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Minab reconstruction plan seeks nationwide support

Arts & Culture Desk

A national plan to rebuild Minab, a city in southern Iran, is taking shape following wartime damage that has left the town in need of extensive support, Cultural Heritage Minister Reza Salehi-Amiri said on Thursday.

Minab in Hormozgan Province came under attack during the war waged by the United States and Israel against Iran on February 28. The attacks killed children and teachers at Shajareh Tayyebeh elementary school in the city, drawing national attention to the town and its losses.

The government now says its recovery should extend beyond physical reconstruction to preserving the city's place in Iran's collective memory.

Government agencies, provincial authorities and major businesses being called on to help restore its infrastructure and cultural life, Salehi-Amiri said.

Speaking at the fourth national meeting of the Minab Martyrs Headquarters in Bandar Abbas, the capital of Hormozgan province, Salehi-Amiri said 22 government agencies had accepted responsibility for supporting the city.

"Projects are to be carried out in two phases, ending on February 28, 2027, and February 28, 2028," he added.

The minister proposed that each of the country's other 30 provinces take responsibility for one project in Minab, and called for contributions from 50 public and private banks and major companies in the oil, steel and petrochemical industries.

The proposed measures include tourism infrastructure, handicraft workshops, a specialized museum in Minab and a national museum in Sarabad.

They also cover psychological and social support for families of those killed, alongside weekly cultural and artistic events.

Salehi-Amiri said film, music, literature and visual arts should help introduce Minab nationally and internationally.

He also called for Iranian legal experts to pursue international legal aspects of the Minab issue.

"Minab must become part of the national discourse and the collective memory of Iranians," he said, describing support for the city as a shared responsibility.



A woman in traditional dress looks at the ruins of the missile-struck Shajareh Tayyebeh school in Minab, southern Iran.
MEYSAM ALLAGHEMANDAN/IRNA

Tehran to honor Bahram Beyzaie with play readings



Arts & Culture Desk

Six plays by the late Iranian playwright and director Bahram Beyzaie will be staged in readings in Tehran from November 8 to 12, organizers said.

The five-day program, titled "Beyzaie Week", will take place at the Hall of Fame of the iconic City Theatre Complex in Tehran.

Theater students and members of another theater group will perform the readings under the direction of actor and theater instructor Sirus Esnaqi.

The University of Culture and Art, Unit 48, is organizing the event.

"The readings would bring Beyzaie's work to a younger generation of performers and provide professional opportunities for promising student actors, Esnaqi said.

Beyzaie, who died in 2025 at the age of 87, was a leading figure in Iranian theater and cinema. He was also a playwright, director, educator and researcher of Iranian theater history.

The program opens on Sunday, November 8, with "Ziafat," directed by Roham Amin, followed by "Karnameh-ye Bandar Bidakhsh," directed by Zohreh Sadeghian.

On Monday, "Sahel-e Nejat," directed by Mani Nouri, will be read.

Tuesday's program features "Chahar Sanduq," directed by Zahra Tat, at the same time.

The readings continue on Wednesday, November 11, with "Azhdahak", directed by Sedigheh Hamrahi, and conclude on Thursday, November12, with "Arash", directed by Ardeshir Sheibani.

Mashayekhi works return to Tehran stage after seven years

Arts & Culture Desk

Three works by Iranian composer Alireza Mashayekhi received their first performances in Tehran on November 5, 2026, as his music returned to the Iranian stage after a seven-year absence.

The concert, titled "New Music in Iran", was held in two parts at Vahdat Hall in central Tehran.

It was organized by the Tehran Music Group, founded in 1993 by Mashayekhi and pianist Farimah Ghavam-Sadri to promote contemporary music and support composers and performers.

The program featured the Persian Gulf String Orchestra, the Namad String Quartet and the Karvan Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of conductor Arash Amini. Violinist and violist Amin Ghafari performed as a soloist in several pieces.

The three premieres were "Second Pichak", for two recorders, cello and percussion; "String Quartet No. 6: Reverse Accident", for string quartet and percussion; and a concerto for viola, string orchestra and percussion.

Other works included "The Sea: Iranian Suite for String Orchestra", "String Quartet No. 4" and "Violin Concerto No. 2", representing different periods of Mashayekhi's career.



Born in Tehran in 1939, Mashayekhi is regarded as a pioneer of modern music in Iran. He was among the country's first composers to write electronic music and has explored multicultural approaches by bringing together musical traditions from different cultures.

The Tehran Music Group was established to introduce new music in Iran and promote education and performance in the field. The concert renewed attention to Mashayekhi's contribution to contemporary Iranian music and the continued presentation of his works to new audiences.

Iran proposes regional education network at ECO meeting



IRNA

Social Desk

Iran has proposed establishing a regional education network among member states of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Education Minister said on Friday.

Speaking at the fifth meeting of the board of trustees of the ECO Educational Institute, Alireza Kazemi called for greater protection of children's right to education during conflicts

The education ministers from member states attended the meeting.

"Shared history and cultural heritage could serve as a foundation for regional cooperation in education, science and development," Kazemi added.

He said more than 4,000 civilians had been killed in the war waged by the United States and Israel against Iran, including 331 students and 72 education workers.

About 1,500 educational facilities had also been damaged, he added.

Kazemi cited two planned attacks on an elementary school in Minab, in Iran's southern Hormozgan province, saying 168 children under the age of 12, both girls and boys, along with their teachers, had been killed.

Iran proposed creating a network connecting universities, teacher-training institutions and research centers across ECO member states.

It also called for expanded cooperation in artificial intelligence and other emerging educational technologies, stronger vocational training programs and measures to ensure children can continue their education during wars and other crises.

Kazemi urged member states to increase exchanges of students, teachers and specialists, describing educational cooperation as a form of diplomacy that could foster mutual understanding, solidarity and friendship across the region.

"Education is an investment in peace, resilience and the shared future of nations," Kazemi said.

He called on ECO members to translate existing agreements into practical cooperation among schools, universities, teacher-training centers and other educational institutions.

"No child should become a victim of war and crisis," he said, adding that lasting peace begins in the minds of future generations.