Iran, South Korea display 80 artworks in Tehran
8



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Iran reiterates need for establishment of regional security arrangements

2

Shajareh Tayyebeh school; an account of lost children, grieving mothers

4-5

PERSPECTIVE
EXCLUSIVE



The photo taken on November 4, 2026 shows the ruins of an elementary school in Minab, southern Iran which came under a US missile strike on February 28, 2026.
IRAN DAILY

Rising food prices may be only beginning

How compound risks in global food system can push societies past critical thresholds



By Mohammad Emami
Food security analyst

OPINION
EXCLUSIVE

The World Bank's October 2026 Commodity Markets Outlook forecasts a 7% rise in global food commodity prices in 2027. Disruptions to Black Sea grain trade, higher energy costs and an exceptionally strong El Niño could push prices as much as 12% above that baseline. But the greater concern lies beyond the forecast: when food shocks interact with economic pressures and social vulnerabilities, they can trigger crises that persist long after the initial disruptions have subsided.

The global food system faces several pressures at once. Higher energy costs drive up production and transportation expenses, fertilizer shortages threaten future harvests, and climate hazards put additional strain on crop yields. Though these pressures originate in different parts of the global economy, their effects can compound. A farmer facing higher fertilizer prices may use less, with the consequences emerging only in the following harvest. If drought or trade restrictions strike in the meantime, the options for making up the shortfall narrow.

Michael Werz, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, has warned that disruptions to Black Sea grain exports and fertilizer shortages stemming from the war in Iran are putting pressure on both current food supplies and future production capacity. Rob Vos, a researcher at the International Food Policy Research Institute, has also examined how disruptions to energy markets and fertilizer trade affect agricultural production.

Page 3



IRGC to unleash 'game-changing' surprises in case of new aggression: *Spox*

2



CBI pledges continued financial support to restore war-hit South Pars gas production

3



Weightlifting World Championships:

Nasiri impresses with two silvers in men's 110kg

6

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Iran reiterates need for establishment of regional security arrangements

International Desk

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi underscored Iran's legitimate right to defend its sovereignty and national security, as well as the need to establish regional security arrangements without the involvement of extra-regional powers.

In a post on Instagram on Saturday, Araghchi said he had held separate phone conversations with 12 regional counterparts over the past 48 hours, discussing the latest international developments, the consequences of provocative actions by the United States and Israel, and the need to respect national sovereignty and halt aggression and threats.

Araghchi held talks with his counterparts from Oman, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Cyprus, Turkey, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Tunisia, Iraq and Pakistan.

Elaborating on the discussions, Araghchi said he had outlined Iran's principled positions and stressed the need for countries to respect one another's national sovereignty, put an end to aggression and threats, refrain from destructive foreign interference, and recognize regional countries' responsibility to prevent insecurity from spreading.

Iran's has repeatedly underlined the establishment of a regional security framework without involvement of foreign powers, saying that such involvements have created insecurity in the region, especially the Persian Gulf.

During the recent acts of aggression by the United States and Israel against Iran, some regional countries allowed the US to use their territories to launch attacks on Iran.

In response, Iran's Armed Forces targeted the US military bases in those countries, inflicting heavy blows to the US in those countries.

Iran says its strikes on the US military bases in regional countries have exposed the US vulnerabilities, stressing that the regional countries need establishment of regional framework for their security.

Iran's Foreign Ministry's spokesman Esmaeil Baqaei said on Monday that Iran will never remain silent or refrain from a deterrent response if neighboring countries' territory is once again used to directly violate its national sovereignty, territorial integrity and the security of its citizens.

Baqaei said some regional countries had not only failed to prevent the US war machine from using their territory, airspace and infrastructure to carry out aggression against Iran, but had, in some cases, encouraged and facilitated the attacks.


Abbas Araghchi
IRNA

He urged them to abandon past approaches and mistakes through genuine prudence.

Navy issues new warning after another tanker hit mine in Strait of Hormuz

International Desk



Iran's Navy on Saturday issued new warning to vessels trying to violate restrictions imposed by Iran in the Strait of Hormuz after a tanker hit a mine in the Strait of Hormuz.

The Navy said a tanker has caught fire after hitting a sea mine east of the strait while sailing through a prohibited and unsafe zone.

It said the tanker was operating in the restricted area despite repeated warnings and had switched off its navigation systems.

The vessel caught fire early in the morning following the mine strike and was left unable to move, according to the statement.

The Navy warned that this would be the fate of all vessels violating restrictions and ignoring warnings.

On Friday, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy announced that two oil tankers caught fire in the Strait of Hormuz after entering restricted waters without coordination with Iranian authorities

IRGC said the two tankers had attempted to leave the Strait of Hormuz through unauthorized passages, despite maritime restrictions imposed by Iran.

The vessels had switched off all their navigation and identification systems while attempting to transit the waterway with the support of the "aggressive and terrorist US military," the IRGC Navy noted in a statement.

Iranian officials have repeatedly warned commercial vessels against using routes that Tehran has announced as unauthorized and unsafe, particularly those that bypass its maritime coordination requirements.

The Strait of Hormuz, which connects the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea, is one of the world's most important energy passageways, carrying a substantial share of global seaborne oil supplies.

Iran imposed restrictions on the Strait in response to the latest round of US-Israeli aggression, preventing US and allied ships from navigating the strategic waterway.

The move resulted in a significant increase in oil and energy prices across the globe, especially in the US, forcing Washington and the International Energy Agency (IEA) to release their strategic reserves several times.

IRGC to unleash 'game-changing' surprises in case of new aggression: *Spox*

International Desk

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC)'s spokesman warned that if the enemy launches a third wave of unprovoked aggression against Iran, the force will unveil its surprise capabilities and deploy them on the battlefield, outlining the achievements of the IRGC's Aerospace Force.

Speaking at a press conference on Saturday, Brigadier General Hossein Mohebbi credited the force with possessing "game-changing surprises," underlining that, upon potential deployment, the surprises would leave the entire world "astonished."

He identified the surprises as among the Aerospace Force's 14-strong achievements, naming some others as indigenous aerospace technology, weapons exports, military self-sufficiency, sustained operations under bombardment, advanced missile and drone capabilities, and generating popular support.

Identifying indigenous knowledge production and the localization of global expertise as the first achievement, the spokesman said Iran had transformed from an importer of aerospace military equipment into an exporter.

Citing the Shahed-136 one-way attack drone, he said, "For example, today, the drone has been copied in most countries around the world, even in the United States, where it is being manufactured and used under different names."

"We do not need to import weapons from other countries, bring in foreign military advisors to train our personnel in their use, or obtain spare parts for our military equipment from abroad," the spokesman said.

According to Mohebbi, the IRGC's Aerospace Force had also harnessed the capability to maintain its missile operations in the face of extensive enemy bombardment, besides developing missiles, drones, and electronic warfare capabilities to establish a balance of power.

As cases in point proving the force's battleground prowess, he noted that the force had managed to engage more than 260 enemy aircraft during the latest round of unprovoked American-Israeli aggression, shooting down most of them.

Additionally, the Aerospace Force has captured six hostile MQM-170 reconnaissance drones intact over the preceding one or two weeks, he added, while stressing that these figures related exclusively to the Aerospace Force's operations, excluding those conducted by Iran's Army.

Among other achievements, the official highlighted the development of underground missile and drone production facilities.

He made special reference to the Aerospace Force's having managed to set up "missile production cities" in addition to its "missile cities" that would only serve to store away projectiles.

The missile production facilities, Mohebbi noted, enabled manufacturing to continue, despite enemy attacks.

Ansarullah: 22 killed in Saudi strikes on Yemen's Sana'a Province

International Desk

Yemeni media said on Saturday that Saudi strikes killed 22 people, most of them women and children, in Yemen's Sana'a Province, as deaths mount in the country's war.

The United Nations says more than 1,600 people have been killed and more than 300,000 displaced since fighting resumed in the impoverished country.

"The number of victims of the Saudi enemy warplane massacre in the Al-Shariyah area... has risen to 22 citizens, most of them children and women, while the number of wounded has risen to 30," Yemen's Saba news agency said.

Saba said earlier Saturday that operations to recover victims from the rubble were ongoing and that "aircraft targeted paramedics with two strikes".

Al-Masirah broadcast footage that it says was filmed in Al-Shariyah, showing smoke rising from a struck site, piles of debris and wounded people in hospital.

The Saudi-led coalition in a statement on Saturday said it had intercepted and destroyed a missile launched towards Riyadh Province.

On Friday, an attack on a market in Taiz Province killed 30 people.

Yemen's Ansarullah movement said Saudi airstrikes were to blame, while Saudi-backed forces in south accused Ansarullah of having fired a ballistic missile at the site.

Yemen slipped back into war between Ansarullah and the Saudi-backed government in July after years of relative calm, opening a new front in the conflict in the Middle East.

Since then, Saudi Arabia has regularly bombed Ansarullah's positions, while the group has multiplied its attacks against the oil-rich kingdom.

The conflict flared up in July after the Ansarullah allowed an Iranian plane to land in Yemen's capital Sana'a, in defiance of Saudi control over Yemeni airspace, setting off a spate of attacks.

The Ansarullah then declared a maritime blockade of Saudi Arabia and began hitting its ships, territory and oil facilities.


Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

CARTOON



CBI pledges continued financial support to restore war-hit South Pars gas production

Economy Desk

Iran's central bank and banking network will continue to provide financial support for the reconstruction of gas facilities damaged during the 40-day US-Israeli war, Central Bank of Iran Governor Abdolnaser Hemmati said, as the country seeks to restore lost production capacity and ease gas supply shortages.

Speaking during a visit to Bushehr Province in southern Iran and a tour of the fourth refinery at the South Pars Gas Complex, Hemmati said attacks had taken about one-third of the country's gas production capacity offline.

He praised Iranian specialists and domestic contractors for their efforts to rebuild the damaged facilities, saying the work was being carried out without the need to import equipment from abroad.

Hemmati expressed hope that accelerating reconstruction and bringing gas production capacity back online would help ease supply problems in the coming months. He said the central bank and banking network would continue their support until gas production was fully restored.

According to the National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC), damage to gas industry facilities during the 40-day war launched in late February was extensive, with nearly 7,924 cases recorded. Attacks on four South Pars gas refineries in March initially knocked out about 230 million cubic meters of daily gas production capacity.

The fourth South Pars refinery, described as the largest sour gas refinery in the Middle East, was heavily targeted during the war. However, following the early start of reconstruction work, 70% of its production capacity has now been restored, according to IRNA.

In the latest update on the recovery of gas production across the South Pars Gas Complex, Farrokh Alikhani, acting head of the National Iranian Oil Company, said 100 million cubic meters of gas had been returned to the network after 20,000 tons of debris were cleared from the refineries hit by missiles. He added that some of the remaining capacity would also be restored before winter.

According to the NIGC, Iran was already facing a daily gas shortfall of about 300 million cubic meters before the war. With 100 million cubic meters of the initially lost production capacity restored, the remaining 130 million cubic meters of lost capacity has added to the country's existing supply constraints, underscoring the importance of efforts to curb consumption.



Central Bank of Iran Governor Abdolnaser Hemmati (C) is briefed on reconstruction work at the war-damaged fourth refinery of the South Pars Gas Complex during a visit to Bushehr Province on November 7, 2026.
IRNA

Iran holds about 34 trillion cubic meters of proven natural gas reserves, the world's second-largest after Russia, and accounts for about 17% of global proven gas reserves. Despite its vast reserves, a significant portion of the country's gas potential remains undeveloped because of sanctions-related constraints and insufficient investment.

Chabahar transit surges tenfold as rail link nearas operation

Economy Desk

Transit volumes through Iran's southeastern port of Chabahar have increased tenfold in recent months compared with the same period last year, the head of the Chabahar Free Trade-Industrial Zone said, as a railway linking the port to Iran's national rail network is expected to begin operating in the coming months.

Mohammad Saeed Arbabi said the planned opening of the Chabahar-Zahedan railway would strengthen Iran's position in the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) and create new opportunities for trade, investment and access to markets in Central Asia and Russia.

Arbabi did not provide an absolute figure for the volume of transit cargo or specify the exact period covered by the comparison. Separately, data presented to India's parliament showed that total cargo handled at Chabahar port reached 2.23 million tonnes in the 2024-25 financial year, down from 2.84 million tonnes a year earlier. The figures cover overall cargo handling, rather than transit alone.

The 730-km railway will connect Chabahar port to Iran's national rail network. Its commissioning is expected within the next two to three months, Arbabi said.

The line is an important part of the INSTC, a transport network designed to improve trade links between Iran, India and Russia. It is also expected to facilitate the movement of goods from Chabahar to neighboring countries and



IRNA

markets in Central Asia. Connecting Iran's southern ports to regional transport networks and routes leading to the Caspian Sea could further improve access to Afghanistan, Central Asia and Russia.

The Chabahar route is estimated to be about 40% shorter and 30% cheaper than the route through the Suez Canal. The railway includes 39 tunnels, 201 bridges and 33 stations, and is designed to carry about 7 million tons of freight and 1 million passengers annually.

Arbabi said the railway would further increase transit volumes and open up opportunities for investment, production, exports and re-exports.

He also said India had not withdrawn from its project at Chabahar port despite military tensions with the United States and their impact on shipping activity, adding that New Delhi remained actively involved.

Iran remains in a state of war, with its southern ports also under a US blockade after a 40-day US-Israeli war began in late February. The naval restrictions have targeted Iran's oil exports and maritime trade.

Iran and India signed a 10-year agreement in May 2024 for the development and operation of the Shahid Beheshti terminal at Chabahar, as part of efforts to expand bilateral trade and economic ties. Under the agreement, India committed $120 million in investment and offered an additional $250 million credit line for infrastructure upgrades. India has also supplied equipment worth $25 million and shipped food supplies through the port.

US sanctions have complicated India's involvement in the project. After Washington withdrew an earlier sanctions exemption, it granted India a six-month waiver in October 2025. That waiver expired in April 2026, and New Delhi had since been seeking a way to maintain its role in the port project.

Arbabi said the Chabahar Free Trade-Industrial Zone welcomed investment from all countries, except those considered hostile, in port-related projects.

He said cooperation with Pakistan and Afghanistan remained strong, with trade and transit activity involving the two countries expanding beyond previous levels.

The completion of rail and logistics infrastructure at Chabahar is expected to strengthen Iran's trade links with India and countries in South and Central Asia, while expanding the port's access to regional markets, including Afghanistan and Russia. Increased foreign investment, exports and re-exports, and higher transit capacity are among the opportunities expected from the railway's commissioning.

Iran plans to attract $2b in new investment to electricity sector

Economy Desk

Iran plans to attract about $2 billion in new investment in its electricity industry, Energy Minister Abbas Aliabadi said on Saturday, adding that the government was working to remove barriers to investment and expand international cooperation.

Speaking at the opening of the 26th Iran International Electricity Industry Exhibition in Tehran, attended by 420 domestic and foreign companies, Aliabadi said the country was seeking to attract investment while facilitating technology transfers and cooperation with foreign partners, IRNA reported.

He said talks with Belarus had covered technology transfer and the provision of Iranian engineering services to the country. Negotiations were also under way with Russia, some European countries and regional states on cooperation and investment in the electricity sector.

Aliabadi said the Energy Ministry had focused in recent years on reducing electricity consumption and addressing some of the shortages and damage caused by the US-Israeli war began in late February.

He said electricity demand, previously projected to reach about 88,000 megawatts, had fallen to below 75,000 MW, marking the first decline in consumption. The minister did not provide a timeframe or supporting data for the figures.

Electricity demand from industries was currently being met, he said, adding that the amount of electricity supplied to industrial units was 3% higher than a year earlier.

Aliabadi also said more than 11% of the electricity needs of petrochemical companies had so far been met.

He said the government's aim was not to restrict electricity consumption but to promote more efficient use of energy in a way that supports production and economic growth, while discouraging consumption beyond standard levels.

Rising food prices ...

Some effects may become more pronounced during the 2027 and

Page 1 ›

2028 growing seasons, when markets could be operating under very different economic and climatic conditions.

The concept of compound risk, drawn from the study of complex systems, helps explain what is happening. Compound risk involves more than several hazards occurring at once. When those hazards interact, they can produce consequences greater than the sum of their individual effects. The scale of the damage does not always correspond to the size of the initial shock. Much depends on the system's condition beforehand, its ability to absorb pressure and its proximity to critical thresholds. This does not necessarily imply chaotic behavior. It reflects the nonlinear relationships through which accumulated vulnerabilities can turn an otherwise manageable disruption into a broader crisis.

The global food crisis of 2007 and 2008 illustrates the danger. Rising grain prices, combined with higher energy and agricultural input costs, placed enormous pressure on food-importing countries. Some governments imposed export restrictions to protect domestic consumers, further straining international markets and making conditions more difficult for other importing countries. Rising food prices also contributed to protests and social unrest in several developing countries.

What made that crisis especially revealing was the role of governments' own responses. Export restrictions may seem sensible to a country trying to contain domestic prices. But when several exporters act at once, global supplies tighten. Importers, fearing shortages, may increase precautionary purchases, pushing prices still higher. The result is a reinforcing feedback loop in which measures intended to contain a crisis help it spread.

The effects do not necessarily appear at once. Reserves, trade contracts and alternative suppliers can cushion the initial disruption, even as the underlying pressures intensify. Farmers may reduce fertilizer use, governments may draw down strategic reserves and households may begin sacrificing the nutritional quality of their diets. By the time the consequences become visible in harvests, public health or market conditions, much of the capacity to respond may already have been depleted.

For low-income households, sustained food inflation can mean cutting essential spending, taking on debt or selling assets needed to earn a living. These adjustments provide short-term relief at the cost of greater vulnerability later. When economic hardship coincides with perceptions of inequality, uncertainty about the future and declining public trust, a food-price shock can become more than a matter of household budgets.

The experience of 2008 demonstrated that food inflation can help trigger widespread protest, though the relationship is neither direct nor inevitable. Income levels, social protection, institutional legitimacy and government responses all shape the outcome. Many societies absorb even steep price increases without unrest. Where grievances have accumulated, however, another shock can prompt a sudden change in collective behavior. Families, community networks and public institutions can absorb economic pressure only up to a point.

Severe unrest can, in turn, disrupt economic activity and food distribution, raise transaction costs and make essential goods harder to obtain. Emergency government measures may introduce further distortions. Food insecurity and social instability can thus reinforce one another, prolonging a crisis beyond the disruption that set it off.

Even a return to normal grain trade or lower energy prices may not reverse the damage. Households can remain burdened by debt, producers may have lost capital, strategic reserves may be depleted and public trust may take years to recover. The end of the initial shock is not necessarily the end of its consequences.

For policymakers, the implications are clear. Food security cannot be managed solely by responding to price increases or shortages after they occur. Monitoring input costs, reserve levels, national trade decisions and household purchasing power can reveal early signs of accumulating risk. Protecting alternative supply routes, avoiding trade restrictions that amplify shortages and strengthening social protection can help prevent an economic disruption from becoming a broader crisis.

In this context, the continuing war against Iran also has consequences beyond the geographical boundaries of the conflict. Disruptions to energy markets, fertilizer supplies and global trade routes can interact with climate hazards and existing constraints within the food system.

International efforts to prevent the war from continuing therefore matter not only for humanitarian and security reasons but also for reducing compound risks to global food security. Ending the war would not eliminate every existing vulnerability, but it could prevent additional pressures from building on a system already struggling with multiple disruptions.

The World Bank's forecast for 2027 is therefore only part of the picture. Even if food prices rise less than expected, the erosion of production capacity, household resilience and public trust may already be underway. These pressures are harder to measure and often slower to reverse.

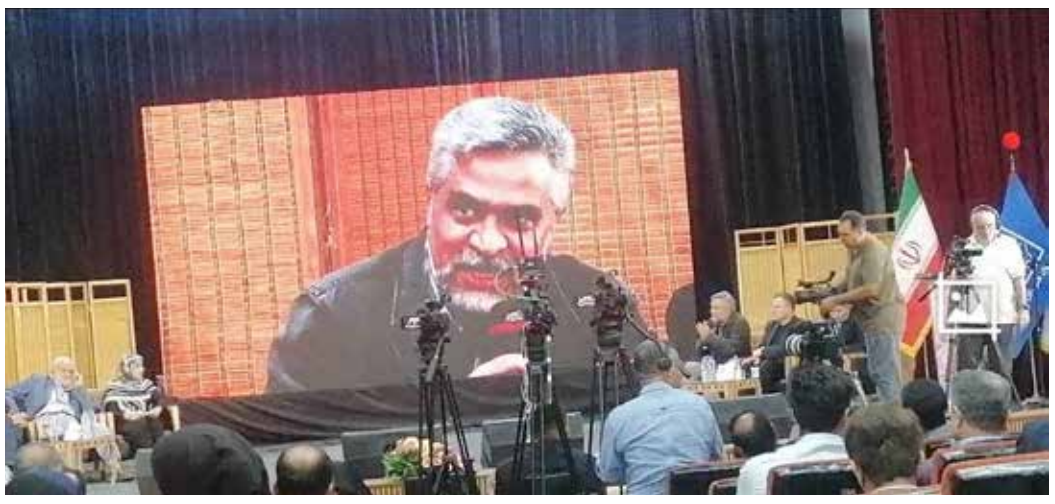
In complex systems, the critical moment may arrive before the economic indicators reach their peak. By the time the damage becomes unmistakable, policymakers may be confronting not simply a more expensive crisis, but a fundamentally different one.

Shajareh Tayyebeh school; an account of lost children, grieving mothers



By Asgar Ghahramanpour
Editor-in-chief

PERSPECTIVE



Dr. Hossein Kermanpour speaks about his experience in Minab, southern Iran, where a fatal operation by the United States on February 28, 2026, during the first hours of their war of aggression against Iran, took the lives of 167 civilians, most of them schoolchildren.
IRAN DAILY

This report recounts my recent one-day journey to Minab and a visit to Shajareh Tayyebeh School, a place where a US military attack extinguished the lives of 167 children and their civilian teachers. During this journey, from Minab's Martyrs' Cemetery to the school's devastated classrooms, we encounter traces of lives left unfinished. Listening to the accounts of grieving mothers and survivors offers an opportunity to reflect on human suffering, the right to know the truth, and the media's responsibility to document catastrophe. Beyond geographical and political boundaries, this travelogue serves as a reminder of our shared responsibility to safeguard human life, truth, and the future of children.

Minab's Martyrs' Cemetery

It was noon when I arrived at Minab's Martyrs' Cemetery, where the bodies of the children from Shajareh Tayyebeh School had been laid to rest. I had anticipated that visiting this place would profoundly affect me, but I had not imagined that the sorrow awaiting me would be so overwhelming and harrowing. Upon entering Minab, the first thing to capture one's attention is the faces of children; their portraits are visible throughout the city. It is as though the city has acquired a new identity, one defined no longer solely by its name, history, and geography, but also by the faces of children who lost their lives in the US military attack on Shajareh Tayyebeh School. It is as though, from that moment onward, Minab has become another name for a sorrow that recognizes no borders.

At the cemetery, my eyes suddenly fell upon the portrait of one of the children. I stared into the child's eyes for several moments. I do not know why, but I felt as though those eyes were putting me on trial. It was as if they were asking me: Where were you adults? Why could you not protect us? Why could you not defend our most basic right, the right to life and childhood? Something inside me collapsed. I felt ashamed; a shame that did not stem from a personal incident, but rather from the helplessness of an entire generation in the face of the fate of children who had not yet had the opportunity to really know life. They were still at the beginning of their journey; they still knew the world through the classroom window, the schoolyard, and their mothers' embrace. How can one accept that this very small and secure world should suddenly have become the scene of their deaths?

I suddenly remembered that, 30 years ago, I was teaching at a village's elementary school. The children who sat before me in those classrooms back then have now grown up; each is pursuing a life and career somewhere in society. They had the opportunity to grow up; the opportunity to make choices, make mistakes, fall in love, create, and serve. They had the opportunity to speak of their childhood memories one day and reminisce about their schooldays. But the children of Minab were deprived of even this most elementary opportunity. They were still at the outset of their journey when a missile destroyed their school and their dreams. Wherever I went, the children's eyes followed me from their framed portraits. I could not escape those eyes. I kept asking myself: What had these children done to deserve this? What was their share of the world, other than schools, notebooks and pencils, childish games, simple friendships, and aspirations they had not yet had the opportunity to articulate? They knew nothing about war, nor had they played any part in the decisions of those who waged it. They were simply children; children who should have survived and grown up.

We left the cemetery and boarded the bus. Our destination was Shajareh Tayyebeh School.

A school where echoes of children's laughter still resound

Before the visit, I had seen photographs and videos of the school on social media. I had assumed that those images had enabled me to grasp, to some extent, the magnitude of the catastrophe; however, I was mistaken. There is a profound gulf between viewing an image on a mobile phone screen and standing at the site of an incident; a gulf between knowing and experiencing, between witnessing another person's suffering and finding oneself within the actual geography of that suffering. In cyberspace, the school's destruction is merely one image among thousands of others; we may pause for a moment, feel sorrow, and then scroll down and return to our everyday lives. But when you walk through the site of the incident, you can no longer pass by so easily. There, destruction is not merely an image; it has a location, it has a silence, and, above all, it bears the absence of people who once breathed within its walls.

When I entered Shajareh Tayyebeh School, the sight of the devastated classrooms unfolded before me. For a moment, I felt as though the world had collapsed upon my head. I saw classrooms that should have reverberated with teachers' voices, children's questions, the turning of notebook pages, and the din of students, but which had now become scenes of silence and devastation. I looked at the schoolyard; a yard that should have been a place of children's games, laughter, and running, but which now stood empty of its rightful occupants. Nevertheless, in my mind, I could hear their laughter. It was as though children were still running there, playing with one another, and eagerly awaiting recess. But reality was too bitter to evade: no one would ever again leave a classroom for recess.

At that moment, I understood why physical presence at the site of a catastrophe is something far beyond viewing its images. An image depicts reality; but physical presence confronts a person with loss. In an image, one can see the destruction of a classroom, but by visiting a devastated school, one suddenly begins to consider that every desk belonged to a child, every notebook had an owner, and every vacant space concealed an unfinished story. Here, one is no longer confronted with a destroyed building; one encounters an entire world of unfinished lives. One encounters children who can no longer return home, families who must henceforth live with the absence of their child, and a future that was taken from them in a single moment. But the most heartbreaking part of the story was still to come: the mothers.

Dr. Kermanpour: when a mother says, 'I wish I had kept my daughter in my arms'

At the session titled "The Story of the Stars: Representing Heroic Minab," Dr. Hossein Kermanpour, a physician and media activist, spoke about his experience in Minab and his encounters with the mothers of children who had lost their lives. He began his account neither with statistics and figures nor with a description of the school building's destruction, but with the voice of a mother who, confronted with the loss of her child, was ensnared in a thousand regrets and "if onlys". He spoke of a mother who, consumed by unbearable grief, said: "I wish I had not sent my daughter to school that day. I wish I had let her sleep in my arms. I wish I had gone in her place, but my child had remained alive, and a thousand other if onlys..."

> Perhaps that mother has asked herself thousands of times: What would have happened if I had made a different decision that day? What if I had kept my daughter at home? What if I had not allowed her to leave my embrace? But none of these questions has an answer capable of bringing her lost child back. What remains is a mother who must live with the memory of that final farewell; with an ordinary moment that was supposed to conclude like every other day, but instead became their last encounter.

These few sentences reveal the magnitude of the catastrophe more profoundly than thousands of pages of reports and analyses. This is a mother who still revisits that day in her mind and relives the moment when she saw her child off to school. Perhaps she has asked herself thousands of times: What would have happened if I had made a different decision that day? What if I had kept my daughter at home? What if I had not allowed her to leave my embrace? But none of these questions has an answer capable of bringing her lost child back. What remains is a mother who must live with the memory of that final farewell; with an ordinary moment that was supposed to conclude like every other day, but instead became their last encounter.

In this account, Dr. Kermanpour underscores a fundamental point: the narrative of Minab must not be confined to the accounts of those in power and politicians; it must be wrested from the monopoly of power and restored to those who bear the suffering. In his view, this catastrophe must be recounted through the voices of mothers, the injured, and children who survived the attack but continue to bear its physical and psychological consequences. This is because the reality of war cannot be reduced to casualty figures, military reports, political positions, and official statements. The reality of war must be sought in the lives of those who have lost their loved ones and whose futures have been altered forever.

This perspective differs substantially from conventional narratives of war. Ordinarily, those in power speak about war; its objectives, necessities, victories, and defeats. The media, too, sometimes unwittingly reproduce this very framework. Within such a narrative, human beings become numbers, while the suffering of families is relegated to the margins. Kermanpour, however, seeks to alter the point of departure: rather than waiting for those in power to confer legitimacy and official recognition upon a catastrophe, we must allow mothers and the injured to recount reality themselves.

A grieving mother should not have to await the endorsement of an official authority to have her voice heard. Her suffering is, in and of itself, part of reality and deserves to occupy the center of public attention. Here, a fundamental question arises: Who is better qualified to recount the loss of a child's life? An official who speaks about the dimensions of an attack, or a mother who feels her child's absence in her home every night? A reporter can gather information, a physician can explain the physical and psychological consequences of war, and an analyst can examine the





The families of the schoolgirls who were martyred due to a deadly American air strike on Shajareh Tayyebeh School in Minab, southern Iran, visit the graves of their beloved children on November 4, 2026.
ASGAR GHAHRAMANPOUR/IRAN DAILY



political and military dimensions of an incident; but none can take the mother's place. The mother possesses an experience that must be heard; an experience whose full weight no report or analysis can possibly convey.

Son of martyred Admiral Tangsiri: public must not be deprived of truth

At the same session, the remarks of the son of the late Admiral Alireza Tangsiri (August 27, 1963–March 26, 2026), the former commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Navy, were particularly significant from another perspective. Having himself been bereaved by his father's death during the war, he spoke about the media's responsibility to provide an honest account of the realities of war. The central point of his remarks was that the media must not resort to self-censorship under the pretext of expediency, concerns about public opinion, or the sensitivities of wartime circumstances.

In his view, the Iranian people are an informed and experienced nation; a people who have endured three wars and regard themselves as the owners and guardians of the Revolution. Therefore, one must not assume that communicating bitter realities would be detrimental to them or that they lack the capacity to confront them. The public must know what transpired during the war, what successes were achieved, and what weaknesses and shortcomings existed. Particularly in the age of social media, when images and information become rapidly accessible to everyone, one cannot expect a reality to remain concealed from public view simply by refusing to communicate it.

Under such circumstances, the silence of official media outlets not only fails to prevent the dissemination of news, but may also widen the gap between the official narrative and what people observe in the public sphere. This gap gradually erodes public trust. The more thought-provoking aspect of his remarks was his reference to intelligence failures and shortcomings on the first day of the war; an issue that, according to him, ultimately led to his father's death. He maintained that such matters must not be avoided or deemed beyond criticism because of political and emotional sensitivities.

These remarks carry particular significance coming from the son of a commander who lost his life during the war. He emphasized that honoring the martyrs and preserving the memory of their sacrifices are not incompatible with an expert examination of possible weaknesses and errors. On the contrary, one of the ways to honor their sacrifices is to identify shortcomings precisely and endeavor to prevent their recurrence. If an error has occurred and we prevent its examination, what guarantee is there that another family will not be bereaved tomorrow?

Here, a distinction must be drawn between two matters: preserving sensitive operational and security information, on the one hand, and concealing realities and preventing scrutiny of performance, on the other. There is no need for the media to publish information that endangers people's lives or an operation's security; however, this consideration must not become a pretext for concealing errors, eliminating public questions, or preventing accountability. The central question can be formulated as follows: Why should we deprive people of knowing realities that are directly connected to their lives and security? Is national security strengthened by concealing weaknesses, or by identifying them and striving to rectify them? His remarks serve as a reminder of an important principle: We must not shield people from the truth; we must trust them.

These remarks must be placed alongside Dr. Kermanpour's account. Kermanpour calls for removing the narrative of the catastrophe from the monopoly of those in power and entrusting it to the mothers and the injured; the son of the martyred Admiral Tangsiri, meanwhile, argues that the media must not conceal the truth in the name of expediency and deprive the public of its right to know. Together, these two accounts place before us two complementary imperatives: first, recognizing the right of victims and survivors to recount their own suffering; second, recognizing society's right to know the facts and question institutional performance.

From this perspective, responsible journalism is neither confined to reproducing official statements nor does it entail the indiscriminate publication of unverified information. Its mission is to pursue the truth, verify information, listen to less-heard voices, and facilitate accountability. If we are to learn anything from Minab, one of its most important lessons is that no consideration of expediency should silence a mother who has lost her child, and no necessity should extinguish scrutiny concerning human lives.

War continues after attack ends

What I witnessed in Minab and what I heard at the session from Dr. Kermanpour and the son of the martyred Admiral Tangsiri led me to consider that war must not be found solely in the moment a missile strikes. War does not end when buildings collapse. For many survivors, it begins precisely at that moment. Children injured in the incident, mothers who have lost their children, fathers who suddenly find themselves facing an empty future, and families who must live with the memory of a horrific incident are all part of the reality of war.

War, even when initiated under the claim of achieving grand political and security objectives, is often paid for by those who have had the least say in decisions concerning it. The children of Minab are a painful illustration of precisely this reality. They played no role in planning the war, nor in the decision to initiate it; yet they paid the price for decisions made somewhere far removed from their classrooms and schoolyard. Missiles may demolish a building within seconds, but the suffering they leave behind does not end within seconds. For a mother who has lost her child, war is repeated every day and every night; in the empty bedroom, in the schoolbag that no one will ever pick up again, and in those moments when a mother's hand instinctively reaches toward her child, only to encounter their absence.

Art: an endeavor to restore silenced voices

At this commemorative event, artists and filmmakers also spoke about the necessity of documenting and recounting this catastrophe. Among them was Mr. Khajepasha, who was announced as being scheduled to screen a film about Minab. Such endeavors are of considerable importance. Sometimes, what cannot be accommodated in news reports and brief footage finds the possibility of expression through the language of cinema, documentaries, literature, and art. Art can help us move beyond the surface of the news and approach the inner world of people whose lives have been irrevocably transformed by war.

Of course, documenting this catastrophe must not be confined solely to depicting the devastation. What must be documented is the lives of the children who are no longer here; their aspirations, games, relationships with their mothers and fathers, and the futures they could have had. They must be remembered as human beings with their own personalities, interests, friendships, and dreams, not merely as victims of an incident. The lives that follow the catastrophe must also be recounted; the lives of mothers who are compelled to face tomorrow without their children. Perhaps this is precisely the most important responsibility of artists and journalists: to ensure that the children of Minab do not become statistics among the statistics of war; to ensure that their names and faces are not forgotten amid the deluge of new headlines.

The photo, taken on November 4, 2026, shows the destruction at Shajareh Tayyebeh School in Minab, southern Iran, following a US military air strike on the civilian site on February 28, 2026. The banner along the barrier displays the portraits of some of the victims of the infamous assault.
IRAN DAILY

> Perhaps each side will present its own account of victory and defeat. But the mothers of Minab will have another account; one that no statement can ever bring to a conclusion. They will speak of children who left home in the morning with their schoolbags and never returned; of the clothes they had prepared, the unfinished notebooks, the aspirations that never had the opportunity to materialize, and the nights that will never again resemble those that preceded them. For these mothers, war does not end with the conclusion of military operations; every morning begins with their children's absence, and every night concludes with that same emptiness.



The screengrab shows Hossein Tangsiri, son of the late IRGC Navy Commander Alireza Tangsiri, speaking at a commemorative event on November 4, 2026, in Minab, southern Iran, where a fatal air strike by the United States on February 28, 2026, took the lives of 167 civilians, most of them schoolchildren.
IRAN DAILY

I returned from Minab, but Minab never left my mind

After visiting the school and listening to the mothers' accounts, I could no longer bear to remain there. I went somewhere to rest for a while. My emotional state was profoundly disturbed. I felt that something was weighing heavily inside me; something that neither silence nor physical distance from the site of the incident could easily dispel. The images of the children remained in my mind: the eyes that had gazed at me from the portraits in the Martyrs' Cemetery, the classrooms in which no student would ever sit again, and the voice of a mother saying: "I wish I had kept my daughter in my arms that day." But now, another voice was also reverberating in my mind; the voice of the son of the martyred Admiral Tangsiri, who had urged the media not to conceal the truth and regarded the public as deserving of knowledge.

I reflected that perhaps we have spoken for years about war, politics, security, great powers, and international relations, but have sometimes forgotten that behind all these concepts are human beings with real lives. We must ask ourselves: When we speak of security, whose security do we have in mind? When we speak of victory, who pays its price? When we discuss a country's future, are its children at the center of that future? And, most importantly, do people have the right to know the realities of war, even its most bitter aspects?

For me, Minab is no longer merely the name of a city in southern Iran. Minab has now become the name of a profound human question: What does the world do about children whose schools are targeted in military attacks? What responsibility do the institutions established to prevent the recurrence of such catastrophes bear in the face of this reality? Why must the voices of grieving mothers still pass through the cacophony of politics and power before they can be heard? And why must a child who should be learning about the future in a classroom become the victim of decisions in which they had no part whatsoever?

Perhaps one day, politicians will speak at length about the reasons for the war, its military objectives, and its strategic outcomes. Perhaps each side will present its own account of victory and defeat. But the mothers of Minab will have another account; one that no statement can ever bring to a conclusion. They will speak of children who left home in the morning with their schoolbags and never returned; of the clothes they had prepared, the unfinished notebooks, the aspirations that never had the opportunity to materialize, and the nights that will never again resemble those that preceded them. For these mothers, war does not end with the conclusion of military operations; every morning begins with that same emptiness. The media, too, must offer a different narrative; one in which the suffering of survivors is neither pushed to the margins, nor the public's questions left unanswered, nor possible errors rendered immune to scrutiny and criticism in the name of expediency. Honoring the martyrs, preserving the memory of the sacrifices made by the country's defenders, and safeguarding national security are not incompatible with telling the truth and exercising fair criticism. On the contrary, public trust and society's capacity to overcome crises depend precisely on such honesty. If we wish to prevent the recurrence of such a catastrophe, we must both listen to the voices of its victims and question decisions, errors, and responsibilities.

But for me, Minab is not merely the account of a catastrophe; it is also a reminder of a greater responsibility. When I look at the faces of those children, I consider that we are responsible not only for the past and the memory of the victims, but also for a future that must never again take such children from us. One cannot love one's homeland solely through speeches, slogans, and commemorative occasions. Caring for one's homeland means protecting the lives of its people; safeguarding a school that must be a place of learning — a home that must be a secure refuge for families — a truth that must never be sacrificed to expediency, and a future that is the right of this land's children.

We have paid dearly for this land; we have lost cherished lives, mothers have been bereaved, families have endured suffering, and generations have borne the heavy burden of war and insecurity. These costs must not be reduced to a distant memory or a statistic in history books. Every drop of this suffering places a responsibility upon us: the responsibility to ensure that destruction and loss never become commonplace; the responsibility to safeguard human lives, people's rights, and the possibility of a secure and dignified existence. Caring for the homeland is not the duty of a particular group or those in power; it is the shared responsibility of all of us. Everyone, whatever their position, must fulfill their share in preserving this common home.

Perhaps we cannot return the children of Shajareh Tayyebeh to their mothers' arms; no word, film, or memorial can fill their absence. But we can ensure that their suffering does not remain unheard. We can pursue the truth, support their mothers, identify errors, and act more responsibly to ensure that no other school suffers a similar fate. This is the least we can do to honor the memory of children who were deprived of the opportunity to live.

I returned from Minab, but Minab never left my mind. I still feel that those eyes are watching me and repeating the same question: Why? To tell the truth, I still have no adequate answer for them. But I know that I can no longer leave this question solely to those who wage wars and those in power. Those eyes are asking all of us what we intend to do with this homeland, this common home, and the future of its children. Perhaps our answer lies not in a single sentence, but in the way we live and the responsibility we assume from this point onward: that we must care for Iran; care for its people, its children, its truth, and the hope that must remain alive for generations to come.

Weightlifting World Championships:

Nasiri impresses with two silvers in men's 110kg

Sports Desk

Iranian weightlifter Alireza Nasiri recovered from a slow start to his campaign to collect two impressive silver medals in the men's 110kg division at the IWF World Championships in Ningbo, China, on Friday.

The two-time world junior champion, who will turn 21 next month, failed to lift 180kg on his first attempt but bounced back to clear 181kg and 185kg on his next efforts, ultimately finishing sixth in the snatch.

Uzbek sensation Akbar Djuraev claimed snatch gold, setting a new world record of 198kg in the process, while Romania's Luis Lauret and Chen Po-jen of Chinese Taipei posted 194kg and 191kg to take silver and bronze, respectively.

Nasiri then delivered a much-improved performance in his favorite clean and jerk event, opening with a successful 226kg lift before clearing 233kg on his second attempt. However, a failed 235kg effort saw the Iranian settle for silver behind Djuraev, who edged Nasiri by one kilogram. Turkmenistan's Şahzadbek Matýakubow took bronze with 230kg.

Nasiri claimed his second silver of the day with a total of 418kg, replicating his two-medal haul from the previous edition of the World Championships in Forde, Norway.

Djuraev secured a clean sweep of gold medals with a world-record total of 432kg, claiming his fourth world title in six editions and finishing 27kg ahead of Chinese Olympic champion Liu Huanhua in the first qualification event for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics.

Liu, who beat Djuraev to gold at Paris 2024, is now left with plenty to ponder ahead of the remaining nine Olympic qualifying events after finishing a disappointing sixth on home soil.

Matýakubow, meanwhile, claimed his second bronze medal with a total of 417kg to complete an all-Asian podium in the division.

Nasiri's compatriot Alireza Moeini, who won snatch gold and total silver in the 94kg category last year, had to settle for 12th place on his debut at 110kg, posting a combined total of 388kg after lifting 180kg in the snatch and 208kg in the clean and jerk in Group B earlier in the day.



Iranian weightlifter Alireza Nasiri celebrates a successful lift in the men's 110kg contest at the IWF World Championships in Ningbo, China, on November 6, 2026.
IWF

Nasiri's medals took the Iranian sixman squad's tally to five, following Ali A'alipour's triple-bronze performance in the 95kg division on Wednesday, where he posted a total of 396kg with lifts of 181kg in the snatch and 215kg in the clean and jerk.

"Alireza truly deserved the two silver medals. Both lifters put in tremendous effort to win their medals," Iran head coach Behdad Salimi said after the conclusion of the 110kg event.

"To win any medal, they had to lift weights close to world records. Even in the 95kg category, upgrading a medal would have required breaking a world record. The competition was extremely tough, and the contenders were of a very high standard, but our lifters genuinely performed well," the former world and Olympic superheavyweight champion said of the two Iranians, who entered the competition following the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games in Japan in late September. A'alipour won gold at the Games, while Nasiri finished fourth, missing out on the podium.

"Our plan was to ensure they reached peak condition for the Asian Games, so it was natural that they would not be in the same shape at this competition. Nevertheless, the results they achieved in such a high-level event were very good," Salimi added.

Salimi also praised Moeini for his performance in Group B, describing the competition as particularly demanding. He noted that a lifter from Chinese Taipei had advanced from that group to the A session in the snatch and gone on to win a medal, while the presence of an Olympic champion had further raised the standard.

"Winning a medal in such a competitive field is really difficult. Thank God, we came through with our heads held high and did not disappoint," he said.

Mir-Mostafa Javadi and Abdollah Beiranvand were the first Iranians to take to the platform in Ningbo, finishing empty-handed in the men's 85kg division last Monday.

Beiranvand finished ninth with a total of 363kg (170kg in the snatch and 193kg in the clean and jerk), while former world champion Javadi placed 13th with 360kg (160kg and 200kg, respectively).

Addressing their performances, Salimi said a recurring back injury had hampered Javadi.

"Mostafa's old back injury partially resurfaced after the Asian Games and, unfortunately, bothered him during this competition, affecting his performance," Salimi said.

As for Beiranvand, Salimi said he had hoped the lifter would win a medal in the snatch but acknowledged the exceptionally strong field.

"We were hoping Abdollah would win a medal in the snatch, but the competition in that section was extremely tough, with several lifters breaking world records multiple times. I feel that missing out on a snatch medal affected him mentally and emotionally, and he could not deliver his true performance," he said.

ISSF World Championship Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun:

Iranian pair undone by China, settles for 10m air pistol silver

Sports Desk

Iranian duo Hanieh Rostamian and Vahid Golkhandan settled for silver in the 10m air pistol mixed team event at the ISSF World Championship in Doha, Qatar, after losing to China's Shen Yiyao and Bu Shuaihang in Friday's final.

The gold-medal contest developed into a close battle, with both teams producing consistently strong performances throughout. China 2 eventually secured the title with a total of 487.1 points, holding off Iran, which finished with 481.3.

Shen and Bu combined effectively to deliver the winning performance. Bu was particularly impressive, finishing with an individual score of 246.7, while Shen added 240.4 to give China 2 the victory.

Iran kept the pressure on until the final stages, with Rostamian scoring 245.6 points and Golkhandan contributing 235.7.

China 1, represented by Yao Qianxun and Hu Kai, secured bronze with 416.6 points. Yao finished with 210.5, while Hu added 206.1, ensuring China claimed two of the three medals in the event.

Vietnam 2, featuring Nguyen Thuy Trang and Pham Quang Huy, finished fourth with 357.0 points. Nguyen recorded 177.7, while Pham contributed 179.3.

Friday's event came a day after Rostamian finished fourth in the women's 10m air pistol competition in the Qatari capital.

The Iranian shooter scored 201.2 points in the final. Jiang Ranxin claimed gold with 242.4 points, narrowly edging fellow Chinese shooter Yao Qianxun, who scored 242.1, while Hungary's Veronika Major finished third with 222.1.

With two Chinese shooters occupying the top two positions, Rostamian, despite missing out on a podium finish, secured Iran's first quota place for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics, earning a second appearance at the Games after making her debut at Tokyo 2020.



Iranian shooters Hanieh Rostamian and Vahid Golkhandan compete in the 10m air pistol mixed team final at the ISSF World Championship in Doha, Qatar, on November 6, 2026.
ISSF



IRNA

Iran names 12-man squad for Beach Soccer Asian Cup

Sports Desk

Head coach Ali Naderi has unveiled Iran's 12-man squad for the upcoming AFC Beach Soccer Asian Cup.

The 12th edition of the continental showpiece will kick off on November 18 in Phang Nga, Thailand, where Iran will be chasing a record-extending fifth title and its third consecutive crown.

Seyyed Mohammad Dastan, Mohammadali Mokhtari, Ali Mirshekari, Mahdi Shirmohammadi, Mohammad Ma'soumizadeh, Seyyed Mahdi Mir-Jalili, Seyyed Ali Nazem, Movahed Mohammadpour, Saeid Piramoun, Sobhan Faleh, Davoud Shokri, and Reza Deiri have been named in Naderi's squad.

Iran will open its title defense against Afghanistan in Group B at Memories Beach Arena on November 19 before taking on Vietnam at the same venue two days later.

The final group-stage match will see Naderi's men face two-time semifinalists Lebanon on November 23.

The top two teams in each of the three groups will be joined by the two best third-placed teams in the quarterfinals.

In a highly anticipated Group A, hosts Thailand will face three-time champions Japan, 2006 champions Bahrain, and Iraq.

Group C will see 2015 champions Oman lock horns with two-time champions the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Uzbekistan.

Thailand brings back fond memories for the Iranian team, which thrashed Oman 8-1 in the 2025 final in Pattaya after defeating Japan 6-0 in the previous final in the same city in 2023.

Bushehr prepares to welcome tourists as cooler season begins

Iranica Desk

Bushehr Province is once again preparing to welcome tourists as autumn and winter bring cooler temperatures, offering visitors the chance to enjoy its mild climate, coastal landscapes, and historical and cultural attractions, according to Leila Fouladi, an expert with the Bushehr Province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Organization.

In a written article, Fouladi said the southern province boasts considerable potential for attracting domestic and international visitors, thanks to its picturesque Persian Gulf coastline, historic urban fabric, atmospheric alleyways, distinctive architecture, local cuisine, traditional music and customs, and warm hospitality, according to chtn.ir.

The pleasant autumn and winter weather provides an ideal opportunity to explore the province's beaches, visit historical landmarks, experience local life, and become acquainted with the culture and traditions of its people.

From the historic port city of Bushehr to the scenic coastlines of Genaveh, Deylam, Kangan and Asaluyeh, as well as the natural attractions scattered across the province's counties, the region offers travelers a variety of memorable experiences.

An increase in tourist arrivals during the cooler months could not only help showcase the province's tourism potential but also stimulate the local economy, support small businesses, promote handicrafts, boost sales of locally made products, and create employment opportunities for local communities, Fouladi noted.

However, capitalizing on this opportunity requires proper planning, improved tourism services, better infrastructure, attention to cleanliness and the appearance of tourist sites, and wider promotion of the province's lesser-known attractions.

One of Bushehr's main tourism assets during the cooler months is its wealth of historical and cultural attractions. The historic district of Bushehr, with its old houses, notable mansions, narrow alleyways and distinctive architecture adapted to the hot and humid climate of southern Iran, offers visitors a glimpse into the way previous generations lived.

The historic port of Siraf, meanwhile, with its rich maritime and commercial heritage, is another destination capable of attracting visitors interested in history and civilization.





alibaba.ir



Nature-based and marine tourism also play a significant role in the visitor experience. Watching the sunset over the Persian Gulf, walking along the beaches, exploring natural areas and discovering the province's unique ecosystems are among the experiences that make a trip to Bushehr memorable. During winter, the region's natural landscapes take on a different character, while favorable weather conditions allow visitors to make greater use of its coastal and outdoor attractions.

A visit to Bushehr would also be incomplete without experiencing its local cuisine and cultural traditions. Seafood and traditional dishes, time-honored fishing practices, southern music, folk melodies and deeply rooted local ceremonies are all integral to the province's cultural identity and can become highlights of a tourist's journey.

Local handicrafts and products also provide an opportunity to showcase the skills and creativity of the province's artisans and craftspeople while supporting local production.

Fouladi further stressed the importance of developing responsible and sustainable tourism. Protecting coastlines, preserving historical monuments, respecting the culture and way of life of host communities, and preventing environmental damage should remain priorities for both visitors and tourism operators.

Tourism can contribute to sustainable development only when its economic benefits are balanced with the preservation of a region's natural and cultural heritage, she said.

She added that promoting the province's tourism attractions through the media, social media platforms, targeted content production and the development of diverse tourism itineraries could help encourage longer stays and ensure a more balanced distribution of visitors among different counties. Greater attention to lesser-known attractions, eco-lodges, handicraft outlets and authentic local experiences could also transform a short visit to Bushehr into a more immersive and lasting experience.

Undoubtedly, Bushehr during the cooler months is more than just a tourist destination. It offers an opportunity to experience the tranquility of the region, discover the authentic culture of southern Iran and enjoy the hospitality of people whose warmth never fades, regardless of the season.

Bushehr is a destination worth discovering in the cooler months, when the beauty of Iran's south takes on a fresh appeal.

Bushehr also holds a distinctive place in Iran's geographical and economic landscape. It has long served as an important center for maritime trade, fishing and cultural exchange with neighboring countries across the Persian Gulf. Its strategic coastline, historic ports and close connection to the sea have shaped the region's economy and way of life over generations. Today, alongside its traditional maritime activities, Bushehr is home to major energy and industrial facilities, making it one of the country's significant economic regions. This combination of maritime heritage, economic importance and coastal identity adds another dimension to the province's appeal, offering visitors an opportunity to understand its role in Iran's history and contemporary development.

Lili Canyon reveals hidden natural beauty of Lorestan Province

Iranica Desk

Nestled in the picturesque landscapes near the city of Dorud in Lorestan Province, Lili Canyon is one of the region's most remarkable yet lesser-known natural attractions. With its towering rock walls, crystal-clear waters and naturally formed pools, the canyon presents a spectacular display of nature's beauty and offers visitors a glimpse of the extraordinary landscapes of the Zagros Mountains.

Despite its striking scenery, this natural wonder has yet to receive the recognition it deserves among Lorestan's better-known tourist destinations.

In an article highlighting the province's natural attractions, Mohsen Salahvarzi, Head of Public Relations at the Lorestan Province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Organization, describes Lili Canyon as one of the region's hidden gems, where nature has created an extraordinary landscape without the need for embellishment.

The canyon is a remarkable example of the interplay between water and rock in the Zagros Mountains. Towering, smooth rock walls, natural pools and the crystal-clear waters of the Marboreh River come together to create a breathtaking landscape. As the river winds its way through the rocky gorge, its steady flow over countless years has gradually carved and shaped the surrounding formations. The result is a striking testament to the enduring power of nature and its ability to transform even the hardest rock.





kojachetor.com

What makes Lili Canyon particularly distinctive is its dramatic scenery and tranquil atmosphere. Steep rock walls rise on either side of the narrow gorge, while natural pools collect the flowing water below. The sound of the river reverberates through the canyon, creating an atmosphere that sets it apart from many other natural destinations. For visitors, even a brief stop to take in the surroundings can provide a welcome break from the pressures and routines of everyday life.

The journey to Lili Canyon is also part of its appeal. Traveling from Dorud through nearby villages and along the surrounding countryside offers visitors an opportunity to enjoy the rural landscapes and scenic beauty of the area. However, reaching the deeper sections of the gorge may involve hiking and require an appropriate level of physical fitness. Trail conditions and water levels can also affect access, making it important for visitors to prepare adequately before setting out.

Beyond its scenic appeal, Lili Canyon offers something increasingly valuable in today's fast-paced world: an opportunity to slow down and reconnect with nature. Amid the demands of work, daily responsibilities and the constant pressures of modern life, spending time in such peaceful surroundings can be a refreshing experience. Visitors can watch the river flow, admire the ancient rock formations and take a moment to appreciate the natural beauty that often goes unnoticed in the rush of everyday life.

The canyon is equally appealing to photography enthusiasts. The contrast between the rugged colors of the rock formations and the clear waters of the river, the shifting shadows along the canyon walls and the winding course of the water create striking photographic opportunities. Each turn in the gorge offers a different perspective on Lorestan's natural landscape. Yet no photograph can fully capture the experience of being there, surrounded by the rocks and listening to the soothing sound of flowing water.

Preserving this natural environment is, however, a shared responsibility. Like many pristine natural sites, Lili Canyon is vulnerable to environmental damage caused by careless human activity. Visitors can help protect the area by taking their rubbish with them, avoiding damage to the surrounding vegetation and respecting safety warnings and local guidance. Particular care is necessary during periods of rainfall and rising river levels, when entering the water or walking across slippery and uneven rocks can be dangerous.

Lorestan is widely recognised for its extraordinary natural diversity. From spectacular waterfalls and fast-flowing rivers to mountain ranges, valleys and picturesque gorges, the province is home to a wealth of landscapes waiting to be discovered. Lili Canyon is another example of this natural richness, demonstrating that remarkable destinations are not always found in distant or remote corners of the world. Sometimes, appreciating the treasures close to home is simply a matter of looking more closely.

Some places are not simply meant to be seen; they are meant to be experienced. They invite visitors to walk along their paths, listen to the sound of flowing water and take home a lasting sense of peace. Lili Canyon is one such place — a quietly magnificent corner of Lorestan whose unspoiled beauty can inspire a renewed appreciation for nature and the pleasures of exploring it.

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Iran, South Korea display 80 artworks in Tehran

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran and South Korea have brought together 80 artworks by artists from both countries in a Tehran exhibition aimed at strengthening cultural ties as regional tensions complicate direct exchanges.

The exhibition opened on November 5 at South Korea's diplomatic premises in the Vanak neighborhood of northern Tehran.

The display features 40 works from each country. Iran's contribution includes 30 paintings and calligraphic works and 10 sculptures by 40 artists.

The 40 South Korean works come from collections held by the embassy and the ambassador's residence.

Ambassador Kim Junpyo said the number 40 was selected for its symbolic significance in Persian culture.

The exhibition also features traditional Korean clothing, including the Hanbok, as well as textile art and traditional garments from Iran's central province of Yazd.

"Art knows no borders. Friendship needs no translation," Kim said, expressing hope that a similar exhibition could be held in Seoul.

Organized by the South Korean Embassy and the Cultural Coordination Center of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue, the exhibition was open to the public on November 6 and 7.



A South Korean man poses for a photo between Iranian and South Korean artworks at an exhibition in Tehran on November 6, 2026..
ALI HADDADI ASL/MEHR NEWS AGENCY

'Quiet Man' from Iran wins BRICS+ award



A scene from Iranian film 'Quiet Man', directed by Behnoush Sadeghi
FILMNEWS.IR

Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian film 'Quiet Man', which explores the lives and challenges of Afghan migrants, has won the special award for best social drama at the BRICS+ International Film Festival in Russia.

Directed by Behnoush Sadeghi, the 2024 film follows Nobahar, a young Afghan woman, who reluctantly marries an elderly man named Zaman. Events at the start of their marriage change her feelings toward him.

The festival was held from October 30 to November 3 in St. Petersburg, Russia.

A total 327 films from 22 countries screened at the festival to promote cultural exchange and film cooperation among BRICS members and partner countries.

BRICS brings together eleven major emerging markets and developing countries of the world: Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and United Arab Emirates.

It serves as a useful platform for consultation and cooperation on contemporary issues having global as well as regional significance, and issues of global political and economic governance.

French festival puts Iranian cinema in focus

Arts & Culture Desk

The 46th Amiens International Film Festival will dedicate a 22-film program to Iranian cinema, bringing together restored classics, contemporary works and films by a new generation of women directors.

The Iran Focus section will span nearly six decades of filmmaking, featuring 12 classics, four films by independent director Karim Lakzadeh and six short films by Iranian women filmmakers, according to the festival's official program.

Ebrahim Golestan's "The Brick and the Mirror", Dariush Mehrjui's "The Cow", and Abbas Kiarostami's "Where Is the Friend's House?" and "Close-Up" are amongst the classic films.

The festival will also screen four films by Lakzadeh: "The Great Dive", "Red Head", "Dark Matter" and "Living Twice, Dying Thrice".

The short-film selection includes "Memories of a Window" by Mehraneh Salimian and Amin Pakparvar; "Myanmar" by Hananeh Daliri; "Narmouk," by Ghazal Zoghiniya and "The Burial of a Black Cat," by Maryam Esmaeili.

The festival will run from November 13 to 21 in Amiens, in northern France.



FILMZI

UNESCO backs Golestan Palace restoration



IRNA

Arts & Culture Desk

UNESCO will support emergency repairs at Tehran's historic Golestan Palace, the head of its Iran office said during a visit to the war-damaged complex.

She said that Iranian specialists have the expertise to restore the site, IRNA reported.

Anna Paolini, head of UNESCO's Tehran office and director of coordination of national offices at the organization's headquarters in Paris, toured the palace museums and damaged sections. She was briefed on emergency protection measures and restoration plans.

Paolini expressed regret over the damage and praised efforts to protect the complex.

She said UNESCO would support emergency restoration and efforts to return the palace to its pre-war condition.

She also highlighted Iran's conservation capabilities, saying local experts had the knowledge and experience needed to carry out specialized restoration and revive the historic site.

Alireza Razeghi, director of the Golestan Palace World Heritage site, briefed Paolini on emergency protection work and future plans.

He outlined efforts to document, identify and number damaged sections and architectural elements, as well as plans for their conservation and repair.

The visit aimed to assess the palace's condition and strengthen technical cooperation with UNESCO to protect the site and speed up emergency and restoration work.

Palace managers and specialists, as well as the official responsible for international affairs at Iran's World Heritage sites office, also attended.

Located in central Tehran's historic district, Golestan Palace was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2013.

As one of the capital's major historic landmarks, the Golestan Palace was damaged in the early days of the 40-day war waged by the United States and Israel against Iran in late February.

UNESCO said on March 2 that the complex had been affected by debris and shock waves from an airstrike near Arg Square, within the palace's buffer zone.

Other historic sites, including landmarks in Isfahan and Lorestan, were also damaged during the conflict.

Iran's Ministry of Cultural Heritage later announced damage to 149 historical monuments in 18 provinces and 29 cities.