



Islamic Republic of Iran  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

# MFA DIGEST

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY



Rudkhan Castle, Fuman City, Gilan Province, Iran

Issue #83 July 1– 31, 2023

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## MFA NEWSLETTER

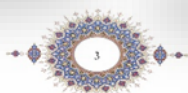
The Iranian Foreign Minister, Hossein Amirabdollahin, held meetings with several high-ranking officials from various countries. Among them were Najla Mangoush, the Foreign Minister of Libya, Vladimir Orlić, the Speaker of the Serbian Parliament, Ararat Mirzoyan, the Foreign Minister of Armenia, Mohammed bin Abdulaziz Al-Khulaifi, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Qatar, Faisal Mekdad, the Foreign Minister of Syria, and Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Iraq.





## MFA NEWSLETTER

Hossein Amirabdollahian, the Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs, engaged in individual phone conversations with several of his counterparts from various countries, including Kuwait, Iraq, Turkey, Pakistan, Denmark, Azerbaijan, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Russia. He also had a discussion with the Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).





## Top Things Iran Is Famous for

### MUHARRAM MOURNING



Iran, as a major Shia country, marks the start of the month of Muharram during which Iranians mourn the martyrdom of the anniversary of the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad and the third Shia Imam, Hussain ibn Ali.

Every year, people in different parts of Iran hold rituals to commemorate Muharram's mourning season gloriously in public. The commemoration of the battle of Karbala on the day of Ashura (10th day of Muharram) and the epic passion and courage of Imam Hussain (AS) and his 72 loyal companions who were all martyred (in 680 CE) is annually honored by Iranians.

#### Muharram's History in Iran

The history of Iran starts with the foundation of ancient civilizations. The arrival of Islam ended its era and took history to a new phase of the Islamic part. The Shia identity of Islam is a bold particularity of Iran



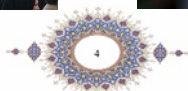
that dates back from the 16th century, formed around a significant event known as The Battle of Karbala which took place in the 7th century.

Every single year, as the early days of the first lunar month approach, people head to the streets, wearing black and commemorating what happened to Hussain ibn Ali, grandson of the Prophet Muhammad, and his family and 72 followers in the Battle of Karbala. Muharram and Ashura, the 10th day of Muharram, are the most significant events in Iran. Here's a brief history of what you need to know.



#### Muharram's rituals

**Ta'azieh:** A main performance during the first ten days of Muharram and on Ashura in specific, is a traditional memorial service that is quite common and named "Ta'azieh". It is the representation of the battle of Karbala in which amateur actors and common people play a role without memorizing their script.





## Top Things Iran Is Famous for

**Nazri:** One of the rituals of Muharram is distributing free food (Nazri) and drinks in the streets among mourning groups; It is widely believed among Muslims that the food cooked for Imam Hussein contains a spiritual value.



ancient ones in Iran and refers to the difficulties Imam Hussain and his followers had been through while they were deprived of water.

### Muharram cultural significance

The core meaning of Muharram is beyond such mere bereavement and commemoration of the past. Karbala was an actual and metaphorical venue where the Truth confronted the Lie, where justice spoke vibrant and audible in the face of prejudice and where courage, passion and devotion preceded attachment, worldliness and obstinacy.

The Karbala saga is narrated to tell us that compared to the Pyrrhic and momentary victory of injustice, integrity and honesty will always stand the test of time as today the life of Imam Hussein (AS) is honored by millions across the world while the account of his enemies is nearly lost in oblivion. The story also lives to tell us that the majority is not always right. Even if the army of Truth is small in number, it still is magnanimous in what it stands for.

### Nakhl Gardani:

One of the Muharram mourning rituals, which is held in Yazd annually is named Nakhl Gardani. Yazdi people prepare the renowned ancient Nakhl, a wooden structure resembling a bridal pavilion and decorated with colorful silk shawls, precious fabric, mirrors, and lanterns, and lift it and carry it across the city.



**Tasht-Gozari (the Basin of Water):** The city of Ardabil is famous for its unique mourning ceremony called Tasht-Gozari. In this ceremony, a big basin of bronze or copper that is full of water moves around the mosques or praying halls while it's on the shoulders of the grieving men.

Everyone gets the chance to drink a little bit of water from it. This ceremony is among one of the most





## Society & Culture

### **RUDKHAN CASTLE: A BRICK, STONE MEDIEVAL CASTLE IN IRAN**

Rudkhan (also Roudkhan or Roodkhan) Castle is a Sassanid (226-651 CE) structure that was rebuilt in the Seljuq era (1038-1118) and later became an Ismaili stronghold.

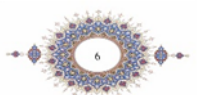
The castle also known as “1,000 steps,” “Hesami,” and “Saksar” is located 35 kilometers from Rasht in the forest covered mountains of Fouman in Rudkhan Village.

A five-kilometer hike is required to reach the castle which takes approximately an hour and a half. The road to Rudkhan Castle consists of massive, ancient trees and a river of the same name that originates from high up on the mountain and flows from south to north. To facilitate the hike for visitors, the road to the castle has been paved with crushed stone and mortar and 1,000 steps have been created.

Rudkhan Castle spans an area of 6.5 hectares and has a 1,500-meter long wall with 65 towers. The walls are 3 to 10 meters in height and are thicker and taller in penetrable sections with thicker towers. Walls have arrow loops for archers and murder holes to pour hot material like oil or water on attackers. The towers on the northern and southern walls have been built at irregular intervals. The towers have octagonal brick rooms with stoves at the top where soldiers on watch duty would keep warm in winter.

Brick, loose stone, Sarooj (mix of lime and clay) mortar and stucco are the main materials used in the construction of the castle. The bricks used in Rudkhan Castle were all baked in the kilns of the villages on the edge of the forest.

Rudkhan castle was registered as a National Heritage Site in 1976.





## Society & Culture

### IRAN'S NAN-E BARBARI RANKED THE THIRD BEST FLATBREAD IN THE WORLD

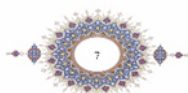
Iran's traditional Nan-e Barbari secures the third spot on the list of the world's 50 best flatbreads released by Taste Atlas, a popular encyclopedia of local food, traditional restaurants, and authentic recipes worldwide. Iran's Nan-e Sangak and Nan-e Shirmal also came in the 21st and 22nd spots, while Nan-e Taftoon won the 49th place. Nan-e barbari is an Iranian wheat-based, leavened flatbread. It is usually formed into a long oval shape that is traditionally brushed with roomal, a flour glaze which gives it a light golden crust, but keeps it light and airy on the inside.

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### tasteatlas CURRENT RANKING (JUL 2023) Best Flatbreads in the World

1	Roti canai	4.9	26	Yufka	4.3
2	Butter Garlic Naan	4.8	27	Lángos	4.3
3	Nan-e barbari	4.7	28	Ramazan pidesi	4.3
4	Naan (collectively)	4.6	29	Aloo paratha	4.3
5	Piadina Romagnola	4.6	30	Bolani	4.3
6	Tarte flambée	4.6	31	Pane carasau	4.3
7	Roti prata	4.6	32	Toquera	4.3
8	Paratha (collectively)	4.5	33	Lagana	4.3
9	Lavash	4.5	34	Rumali roti	4.3
10	Scallion Pancake	4.5	35	Qutab	4.3
11	Farinata di ceci	4.5	36	Aish baladi	4.3
12	Focaccia Barese	4.5	37	Tortilla	4.2
13	Mekica	4.5	38	Shaobing	4.2
14	Amritsari kulcha	4.5	39	Manakish	4.2
15	Somun	4.5	40	Bazlama	4.2
16	Roti (collectively)	4.4	41	Injera	4.2
17	Focaccia (collectively)	4.4	42	Lefse	4.2
18	Gözleme	4.4	43	M'semen	4.2
19	Pita Bread	4.4	44	Mahjouba	4.2
20	Etli ekmeK	4.4	45	Roti pisang	4.2
21	Nan-e sangak	4.4	46	Aloo naan	4.2
22	Nan-e shirmal	4.4	47	Kashmiri naan	4.2
23	Pupusa	4.4	48	Hönökaka	4.1
24	Focaccia alla Genovese	4.4	49	Nan-e taftoon	4.1
25	Ləpinjə	4.4	50	Coca	4.1





## Society & Culture

### IRANIAN DOCUMENTARY RANKED AMONG NIIF'S TOP 10



The 'Oxygen Driver,' an Iranian documentary film, was among the top 10 films of the NORGS International Independent Festival (NIIF).

Esmail Khakbaz's documentary, "Oxygen Driver," has been showcased in the ABU Prizes and the Kansas Film Festival under his production and direction.

The ABU Program Department provides various services, from program exchange to co-production, festivals, and industry conferences for TV, Radio, and New Media producers and creators.

The NORGS Festival provides a platform for independent artists, including filmmakers, photographers, musicians, writers, and artists from around the globe, to showcase their work and gain recognition in the art world.

The Iranian documentary 'Oxygen Driver' will compete in the upcoming NIIF festival with filmmakers like Maria Gallo from Germany, Antonio Spanò from Spain, and Jürgen Ellinghaus from Italy. 'Oxygen Driver' shares the inspiring story of a Tractor Trailer driver who delivered lifesaving oxygen capsules to 260 patients during the COVID pandemic.

### IRANIAN FILM WINS THE SPECIAL AWARD AT ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL



The Iranian film 'They' managed to win a special award from the international Italian film festival Traccecineamatografiche.

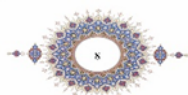
The Jury of the Italian film festival awarded the special prize of the Mediterranean section of the event to 'Them,' directed by Morteza Sabzeghaba. The 12th edition of the Traccecineamatografiche festival was held in Rome, Italy, from July 4 to 9, 2023.

The Iranian film 'Them' has so far received a diploma of honor and the third prize for the best film of the 4th Taiwanese International Film Festival, Three Acts of Goodness.

### IRAN'S VIDEO ART PRODUCER WINS AT BERLIN INTERNATIONAL ART FILM FESTIVAL

Iranian artist Ramin Hosseinpour won the Best Experimental Music Video award at the 16th edition of the Berlin International Art Film Festival in Germany.

Hosseinpour received the award for his video art of 'Sculpture'.







## Society & Culture

### UN HOSTING EXHIBITION OF IRANIAN WOMEN CLOTHING

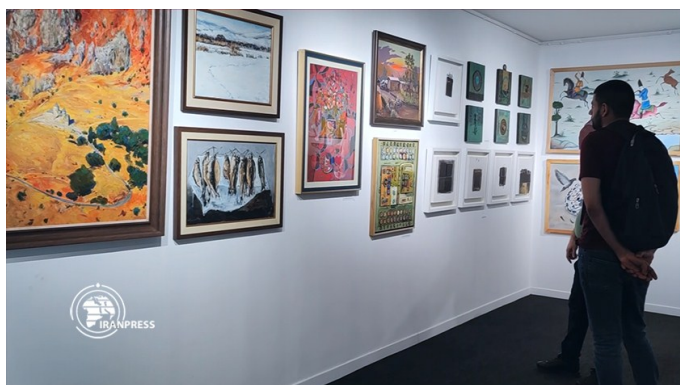


The Islamic Republic of Iran held an exhibition below the UN Human Rights Council of “Iranian Women’s Clothes Design.”

The exhibition on Iranian Women's Clothes Design was opened with the presence of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UN Geneva), the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations in Geneva, and a group of officials, and those interested in Iranian art and culture.

On the sidelines of the exhibition, Tatiana Valovaya, Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva, appreciated the Permanent Representative of Iran in Geneva for presenting Iranian art at the United Nations and admiring authentic Iranian art. Valovaya described the Iranian female designers of the exhibition as a manifestation of women's decency which represents the art and abilities of Iranian women.

Armenia hosts exhibition of Iranian artworks



The first Exhibition of Tabriz Islamic Art University is being held at the Exhibition Centers in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia.

According to Iran Press, one hundred sixty artworks in painting, graphics, and pottery have been displayed with the participation of more than 10 Iranian artists.

In addition to Iranian artworks, some Armenian artists exhibited their paintings at the Exhibition.

### IRAN'S CULTURAL WEEK KICKS OFF IN RUSSIA

Iran's Cultural Week programs in Russia kicked off by Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance and his Russian counterpart at the VDNKH complex in Moscow.

On Tuesday, after the official opening of Iran's Cultural Week in Russia, the ministers of culture of Iran, Mohammad Mehdi Esmaeili and Russian Minister of Culture, Olga Borisovna Lyubimova, visited different parts of the cultural event centered on the exhibition of Iranian handicrafts.

Artists exposed their works of art in 20 different categories at the event, including miniature, gilding, marquetry, Khatam, pen making, turquoise engraving, leather carving, jewelry making, pen painting, ethnic clothing, pottery, ceramics, photography, sculpture, carpet weaving, and line drawing.

An exhibition of Iranian carpets with top brands' attendance was also held.





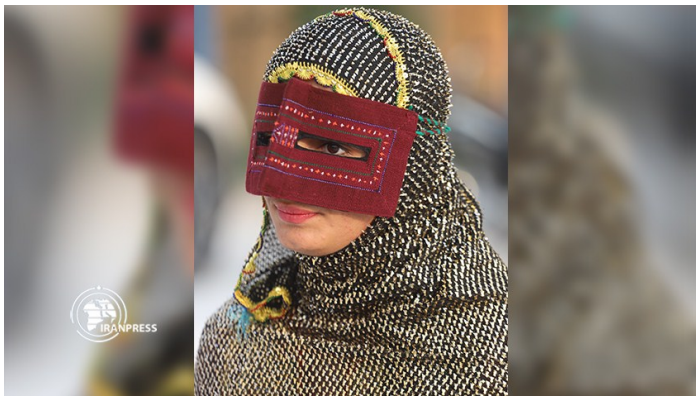
## Society & Culture

### IRAN MINAB CITY HOSTS MANGO FESTIVAL

The 9th "Mango and Jasmine Flower Thanksgiving" festival with the slogan "Minab City of Joyful and happiness" was held in Minab city of Hormozgan province.

Southern city of Minab, located in the Hormozgan province, is considered the county that has attained the first grade of tropical fruit of Mango production.

A four-day festival took place in Minab to showcase the town's tourist attractions while highlighting the mango industry's impact on the economy, employment, and investment. Many locals and tourists attended this cultural event. The festival was made even more beautiful by the presence of Minab women and girls in their traditional costumes.



## FOOD DIPLOMACY

### MOSAMA BADEMJAN ("EGGPLANT STEW")



Mosama Bedemjan is an Eggplant stew. Khoresh Bademjan or Bademjoo is a Persian Eggplant Stew with meltingly soft eggplants in a thick and tangy tomato based sauce, with pieces of meat to make it heartier.

Khoresh Bademjan is a traditional Persian stew usually served with either rice or bread. It can be made with different meats, such as lamb and beef, but lamb is the most common meat. A great accompaniment on the side is a Shirazi Salad for lovely freshness. These are both very common in Persian cuisine and in Iran.

#### **Ingredients :**

Eggplants, beef (Filet Mignon), Garlic, Tomato Paste, Onion, Potatoes, Tomatoes, Oil, Turmeric, Salt, Black Pepper Powder, Ground Cinnamon, Unripe grapes



## TRADE & ECONOMY

### IRAN, MALAYSIA SIGN MOU IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR



Iran and Malaysia signed a cooperation memorandum to cement agricultural ties in various sectors.

Mohammad Sabu, the Malaysian Minister of Agriculture and Food Security on Sunday discussed with Mojtaba Khayam-Nekouei, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture in Iran, to strengthen the ways of cooperation in agriculture and technology transfer between the two sides.

Khayam-Nekouei Pointed to Malaysia's need for many fruits, such as apples, kiwis, oranges, and tangerines, stressing Iran's capacity to export such products to Malaysia.

He added that Malaysia has good experience in Halal products, and cooperation between Iran and Malaysia is expected to happen.

The Minister of Agriculture and Food Security in Malaysia, Mohammad Sabu, highlighted the importance of utilizing Iran's expertise in technical knowledge, specifically in waterless rice cultivation and poultry and caviar breeding.

### IRAN, JAPAN STRESS CUSTOM COOPERATION

Iranian and Japanese representatives stressed the expansion of customs cooperation between the two countries to boost the volume of trade exchanges.

In the joint meeting of the Director General of the International Cooperation Office of Iran's Customs, Omid Golzari, and the Head of the Economic Department of the Japanese Embassy in Iran, they emphasized the expansion of customs cooperation between Iran and Japan to increase the volume of commercial exchanges between the two countries.

On Iran-Japan custom cooperation, Omid Golzari and the Japanese representative announced the two countries' readiness to exchange information and hold training courses.

Between March 21 and June 21, 2023, Iran exported goods worth about \$2.6 m to Japan and imported goods worth over \$10.5 m from the country.

Iran mainly exports gas condensate, methanol, floor coverings, carpets, wool rugs, cumin seeds, pistachios, and non-velvet floor coverings to Japan.





## TRADE & ECONOMY

### IRAN, FAO AGREE TO CONTINUE CO-OP



The Ministry of Agriculture Jihad of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations "FAO" have agreed to continue cooperation by signing a document.

The Pistachio Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) document was signed by Mohammad Mehdi Broumandi, Deputy Director of Horticulture Affairs of the Ministry of Agricultural Jihad, and Pobak Dohoj JC, Head of the FAO Representative Office in Iran.

The head of the FAO representative office in Iran also said in this meeting: "FAO supports the actions of the Islamic Republic of Iran in attracting capital and multilateral international investments."

### CHINA TO INVEST IN IRAN'S TOURISM INDUSTRY

The Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China signed an agreement on cooperation in the tourism industry.

According to the agreement, China will invest two billion dollars in the economic infrastructure of Ardabil province and especially in the tourism industry of this province.

Ardabil City of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been declared as ECO Tourism Capital for 2023.

Ardabil is famous for having lush natural beauty, hospitable people, and its silk and carpet trade tradition. Various ancient sites from the pre-Islamic era and many relics of different Islamic dynasties were discovered in this province, revealing the roots and traces of an ancient civilization in this region.



### BARTER TRADE PRIORITY OF IRAN-VIETNAM NEGOTIATIONS

Head of the Iran Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) prioritized preferential trade agreements and barter trade in the Iran-Vietnam negotiations.

Mehdi Zeyghami, the head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), met with Luong Quoc Huy, the ambassador of Vietnam to Tehran, today, and the two sides discussed business matters, coinciding with the visit of the Vietnamese parliament speaker to Tehran.





## TRADE & ECONOMY

### IRAN RECEIVES REQUESTS FOR AIRPLANE OVERHAUL: QESHM AIRLINES CEO



The CEO of Qeshm Airlines announced the request of some neighboring countries for technical cooperation and aircraft repairs in Iran.

Thanks to the hard work of domestic experts, the Islamic Republic of Iran has achieved self-sufficiency in reconstructing and manufacturing various airplane parts.

As with the request of neighboring countries for technical cooperation and airplane overhaul, Ramin Hamzeh, the CEO of Qeshm Airlines, pointed to the "suitable hangars" as an essential requirement in preparing the grounds for overhauling the planes.

Hamzeh reported that Iran had received requests from neighboring countries for technical cooperation and aircraft repairs over the past few months.

The CEO of Qeshm Air also noted that Qeshm Airlines could obtain the license to overhaul the Fokker 100 jets and RG planes.

The very hangars could bring in significant revenue, create job opportunities, and result in financial savings of up to 100 billion tomans annually for Qeshm Air, Hamzeh said.

### IRAN, AZERBAIJAN'S AGREEMENTS FOR INCREASED TRANSIT

Following improvements in Iran and Azerbaijan political ties, heads of the Iran and Azerbaijan Joint Economic Commission followed up on various projects for increased bilateral trade and transit.

During the meeting of heads of Iran and Azerbaijan Joint Economic Commission yesterday in Astara, Iran Minister of Roads and Urban Development, Mehrdad Bazrpash, and Shahin Mustafayev, First Deputy Prime Minister of Azerbaijan, discussed different bilateral agendas for increased trade and transit and reached some agreements.

Basically, the two sides agreed to increase traffic, open a new border terminal in the next 4 months, and increase investment by 60% for the construction of a rail dock. The problems of truck drivers were also decided to be resolved through a joint committee between the two countries within the next two months.

Speaking to the reporters, Bazrpash said that after a break in bilateral relations due to the unfortunate incident that happened at the Azerbaijani Embassy, the problem has now been resolved. Iran's President emphasized on strengthening and developing relations with Azerbaijan, and part of this was achieved in this meeting.





## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### IRAN IN WORLD'S TOP 10 COUNTRIES IN PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTION



Director General of Pardis Technology Park (PTP) for Communications and International Affairs pointed to Iran's ranking as one of the top 10 countries in the world regarding the diversity of pharmaceutical production.

Amin Reza Khaleghian, Director General of Pardis Technology Park (PTP) for Communications and International Affairs, pointing to Iran's world ranking in terms of diversity of pharmaceutical production, stressed the production and export of knowledge-based companies, including radio and television transmitters, being produced under imposed sanctions, to 40 countries.

Khaleghian pointed to PTP's role in paving the way for Iranian companies to attend exhibitions in joint pavilions, like in the past 15 years in Russia, Venezuela, Greece, Zimbabwe, and Kenya.

Referring to the agreement concluded with Venezuela for selling a thousand hemodialysis machines (HD), He announced sending the first shipment, where the rest will be sent over time.

He stressed the production of drugs to treat Multiple sclerosis (MS), a condition that can affect the brain and spinal cord, causing a wide range of potential symptoms, including problems with vision, arm or leg movement, sensation, or balance, in Iran as the sixth country in the world

to produce them.

He added that the treatment for Cutaneous leishmaniasis (CL), the most common form that causes skin lesions, mainly ulcers, on exposed parts of the body, is produced by one of the companies of PTP, and most of the medicine for CL treatment is exported.

"We have cooperation with Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Russia, and some Arab and European countries," said Khaleghian in the end, stressing the international cooperative record of the PTP.

### IRAN INDIGENIZES KNOW-HOW TO PRODUCE SPECIAL PETROCHEMICAL CATALYST

A group of Iranian experts at Shazand Petrochemical Company has managed to indigenize the technology used to produce one of the most special catalysts used in the petrochemical, refining, and steel industries.

Diethylhexanol is one of the most special catalysts used by petrochemical units in the country. Each kilogram of Diethylhexanol, which two European companies had the monopoly on the production of the catalyst, is worth about 5 billion Tomans.

Shazand Petrochemical Company produces the most diverse polymer and chemical products and exports nearly 300 million dollars annually.





## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### MORE THAN ONE MILLION HEALTH TOURISTS TRAVEL TO IRAN ANNUALLY



Iran's Minister of Health announced that one million and 200 health tourists visited Iran last year (1401).

Bahram Eynollahi told the reporters on Sunday: Health tourism permits have been given to 240 hospitals.

He added that the Ministry of Health appoints health advisors in countries with a high number of referrals to Iran.

Eynollahi also stated that he has met with 20 health ministers in the last two years to strengthen relations.

Pointing out that medicine is the second most important way of trade in the world after oil, he said: We are looking to create facilities for the production of medicine and we must try to export medicine.

The Minister of Health also said: All foreign nationals and nearly two million five hundred thousand people got COVID jabs for free.

The Minister of Health added: Iran has been among the successful countries in controlling coronavirus and produced six types of coronavirus vaccines.

### IRANIAN ENTREPRENEUR RECEIVES 2023 UN GREEN ECONOMY EDUCATION AWARDS

An Iranian entrepreneur received the 2023 Education Award under the 'Green Economy' title. Iranian entrepreneur Ali Afzali from Ardabil province, northeast of Iran, received the 2023 Education Award under the 'Green Economy' title from the United Nations International Trade Center (ITC).

Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia, in June 2023, hosted the 20th World Export Development Forum, also known as (WEDF) 2023, following the COVID pandemic.

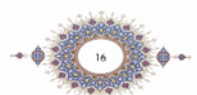


### OVER 200 TAJIK HEALTH TOURISTS VISIT IRAN MONTHLY

More than 200 health tourists from Tajikistan come to Iran for treatment each month, said Mohammad Hossein Niknam, the deputy health minister for international cooperation.

“The bilateral cooperation with Tajikistan in the field of health is going on well,” IRIB quoted Niknam as saying.

Meetings with the officials of Tajikistan were mainly about the export of medicine and pharmaceuticals from Iran, he said, adding that 28 Tajik doctors are passing subspecialty courses in Iran.







## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### IRANIAN STUDENTS GRAB FOUR MEDALS AT IBO 2023

and Shayan Feiz-Oskouei won the bronze medal.



Iranian students grabbed two gold and two silver medals at the 34th edition of the International Biology Olympiad (IBO) held in the United Arab Emirates from July 3-11. The IBO 2023 hosted 293 students from 76 countries.

Arman Forqani and Ali Qasemloui won the gold medals, while Kiyarash Behboudi and Aidin Naziri-Fard won the silver medals.

In the 33rd International Biology Olympiad, Iran's team was ranked first in the world by winning four gold medals.

### IRAN RANKS 11TH IN INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIAD

Iranian students took six medals, ranking 11th at the 64th International Mathematical Olympiad which was held in Japan on July 2-13.

A gold medal from Ehsan Heidari, four silver medals from Sobhan Aram, Mohammad-Parsa Jafarnejadi, Arvin Taheri, and Mohammad-Ermia Qasari, and a bronze medal from Pouria Rahmani placed the country 11th among 111 participating countries, ISNA reported.

### IRANIAN STUDENTS SHINE AT IPHO 2023

Five Iranian students who participated in the 53rd International Physics Olympiad succeeded in winning four silver medals and one bronze medal. The IPhO 2023 was held from July 10-17 at the National Olympics Memorial Youth Center in Tokyo, ISNA reported.

Mehdi Shirin-Bayan, Mohammad-Mehdi Mousavi, Ali Qanbari, and Sina Fat'h won the silver medals





## SPORTS

### IRANIAN FS WRESTLERS STAND 1ST IN AMMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS



Iran's freestyle wrestling team won the championship title of the Amman Championships on Thursday, bagging three gold medals and five silver medals.

The Asian Youth Championship wrestling matches for U20 and U15 categories in both Freestyle and Greco-Roman sections are taking place in Amman, Jordan.

The competition commenced on Wednesday, July 19, and the first five weight categories initiated their competition on the same day.

Ali Rezaei in 70 kg weight, Mohammad Mobin Azimi in 92 kg weight, and Amir Ali Poladi in 125 kg weight won gold medals, and Ebrahim Khovari in 57 kg weight, Ebrahim Elahi in 65 kg weight, Hossein Mohammad Aghaei in 74 kg weight, Farzad Safi Jahanshahi in 79 kg weight and Amir Hossein Alizadeh in 86 kg weight won silver medals.

### IRANIAN JUNIOR WRESTLERS STAND TOP IN ASIA



The Iranian team of Greco-Roman wrestling stood in first place in the 2023 Asian Championship, with 10 medals in 10 weight categories.

The wrestling competitions were held on July 15 and 16 in Aman, the capital of Jordan, as the Iranian wrestler succeeded in winning five golds, one silver, and four bronzes and won the champion titles of the contest.

Mohammad Ashiri in the 60 kg, Ahoura Boyeri in the 6 kg, Abolfazl Choubani in the 87 kg, Amir-Reza Akbari in 97 kg, and Fardin Hedayati in the 130 kg weight categories snatched the gold medals.

Still, Mohammad Mahdi Miri in the 72 kg weight category won the silver medal; Ali Ahamdi-Vafa in the 55 kg, Reza Gheitasi in the 63 kg, Alireza Abdoli in the 77 kg, and Yasin Yazdi in the 82 kg weight categories achieved the bronze medals.

Therefore, in the team ranking, Iran, with 250 points, stood in first place, Uzbekistan in second place with 180 points, and Kazakhstan in third place with 170 points.





## SPORTS

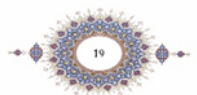
### IRAN'S U-21 MEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM WINS WORLD TITLE



Iran's under-21 men's volleyball team beat Italy on Sunday to win the World Championship 2023.

The Iranian U-21 volleyball team outfought Italy 3-2 (25-21, 23-25, 23-25, 25-16 and 15-9).

The 2023 FIVB Volleyball Men's U21 World Championship was held in Manama, Bahrain, on July 7-16. Securing eight consecutive victories over their opponents, Iran remained undefeated and stood at the top of the championship.





## SPORTS

### IRANIAN ATHLETES BAG 2 GOLD MEDALS IN HANMADANG 2023



Iran's Taekwondo players won two gold medals in the 2023 Seongnam World Taekwondo Hanmadang.

Hanmadang is a Taekwondo Festival for competitions including the essentials of martial art such as breaking, self-defense, and poomsae, which is held yearly by Kukkiwon.

Hossein Honarmand won the gold medal in the Nopi Ap Chagi event, and Reza Faraji also won the second gold medal for Iran in Nopi Chagi with a record of 2.60.

### IRAN'S FARAJI WINS WTT YOUTH CONTENDER ALMATY 2023

A young Iranian table tennis player named Benyamin Faraji has won a gold medal at the 2023 World Table Tennis (WTT) Youth Contender in Almaty.

Iran Press/ Asia: In the U15 Boys Singles final match, Faraji emerged victorious with a 3-1 win (11-9, 8-11, 11-9, 11-9) against Shih Jia-Hong from Chinese Taipei.



### IRAN COME THIRD AT 2023 ASIAN KARATE CHAMPIONSHIPS



Iran finished in third place at the 19th edition of Asian Senior Karate Championships.

The Iranian karate athletes won 12 medals, including three gold, two silver and seven bronze medals.

### IRAN U17 FOOTBALL TEAM SECURES SPOT IN WORLD CUP BY DEFEATING YEMEN

The U17 football team of Iran emerged victorious over Yemen in the quarterfinals of the 2023 AFC U17 Asian Cup, securing their spot in the tournament's next stage and qualifying for the upcoming World Cup.

The match between the two teams ended in a 0-0 draw, resulting in penalties to determine the winner. Iran emerged victorious with a score of 4-2, thanks to their goalkeeper, who saved two kicks.

This victory has secured Iran a place in the semifinals of the Asian competitions and also puts them in contention for the FIFA U17 World Cup Indonesia 2023. Prior to this match, Iran had already defeated Afghanistan and South Korea and tied with Qatar in Group B.

In the upcoming semifinal match on Thursday, Hossein Abdi's team will face the winners of the game between Japan and Australia.



## SPORTS

### IRAN CROWNS CHAMPION OF 2023 ASIAN U16 VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



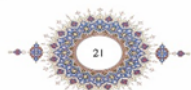
Iran has been crowned the champions of the 2023 Asian Men's U16 Volleyball Championship after defeating Uzbekistan 3-1 (19-25, 25-22, 25-16, 25-22). This victory marks Iran's seventh consecutive win in the competition, which took place in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

In previous matches, the young Persians showcased their skills by defeating Japan, Saudi Arabia, China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Chinese Taipei. In another match held earlier in the day, Chinese Taipei secured the bronze medal by defeating Pakistan with a score of 3-1. As a result of their outstanding performance in the competition, Iran, Uzbekistan, and Chinese Taipei have secured their spots in next year's inaugural FIVB Volleyball Boys' U17 World Championship.

### IRAN STANDS 1ST IN 2023 DAVIS CUP

Iran's Tennis Team managed to win the champion title of the 2023 Davis Cup held in Sri Lanka.

Defeating Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, and Sri Lanka, Iran's tennis team succeeded in achieving permission to the world's Group 2 competitions. Iranian tennis players faced the Pacific team on Saturday and overcame it 2-0, thus standing first in the Davis Cup.





## FOREIGN MISSIONS IN IRAN

### "Gilan Province and City of Rasht: A Historical Gateway to Europe, says the Italian Embassy



Italy in Iran  
@ItalyinIran

Visit dense with interest to Gilan province and the city of Rasht. A land rich of industries and agricultural diversity. A historical gateway to Europe, open to strengthening cooperation with Italy in different areas.



### "Spain's Culture and Art Showcased in "Reflejos de España" Exhibition in Iran



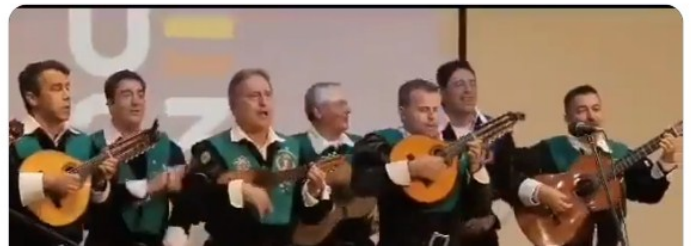
España en Irán  
@EmbEspIran

¡Gracias a @tunamelilla, al fotógrafo español Txema Magdalena y a los pintores de la exposición "Reflejos de España"! Sus obras reflejan la cultura de España así como los vínculos entre e

El arte y la cultura tendrán un papel central durante la #PEUE

#EU2023ES

[Translate Tweet](#)



### Pakistan Condemns Terrorist Attack on Iranian Police Personnel in Sistan-o-Baluchestan



Pakistan Embassy Iran  
@PakinIran

Pakistan strongly condemns the terrorist attack on police personnel at Khash- Zahidan in 's Sistan-o-Baluchestan today. We offer our deepest condolences to @Iran\_GOV and people of Iran & to the families of the martyred policemen.

[@ForeignOfficePk](#)

[@rahimhayat](#)

[@IRIMFA\\_EN](#)

8:41 PM · Jul 23, 2023 · 1,055 Views

### Press release on the phone conversation between ministers of foreign affairs of Iran and Azerbaijan



MFA Azerbaijan  
@AzerbaijanMFA

Nazir Ceyhun Bayramovun İran İslam Respublikasının xarici işlər naziri Hüseyn Əmir-Abdullahian ilə telefon danışığına dair mətbuat məlumatı

[mfa.gov.az/az/news/no41123](https://mfa.gov.az/az/news/no41123)

[Translate Tweet](#)





# FOREIGN MISSIONS IN IRAN

"Embassy of Slovenia hosts successful beekeeping conference with Iranian experts"

Slovenia in Iran  
@SLOinIRAN

The Embassy of 🇸🇮 organized the next beekeeping conference in its series #SaveTheBees. More than 50 participants listened to interesting lectures by prominent Iranian beekeeping experts regarding apitherapy, famous monofloral honeys and health of bees in 🇮🇷.



@MZEZ\_RS



"The Serbian ambassador to Iran emphasized the significance of the meeting between Dr. Vladimir Orlić, the President of the National Assembly of Serbia, and Dr. Hossein Amirabdollahian, the Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs."

Serbia in Iran  
@SRBinIran

دیدار رئیس مجلس جمهوری صربستان، دکتر ولادیمیر اورلیچ با رئیس جمهور اسلامی ایران جناب آقای ابراهیم رئیسی

Translate Tweet



Ambassador of China welcomes Iranian delegation participating in opening ceremony of 31st World University Games in China

Chang Hua  
@AmbChangHua

خوش آمدگی  
#Universiade #Chengdu

IRAN in CHINA 🇮🇷🇨🇳 @IraninChina · Jul 28

کاروان ج.ا. #ایران با عنوان «طلسمداران» امشب در مراسم افتتاحیه سویکمین دوره بازیهای دانشجویان (یونیورسیاد) جهان در چنگدو #چین شرکت کرد. این مسابقات با حضور ۱۳۹ کشور از ششم تا هفتم مردادماه برگزار میشود و کاروان ایران در ۱۱ رشته ورزشی به هوازودی با حریفان خواهد پرداخت.



Japanese Embassy congratulates Iran's Team Winning 9th Asian Karate Committee Championship Title

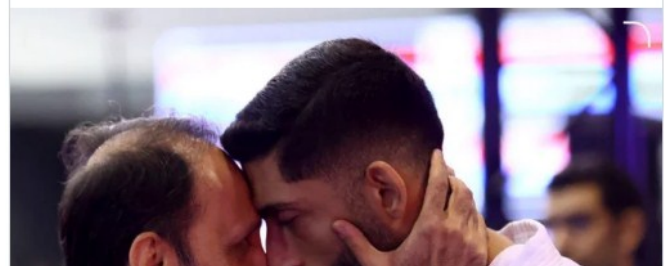
Embassy of Japan in Iran  
@japaniniran

آفرین 🇯🇵🇮🇷

Translate Tweet

Tasnimnews\_Fa · Jul 23

نهمین قهرمانی کومیته تیمی ایران در آسیا  
نوزدهمین دوره مسابقات کاراته قهرمانی آسیا با برگزاری دیدار نهایی کومیته تیمی به پایان رسید و تیم کشورمان در دیداری یک طرفه با برتری ۳ بر صفر مقابل قزاقستان برای نهمین بار قهرمان کومیته تیمی آسیا شد  
تیم کومیته تیمی کشورمان در تاریخ مسابقات... Show more





## DISCOVER IRAN IN PICTURES

### MAHALLAT; IRAN'S FLOWER HUB

Mahallat, Markazi Province of Iran, is the top producer of all kinds of flowers and ornamental plants. Mahallat, known as the city of flowers, enjoys a favorable climate to produce different kinds of ornamental flowers, house, indoor and apartment plants.

Head of the Iran Seed and Seedling Union Gholamali Ebrahimi told the Iran Press reporter that Mahallat is the top flower and plant producer in Iran. According to Ebrahimi, the area under cultivation of flowers and plants reaches 750 Hectares (75000 Are) with about 850 flower growers.

About 185 million branches of flowers for green spaces, 72 million types of apartment flowers and 217 million seasonal flowers such as lilies, carnations, Tuberose, chrysanthemums and apartment flowers are produced in Mahallat annually.

Mahallat red willow is exported to the U.S., China, Russia, Arab and European countries and it is not used inside Iran. Mahallat, known as the Flower City of Iran, is one of the tourist attractions of Iran where the colorful flowers have doubled the beauty of the city.

