



Islamic Republic of Iran
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MFA DIGEST

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY



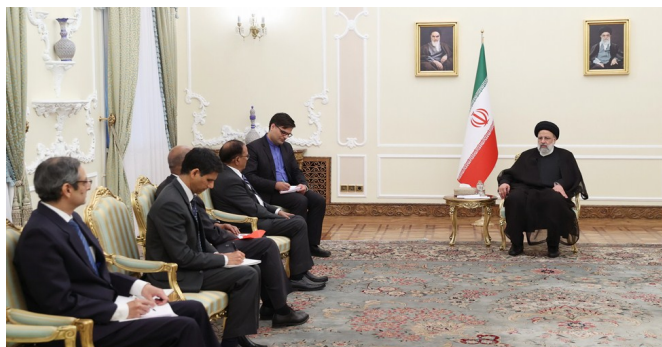
Issue #78 April 16— 30, 2023

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MFA NEWSLETTER

IRAN, INDIA DETERMINED TO DEEPEN TIES, ESP. IN ECONOMY, TRADE



Speaking in a meeting with Indian National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi referred to the long history of friendly relations between the two countries, and said, "Today, the leaders of Iran and India also want to expand relations, especially in the economic and commercial fields, and this was emphasised in the meeting between me and Mr Narendra Modi in Samarkand". Pointing out that the conditions of the world are changing and a new world order is being formed, the President added, "In the heart of the changes taking place in the world, regional and international organisations, especially the Shanghai and BRICS organisations, due to their power and resources, can be very effective".

The President said, "As effective countries in the region, Iran and India can develop their cooperation to a new level to have an impact on the developments caused by the establishment of the new world order".

Ajit Doval, the National Security Adviser of India, also stated in this meeting that big changes are happening in the world and the emerging technologies have connected the economies of countries more than ever, and said, "India believes that in order to have a positive effect on these changes, it requires deepening and expanding relations with our neighbours, especially Iran".

IRAN FM AND INDIAN NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR MEET IN TEHRAN

In a meeting with India's National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian emphasized the historical background of bilateral ties between the two countries, expressing hope that the Indian official's trip to the Islamic Republic will create some strong momentum in the Tehran-New Delhi relations in strategic fields. Amirabdollahian referred to the constructive talks between Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's summit in Samarkand. He further expressed pleasure with the planned finalization of Tehran's membership in the SCO in its next meeting in New Delhi.

Amirabdollahian described the approaches of Iran and India to key international issues as important and voiced hope that the cooperation between the two nations regarding significant regional and international issues including the fight against terrorism and narco-trafficking will further expand.

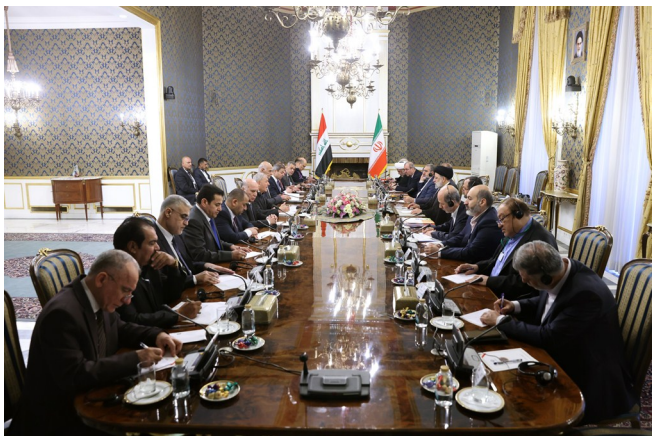
India's National Security Advisor Ajit Doval for his part referred to the international status quo and the developments that are unfolding in the international arena. He described as important the existence of a broad range of areas in which Tehran and New Delhi can work together. Doval then stressed the necessity of putting in place a roadmap of cooperation between the two nations within the framework of a long-term partnership.





MFA NEWSLETTER

DR RAISI: THERE ARE MANY CAPACITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF IRAN-IRAQ TIES IN VARIOUS FIELDS



Speaking at the meeting of the high-ranking delegations of Iran and Iraq, Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi stated that the visit of the President of Iraq to Iran will be a big step in improving relations, and said, "The relations between the two countries and the implementation of bilateral agreements are a growing and satisfactory process, but nevertheless there are many capacities to develop relations in the political, economic and cultural fields".

Stating that the improvement of relations between Iran and Iraq is not pleasing to our enemies, the President said, "Iran and Iraq will expand their interactions in accordance with the interests of the two countries in the region, and strengthening and consolidating relations between Tehran and Baghdad, in addition to securing the interests of the two nations, will also benefit the region".

Dr Raisi emphasised the development of cooperation in economic, energy, transit and transportation fields, trade exchanges and security cooperation, as well as the importance of accelerating the implementation of existing agreements between the two countries.

In this meeting, Iraqi President Abdul Latif Rashid also emphasised his country's interest in expanding relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and stated, "The two countries have diverse capacities to expand economic, political, cultural cooperation and trade exchanges".

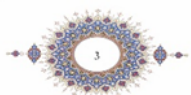
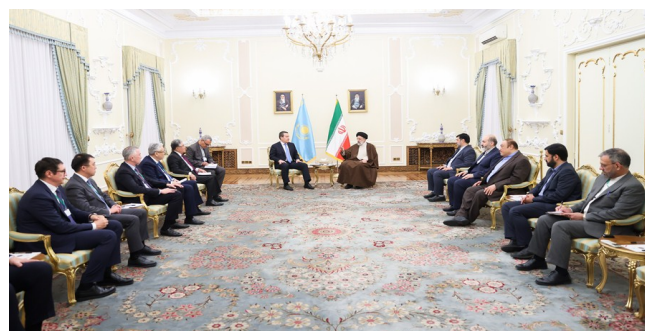
DR RAISI: DESPITE SIGNIFICANT GROWTH, LEVEL OF IRAN-KAZAKHSTAN TIES NOT COMMENSURATE WITH EXISTING CAPACITIES

Dr Raisi emphasised on the development of bilateral relations, especially in the economic and commercial field, during the meeting with the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, Alihan Smaiylov, who traveled to Tehran to follow up on the implementation of the agreements made between the Presidents of the two countries.

The President referred to Kazakhstan as one of the influential countries in the Eurasian Union and said, "Although the significant growth of trade relations between the two countries last year has made the situation different from before, this level of relations is not commensurate with the capacities of the two countries and we have to work hard to improve it".

"Investment in transit infrastructure from Central Asia to the Persian Gulf", "Transportation development to facilitate commercial cooperation", "Increasing cooperation in the field of agriculture" and "Using innovative mechanisms in the monetary and banking fields" were among the other emphasis of Raisi in the meeting with the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan.

Alihan Smaiylov, the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, also expressed his interest in the development and deepening of his country's relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, especially in the field of economic and commercial investments, and said, "The volume of relations between the two countries is not proportional to the existing capacities, and for this reason, we have developed a road map for the development of future collaborations".





MFA NEWSLETTER

IRANIAN FM MEETS LEBANON PM IN BEIRUT



Iranian FM Amirabdollahian, who was in Beirut, met with Lebanon's Caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati for talks over issues of mutual interest between the two countries.

On bilateral cooperation, Amirabdollahian underlined the necessity of expanding relations between Tehran and Beirut in various fields, especially with regard to economic and trade ties given the existing potentials of both sides to promote cooperation.

IRAN, LEBANON FMS DISCUSS BILATERAL TIES, REGIONAL AND INTL. DEVELOPMENTS

Iranian FM held talks with his Lebanese counterpart Abdullah Bu Habib over most important issues of mutual interest between the two countries at bilateral, regional and international levels.



IRANIAN FM MEETS WITH MPS FROM DIFFERENT LEBANESE FACTIONS

During his visit to Beirut, Iranian FM met with MPs from different Lebanese factions at the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Lebanon. The Lebanese lawmakers described the meeting and the invitation of the MPs from different factions with diverse views as a positive initiative and a step towards boosting relations between Iran and Lebanon.



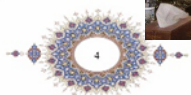
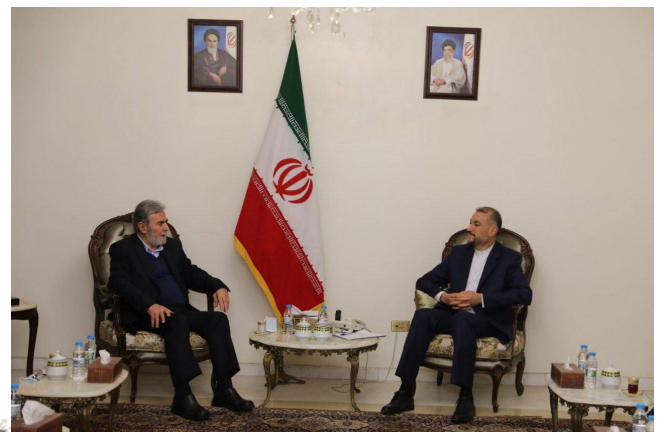
IRANIAN FM MEETS WITH HEZBOLLAH'S SECRETARY GENERAL

Iranian FM met and held talks with Hezbollah's Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah as he continued his visit to Lebanon.



IRANIAN FM MEETS WITH PALESTINIAN ISLAMIC JIHAD MOVEMENT'S SECRETARY GENERAL IN BEIRUT

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian and Palestinian Islamic Jihad Movement's Secretary General Ziad Nakhleh have met on the sidelines of the top Iranian diplomat's visit to Beirut.





MFA NEWSLETTER

IRAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH OMAN'S MINISTER OF ROYAL OFFICE



Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs Amirabdollahian sat down with Sultan bin Mohammed al-Numani, Minister of the Royal Office in the Sultanate of Oman, for talks on topics related to bilateral ties, the latest developments in the region, and international issues of mutual interest.

During the meeting, Amirabdollahian referred to a visit by President Ebrahim Raisi to Oman and the future trip by the Sultan of Oman to the Islamic Republic, saying exchanges of delegations at high levels pave way for further dynamism, for activation of ties and for the two sides to benefit from the existing capacities in the two countries toward the expansion of ties. He emphasized the need for the continuation of such exchanges.

FOREIGN MINISTERS OF IRAN, OMAN DISCUSS BILATERAL TIES, REGIONAL ISSUES

Visiting Oman at the head of a delegation at the invitation of Badr bin Hamad Albusaidi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman, Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs Hossein Amirabdollahian praised Oman's policy of consolidating and strengthening relations between the two countries. He described the visit of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi to Muscat as well as the upcoming visit of the Sultan of Oman to Tehran as a turning point in bilateral relations in various sectors. Referring to the 20th session of the Joint Economic Commission between the two countries, which will be

held soon in Tehran, he expressed hope that this event will further pave the way for the expansion of cooperation between the two countries.

Touching on regional issues, the chief Iranian diplomat pointed to Muscat's and Baghdad's hosting of talks between Iran and Saudi Arabia, highlighting regional cooperation as an important necessity.



IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS MEETING WITH SENIOR UN HUMANITARIAN OFFICIAL

Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs Amirabdollahian held a meeting with United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Martin Griffiths for talks on issues of common concern, including the conditions and humanitarian situation in Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, and Ukraine.





IRAN'S NATIONAL DAY OF SAADI SHIRAZI; MASTER OF SPEECH

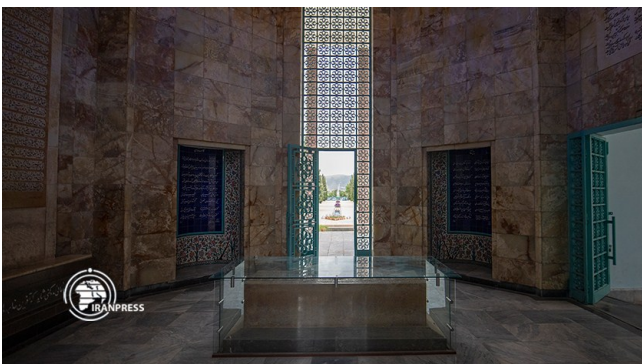


Today is the National Commemoration Day of the renowned Persian poet Saadi Shirazi, born in Shiraz around 1200 and died around 1292 who is known as a mystic and metaphysician in the history of Persian literature.

Abu-Muhammad Muslih al-Din bin Abdallah Shirazi, known by his pen-name Saadi, was one of the major Persian poets of the medieval period.

Iranian poet Sa'adi, from the 13th century, is one of the major influential Persian poets of the medieval period. He is recognised in the literary world for the quality of his writing style and in the spiritual realm for the depth of his thoughts.

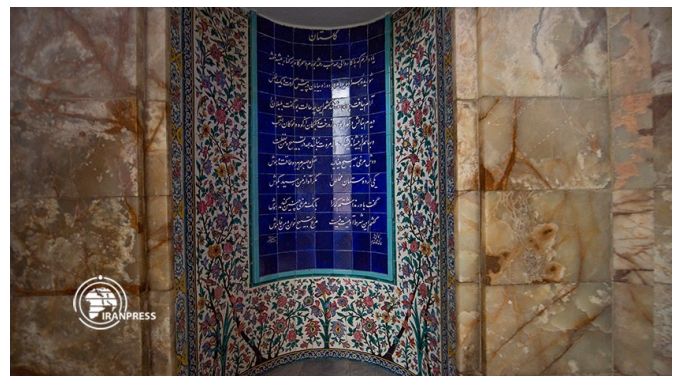
Sa'adi is best known for his works 'Gulistan' and 'Busan', poetry which emphasised a unity in mankind, an interdependence regardless of social barriers and labels. Many of his poems greatly impacted India, and had influence throughout central Asia.



Life

Saadi, who lost his father in childhood, experienced a youth of poverty and hardship; he left his hometown of Shiraz at a young age for Baghdad to pursue a better education. His first experience of education was at the Nizamiye University of Baghdad, where he studied Islamic sciences, theology, law, history, and Arabic literature. He traveled to different countries such as Anatolia, Syria, Egypt, and Iraq for thirty years. He also visited Qods, Mecca, and Medina.

The Master of Speech, as he is called, was a man of learning and traveling. He mingled with people from different groups from intellectuals, merchants, preachers, farmers, and ordinary people to Sufi dervishes and even thieves, trying to learn and study and also preach and advise people to gravitate toward wisdom and morality.

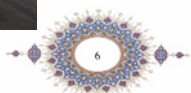


Returning to Shiraz as an elderly man, Saadi was greatly welcomed and respected by the ruler and the prominent figures of the city.

He spent the rest of his life in his birthplace till he passed away around 1292.

Mausoleum

Saadi's tomb is located in southern Shiraz. His mausoleum, also called Saadieh, is one of Iran's major tourist attractions. The tomb was first built in the 13th century. Many Persian elements have been used in its architecture. It is also a National Heritage





Top Things Iran Is Famous For

MEDICAL TOURISM



Medical Tourism is becoming popular in the world. Iran with high standards in medical research and health care services, at affordable costs is a distinctive destination. Medical Tourism or Health Tourism is indeed not a new phenomenon, but goes back to ancient Greece, where people flocked to temples dedicated to the art of healing.

Today's medical tourism has focused on two concepts: expertise and affordability. Alongside its multifaceted tourist attractions, Iran is a destination for numerous medical tourists who pick Iran because not only its surgeons and specialists are deft, but also given the fluctuations of exchange rate, the costs of surgery and treatments are very low.

History of Medicine in Iran

The practice and study of medicine in Persia has a long and prolific history. The Iranian academic centers like Jundishapur (Gundeshapur) University (3 century AD) were a breeding ground for the union among great scientists from different civilizations. These centers



successfully followed their predecessors' theories and greatly extended their scientific research through history.

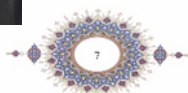
Some of the earliest practices of ancient Iranian medicine have been documented in the Avesta and other Zoroastrian religious texts. The sixth book of Zend-Avesta contains some of the earliest records of history of ancient Iranian medicine. The Vendidad in fact devotes most of the last chapters to medicine.

Avicenna, known as Prince of Physicians in the west and chief master of all sciences in Muslim world, is the celebrated Iranian physician and philosopher who was particularly noted for his contributions in the field of Aristotelian philosophy and medicine. He composed the Canon of Medicine that became the preeminent source of medicine among western medical scholars from the early 14 to the mid-16 century.



Iran: A growing market for medical tourism

Due to the temperate climate, well-trained medical experts, and the latest version of medical innovations, Iran occupies an important position in the medical travel industry in the region. Iran is considered a safe destination, and the beauty of the country, as well as the abundance of sunshine, therapeutic natural springs and unique cuisine make it a favorite spot for many medical travelers.





Top Things Iran Is Famous For



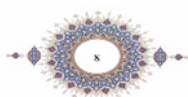
The health tourism industry continues to grow significantly as a result of today's comprehensive treatment needs. Fortunately, Iran, with its location in an appropriate area where many of its neighbors require quality care, is making tremendous progress in terms of health and treatment. The high capabilities of the health system have created a unique opportunity for the country. In addition to treating people seeking treatments in the region, it can open a way to bring a significant income to Iran.

Today, more than 135 medical centers in Iran have obtained a registration certificate for international patients under the strict supervision of the Ministry of Health. Every time international patients are admitted by these hospitals, they can be safely treated medically,

says Hassan Rashki, Iranian expert in medical tourism. Bone marrow transplantation – an important treatment for blood cancer – can be a valuable accomplishment to the country's healthcare industry with a success rate of over 90%, "Rashki added.

Ophthalmology services in Iran are among the most credible countries in the world. Iran is considered the second best country in terms of quality of ophthalmological treatment to Spain. According to medical reports, infertility treatments and research done in Iran are very progressive and the success rate meets the highest international standards. Many people in need of infertility health care, from neighboring countries receive treatment for these services in Iranian hospitals.

Performing all types of cancer surgery, gynecological diseases, orthopedic surgery and heart disease in the country's hospitals is the order of the day, and a large number of Iranian doctors are ready to treat all diseases with the best possible form. Experts predict that if the various therapeutic capabilities of Iran are introduced in the target countries, Iran will easily have the potential to raise \$ 4 billion for health tourism annually.





Society & Culture

GREEK TOURISTS VISIT HOLY SHRINE OF LADY FATIMA MASOUMEH IN QOM



A group of Greek tourists visited the holy shrine of Lady Masoumeh in Qom, familiarizing themselves with its history and Islamic Iranian architecture during their visit.

Hazrat Fatima Masoumeh (SA), the blessed and gracious divine lady from the Holy Ahlul Bayt (AS), was born in the holy city of Medina on the first day of the month of Dhu al-Qa'dah 173 A.H. She was the most learned scholar and a very pious lady, greatly revered by the Holy Imams (A.S). She was buried in the holy city of Qum, and her holy shrine is visited every year by millions of lovers of Holy Ahlul Bayt (A.S).

IRANIAN GIRL SHINES IN GERMANY

A piece of photographic works of the youngest member of the Young Photographers House of Iran was accepted by the jury of the 24th German International Photocup (GIP) 2023.

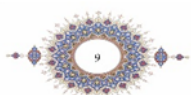
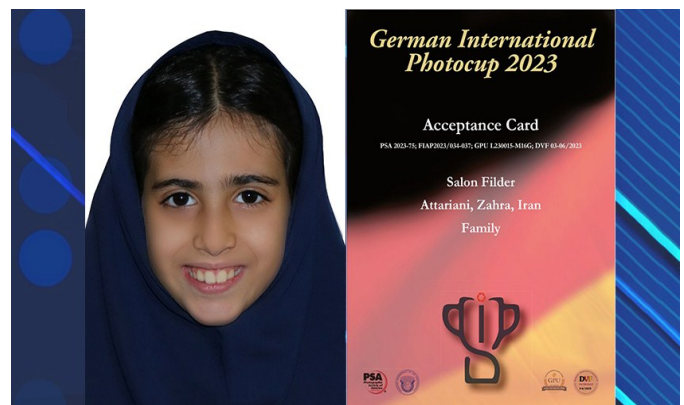
According to Public and International Relations of

the Young Photographers House of Iran, this annual competition is held in four categories: color, monochrome, nature and travel. Zahra Attariani who is the only representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran with one photo in the color category and titled "Family" made an unprecedented and brilliant presence in this exhibition.

Among the 22,577 photos received from 2,536 photographers from 61 countries, 98 photos from 98 photographers have been selected in the children's section.

This is the 7th presence of this young photographer in international photography competitions.

This international competition is organized for the 24th year in a row by the most prestigious photography authorities in the world, including German Photographic Association (DVF), D.PIXX FOTO Photography Institute, GPU World Photography Union, under the supervision of the American Photography Association PS, and under the official license of the World Photography Federation FIAP.





Society & Culture

IMAM MOSQUE IN ISFAHAN; GLORY OF IRANIAN ARCHITECTURE



The Imam Mosque of Isfahan is one of the everlasting masterpieces of architecture in Iran. Religious, historical, and local customs approaches are quite evident in Iranian architecture, and one of these enduring examples is Imam Mosque in Isfahan. April 23, coinciding with the commemoration day of Sheikh Baha'i in the Iranian calendar, is named National Architecture Day.

Imam Khomeini Mosque in Naqshe Jahan Square, Isfahan, is one of the most unique places to witness

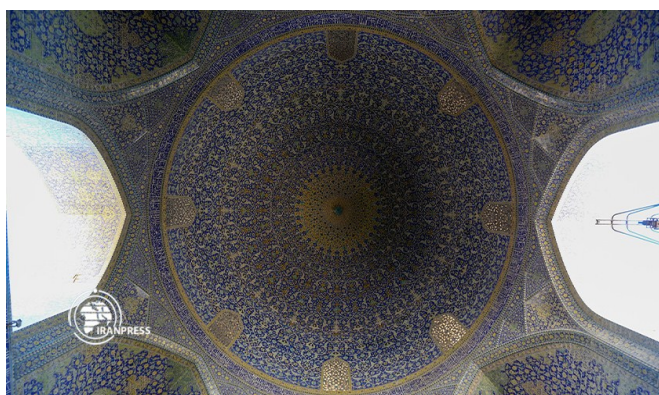


Islamic-Iranian architecture. Imam Mosque of Isfahan was built during the Safavid period and the building is the pinnacle of architecture and tile work of the 11th century. The main entrances of the mosque are decorated with unique tiling and the arched arches of the entrance have beautiful protrusions like a beehive. Shaping traditions, religious concepts, maps, and decorations have placed the Imam Mosque of Isfahan as a magnificent building among the most prominent historical

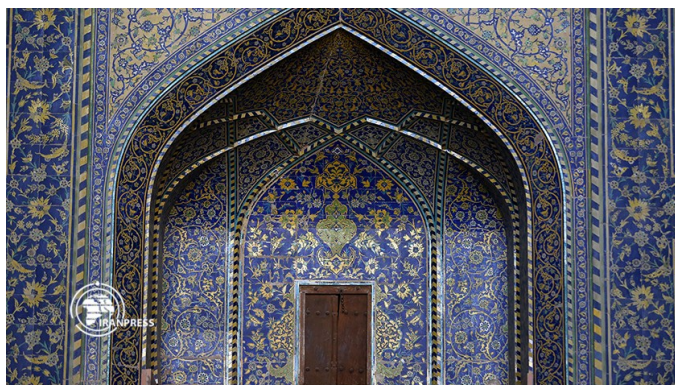
buildings in the world.

The unique art and special effects of architecture, tiling, and carpentry have made Imam Mosque registered with UNESCO.

The exterior of Isfahan Imam Mosque is decorated with seven-color tiles with the main colors of blue and gold, which plays an important role in its fame. There are two naves on the east and west sides of Isfahan Imam Mosque, which are similar to each other. The domes of the building have added to the



beauty of the Imam Mosque of Isfahan. The patterns of flowers and bushes on the interior walls have made the view of the Imam Mosque of Isfahan unique. Haft Sangab is also located in the Imam Mosque of Isfahan. Sangab inside the vestibule of this mosque is made of jade stone and is placed on an octagonal base. Like other parts of the Imam Mosque of Isfahan, this sangab has prominent patterns of flowers and bushes on its external surface. The magnificent Iranian building was registered in the national register of Iran in 1931.



Iranian food: Haleem Bademjan (Eggplant and Lentil Dish)



Halim Bademjan is one of the traditional Persian dishes that you would love to taste. This dish is really tasty and it can be a great choice for your gatherings. The main ingredient of the dish is eggplant. Halim Bademjan has different recipes across Iran and it all depends on the region it is made.

Haleem Bademjon is often served as a starter or as a main dish with a special Persian bread called Lavash, but you can serve it with pita bread or any kind of bread you like.

Ingredients:

eggplants; lentils; lamb; onions; rice; garlic; Kashk; walnuts; dried mint; cinnamon; salt as much as required; pepper as much as required; oil as much as required; turmeric as much as required



Trade & Economy

IRAN-EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION TO REMOVE CUSTOMS BARRIERS



Iran increases its customs cooperation with the Eurasian Economic Union in order to remove customs barriers and develop and facilitate trade.

According to Shada, Mohammad Rezvani-Far, Deputy Minister of Economy and Head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), met with Eldar Alisherov, Minister in charge of Customs Cooperation of the Eurasian Economic Commission, and his accompanying delegation on Saturday morning.

In the meeting, issues related to the removal of customs barriers and easing and developing trade with the Eurasian Economic Union were discussed.

Rezvani-Far said: "Although the free trade agreement with the Eurasian Union is temporary, and it is going through the formalities of making it permanent, the government intends to plan Iran's trade with the member countries of Eurasia as long-term."

Announcing Iran's trade volume with Eurasian countries in the last year, he added: "Trade during this period was \$3.3 billion, of which \$1.5 billion were Iran's exports to Eurasia and more than \$1.7 billion were imports from Eurasia."

Rezvani-Far stated: "After the signing of the free trade agreement with the union, the trade between Iran and Eurasia has grown by 32% while the amount of transit between them was also 1.8 million tons."

Referring to the diversity of trade between Iran and Eurasia, the head of IRICA predicted that in less than two years, the trade between the two sides will reach 10 billion dollars.

Rezvani-Far further said: "Online exchange of information and customs documents, cooperation in the field of information exchange and tariff bilaterally, development of educational cooperation, cooperation for the development of transit within the framework of E-Tir, and preparation for providing services to credible economic operators are among the most important action plans for business development. with the Eurasian Union."

Providing customs facilities to credible companies was another important agenda of the meeting, in which it was announced that credible large commercial, service, and industrial companies are entitled to receive special services in customs affairs.

Eldar Alisherov, Minister in charge of Customs Cooperation of the Eurasian Economic Commission, also welcomed the development of trade with Iran and said: With the implementation of the Free Trade Agreement with Iran, the volume of trade between the two sides has increased significantly, and we predict that with the implementation of the clauses of the agreement, the volume of trade will increase.

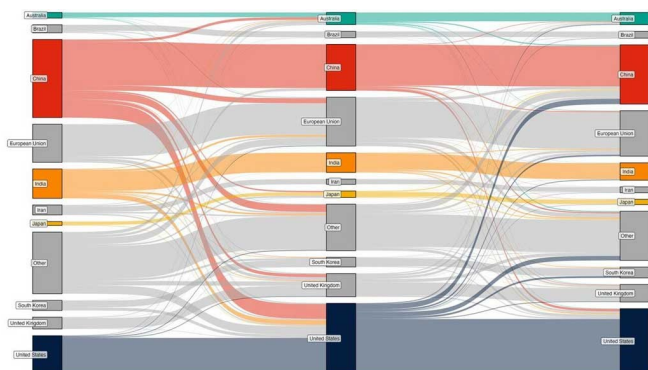
The Eurasian Economic Union, as one of the successful agreements in the region, has played a significant role in the economic development of its member countries.





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IRAN STANDS AMONG TOP TEN FUTURE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY SUPERPOWERS



According to a new report published by Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), Iran stands among the top ten science and technology superpowers, ranking higher than Japan.

ASPI's new Critical Technology Tracker reported Iran ranked as one of the top 5 countries in six of the forty-four technologies tracked, and ninth in the overall ranking to predict the top ten future global powers.

The number of publications and citations along with the Hirsch Index was examined in advanced aircraft engines including hypersonics and the country stood 4th in line, next to China and the United States, clearly surpassing Japan, Italy, and the UK.

According to ASPI, Iran is also among the top four countries in bio-fuel and smart materials science and new technologies that are emerging onto the market which could change the future of the industry.

Iran has published 2 percent of the total number of worldwide publications in synthetic biology marking it as the 8th country in global rankings.

Beyond the usual competition between China and the US, Iran's very strong performance in artificial intelligence technologies has become immediately striking. Most notably, Iran emerges as an unexpected powerhouse of hardware accelerator research.

Iran has long been considered among the leading countries in producing science in the world for many years. However, the Critical Technology Tracker

has gone beyond simple research and has focused on the key performance measures of scientific and technological capability, revealing countries that have a competitive advantage in this measure across the 44 technologies.

CIS TOURISM TOUR ENTERS IRAN

The scientific-tourist tour of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) arrived in Razavi Khorasan, northeastern Iran on Saturday morning from Turkmenistan.

On the sidelines of the welcoming ceremony of the CIS tour, Mehdi Alamdar, head of the international affairs department of the Islamic Republic of Iran Tourism and Motoring Center (TACI) said: Today, 22 road managers and officials from 10 different nationalities from the CIS countries entered the country on a six-day-trip with a special bus hosted by the (TACI).

CIS encompasses some independent republics of the Soviet Union, which were formed in a security and economic cooperation agreement including the republics of Armenia, Uzbekistan, Belarus, Tajikistan, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, and Azerbaijan.

Since 2005, Turkmenistan has participated as an associate member of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

There are border crossings between Iran and Turkmenistan. Most of the commercial traffic is carried out by rail and road between the two countries through Sarkhas, Incheh Borun, and Lotfabad crossings, respectively.





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IRAN USES GENE TRANSFER FOR THALASSEMIA PATIENTS' TREATMENT



The Head of the Medical Genetic Research Center, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences announced the gene transfer using the latest technology in the world to solve the problem of Thalassemia patients and stomach cancer sufferers.

Mohammad Reza Abbaszadegan, Head of the Medical Genetic Research Center, at Medical Sciences of Mashhad University, said, "As one of the pioneering groups of gene therapy in Iran, this university has carried out gene transfer using the latest technology in the world."

"The action led to the design of a clinical trial of gene therapy for patients with stomach cancer and a gene modification plan for Thalassemia patients by transferring from the laboratory to the hospital," he added.

Thalassemia is an inherited (passed from parents to children through genes) blood disorder caused when the body doesn't make enough of a protein called hemoglobin, an important part of red blood cells.

Thalassemia is a treatable disorder that can be well-managed with blood transfusions and chelation therapy.

IRANOPEN ROBOCUP; 17TH EDITION WRAPS UP

The 17th edition of IranOpen Robocup international competitions, which took place at Tehran's Islamic Azad University Science and Research Branch from April 26 to 28, wrapped up.

Egypt, China, Afghanistan, Brazil, Russia, and Germany were the foreign participants in the contest that competed with Iranian teams in such fields as artificial intelligence and programming.

Attending the event, the Iranian Vice President for Science and Technology said: We are proud to have supported the winners of the leagues in order to participate in the world championships.

Also, Morteza Mousakhani, Chairman of the National Robocup Committee elaborated on the RoboCup competitions, saying: In addition to the development of robotics and artificial intelligence, these competitions are held to create scientific vitality and enthusiasm, enhance the skills of students, and streamline science in the field of robotics, artificial intelligence, and learning.

The 17th edition of RoboCup IranOpen brought together 320 teams, with 800 participants, from across the country to compete in different fields of robotics and artificial intelligence.

The competitions were held in 14 small humanoid leagues, student demos, service robots at work, flying robots, self-driving cars, and 3D football simulations.





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IRANIAN, RUSSIAN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS HOLD SUMMIT IN MOSCOW



The two-day summit of presidents of major Iranian and Russian universities has started in Moscow.

According to the Iran Press News Agency from Moscow, the sixth meeting of presidents of major Iranian and Russian universities kicked off on Thursday evening at Moscow State University.

In this meeting, which will continue for two days, the presidents of 13 Iranian universities, 15 Russian universities, and professors of linguistics chairs will discuss ways to strengthen scientific and research cooperation, exchange of professors and students, and the implementation of joint projects in the field of science and technology.

IRANIAN, IRAQI PROFESSORS HOLD JOINT SEMINAR



The joint seminar of the professors from the universities of Iran and Sulaymaniyah, Iraq was held.

With the cooperation of the students and

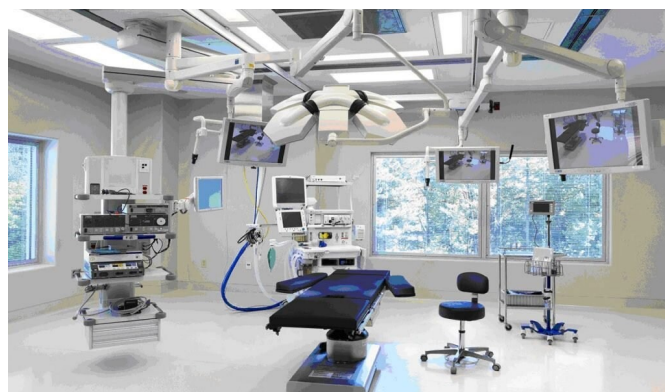
professors of the National University of Sulaymaniyah and the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Sulaymaniyah, Iraq, a joint university scientific seminar on social media and social networks was held.

HOSPITALS EQUIPPED WITH 95% IRANIAN-MADE SYSTEMS

Some 95 percent of equipment that has been installed in hospitals across the country is Iranian-made.

Medical equipment is one of the most expensive products, whose import imposes a heavy financial burden on the country's economy.

For years, technologists have been trying to reduce



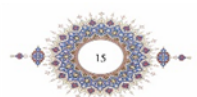
these costs, IRNA reported.

Now, these efforts have come to fruition, the result of which is equipping hospitals with systems that are 95 percent made inside the country.

Medical equipment is an important part of the country's healthcare and treatment sector so imports impose a high cost on the country's economy.

To overcome this problem, dependence on the import of medical equipment should be stopped and by increasing job creation in this field, we should reduce costs and increase productivity.

Currently, some 1,300 manufacturing and knowledge-based companies with around 30,000 experts and specialists are working in the field of medical equipment in the country.





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IRAN SUCCESSFULLY TESTS INDIGENIZED AIRCRAFT ENGINE

Iranian experts successfully tested an indigenized plane engine, made by a knowledge-based company.

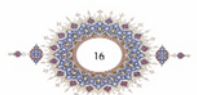
Simultaneously with the occasion of International Labor Day, Ebrahim Raisi visited MAPNA Company and its exhibition of technological achievements in the fields of thermal and renewable power plants, oil and gas, rail transportation, service and overhaul, aircraft engines, electrification, energy-intensive industries, health, and water.

On the sidelines of the visit, a homemade plane engine and an air engine control system reverse engineered by the specialists of MAPNA (Management of Iran's Power Plant Projects) Industrial Group, were successfully tested.

Raisi visited the advanced F-class gas turbine of all-Iranian power generation, with the advanced and high-tech parts made in MAPNA and the indigenized supply chain. He visited the MAP24 locomotive, designed and built also by MAPNA Group specialists.

The important parts of the locomotive, including the control system, bogies, brakes, chassis, and the body have been produced in MAPNA group factories, and efforts have been made to use the capacities of domestic companies in providing other required equipment. Calling for the use of the capacity of MAPNA's Locomotive Training Center, the president of Iran emphasized meeting the country's needs for locomotives with the priority of domestic productions.

MAPNA Industrial Group is an Iranian engineering company that encompasses a group of companies that are active in the construction of power plants, gas pipelines, drilling, and rail transportation.





SPORTS

IRANIAN BEST ATHLETES OF THE YEAR INTRODUCED



The closing of the festival of the best athletes of 1401 (2022-2023) was held on Wednesday night in the presence of the head of national media and the Minister of Sports. The top sports figures of 1401 were announced as follows

The best male athlete chosen by the people: Hadi Chopan

The best female athlete chosen by the people: Elham Hosseini, weightlifting

The best female athlete: Haniye Rostamian, shooting

The best female athlete as chosen by the people: Hashemiyeh Mottagian, para-weightlifting

The best sports scene of the year: Gol Rozbe Gashmi to Wales

The best national team chosen by the people: the national youth wrestling team

The best national team: women's national volleyball team

The best head coach: Ali Naderi from beach football

The best federation: Handball Federation and Deaf Federation Sports

Lifetime Award: Mansour Barzegar

Seyyed Hamid Sajjadi, the Minister of Sports and Youth, in this ceremony, said: It is the duty of our officials, members of the media, reference groups, and planners to introduce role models to the youth.

He added that if these role models are from the current generation and have grown up in the present social, cultural, political, and economic conditions, they are more effective, and young people can easily accept these models.

IRANIAN ROWERS BAG 33 MEDALS IN UZBEKISTAN

Iranian rowers achieved 33 colorful medals in the 2023 U-23 Asian championships held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. At the end of the competition underway from April 26 to 30, Iranian athletes won 15 gold, 13 silver, and 5 bronze medals. Iranian athletes were 7 paracanoe rowers and 11 rowers (6 women and 5 men) in kayak and canoe categories.



IRANIAN WRESTLERS WIN COLOURFUL MEDALS AT 2023 VICTORY C'SHIP

The Iranian junior wrestlers snatched 6 medals in the 2023 Victory Wrestling Championship that is underway in Antalya, Turkiye, on the first day.

The 2023 Victory Wrestling Championship competitions began on Thursday, in the first four weight categories in the coastal city of Antalya.

In the freestyle wrestling section, Sajjad Pirdayeh and Abolfazl Hosseini snatched gold medals respectively in the 60 kg and 71 kg weight categories, Ahoura Khateri won the silver medal in the 45 kg weight category, and Amir-Mohammad Navazi achieved the bronze medal in the 51 kg weight category.





FOREIGN MISSIONS IN IRAN

Chinese ambassador visiting different provinces, fascinated by the beauty of the nature, hospitality of people and the long history of Iran



Embassy of Romania held an event, exhibiting Romanian goldsmith to highlight their history, tradition and values



Ambassador of Japan visits Kerman province, reminds the Bam disaster



UN mission in Iran promotes Iranian Qanats as a cultural heritage, emphasizing on the importance of water for human civilization





DISCOVER IRAN IN PICTURES

IRANIAN GARDEN; TOURISM GEM IN THE HEART OF IRANIAN CAPITAL

In the midst of the hustle and bustle of Tehran and the air and noise pollution, the Iranian garden shines like a jewel in the heart of the Iranian capital.



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PERSIAN
GULF DAY

مرکز دیپلماسی عمومی وزارت امور خارجه

