkian made the remarks in a phone conversation with his Egyptian counterpart Abdel Fattah el-Sisi on Friday, during which they discussed the latest joint aggression by the US and Israel against Iran.

Pezeshkian underlined that Iran was subjected to military attacks for the second time amid nuclear negotiations with the US – a move that shows Washington is not seeking a genuine resolution to Iran's nuclear issue.

Referring to Iran's attacks on the US military bases in the regional countries, the Iranian president said Tehran has no problem with Islamic countries, but the use of their territories and airspaces by the US and Israel to launch military strikes on Iran has forced the Iranian armed forces to target the American bases in the regional countries in the framework of the "right to legitimate defense".

Enemies' plots

Pezeshkian called on the Islamic countries to remain vigilant against conspiracies by the enemies of the Islamic countries to sow discord among the regional nations. He also welcomed any initiative by regional countries to strengthen unity, restore stability and promote peace in the Middle East region.

The conversation came as the US and Israeli armed forces have launched new aggression against Iran since February 28.

The attacks have claimed the lives of more than 1,000 people in Iran, including the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and several other high-ranking officials.

Iranian armed forces have decisively retaliated against the strikes by launching barrages of missile and drones against the Israeli-occupied territories as well as US bases in region.

No justification for aggression

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baqaei in an interview with China's Xinhua news agency described the US as a "rogue actor" in the international system and a serious threat to global peace and security.

Baqaei said that the recent US actions against Iran could not be justified under any rule of international law.

"This aggressive act cannot be justified by any argument or principle of international law. It constitutes a violation of peace, and the Iranian nation is determined to defend itself as long as necessary".

Baqaei added that many countries in the region have come to realize that the US military presence in the region has brought more problems than stability for the region.

The Iranian official stressed that regional stability largely depends on cooperation among regional states.

Iranian oil sales uninterrupted despite US airstrike on Kharg Island

International Desk

Crude oil exports from Kharg Island are going on, an Iranian official said on Saturday, hours after a US airstrike targeted the Iranian island in the Persian Gulf, which serves as the main hub for country oil sales.

"Iranian oil companies at the Kharg export terminal are operating as usual despite the brutal attack," Ehsan Jahaniyan, the political, security, and social deputy governor of Bushehr province told IRNA.

Jahaniyan added that the overnight assault caused no casualties among military personnel, workers at the companies, or residents of Kharg Island, and that daily life and activities of the people on island, which is part of Bushehr province in southern Iran, were "in complete order."

US President Donald Trump said that the United States had launched an airstrike on Kharg's military sites, claiming that the US Central Command had "obliterated every military target in Iran's crown jewel" at his direction.

"For reasons of decency, I have chosen not to wipe out the oil infrastructure on the island," Trump wrote on the social media platform Truth Social.



The file photo shows workers fixing a crude oil leak from a pipeline on Kharg Island on August 7, 2025.

SHANA

Trump also threatened to "immediately reconsider this decision" should Iran, or anyone else, "do anything to interfere with" the free and safe passage of ships through the Strait of Hormuz.

Fars News Agency, citing its sources, reported that "more than 15 explosions" were heard on the island.

"The enemy attempted to damage the Army's air defense, the Navy's Jowshan base, an airport control tower, and a helicopter hangar during the strike," Fars said.

The Central Khatam al-Anbiya Headquarters – Iran's war room – warned

shortly afterward that in the event of an attack on Iran's economic, and energy infrastructure, all such facilities belonging to oil companies across the region with American stakes or collaborating with the US would "be destroyed and reduced to ashes immediately."

Since the US-Israeli aggression on Iran on February 28, Iranian Armed Forces have blocked the transit of tankers and ships through the Strait of Hormuz in the Persian Gulf, a waterway via which 20% of the world's oil passes.

The move has pushed oil prices

above \$100 per barrel and left scores of vessels stranded on either side of the conduit.

Iranian forces have targeted at least 15 vessels for ignoring warnings about the waterway's closure and only allowed ships belonging to "non-hostile countries" to sail through.

Iran's new Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Hosseini Khamenei, on Thursday urged the Armed Forces to keep the strait closed as a leverage tool.

Kharg, a coral island with an area of 20 square kilometers, is located 25 km off Iran's coast and has significant economic importance as it hosts the country's main oil export terminal. Around 90% of Iran's crude exports are conducted through Kharg, where the country's largest oil storage tanks are located and connected to its largest oilfields. Speculation is rife about the potential capture of the island by the US following the attack.

Iran's Parliament Speaker Mohammad-Bagher Ghalibaf warned on Thursday that the Islamic Republic would "abandon all restraint and make the Persian Gulf run with the blood of invaders" if any of its islands came under attack.

Global economy braces ...

Beyond oil, the availability of chemical fertilizers is also a growing worry.

If not passed through the Strait of Hormuz, their absence would potentially have irreversible damage, given that it is now the planting season in the Northern Hemisphere, and fertilizers are urgently needed. It's not just the price of fertilizer that's the issue; there are no significant reserves along the supply chain. Any disruption in the next month could impact the global food basket for a year.

The question is when these effects will manifest in monetary policy. Financial markets, particularly New York, which ended last year on a relatively positive note despite its ups and downs, have priced in expectations of interest rate cuts in 2026. If central banks become

convinced that the current inflation is not transitory and must react through monetary policy, the narrative of rate cuts next year will no longer hold. When financial markets begin to plummet, a financial crisis different from that of 2008 could unfold. Reaching this point does not necessarily require oil to hit \$110 or \$130 a barrel; sustained high prices – around \$85 and above – are sufficient. Prices are now fluctuating within this range, and the market is increasingly convinced this is the likely scenario.

The initial lack of a price surge following disruptions to passage through the Strait of Hormuz was predicated on the assumption that Iran would quickly concede. However, as it became clear this was not the case and Iran's retaliatory power remained intact, the narrative of

a prolonged situation has gained traction. The opposing side's tools are also apparent, and this is a two-way game. One such tool is the release of strategic oil reserves, a decision that has already been made. However, this tool has its limitations. The total reserves – depending on the definition and details – might only cover 20 to 30 days of global consumption, potentially offsetting the loss of around 12 to 20 million barrels per day. Given this, everyone is waiting, and the clock is ticking. Two scenarios are playing out: whether the oil in the refining chain will be depleted before transit through the Strait of Hormuz returns to normal. There is currently no definitive answer, but the market is increasingly convinced that the strait will not be fully operational again anytime soon.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Description of incident

On Saturday morning, February 28,

2026, coinciding with the commencement of military attacks by the United States of America and Israel against Iran, the Shajareh Tayyebah Elementary School in the city of Minab, Hormozgan province, was struck by several missiles.

At the time of the attack, female students were present in their classrooms, and as a result of the missile strikes, the school building was completely destroyed, and its roof collapsed on the students and teachers.

According to official statistics announced by local authorities:

- 165 people were killed, the vast majority of whom were girls and boys between the ages of seven and twelve;
 - At least 95 others were injured.
- Images and evidence released from the scene of the incident show the complete destruction of a civilian educational facility and the deaths of dozens of children. Following the release of these images, military officials from the United States of America and Israel stated that they were unaware of a missile strike on a school. However, some media sources close to Israel claimed that the target was part of a military base.

However, investigations based on satellite imagery from previous years, field reports, video footage, and data released by various sources show that:

- The school building has been clearly and distinctly separate from any military facilities for years;
- There is no indication of the use of this educational building for military purposes;
- The pattern of missile strikes and the nature of the destruction raise serious questions about the accuracy of targeting information and the observance of precautions in military operations.

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Legal assessment

According to the fundamental rules of international humanitarian law, including the established principles in the Geneva Conventions and the customary laws of armed conflict, parties involved in any conflict are obliged to observe the following principles:

1. The principle of distinguishing between military objectives and civilian persons and objects;
2. The principle of proportionality, which prohibits any attack that would cause disproportionate civilian casualties;
3. The principle of precaution in attack, which requires the attacking party to take all feasible precautions to prevent or minimize civilian casualties.

The missile attack on an elementary school during school hours, where children were present, is a blatant violation of these fundamental principles. Even if there were a military target in the vicinity, an attack that results in the deaths of dozens of children constitutes an indiscriminate attack and, therefore, a war crime.

According to the rules of individual criminal responsibility in international law, responsibility for such crimes is not limited to the direct perpetrators of the attack, but also includes:

- Military commanders issuing orders;
- Political officials involved in decision-making;
- And any person who knowingly participated in the planning, ordering, or execution of this attack.

Requests

In light of all available evidence and information demonstrating a clear violation of international law and the commission of war crimes, the signatories of this lawsuit

International lawsuit demands truth, accountability for war crimes perpetrators in Iran's Minab School

hereby request that competent international and national authorities, in accordance with their legal powers and jurisdictions, take the following actions:

A) The Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court:

1. Initiate an urgent, independent, and impartial investigation within the jurisdiction of the Court regarding war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression related to the February 28, 2026 attack.
2. Collect and preserve all evidence related to this crime and proceed to summon and investigate suspected individuals at various levels of command and decision-making.
3. If responsibility is established, issue arrest warrants and indictments against the direct and indirect perpetrators of this attack.

B) The United Nations Security Council:

1. Exercise its powers to address threats to international peace and security and consider the possibility of referring the case to the International Criminal Court if necessary.
2. Take appropriate measures to establish a ceasefire and prevent recurrence of such attacks, including targeted sanctions against those responsible and countries that fuel violations of international law.

C) The United Nations Human Rights Council:

1. Establish a fact-finding commission or a special expert group to conduct an independent and documented investigation into human rights and humanitarian law violations resulting from this attack.
2. Submit detailed reports to international bodies and recommend legal and compensatory measures to support the rights of victims and their families.

D) The Secretary-General of the United Nations:

1. Exercise his powers to stop the illegal attacks by the United States and Israel against the territory of Iran, promptly follow up on this case, and ensure the cooperation of all United Nations bodies and offices in collecting evidence and supporting investigations.
2. Ensure coordination among international authorities to ensure accountability of perpetrators and support the rights of victims.

E) Prosecutors and national judicial authorities in countries with the principle of universal jurisdiction, including Germany, France, Belgium, Spain, Norway, the Netherlands, and other relevant judicial jurisdictions:

1. Initiate independent criminal investigations based on domestic laws relating to international crimes under the principle of universal jurisdiction, independently of the location of the crime or the nationality of the perpetrators.
2. Collect and examine evidence and conduct field and expert investigations if necessary.
3. Issue arrest warrants, indictments, and legal proceedings against those responsible, including military commanders, political officials, and other individuals involved in the planning and execution of this attack.
4. Ensure legal support and access for victims and their fam-

ilies to the truth, justice, and compensation.

It is emphasized that the deaths of over one hundred children in an elementary school, regardless of any political or military considerations, is one of the most shocking examples of violations of international humanitarian law. Failure to investigate and hold accountable for such a crime not only tramples on the rights of victims but also undermines the credibility of the entire international legal system and the global community's commitment to combating impunity. Therefore, the signatories of this lawsuit urge all responsible international and national authorities, including the International Criminal Court, the UN Security Council, the UN Human Rights Council, and national courts and prosecutors with universal jurisdiction, to act with urgency and decisiveness to uncover the truth, achieve justice, and hold the perpetrators of this crime accountable.

Sincerely

A list of some of the international figures who signed the English version of this lawsuit is as follows:

1. Abdullah Gül, Former President of the Republic of Türkiye
2. Moncef Marzouki, Former President of Tunisia
3. Vuk Jeremić, Former President of UN General Assembly 2012-2013,
4. Muhammad El-Baradei, Former Director General of the IAEA, the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (2005) Nobel Peace Prize in 2005 and former Vice President of Egypt
5. Javad Zarif, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Islamic Republic of Iran
6. Hamad bin Casim bin Cabir Al Sani, Former Prime Minister of Qatar
7. Prof. Georges Abi Saab, Professor Emeritus, Graduate Institute Geneva and Cairo University; Former Judge of the International Court of Justice, Egypt
8. Dr. Hans von Sponeck, Former UN Assistant Secretary-General, Faculty Member at Conflict Research Center, University of Marburg, Germany
9. Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Former UN Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development; Deputy Director UN FAO, Malaysia
10. Özgür Özel, The Chairman of CHP (Republican People's Party), The Main Opposition Party, Türkiye
11. Jeremy Corbyn, Member of Parliament (Islington North); Former Leader of the Labour Party (2015-2020), United Kingdom
12. Bülent Arınç, Former Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, Former Deputy Prime Minister
13. Cemil Çiçek, Former Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, Former Minister of Justice
14. John Esposito, Professor of International Relations and Founding Director of the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, Georgetown University; Member of High Level Group of the UN Alliance of Civilizations
15. Haşım Kılıç, Former President of the Constitutional Court, Türkiye
16. Tawakkol Karman, Nobel Peace Laureate (2011); Human Rights Activist, Yemen
17. Naledi Pandor, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, South Africa
18. Rıza Türmen, Former Judge of the European Court of Human

Rights; Former Member of Parliament, Türkiye

19. Avi Shlaim, Emeritus Professor of International Relations, University of Oxford, UK;
20. Angela Y. Davis, Leading Human Rights Activist, Philosopher and Social Theorist, Berkeley, USA
21. Walid Joumblatt, Leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, Member of Lebanese Parliament, Lebanon
22. Ali Babacan, Chairman of the Democracy and Progress Party (DEVA); Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Türkiye
23. Mahmut Arıkan, Chairman of the Saadet Party, Member of Turkish Parliament, Türkiye
24. Fatih Erbakan, Chairman of the New Welfare Party (Yeniden Refah Partisi), Türkiye
25. Gültekin Uysal, Chairman of the Democrat Party, Member of Parliament, Türkiye
26. Zekeriya Yapıcıoğlu, Chairman of HÜDA PAR, Türkiye
27. Doğu Perinçek, Chairman of Vatan Partisi, Türkiye
28. Craig Mokhaiber, International Human Rights Lawyer and Activist, Former Senior UN Human Rights Official
29. Erdiñç Sağkan, President of the Turkish Bar Association, Türkiye
30. Susan Abulhawa, Palestinian Novelist, Author of Mornings in Jenin, USA
31. Zülfü Livaneli, Prominent Musician, Author and Poet, Türkiye
32. Khawla Mattar, Director of the United Nations Information Center in Cairo, Former UN Deputy Special Envoy for Syria, Bahrain
33. Walden Bello, Professor of Sociology, State University of New York at Binghamton; Former Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines
34. Hilal Elver, UN Special Rapporteur on Right to Food (2014-2020), Türkiye
35. Paulo S. Pinheiro, Chair, UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Geneva, Former Minister of Human Rights, Brazil
36. Meral Akşener, Former Leader of the Good Party (İYİ Party); Former Minister of Interior, Türkiye
37. Beşir Atalay, Former Minister of Interior, Türkiye
38. Victoria Brittain, Former Foreign Editor of the Guardian, Founder of the Annual Palestine Festival of Literature, UK
39. Ayşe Buğra, Emeritus Professor Boğaziçi University, Türkiye
40. Abdullah Ahsan Professor of History International Islamic University Malaysia, USA
41. Ali Bardakoğlu, Former President of Directorate of Religious Affairs, Türkiye
42. Mehmet Görmez, Former President of Directorate of Religious Affairs, Türkiye
43. Mustafa Cerić, Grand Mufti Emeritus of Bosnia, President of the World Bosniak Congress, Bosnia and Herzegovina
44. Joseph Camilleri, Emeritus Professor, La Trobe University, Co-Convener of SHAPE Melbourne, Australia
45. Noura Erakat, Activist and Professor, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, Co-founder of Jadaliyyah, USA;
46. Dr. Jan Oberg, Chairman of the Transnational Foundation for Peace and Future Research, Sweden
47. Chandra Muzaffar President, International Movement for a Just World (JUST), Malaysia
48. Peter Ford, Former British Ambassador to Syria and Bahrain, Deputy Leader of Workers Party, UK

49. John V. Whitbeck International Lawyer; Legal Advisor to Palestinian Leadership, Paris

50. Frei Fenniche, Former Senior Human Rights Officer/UN, OHCHR, Switzerland
51. Usman Bugaje, Professor, Former Adviser to the Vice President of Nigeria, Nigeria
52. Arlene Elizabeth Clemesha, Professor of Contemporary Arab History at the University of São Paulo (USP), Brazil
53. Ömer Dinçer, Professor; Former Minister of National Education; Former President of Istanbul Şehir University, Türkiye
54. Fethi Jarrah, Former Education Minister, Chairperson of the National Mechanism on Torture Prevention, Tunisia
55. Feridun Bilgin, Former Minister of Transport, Maritime and Communication, Türkiye
56. Talal Asad, Retired Professor at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.
57. Penny Green, Professor of Law and Globalization, Director; International State Crime Initiative Queen Mary University of London, UK
58. Nader Hashemi Professor, Director of the Alwaleed Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, Georgetown University, USA
59. Maung Zarni, Human Rights Activist, Member of the Board of Advisors of Genocide Watch, Co-founder of Free Burma Coalition, Free Rohingya Coalition and Forces of Renewal Southeast Asia, Myanmar;
60. Elmira Akhmetova Associate Professor of History and Civilizational Studies; Senior Research Fellow at Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies, Germany
61. Juan Cole Professor of History, University of Michigan, Former Editor of the International Journal of Middle East Studies, USA
62. Assaf Kfoury Mathematician and Professor of Theoretical Computer Science, Boston University, USA
63. Biljana Vankovska Professor and Head of the Global Changes Center; Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, Macedonia
64. Prof. Dr. Anis Ahmad (S.I.) Emeritus Professor and President Riphah International University Islamabad, Pakistan
65. Lisa Hajjar Professor, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA
66. Dr. Syed Azman Syed Ahmad Nawawi, Former Member of Malaysia Parliament, Chairman of Asia Forum for Peace and Development (AFPAD), Malaysia
67. Sami al-Arian, Director, Center for Islam and Global Affairs, Sabahattin Zaim University,
68. Kani Torun, Former Turkish Ambassador to Somalia, Member of Parliamentary Assembly of Council of Europe,
69. Mehmet Emin Ekmen, Chairman of the Yeni Yol Parliamentary Group, Türkiye
70. Selçuk Özdağ, Deputy Chairman of the Yeni Yol Parliamentary Group, Türkiye
71. Bülent Kaya, Deputy Chairman of the Yeni Yol Parliamentary Group, Türkiye
72. Mehmet Emin Ekmen, Chairman of the Yeni Yol Parliamentary Group, Türkiye
73. Ibrahim M Zein, Professor of Islamic Studies, Qatar Foundation, Qatar
74. Engin Deniz Akarlı, Professor of History Emeritus, Brown University, Türkiye
75. Syed Arabi bin Syed Abdullah Idid, Former Rector, International Islamic University, Malaysia

76. Camilo Pérez-Bustillo National Taiwan University, Taiwan

77. Prof. Dato. Dr Mohammad Hashim Kamali Professor of Law, Founding CEO of the International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies, Malaysia/Afghanistan
78. Fajri Matahati Muhammadin Faculty of Law, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
79. Mahmudul Hasan Professor, International Islamic University Malaysia/Bangladesh
80. Christos Giannou Honorary Lecturer and Former War Surgeon; Humanitarian Medical Practitioner; Queen Mary University of London & American University of Beirut
81. Ayçin Kantoglu, Author, Türkiye;
82. Ermin Sinanovic, Center for Islam in the Contemporary World at Shenandoah University, USA/Bosnia and Herzegovina
83. Dr. Sare Davutoğlu M.D, Medical Humanitarian Aid Volunteer
84. Ali Hashem, Journalist and Political Analyst; Al Jazeera Correspondent, Lebanon / Qatar
85. Ana Stanić Lawyer, E&A Law Limited
86. Dr. Selma Dabbagh, British-Palestinian Novelist and Human Rights Lawyer, UK
87. Chowdhury Mueen Uddin, Former Director of Muslim Spiritual Care Provision, National Health Service, UK
88. Irene Gendzier, Emeritus Professor of Political Science, Boston University
89. George Sabra, Signatory of the Damascus Declaration (2005), Former President of the Syrian National Council, Syria;
90. Obaidul Hamid Obaid Hamid, Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics, School of Education, University of Queensland, Australia
91. Khaled Abou El Fadl, Omar and Azmeralda Alfi Distinguished Professor of Law UCLA School of Law, International Human Rights Expert
92. Prof. Radmila Nakarada Professor, Faculty of Political Science, University of Belgrade;
93. Spokesperson of the Yugoslav Truth and Reconciliation Committee, Serbia;
94. Fredrick S. Heffermehl, Lawyer and Author, Norway (?)
95. Marilyn Langlois Community Organizer and International Solidarity Activist, United States
96. Richard Rubenstein Professor of Conflict Resolution and Public Affairs, George Mason University, United States
97. Raia Bpmeza Peace Activist and Civil Society Advocate, Romania
98. Diane Perlman Social Psychologist and Conflict Resolution Scholar, United States
99. Herbert Gebauer Peace Activist and Civil Society Advocate, Germany
100. Kamar Oniah Kamuruzaman, International Islamic University, Malaysia
101. Hatem Ete, Associate Professor; Chairman of Ankara Institute, Türkiye
102. Sevinç Özcan, Associate Professor, International Relations Department, Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University
103. Zahide Tuba Kor; Author and Middle East Researcher; Türkiye
104. Kim Phar Beng, Founder and CEO of Strategic Pan Pacific Arena, Malaysia
105. Meymune Topçu, Asst. Prof Psychology Department of MEF University, Conducting Research on Collective Memory of The Genocide in Gaza
106. Ahmet Davutoğlu, Former Prime Minister of Türkiye,
107. Richard Falk, UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Palestinian Territories Occupied since 1967 (2008-2014), International Law Emeritus Professor, Princeton University

Iran urges ICAO to designate two airports as 'safe' for humanitarian operations in wartime



● TASNIM

In the virtual meeting, Shirudi also emphasized that the recent attacks on Iranian airports and aviation infrastructure constitute a clear violation of the Chicago Convention. He provided an update on the state of Iran's aviation industry in the wake of the recent conflict, highlighting the impact of the attacks.

The aviation chief urged the international body to pressure aggressors to comply with international laws regarding the protection of civil aviation infrastructure. In response, Rahma pledged to exert every effort to designate Mashhad as a safe airport. He also commended Iran for its efforts to maintain aviation safety and manage airspace closures effectively during the conflict.

Highlighting Iran's role as a founding member of ICAO and its key influence in the Middle East, Rahma expressed hope that conditions would improve soon, allowing for a strong return by Iran to the global aviation industry.

Economy Desk

Iran has requested the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to designate two airports within the country as "safe airports" to facilitate humanitarian operations, with Mashhad as the top priority, IRNA reported.

Head of Iran's Civil Aviation Organization Abouzar Shirudi made the appeal during a virtual meeting with Khelifa Rahma, the newly appointed regional director of ICAO for the Middle East, on Friday evening.

Shirudi stated that Mashhad airport in the northeast remains Iran's top priority for designation as a safe airport. He also sought designation for a second, unnamed airport to ensure operational

flexibility.

The meeting was held following multiple attacks by the US and the Zionist regime on Iranian infrastructure, including airports and navigation systems, since they launched aggression against the country on Feb. 28.

The request aims to secure routes for humanitarian aid, medical supplies, and the evacuation of foreign nationals from Iran, as well as the return of Iranian citizens from abroad.

In a separate statement on the damages, Head of Iran Air Taher Abdolhay has recently said that four passenger aircraft operated by Iranian airlines had been deliberately targeted in US-Zionist attacks, calling it a clear violation of international human rights laws.

Over 52,000 flights canceled

More than two weeks after the commencement of the attack on Iran, the global aviation industry is facing one of the largest disruptions in its contemporary history, with tens of thousands of flights on routes connected to the Middle East canceled or rerouted.

According to Tasnim news agency, citing the latest data from the aviation analysis firm Cirium, over 52,000 flights have been canceled out of approximately 98,000 planned flights for the Middle East region since the beginning of the U.-Zionist attack on Iran. This event has affected around 6 million passengers.

Factories add double, triple shifts to offset war losses: Minister



● IRNA

Economy Desk

Iran's industrial sector is mobilizing to offset production losses caused by enemy attacks, with factories ramping up output and adding shifts to compensate for destroyed facilities, Industry Minister Mohammad Atabak said.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the international Quds Day rallies in Tehran on Friday, Atabak condemned the targeting of schools, residential areas, and industrial sites by the US and Israel, noting that the strikes had caused damage to several industrial centers, Tasnim news agency reported.

The US and the Zionist regime launched their aggression against the country on Feb. 28, with civilian targets and infrastructure among the primary sites struck.

"If enemy attacks on industrial centers and factories disrupt the production of a specific good, other production hubs have strived to compensate for the shortage by boosting output — doubling or tripling production — and implementing double or triple shifts," Atabak said.

The minister emphasized that the government is making every effort to meet public needs, ensuring that essential goods are available in supermarkets and shopping centers.

56 historical sites across Iran severely damaged

Arts & Culture Desk

In a statement on Saturday, Iran's Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts condemned military strikes by the United States and Israel on Iran's historical buildings, museums, and sites, announcing that at least 56 museums, historical monuments, and cultural sites across various provinces have sustained severe damage.

Tehran Historic Citadel (Arg), the Tehran Grand Bazaar, the Marble Palace, the historic Shahrbani Palace, the former Senate Building, the Sepahsalar Mosque, and the Farahabad Palace-Museum are among the structures targeted by direct strikes.

The statement also detailed the extent of the damage in other provinces. For example, in Kurdistan, 12 prominent structures, including the

In Lorestan Province, the historic Falak-ol-Aflak Fortress and its museums sustained damage. In Kermanshah, the Tekyeh Biglarbeygi and the historic Kozazi High School were targeted in the assault. In Bushehr Province, the Sabzabad Mansion and the historic Whitehouse building in the Port of Siraf were damaged, just like the Darreh-Shahr Archaeological Museum in Ilam Province.

UNESCO steps in

The director of the UNESCO World Heritage Center expressed grave concern regarding the impact of regional conflicts on World Heritage sites, confirming that several of Iran's globally registered landmarks have been damaged.

According to Lazare Eloundou Assomo, Iran currently possesses 29 sites inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, four of which have been damaged. Among these is the Golestan Palace in Tehran, which is frequently compared to France's Palace of Versailles.

He emphasized that UNESCO has communicated the geographic coordinates of all these historical locations to all parties involved, and everyone is aware that these sites must not be the target of any attack or destruction.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi thanked UNESCO for its prompt and responsible reaction to the bombing of Tehran's Golestan Palace.

Araghchi wrote in a post on X on Friday, "Thank you UNESCO for responsible reaction to bombing of Golestan Palace, a World Heritage site".



The photo shows the extent of damage done to the exterior of a historical cultural site in Isfahan, central Iran, following an air strike.

● SEYED MOHAMMADALI MAHRAMI/MIRAS ARIA

The ministry labeled this military aggression "a crime against the nation's historical identity and a blatant assault on the shared heritage of humanity".

The statement further emphasized that Tehran Province, as Iran's political and cultural heart, tops the list of these crimes with 19 damaged sites. Peerless landmarks such as the Golestan Palace, the

Salar Sa'id Mansion (Sanandaj Archaeological Museum), the Khosrowabad Museum, and the Asef Vaziri Mansion, have been damaged.

In Isfahan, the "jewel of world architecture," the UNESCO-listed Naqsh-e Jahan Square complex, along with the Chehel Sotoun Palace, the Jameh Mosque, and parts of the city's historic fabric, were targeted.

Over 36,000 civilian buildings hit in US-Israeli strikes

Social Desk

More than 36,000 civilian structures have been damaged in the targeted attacks carried out by Israeli and American forces, according to the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS).

The organization has released an updated report detailing the extent of human and material losses resulting from the strikes as of March 13, 2026.

According to the report, 36,593 civilian units have sustained damage in the attacks, most of them residential buildings and public service centers.

In total, 21,520 homes across various provinces were completely or partially damaged, of which 10,000 residential units were located in the Tehran Province alone. Moreover, 4,827 commercial buildings were either destroyed or seriously affected.

The health sector also suffered significant losses. A total of 160 medical and health facilities, including hospitals, clinics, and pharmacies, were damaged or targeted — an act the IRCS described as a "blatant violation of international humanitarian law and the principle of medical neutrality".

Damage was also reported in the education sector, with 69 schools destroyed or damaged.



Civilians salvage what they can from the wreckage that was once their homes in Tabriz, Northwestern Iran, on March 11, 2026, following a targeted US-Israeli attack.

● MASOUD VAEZ/TASNIM

Human losses in the health-care system were also confirmed. Twelve medical personnel were killed, and 78 health workers were injured during the attacks.

Emergency and rescue operations were not spared. According to operational data, 17 Red Crescent relief centers were hit, along with 21 rescue vehicles that were either damaged or destroyed. Nineteen ambulances from the IRCS and emergency services were also rendered inoperable, and one rescue helicopter sustained severe damage during operations.

Among first responders, 10 relief workers were injured in Tehran, Mahabad, and Khomein cities, while one rescuer, Hamidreza Jahanbakhsh from Isfahan Province, was killed in the line of duty while assisting civilians.

The IRCS president highlighted the humanitarian dimension of what he called a "catastrophe," declaring that strikes on res-

idential areas, schools, hospitals, medical centers, and relief workers constitute clear acts of war crimes and gross violations of international humanitarian law.

Pirhossein Kolivand added that the Iranian Red Crescent has launched comprehensive legal actions at the international level to defend the rights of the victims, with full documentation of the alleged crimes being compiled and submitted to relevant bodies. Reports have already been sent to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the United Nations, and its Human Rights Secretariat.

He urged the global community, humanitarian organizations, and international institutions to end their silence and take immediate action to stop attacks on civilians and provide relief to the victims.