

Pezeshkian hails rural, nomadic communities as ‘irreplaceable’ assets

Social Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Saturday called rural and nomadic communities “irreplaceable” assets of Iran, praising their role in production and pledging government support to address their needs. Pezeshkian made the remarks during a two-hour visit to the International Exhibition of Rural and Nomadic Capabilities in Tehran, IRNA reported. The event displays products and capabilities from rural and nomadic communities scattered nationwide. He said rural residents and nomads helped meet the needs of the public and the country by making a wide range of goods. “Being among these dear people is the essence of life,”

Pezeshkian commended. He vowed his government would stand alongside all Iranians, especially villagers and nomads, to resolve their issues. Asked about the message the exhibition sent to Iran’s enemies and those threatening the country, Pezeshkian pointed to the active, lively and energetic presence of visitors. He said their participation showed that they were not afraid of threats. In the exhibition’s guestbook, Pezeshkian wrote that he would serve “the proud people of heroic Iran” for as long as he lived. He described rural and nomadic people as devoted, entrepreneurial and committed. The exhibition, held from October 8 to 11 at Tehran International Permanent



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian (2nd R) visits an exhibition displaying rural and nomadic products in Tehran, Iran, on October 10, 2026.
● president.ir

Fairgrounds, aims to highlight rural and nomadic production, including handicrafts, small-scale industries and other locally made goods. Its goals also include showcasing successful rural development projects, cultural traditions, natural attractions, tourism opportunities and young talent. The exhibition also aims to promote successful development models and help create jobs, raise local incomes and reduce consumer costs by strengthening production networks and supply chains.



Iranian film ‘Sun Girl’ shines at US, Italy festivals

Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian filmmaker Bahar Ghasemi has won two international awards for her short film ‘Sun Girl’, earning honors for best international narrative short in New York and best director in Genoa, Italy. The film received the top prize for Best International Narrative Short at the 11th Imagine This Women’s International Film Festival, held in New York from September 25 to 27, 2026. The festival shows independent films by women and supports women filmmakers. Ghasemi also claimed the Best Director Award at the eighth Dubbing Glamour Film Festival in September in Genoa, in Italy. Ghasemi wrote, directed



and produced ‘Sun Girl’, her second short film as a director, known in Persian as ‘Dokhshid’. The film tells the story of

a teenage girl who dreams of becoming a singer and prepares to attend an international music academy. Just as she nears her

goal, her mother learns that the girl’s brain tumor has returned and that she needs urgent surgery. The diagnosis threatens to derail the teenager’s plans and reshape her future. The cast includes Parnian Noori Ghasemi, Mehrnoush Dara, Arsalan Hemmati and Zeus Halakou. ‘Sun Girl’ has previously competed at the Beirut International Women Film Festival and Turkey’s AFSAD International Short Film Festival. It has also been selected for Brazil’s ECOCINE Film Festival and the women filmmakers’ competition at the Dhaka International Film Festival. The awards strengthen the film’s international profile, recognizing both its storytelling and Ghasemi’s direction.

Paris art show pays tribute to Iranian kids killed in US-Israeli war

Arts & Culture Desk

An exhibition of artwork by children who lost their lives in a war waged by the United States and Israeli against Iran in late February opened in Paris on Friday, commemorating dozens of students fallen in a missile strike on their school as well as other kids killed in the conflict. Titled “Dreams Blown Away,” the exhibition was staged at the cultural office of Iran’s Embassy in the French capital and will run for one week, IRNA reported. It features paintings honoring victims of the strike on Shajareh Tayyebbeh elementary school in Minab, in southern Iran’s Hormozgan province, as well as other child victims of attacks on Iran. The strike took place on



February 28, the first day of the joint US-Israeli attack on Iran. According to Iranian officials, US forces fired Tomahawk missiles that struck the school, killing 168 students and staff members. Three young musicians performed several mournful pieces at the opening, seeking to convey the tragedy’s emotional impact and show solidarity with grieving families.

The exhibition is the third in a series of weekly cultural events planned for October at the Iranian cultural office in Paris. Earlier exhibitions covered ancient Iran’s history and civilization, and contemporary Iran’s art, culture and innovation. The fourth event will feature images of works by Iranian prominent painter Mahmoud Farshchian and is scheduled to open on October 16.

Iranian short film ‘In Turn’ secures spots in US, Colombia festivals

Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian short film ‘In Turn’, directed by Sahra Asadollahi, heads to festivals in the United States and Colombia, adding to its international profile. The film will screen at the 19th Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival, scheduled for November 5 to 15, 2026,

in Philadelphia, US. The festival showcases films exploring the experiences and histories of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, IRNA reported Saturday. ‘In Turn’ will also compete at the 26th Festival International de Cortometrajes Cine a la Calle (FICICA), set for October 20 to 24 in Barranquilla, a

city in northern Colombia. The festival features short fiction, documentary and experimental films, with a focus on socially engaged filmmaking and public access to cinema. Asadollahi has described ‘In Turn’ as the third part of a trilogy about cinema and its relationship with different generations. She said the film focuses on older

people who have never had the opportunity to appear in front of a camera. The theme gives the film a social dimension by drawing attention to people whose experiences may be overlooked in mainstream cinema. Asadollahi and Atefeh Salehi wrote the screenplay, while Amirhossein Ahmadi produced the

film. ‘In Turn’ previously received the Best Foreign Film prize at the Philadelphia Independent Film Festival and was nominated for best film at Italy’s Dubbing Glamour Film Festival. It has also featured in the competition programs of Italy’s Brixia Film Fest and Britain’s Short Focus festival.

