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Police: Terrorist team arrested in Tehran suburb



ISNA

Iran's Police Chief Brigadier General Hossein Ashtari said that a terrorist team affiliated to the agents of the June 7 attacks in the capital have been identified and arrested in the suburb of Tehran on Saturday morning.

Ashtari appreciated good cooperation between people, the police and security forces to identify the terrorists, IRNA reported.

The Daesh terror group claimed responsibility for the attacks at Iran's Parliament and Imam Khomeini's Mausoleum that killed 17 people and wounded over 50 others. All the five assailants involved were subsequently killed by Iranian security forces.

Police also said on Saturday that they have found a car in Tehran which was used by the terrorists to carry out the attacks.

In a statement, Police Criminal Investigation Department said the terrorists first drove to the mausoleum in the south of Tehran where they dropped two assailants then the rest headed to the Parliament in the center of the capital.

Meanwhile, Ahmad Fazelian, the pro-

secutor general of Alborz Province, west of Tehran, said that eight of the logistical agents of the Wednesday Tehran attacks were detained in the province.

Fazelian added that seven of the terrorist logistic agents were arrested in Fardis and one in Kiammehr.

The official said that the detained terrorists are under interrogation.

On Thursday, the Intelligence Ministry announced that the assailants were Iranian nationals who had participated in the terrorist activities of Daesh in the Iraqi city of Mosul and the Syrian city of Raqqah.

Iranian intelligence and security forces have stepped up their activities following the attacks, identifying and arresting other suspects and foiling terrorist plots.

The Intelligence Ministry said in a statement on Friday that 41 elements of the Wahabi Daesh terrorist group had been identified and arrested before they could manage to conduct any act of terror. During the operation to arrest the terrorists, large amounts of weapons, bomb-making materials, explo-

sive belts, communication equipment, and forged documents had also been found, it added.

On Friday, Iranians held a massive funeral ceremony for the victims of the terrorist incidents.

Pope condemnation

The twin attacks drew international condemnations.

Pope Francis, the head of the Roman Catholic Church, slammed the bloodshed, offering condolences to those affected by the assaults.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, the Vatican's secretary of state, said in a telegram sent to Iran on Friday that the Pope was sending "heartfelt condolences to all those affected by the barbaric attack in Tehran" and lamented the "senseless and grave act of violence."

"The pope commends the souls of the deceased to the mercy of the Almighty" and "assures the people of Iran of his prayers for peace," the telegram read.

Aseman, Boeing finalize \$3b deal for 30 jets



IRNA

Economic Desk

Iran's Aseman Airlines finalized a deal to purchase 30 Boeing 737 MAX jets for \$3 billion, with an option to buy 30 more, the Iranian company said on Saturday.

"We have finalized the deal and now we are waiting for the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) permission within the next month," Aseman spokesman Amir-Reza Mostafavi told AFP.

He said Aseman would pay five percent of the contract in cash, with the remainder paid through a financing deal organized by Boeing.

"I'm glad that we can... upgrade the air fleet in an appropriate manner so they can take over regional markets," said Cooperatives, Labor and Social Welfare Minister Ali Rabei at the signing, according to ISNA.

Continued on Page 4

EU slams Israel's plans for new settler units

The European Union censured the Israeli regime for giving the green light to plans for the construction of thousands of more settler units across the occupied West Bank.

"Israel's continued policy of settlement expansion is illegal under international law," said Federica Mogherini, the EU's high representative for foreign affairs and security policy, in a statement on Friday, Press TV reported.



AP

Mogherini added that the decision to build more than 3,000 new settler units in the West Bank could "further complicate the prospects for a viable two-state solution" to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"The EU calls on both sides to engage in a meaningful process in view of reaching a negotiated two-state solution, and reiterates its readiness to support them, together with its international and regional partners," the statement said.

"This is the only way to fulfill the legitimate aspirations of both parties and to achieve just and lasting peace," it noted.

Last week, an Israeli panel served up plans for building a total of 3,178 units located in a number of settlements across the occupied West Bank.

The move is a blatant violation of the United Nations Security Council's Resolution 2334, which demands that Israel "immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem (Beit-ul-Moqaddas)."

The resolution, adopted last year, also states that the building of settlements by Israel has "no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law."

Since the inauguration of US President Donald Trump in January, the regime in Tel Aviv has stepped up its construction of settler units on occupied Palestinian land in a blatant violation of international law.

The latest developments come days after a visit by Trump to the occupied territories.

About 600,000 Israelis live in over 230 illegal settlements built since the 1967 Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and East Beit-ul-Moqaddas.

The Palestinian Authority wants the West Bank as part of a future independent Palestinian state, with Beit-ul-Moqaddas as its capital. The continued expansion of Israeli settlements is one of the major obstacles to the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

British PM's top aides quit after election disaster



AFP

British Prime Minister Theresa May's two closest aides announced their resignations Saturday after a crushing electoral setback that left her authority in tatters.

Senior members of the ruling Conservative party had reportedly made the departure of Nick Timothy and Fiona Hill a condition of allowing May to stay on after losing her parliamentary majority in Thursday's vote, AFP reported.

It will be another blow to the prime minister, who has been heavily reliant on their advice and support since her previous job at the Interior Ministry.

Timothy said he had resigned on Friday after the result was confirmed, and took responsibility for the Conservative manifesto, including a botched plan for elderly social care that caused a major backlash.

But he wrote on the ConservativeHome website: "The reason for the disappointing result was not the absence of support for Theresa May and the Conservatives but an unexpected surge in support for Labour."

A party spokesman confirmed Hill had also resigned.

Timothy and Hill have been accused of creating a "toxic" atmosphere in Downing Street.

May's former director of communications, Katie Perrior, had earlier recounted the "terrible" atmosphere at meetings attended by the pair, whom she said showed no respect for other staff or even ministers.

"I felt what the prime minister needs when you're going through a tough time like negotiating Brexit is diplomats, not street fighters," Perrior, who quit before the election, told BBC radio.

"They really only know one way to operate and that's to have enemies and I'm sure I'm one of those this morning."

Trump says Comey not telling truth, willing to respond under oath

US President Donald Trump on Friday denied he tried to interfere with an FBI investigation, effectively accusing James Comey, the FBI's former director, of lying under oath to Congress.

Comedy delivered scathing remarks about the president on Thursday at a congressional hearing and testified that Trump had asked him to drop a Federal Bureau of Investigation probe into former aide Michael Flynn and his alleged ties to Russia, Reuters wrote.

Trump said Comey's testimony also vindicated him from allegations that he colluded with Russian meddling in the 2016 US presidential election.

"James Comey confirmed a lot of what I said. And some of the things that he said just weren't true," Trump said at a news conference in the White House.

Asked by a reporter if he had told Comey to drop the investigation into former national security adviser Flynn, Trump said, "I didn't say that."

The reporter then asked, "So he lied about that?"

"Well, I didn't say that. I mean, I will tell you, I didn't say that," Trump replied.

"And there would be nothing wrong if I did say it according to everybody that I've read today, but I did not say that," he said.

In his testimony, Comey also said



AP

Trump asked him in January to pledge loyalty to the president, an unusual request that would put in doubt the independence of the FBI.

"I hardly know the man, I'm not going to say I want you to pledge allegiance. Who would do that?" Trump said.

Asked on Friday if he would be willing to go under oath to give his version of his interactions with Comey, Trump replied,

"100 percent."

He said he would be happy to speak to special counsel Robert Mueller, who is investigating allegations that Russia interfered with the election and colluded with Trump's campaign.

"I would be glad to tell him exactly what I just told you," Trump told a reporter.

Several congressional committees, as well as the FBI and Mueller, are looking into the Russia allegations. On Friday, the leaders of the House of Representatives intelligence committee's investigation said they had asked Comey for his notes and memos about his discussions with Trump, and asked the White House to produce any recordings or memos of conversations between Trump and Comey.

Trump declined to answer questions from reporters about whether recordings existed. "I'll tell you about that sometime in the very near future," he said.

Trump's offer to testify under oath would pit his word against Comey's before federal investigators.

If either Trump's testimony or memos written by Comey about his conversations with the president turn out to be untrue, either man could be charged with lying to federal investigators.

Iran's Health Minister Hassan Qazizadeh Hashemi said Congo Fever is fully under control and the rate of the infection is subdued. Thirty-one cases of Congo Fever have been so far confirmed in Iran. Three infected people died.

OPINION

Republican congressman praises Tehran terror attacks

Republican Congressman Dana Rohrabacher (CA-48), who represents more Iranian-Americans than any other lawmaker in the House of Representatives, suggested on Thursday, during a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on the Hezbollah, that the recent ISIS (Daesh) terror attacks in Tehran were a positive development. Rohrabacher's apparent praise for the attacks, which left 17 Iranians dead, came after President Donald Trump issued a statement condemning the attacks but also suggesting that "states that sponsor terrorism risk falling victim to the evil they promote."

However, Iran is a chief victim of terrorists who have been supported by the United States for several years and have their offices just a few steps away from the White House. Ironically, Mr. Rohrabacher is a staunch supporter of the same terrorist group, Mujaheddin Khalq Organizations (MKO) that used to be on the US State Department black list, but removed due to political considerations.

"We have recently seen an attack on Iran, and the Iranian government," noted Rohrabacher before suggesting that the attack could be a "ratcheting up" of US commitments against Iran. He then asked the panel, "Isn't it a good thing for us to have the United States finally backing up Sunnis who will attack Hezbollah and the Shiite threat to us, isn't that a good thing? And if so, maybe...this is a Trump strategy of actually supporting one group against another."

Panelist Matthew Levitt firmly responded to this outrageous question: "Those attacks were claimed by the Islamic State. It is never in our interest to support a terrorist group like the Islamic State. We should condemn the attacks on Iran as we would condemn any act of terrorism."

Rohrabacher has a long history of bizarre and offensive statements on Iran, but his callousness toward the Iranian victims of terror might be his most callous thus far. Furthermore, he appears to suggest, without any evidence, that the Tehran attacks could have been part of a Trump master plan to target Iran.

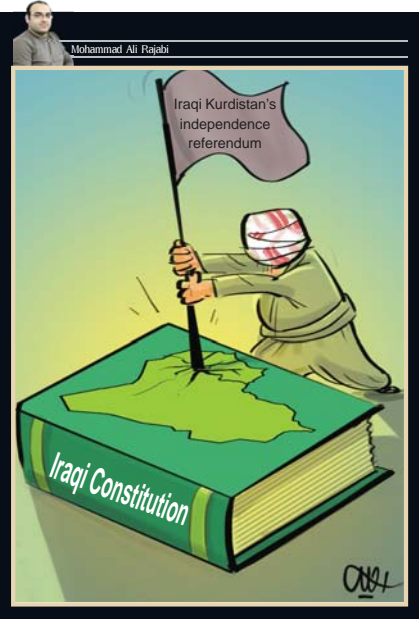
The congressman is a close ally of President Trump and was previously under consideration for secretary of state. He also represents a swing district that voted for Obama in 2008 and Clinton in 2016. According to the most recent census data, over 8,000 Iranian-Americans reside in Rohrabacher's district, making it one of the most populous districts for Iranian-Americans in the country. Rohrabacher's remarks are inhumane, irrational and illogical. His remarks are inhumane because any terror attack must be condemned regardless of who the victims are.

The fact that innocent people are targeted by savage terrorists, who kill people in cold blood, requires that all human beings who have not lost their humanity condemn such an act, be it in France, Britain, the US, the Philippines, or Iran.

His remarks are irrational because no wise man on the globe would encourage terrorism. Perhaps Mr. Rohrabacher is a beneficiary of such terrorist acts in one way or another, else he should have never praised terrorism, not only as a member of the US Congress, but even as an ordinary American citizen. No national American citizen would praise terrorism.

His remarks are illogical because he supports terrorism which is itself an illogical phenomenon. Terrorism is promoted by people who cannot make a logical statement of their demands. Failing this, they resort to an act of terror. Hence, anyone who supports terrorism is also illogical.

Mr. Rohrabacher's remarks are an affront to the millions of Americans who are against terrorism in all its forms and in all parts of the world.



Reaction to Iraqi Kurdistan referendum:

Tehran supports Iraq's territorial integrity

Political Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qassemli on Saturday reacted to a unilateral decision by Iraqi Kurdistan Region to hold an independence referendum, saying that Iran's principled and clear stance is support for Iraq's territorial integrity and unity. Qassemli described the referendum in September as being inconsistent with the Iraqi Constitution, saying such unilateral decisions would only aggravate the situation in the Arab country, IRNA reported.

The Iranian official underlined that the Kurdistan region is part of the Republic of Iraq.

"A united, stable and democratic Iraq would guarantee the interests of all people of that country from every sect and religion," Qassemli said.

He warned that the unilateral decisions which are out of step with Iraq's national and legal norms would only result in new problems in the Arab country, particularly in the current complicated situation in the region and given hostile attempts to drag out instability in Iraq. The comments came after officials in Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region announced that the northern territory will hold an independence referendum on September 25. Masoud Barzani, the president of the Iraqi Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), announced the vote on Twitter on Wednesday. The referendum on whether



to secede from Iraq is planned to be held in the three governorates that make up the Kurdish region and in the areas that are disputed by the Kurdish and Iraqi governments but are currently under Kurdish

military control. The disputed areas include the key oil-rich province of Kirkuk. Back in April, Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi warned against Iraq's disintegration, saying a potential separation

of the country's Kurds would harm them. "That is totally objectionable. We are serious about Iraq's territorial integrity," Abadi said.

Merkel: Persian Gulf nations, Iran, Turkey must work to ease Qatar crisis

Lavrov: Iran, Russia share same position on resolving Qatar dispute

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Friday she was concerned about the situation in Qatar, adding that all Persian Gulf nations, and also Iran and Turkey, should work together to resolve the regional dispute.

Merkel, who was speaking in Mexico City alongside Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto, said it would be impossible to sort out the "very unsettling" situation unless all regional actors were involved. She added that it was vital that the states of the [Persian] Gulf Cooperation Council worked together to end the crisis, Reuters reported.

"We have to see that the political solution of conflicts... such as the situation in Syria, such as the situation in Libya, or the situation in Iraq, won't happen if certain players are no longer even included in the conversation, and that includes Qatar, it includes Turkey, it includes Iran," she said.

Merkel said she wanted the balance of power to be maintained "sensibly" in the region, and that combating terrorism would be on the agenda when G20 leaders meet next month in Hamburg.

US President Donald Trump on Friday accused Qatar of being a "high-level" sponsor of terrorism, potentially hindering the US Department of State's efforts to ease heightening tensions and a blockade of the Persian Gulf nation by Arab states and others.

Arab states tightened their squeeze on Qatar by putting dozens of figures with links to the country on terrorism

blacklists, while its ally, Turkey, rushed to its side with plans to send troops.

The Pentagon said the blockade was hindering US ability to plan for long-term operations in the region. Al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar is home to more than 11,000 US and coalition forces and an important base for the fight against Daesh terrorist group. It is the US Air Force's largest base in the region.

solve the crisis.

"As a matter of policy we do not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries or their bilateral relations with each other. But it does not give us joy when relations between our partners deteriorate," Lavrov told Qatar's Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani at talks in Moscow.

The Arab world's biggest powers, including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and the United Arab Emirates, severed diplomatic relations with Qatar on Monday, accusing it of support for terrorist groups and being too close to Iran.

They have imposed an embargo on Qatar, cut diplomatic ties, expelled Qatari nationals and closed borders and airspace. The Qatar-owned broadcaster Al Jazeera has also been banned.

TASS News Agency also quoted the Russian foreign minister as saying that Iran and Russia shared the same position on resolving the dispute between Qatar and states led by Saudi Arabia through dialogue.

On Friday, Lavrov and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif met on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit in Kazakhstan's capital Astana to discuss the conflict in Syria and Qatar's crisis.

"We talked about process in the Syrian settlement and how this process and our common efforts can influence the history around Qatar," Lavrov said, according to TASS.



Also on Saturday, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov told Qatar of its concern over Arab nations cutting ties with the Persian Gulf state and called for talks to

Haniya due in Iran soon

A delegation from Palestinian resistance movement Hamas headed by its leader, Ismail Haniya, plans to pay an official visit to Iran in the near future, according to a Hamas official.

Osama Hamdan, the head of the Hamas International Relations Department, announced that Haniya heading a group of Hamas officials would make a trip to Iran soon as part of a tour to a number of regional countries, Tasnim News Agency reported.

The official also pointed to a recent visit to Egypt by the Hamas delegation and said the trip has been positive and will lead to a number of agreements, which would serve the interests of the two sides.



On May 6, Hamas, the Palestinian political movement that rules Gaza Strip, elected Haniya, 54, as the head of the group's political bureau, replacing Khaled Meshaal. It comes as the group is introducing changes to its organizational structure.

Minister:

Iran seeking development of clean energies

Iran's Minister of Industry, Mine and Trade said on Saturday that development of clean energies -- as a way to decrease air pollution -- is on agenda.

Iran is a country rich in clean energy resources, said Mohammadreza Nematzadeh on the sidelines of Astana Expo 2017, adding that the country with the ability to manufacture wind turbines with 2.5 MW inked an agreement with Kazakhstan to construct a wind power plant, IRNA reported.

"Iran is among the top 10 countries with the ability to design and build large dams," he said in the ceremony of opening Iran pavilion in the Expo. As to solar cells, Iran is implementing some projects to produce the cells with crystal pieces, according to the minister.

He also pointed out that combined cycle and gas turbines are used in the country, and the gas and water turbines, which are exported to other countries from Iran are totally manufactured inside the country.

Kazakhstan is located to the northeast part of the Caspian Sea. The Expo 2017 international specialized exhibition titled "Future Energy" started in Astana yesterday and will continue until September 10.

The death toll from Al-Shabab's terrorist attack on a military base in Somalia's semi-autonomous Puntland region rose to 59 from an earlier reported 38, a military officer said on Saturday.

Macron party readies for parliamentary assault

The year-old centrist party of French President Emmanuel Macron prepared Saturday for the first round of parliamentary elections looking set to grab the lead in the race for a clear majority.

Macron swept away far-right candidate Marine Le Pen to win the presidency on May 7, but has only achieved half the job, AFP reported.

Macron's République en Marche (Republic on the Move, REM) party, which he only founded in April 2016 as a platform for his presidential bid, now needs a commanding majority in the National Assembly for him to implement the reforms he promised on the campaign trail.

A host of opinion polls show Macron's party could take around 30 percent of the first-round vote today, which would put it in pole position to secure an absolute majority in the second round a week later.

That could equate to as many as 400 seats in the 577-seat chamber. REM has already had a boost after its candidates came first in 10 of the 11 French overseas constituencies that have already voted.

The legislative elections are, like the presidential contest, held over two rounds.

If no candidate wins over 50 percent in the first round, the two top-placed



go into the second round — as well as any candidate who won the votes of over 12.5 percent of the electorate.

French voters have traditionally rallied behind their new leader in the legislative elections that always follow the presidential ballot.

Macron's predecessors Francois

Hollande in 2012, Nicolas Sarkozy in 2007 and Jacques Chirac in 2002 all won outright majorities. Unlike Macron, however, they all came from long-established parties.

REM has broken the mold of French politics. Initially dismissed by Macron's opponents as a movement of

metropolitan bright young activists without any real roots, it will field 530 candidates today.

Macron has banned all the REM candidates from employing family members if they are elected and they must not perform consultancy work while lawmakers.

Brazil's Temer wins victory in bid to keep power — for now

Brazilian President Michel Temer defied predictions of his imminent political demise when a court acquitted him on charges of having won election thanks to dirty money.

And after Friday's vote in the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE) he promptly went on the offensive in his battle to survive additional corruption accusations, AFP reported.

The scandal-plagued president's acquittal in the TSE showed he still has plenty of political life.

The TSE judges voted 4-3 against stripping Temer of his mandate on the grounds that the 2014 presidential election was contaminated by undeclared campaign donations and bribes. That clears him to serve out the rest of his term to the end of 2018.

Dissenting judges painted a grim picture of the way Brazilian corporations seek to buy politicians in Latin America's biggest country.

But with the panel drawn at 3-3, the TSE's president Gilmar Mendes cast the deciding vote, urging cool heads at a time of national turmoil.

"You don't switch the president of the republic every hour," he said. "There are serious proven facts but not enough to annul the mandate."

That spared recession-ravaged Brazil being plunged into its second leadership crisis in 14 months, following the impeachment of leftist president Dilma Rousseff last year and her replacement by her then-vice president Temer.

It also backed up Temer's strategy of arguing that corruption accusations against him are a dangerous distraction when he is needed to put Brazil back on the economic rails. Eurasia Group consultants said Temer's chances of being toppled before the end of his term have now dropped from 60 to 30 percent.

Temer was clearly invigorated, greeting the TSE

victory as "a sign that the national institutions continue to guarantee the smooth functioning of Brazilian democracy," his spokesman said.

However, the decision dismayed those pushing for Brazil to face up to its massive corruption problems.

Opponents will now get another chance to bring down Temer.

Prosecutor General Rodrigo Janot alleges that Temer agreed to payments of hush money to former lower house of Congress speaker Eduardo Cunha, who is in prison for corruption.

But again, Temer is fighting back and the TSE verdict gave him new momentum.

On Friday he rejected a deadline given by Janot to answer 82 questions in a written deposition. Instead, his lawyers called for the investigation to be shut down, calling it a "comedy," an "inquisition" and "arrogant."

Finland's nationalist party elects populist hardliner

The populist Finns Party on Saturday elected a leader whose hardline views risk breaking up the coalition government.

Jussi Halla-aho, 46, a Eurosceptic convicted of hate speech, replaced foreign minister and moderate Timo Soini, long the party leader, AFP reported.

Halla-aho won 949 out of 1,845 votes among party members at its congress, having argued that the party had been tainted by mainstream politics.

"If we want the trust of the voters back, we have to do things differently and better than until now," he said in a televised speech at the congress in Finland's western city of Jyväskylä.

"We have to be more aggressive and clearer nowadays and put those issues on the table which differ us from all other parties," he added, referring to anti-immigration and multiculturalism.

His rival and Finland's EU Minister Sampo Terho won 629 votes.

Participating in the three-party coalition has come at a heavy price for the Finns Party. Its support has more than halved from 17.7 percent in the May 2015 general election to 8.4 percent in a February poll by Taloustutkimus.

A member of the European Parliament, Halla-aho has said he would push the two other coalition parties to toughen their immigration policies.

He wants to steer his party further to the right, which could mean pulling out of the coalition government, which the Finns joined in 2015.

The coalition government includes Prime Minister Juha Sipilä's Centre Party and the conservative National Coalition Party (NCP). Both are pro-EU and have cut spending to boost growth and reform labor.

Venezuela opposition rallies behind attorney against government

Venezuelan opposition lawmakers filed fresh court cases against planned crisis reforms, raising pressure on the government in a deadly political struggle after a similar challenge by a senior official.

The opposition on Friday filed a case with prosecutors alleging that the government, judges and electoral officials were conspiring "to violently change the Constitution," lawmaker Tomas Guanipa said, AFP reported.

The move came after Attorney General Luisa Ortega on Thursday mounted a separate challenge in the Supreme Court against President Nicolas Maduro's efforts to rewrite the Constitution, in a sign of division within the government camp.

Various opponents of Maduro also went to the court on Friday to try to add their names to the list of plaintiffs in that lawsuit, but found the tribunal closed and blocked by riot police vans.

Opposition lawmaker Delsa Solórzano told reporters that armed government supporters beat her group as it was leaving.

Clashes at daily protests by demonstrators calling for Maduro to quit over an economic crisis have left 66 people dead since April 1, prosecutors said.

Maduro has launched moves to reform the Constitution in response to the protests, but his opponents say that is a ploy to cling to power.

Maduro said the crisis is a US-backed conspiracy.

Maduro retains the public backing of the military. However, its commander Vladimir Padrino Lopez sounded a moderate note this week when he warned security forces against attacking protesters.

In the latest rallies on Friday, some 2,000 demonstrators led by student groups marched in Caracas to the National Telecommunications Commission building to protest what they call state censorship of the media and repression against journalists.

OPINION

Ball is in Trump's court

By Seyyed Hossein Mousavian*

Iran's Parliament and the shrine of its revolutionary father were the targets Wednesday of what appears to be the so-called Islamic State terrorist group's first major attack on Iranian soil. In an operation that seemed to require a level of coordination not often typical of ISIS (Daesh) attacks in the West, gunmen and suicide bombers penetrated deep inside Iranian territory and attacked two symbols of Iranian political identity, killing at least 13 people and wounding dozens.

The twin assault, the worst terrorist attack Tehran has seen in more than a decade, also came at a time of heightened regional tension, with Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir calling for Iran to be punished for what it deemed interference in regional affairs and various politicians weighing in on an escalating Qatar crisis. The shocking strike, coupled with the chaos, could mean an exacerbation of several bad situations if tensions aren't quelled.

While the overwhelming majority of the international community condemned the deadly incident, US President Donald Trump not only failed to issue a direct condemnation, but also suggested, in a statement released hours later, that Iran deserved it.

"We grieve and pray for the innocent victims of the terrorist attacks in Iran, and for the Iranian people, who are going through such challenging times," the two sentence press release began. It concluded: "We underscore that states that sponsor terrorism risk falling victim to the evil that they promote."

Trump's insensitive remarks evoke both dangerous ignorance and glaring hypocrisy on his part. During his presidential campaign, Trump directed his ire towards Saudi Arabia. He declared that he was "not a big fan" of the Saudis. And as a citizen, he proclaimed they were the "world's biggest funder of terrorism."

After the election, however, he sharply changed his tune, praising the US-Saudi "strategic partnership" and making Iran the focus of his anti-terrorism rhetoric. This move was underscored at a recent summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where Trump shifted US regional policy towards total alignment with Saudi Arabia, decisively breaking away from the previous US administration's policy of diplomatic engagement with Iran and attempts to ameliorate Saudi-Iranian tensions. Trump's change of heart on Saudi Arabia occurred amid a massive Saudi-linked lobbying campaign in Washington — which in part reportedly relied on hiring former Trump advisers and spending around \$270,000 at the Trump International Hotel — as well as a \$110 billion arms deal.

Interestingly, while the target of Trump's furor in Riyadh was Iran, as the Qatar crisis developed, Trump once again brazenly contradicted what he had said just weeks earlier. Even though Trump made no mention of Qatar in his Riyadh speech and even met with the Qatar emir while in Saudi Arabia, he tweeted the following about terrorism after Saudi Arabia and its allies cut ties with Qatar this week:

So good to see the Saudi Arabia visit with the King and 50 countries already paying off. They said they would take a hard line on funding extremism, and all reference was pointing to Qatar. Perhaps this will be the beginning of the end to the horror of terrorism!

The world simply cannot afford for Trump to continuously play with the word "terrorism" and regularly shift America's policies based on his personal whims and interests. The United States needs to take serious action in fighting terrorism. Further, Trump's relentless quest to implement his Muslim ban, which includes Iran and other Muslim-majority countries, and his attacks on London Mayor Sadiq Khan following violent acts in the United Kingdom, only serve to alienate Muslims and in turn fuel the fear terrorists thrive on.

The reality is that the Tehran attacks highlight the common threat faced by nations across the world from groups such as ISIS. Whether in San Bernardino, London, Paris, Baghdad, Kabul or the heart of Iran, innocent people everywhere are in the same boat in the face of this barbarity. Iran, seemingly unbeknownst to Trump, has since its 1979 revolution been a chief victim of terrorism. In the decade after the revolution — was wracked by former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein's invasion of Iran and attacks by groups such as the notorious Mujahideen-e Khalq, or MEK, which has been responsible for the killing of thousands of Iranian civilians, as well as senior officials and public figures, and was once labeled a terror group by America.

This week, Tehran has become the unlikely victim of Daesh terror. But for the last few years, it has been leading from the ground the fight against Daesh in Syria and Iraq. The same cannot be said of Saudi Arabia.

After his recent reelection, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani noted how Saudi Arabia provided Saddam Hussein with some \$97 billion during the Iran-Iraq War. Saudi Prince Turki al-Faisal, a former head of Saudi intelligence, has admitted to meeting a few times with Sept. 11 attack mastermind Osama bin Laden in the 1980s and delivered the keynote address at an MEK gathering during which he praised the group and emphatically supported its objective of toppling the Iranian government. Prominent US analysts have also commented on the Saudi government connection to Wahhabi terrorism groups such as ISIS, as have numerous US officials and media figures. "Almost every terrorist attack in the West has had some connection to Saudi Arabia. Virtually none has been linked to Iran," Faraed Zakaria, host of CNN's "Faraed Zakaria GPS," wrote in a recent Washington Post column.

The attacks in Tehran will unify the Iranian people and make them more resilient in the face of terror.

Even though the attacks in Tehran came after a tough Iranian presidential campaign, they will serve to unify the Iranian people and make them more resilient in the face of terror. In fact, Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has already stated they "will never allow the blood of innocents to be spilt without revenge" and asserted the US and Saudi Arabia were "involved" in the attack.

But Iran and Saudi Arabia must be careful not to fall into the trap of all-out confrontation. Iran has long been ready for dialogue with Saudi Arabia, with both President Rouhani and Foreign Minister Javad Zarif making numerous overtures since 2013. It would be best if that route were taken before sectarian conflict rises to a new level, wars in Yemen and Syria get worse and ISIS decides to strike again to make up for its blows in Syria and Iraq. But Iran needs support.

Terrorism knows no borders. Collective cooperation is necessary to eradicate it, and this must begin with the West viewing Iran as a partner in the fight, not an enemy. The West must seriously confront the material and ideological sources that enable terrorist groups like ISIS to emerge. This will require the Trump administration to refrain from encouraging Saudi Arabia's zero-sum mentality towards Iran and giving Saudi leaders carte blanche to further stoke instability in the region. Instead, the president must have tough conversations with Saudi officials and other allies about Riyadh's role in the facilitation of terrorism.

Donald Trump now has the option to help de-escalate tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran before they spiral out of control. But to accomplish this, he will need to balance America's relations with regional powers, namely by establishing channels of dialogue with Iran, and incentivize them to move towards cooperation. And he'll need to pressure Saudi Arabia to diplomatically engage Iran.

The ball is in his court.

Seyyed Hossein Mousavian is former head of the Foreign Relations Committee of Iran's Supreme National Security Council.



REUTERS

FINNISH politician and a member of the European Parliament Jussi Halla-aho walks to deliver a speech after being elected a new chairman of the Finns Party at the congress in Jyväskylä, Finland, on June 10, 2017.



CNN

SPECIAL NEWS

Domestic Economy Desk

Iran's power generation capacity nears 77,000 MW

Iran's nominal capacity to produce electricity has reached about 77,000 megawatts (MW) following the linkage of a number of power plants to the national grid.

The country's capacity to generate electricity has increased by 385 MW since March 21, Tasnim News Agency reported.

With several thermal units of power plants that can produce 110 MW of electricity becoming operational over the past two weeks, the country's overall nominal capacity has reached 76,947 MW.



IRNA

In November 2015, Iran's Energy Minister Hamid Chitchan unveiled plans to increase in the country's electricity generation capacity and exports to neighboring countries.

Iran is now exporting around 12 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity to its neighbors each year, while imports stand at an annual level of 4 billion kWh, the minister said at the time.

Iran's electricity industry ranks 14th in the world and first in the Middle East in terms of power generation.

Malaysia opens trade office in Iran

Malaysian Minister of International Trade and Industry Mustapa Mohamed announced that his country has opened a trade bureau in Tehran.

"The trade bureau will deal with palm oil exports to Iran," Mohamed said, according to Fars News Agency.

The Malaysian minister said that agreements had been reached to set up six working groups between the two countries, adding, "Trade and industry, banking and finance, energy and environment, ICT, transportation, tourism and health working groups will be formed to finalize the document of the Joint Commission."

Mohamed's remarks came following his recent meeting with Iranian Communications and Information Technology Minister Mahmoud Vaezi in Tehran.

In relevant remarks in early February, Malaysian Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Nancy Shukri voiced her country's willingness to expand relations with Iran in all areas.

"The two countries enjoy vast potential for expanding mutual cooperation," Shukri said.

She reiterated that the exchange of delegations between Malaysia and Iran is an indication of the two countries' commitment to strengthen ties.

Shukri pointed to the recent exchange of visits by the Malaysian and Iranian officials, and said, "Such visits are considered a positive step for the further development of bilateral relations."

She said that Kuala Lumpur and Tehran have always had amicable relations and trade relations between the two countries should be improved.

Aseman, Boeing finalize \$3b deal for 30 jets

From Page 1

Boeing is also building 80 planes for national carrier Iran Air. Iran has been desperate to renew its aging fleet of planes, but was largely blocked from dealing with major aircraft manufacturers until the 2015 nuclear accord.

In December 2016, Iran Air finalized a deal with Boeing to buy and lease 80 jets including 50 narrow-body 737max 8s, 15 wide-body 777-300ERs and 15 777-9s, which are scheduled to be delivered to Iran Air over 10 years. Iran Air has additionally struck a massive deal with Boeing's rival Airbus to buy 100 jets.

OFAC has approved the sale of the 80 Boeing as well as 100 Airbus planes to Iran Air. The first consignment of Airbus jets have already been delivered.

Aseman is also in talks with Airbus to add two A340s and seven A321s to its fleet.

Aseman has three A320-200s, one A340-300, four ATR72-200s, two ATR72-500s, three B727-200s, one B727-200(F), two B737-400s and 19 Fokker 100s.

Owned by Iran's Civil Service Pension Funds but managed as a private company, Aseman is Iran's third-largest airline in terms of operational fleet size.

Boeing has described the deal as a "memorandum of agreement", meaning it is only outline for the time being and subject to government approvals.

Boeing deliveries to Aseman would start in 2022 and the US planemaker must first apply for licenses from the US Treasury allowing it to proceed with the sale.

"Boeing continues to follow the lead of the US government with regards to working with Iran's airlines and any and all contracts with Iran's airlines are contingent upon US government approval," it said in a statement in April.



REUTERS

Zanganeh: India eyeing investment in Farzad B gas field

Iran's Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh underlined that Tehran and New Delhi are negotiating greater cooperation in developing Farzad B gas field.

According to Tasnim News Agency, Zanganeh said, "Talks with Indian developers are still underway for development of Farzad B gas field."

He reiterated that the Oil Ministry is holding talks with India's ONGC Videsh Ltd. On the development of Farzad B gas field.

"To prevent loss of time, we are holding parallel talks with Russia's Gazprom company over the project," the minister said, adding Iran has also begun studies on the field and may consider an alternative method for its development.

Farzad B was discovered by ONGC Videsh Ltd. in the Farsi block about 10 years ago.

Iran has signed a flurry of deals with Western companies over the past year since the easing of international sanctions on Tehran after an accord was reached over its nuclear program.

Iran needs foreign investment to repair and upgrade its oil and gas fields. It also seeks the transfer of technology to its oil industry after a decade of sanctions.

In November 2016, France's Total became the first oil major to sign a big deal with Tehran since the lifting of sanctions and agreed to help it develop the world's largest gas field, South Pars.

Shell signed a provisional deal in December to develop Iranian oil and gas fields South Azadegan, Yadavaran and Kish in December 2016.

Iran has named 29 companies from more than a dozen countries as being eligible to bid for oil and gas projects using the new, less restrictive contract model.

The firms include Shell, France's Total, Italy's Eni, Malaysia's Petronas and Russia's Gazprom and Lukoil, as well as companies from China, Austria, Japan and other countries.

Russia's Zarubezhneft signed an MoU to conduct feasibility studies on two joint fields in the west of the country.

Norway's International Aker Solutions Company

signed an MoU to modernize Iran's oil industry.

In May 2016, Austria's OMV signed an MoU for projects in the Zagros area in western Iran and the Farsi field in the south.

South Korean Daewoo Engineering and Construction (Daewoo E&C) signed an MoU to construct an oil refinery in Bandar Jask, on the southern coast of Iran.

Italy's Saipem signed MoUs to cooperate on pipeline projects, upgrading of refineries and development of Tuz gas field in the northeastern province of Khorasan Razavi.

Norwegian oil and gas company DNO said it was the second Western energy company after Total to sign a deal with Iran under which it agreed to study the development of the Changuleh oilfield in western Iran.

Germany's Siemens AG signed an MoU in May to overhaul equipment and facilities at Iran's oil operations and refineries.

BASF's Wintershall oil and gas exploration subsidiary signed an MoU with the National Iranian Oil Company in April 2016.

Cement producers urged to boost exports to Russia

Domestic Economy Desk

Iran can benefit from the spike in the demand for cement in Russia and boost exports to its northern neighbor, said a member of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture.

"Russia's cement consumption is expected to reach 140 million tons. Iranian producers can have a good share [of such an opportunity] and draw up plans for exports," Amir-Hossein Kaveh told IRNA.

Russia is building the infrastructure for FIFA 2018 World Cup which has raised demand for cement in the country.

Iran's cement output stood at 57 million tons in the year to March 20, 2017 ranking seventh in the world.

Official figures indicate that Iran exported 11.5 million tons of cement during the 11 months to February 18. Iranian cement exports are estimated to grow to 32 million tons by 2025.

The Islamic Republic plans to raise its annual cement production to 120 million tons in eight years as per the strategic planning document incorporating the country's 20-Year Vision Plan (2005-25).

According to the Ministry of Industry, Mine and Trade, the targets set in the Vision Plan will make Iran the third largest cement producer in the world by the deadline.

The strategic document also sees Iran as the number one exporter of cement globally and the biggest producer in the region by 2025.

India says Chabahar plan on track despite odds

India said its development of the southeastern Iranian port of Chabahar as part of its ambitious bid to access Central Asia and Afghanistan is on track despite problems in procuring equipment from Western manufacturers.

The Indian government has committed \$500 million to Chabahar, which lies on the Gulf of Oman, with the aim of joining an increasingly important transport corridor to the resource-rich regional countries, Press TV reported.

Massive investment plans are already on the cards, with the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi offering to build a sprawling artery of roads and railways which is estimated to cost \$15 billion.

When development is complete, Chabahar will link with the International North-South Transportation Corridor (INSTC) which is currently stretches from the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas in the Persian Gulf to Russia, Eurasia and Europe.

Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj asserted on Monday that work on the project has gathered momentum despite misgivings about delay in New Delhi's role.

"Iran for centuries has been the hub for connectivity links for countries of Asia and Europe, including India. Connectivity is one of the key strengths of Iran and President (Hassan) Rouhani is keen to boost all connectivity initiatives through the country," she was quoted as saying.

Her reassuring words come in the midst of disparaging reports, claiming that India's biggest overseas infrastructure push was being derailed in the face of trade complexities with Iran.

On Friday, Reuters said Western manufacturer were shying away from supplying equipment for Chabahar because they were fearful of possible US sanctions.

The news agency cited Swiss and Finnish engineering groups as having told Indian developers that they were unable

to supply equipment such as cranes and forklifts because their banks were not ready to facilitate transactions involving Iran.

One Indian official, however, said China's ZPMC has come forward to supply the equipment for developing jetties and container terminals.

India's ambassador in Tehran, meanwhile, brushed off the report, saying the process of equipment for the Chabahar port was underway.

Saurabh Kumar said some of the customized cranes needed in Chabahar take up to 20 months to build, adding the banking situation was also improving.

The ambassador also dismissed allegations that some tenders for supply of equipment had been floated three times because they failed to attract bidders.

"Tenders are re-floated for a variety of reasons including technical specifications

not being met, etc. Banking channels, in recent months, have in fact somewhat eased," he said.

"If some companies do not participate, it really is their business," Kumar added.

Chabahar has strategic significance for India but some of the complications in trade with Iran are related to uncertainty over US policy, especially under President Donald Trump who has denounced a nuclear accord with Tehran as "the worst deal ever negotiated".

While the US administration extended relief on some of US sanctions last month, it pledged to carry out an overall review of how to deal with the Islamic Republic.

Nevertheless, a top Iranian government official said the Chabahar project is a priority sector for Iran and India's role is vital in the connectivity initiatives.

"Chabahar will not only be a gateway to Afghanistan but the plan is also to make it a gateway to Central Asia," India's Economic Times quoted the official as saying.



IRNA

The UK's industrial output rose by much less than expected in April, according to official data. Output rose by just 0.2 percent in the month, much lower than the 0.8 percent increase forecast by economists.

China condemns EU for new steel anti-dumping duties

China has condemned the European Commission for imposing new anti-dumping duties on its steel products, accusing the EU's executive of making China an industrial scapegoat.

The 28-nation bloc said that it would levy duties of up to 35.9 percent on Chinese hot-rolled flat steel in an attempt to create a level playing field with China as it broadens its campaign to protect Europe's struggling steel manufacturers, AFP wrote.

The EU alleged China, which makes more than half the world's steel, has flooded global markets in violation of international trade agreements.

According to the EC, Chinese producers benefit from preferential lending, tax rebates and other financial help that allow exports to the EU at artificially-low prices.

But China said the bloc's action stemmed from a misunderstanding of China's financial loan system and trade trends.

"The European Commission ignores the fact that China's steel exports to Europe clearly declined in 2016, using China's steel overcapacity as an excuse to claim that China's hot-rolled flat steel products threaten to damage industry in the EU when that is mere speculation with little bearing on reality," Chinese commerce ministry official Wang Hejun said in a statement.

"China strongly questions the legitimacy and legality of the European Commission's ruling."

The EU has had a series of trade disputes with China, its second-largest trading partner, but is also seeking to resolve the stand-off over steel with Beijing through the OECD, the Paris-based group of developed economies.



ying.com

In January, the Commission imposed anti-dumping duties on China's stainless steel tube and pipe butt-welding fittings.

Like hot-rolled flat steel, the products are commonly used in shipbuilding as well as energy and construction.

Wang noted that China has not only refrained from

subsidizing steel exports, but also adopted several measures to control them.

"It is biased and unfair for Europe to blame China for its own industrial issues," he said.

"Unjustified accusations and reckless trade rescue measures will not help to solve the problem."

South Africa escapes junk at Moody's as rating cut one step

South Africa escaped wall-to-wall junk sovereign assessments from the three biggest ratings companies after Moody's Investors Service downgraded the nation by one level to the lowest investment grade, citing the effect of politics on institutions and economic growth.

Moody's cut the nation's foreign and local-currency ratings to Baa3, and kept the outlook at negative, meaning the next move could be to speculative grade. The company cited weakening institutions, reduced growth prospects and the resultant risks to the country's finances as reasons for the change in a statement on Friday, Bloomberg wrote.

"The risks to growth and fiscal strength arising from the political outlook are tilted to the downside," Moody's said.

"It is unlikely that a political consensus will emerge, which supports investment in the economy and reinvigorates the reform effort sufficiently quickly to reverse the expected negative impact on growth and on the government's balance sheet."

S&P Global Ratings and Fitch Ratings Ltd. cut their foreign-currency assessments of South Africa to junk in April



bcci.co.uk

after President Jacob Zuma changed his cabinet and fired Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan.

The decision sent the rand and bonds plunging, and sparked street demonstrations pushing for Zuma's ouster and opposition parties to call for a no-confidence vote in parliament.

Several top leaders in the ruling African National Congress have said the party risks losing power in 2019 elections if he's allowed to complete his second

five-year term.

It will hold a policy conference at the end of this month and will elect a new leader in December, when Zuma's second five-term as ANC president ends.

"Moody's views the underlying political dynamics which led to the March cabinet reshuffle as posing a threat to near and medium-term real gross domestic product growth," the company said.

"The institutional framework has become less transparent, effective and

predictable, and policymakers' commitment to previously articulated reform objectives is less certain."

South Africa's economy unexpectedly fell into a recession for the first time since 2009 in the three months through March as all but two industries shrank, the statistics office said June 6.

"The outcomes of the conferences of the ANC in June and December 2017 are not expected to translate to policy changes," the National Treasury said in an emailed statement. Policy transparency and continuity are top priorities for the government and the ruling party, it said.

Moody's is the only major credit-rating company to assess both South Africa's foreign-currency and rand-denominated debt at investment grade. S&P cut the nation's foreign-currency debt to junk on April 3 and left the local rating one step above.

Fitch reduced both assessments to junk four days later, triggering a selloff by some investors tracking investment-grade debt indexes. JPMorgan Chase and Co. said in April it would remove the nation's dollar-denominated debt from gauges tracked by \$59 billion of funds.

French industrial production unexpectedly drops

France's industrial sector unexpectedly contracted in April, after a particularly severe drop in manufacturing output, highlighting the challenges still facing the new president, Emmanuel Macron despite the recent economic pickup across the eurozone.

Total industrial output fell 0.5 percent over the month, in contrast to forecasts of a 0.2-percent rise. The surprise contraction brought the year on year growth figure down to 0.6 percent, from 2.5 percent the previous month, according to FT.

The slip was driven by a 1.2-percent decline in the manufacturing sector, much worse than the 0.5-percent



euronews.com

decline economists had predicted. France goes to the polls for the second time in two months in legislative elections. Polls suggest Macron's new party is on track to win a landslide victory.

German trade surplus shrinks as imports leap

Germany bought and sold record amounts of goods in April, in a further sign of increasingly robust consumer demand in the eurozone's largest economy.

The country had already recorded record levels of both imports and exports in March, and the latest data showed further expansion in April, FT reported.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, exports increased by 0.9 percent compared to the previous month, well ahead of the 0.3 percent rise economists had predicted.

However, the country's bumper trade surplus shrank from €25.3 billion to



reutersmedia.net

€8.1 billion (or €19.8 billion on a seasonally-adjusted basis), thanks to a significant increase in imports.

Germans bought 1.2 percent more foreign goods than in March, in contrast to expectations of a decline.

Main Indices of TSE

Index	Value	Change	Percent
Total Index	79885.5	0	0
Industry Index	68664.5	(18.3)	(0.03)
Free Float Index	86801.4	86.3	0.1
First Market Index	55117.9	(34)	(0.06)
Second Market Index	178876.9	192.8	0.11

Overall Index details on 20170610

First	79758.5	Change end of year(%)	918.32%
High	79898.4	Historical highest	89500.6 (20140105)
Low	79811.3	Historical lowest	100 (1369/1/6)
Close	79885.5	Base Value	100 (1369/1/6)
Change	0		

Industry Index details on 20170610

First	68546.8	Change end of year(%)	1027.74%
Max Value	68678.5	Historical highest	75181.9 (20140105)
Max Value	69610.5	Historical lowest	1226.8 (1377/8/25)
Closing	68664.5	Base Value	
Closing	(18.3)		

Free Float Index details on 20170610

First	87373.3	Change end of year(%)	
Max Value	88753.6	Historical highest	105040 (20140105)
Max Value	88687.9	Historical lowest	
Closing	86801.4	Base Value	
Closing	86.3		

Main Board Index details on 20170610

First	55068.0	Change end of year(%)	777.1%
Max Value	55131.2	Historical highest	67441.4 (20140105)
Max Value	55990.5	Historical lowest	
Closing	55117.9	Base Value	4740.4 (1381/6/2)
Closing	(34)		

Secondary Index details on 20170610

First	178381.1	Change end of year(%)	1345.03%
Max Value	178897.3	Historical highest	181353 (20170522)
Max Value	181452.5	Historical lowest	
Closing	178876.9	Base Value	4740.4 (1381/6/2)
Closing	192.8		

Major Currencies

Currency	To USD	Currency	To USD
Turkish Lira	0.2826	Chinese Yuan	0.1471
Euro	1.1194	UAE Dirham	0.2721
British Pound	1.2743	Kuwaiti Dinar	3.2919
Australian Dollar	0.7539	Iraqi Dinar	0.0008
Japanese 100 Yen	0.0090	Saudi Riyal	0.2665

Major Commodities

Crude Oil	\$45.90	Silver	\$17.18
Gold	\$1268.80	Platinum	\$940.10
Copper	\$2.62	Wheat	\$446.00

South Korean gov't worries about weak private consumption

The South Korean government expressed worry about weak private consumption despite signs of recovery.

The Ministry of Strategy and Finance said in its monthly economic assessment report that the continued signs of economic recovery came out of the export growth and improved sentiment. Xinhua reported.

The report worried about the faltering consumption given that labor market conditions were still lackluster with a high unemployment rate, especially among

youths, and that household income was sagging.

It also cited the expected interest rate hike in the United States as one of negative external factors.

Exports, which account for about half of the economy, jumped 13.4 percent in May from a year earlier, keeping a growth momentum for the seventh consecutive month.

Production in the mining and manufacturing industries reduced 2.2 percent in April, but the services

industry saw an increase in production for six months through April.

Retail sales gained 0.7 percent in April from the previous month, but auto sales in the domestic market tumbled nine percent in May. Revenue in department stores slumped 2.8 percent last month.

The overall jobless rate was 4.2 percent in April, while the unemployment rate among those aged 15-29 surged to 11.2 percent in the same month.

More plastic than fish or how politicians help ocean destruction

World's oceans are dangerously exposed to at least three major threats: Climate change; the sharp degradation of marine biodiversity, and politicians. These simply encourage the destruction of oceans by subsidizing over-fishing and turning a blind eye on illegal captures. See what happens.

While it is feared that at current trends there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean by 2050 — with over five trillion pieces of plastic weighing more than 260,000 tons currently floating in world's oceans — harmful fishing subsidies that contribute to overfishing are estimated to be as high as \$35 billion, according to United Nations, Ipsnews reported.

"If you consider that the total export of fish and seafood products is \$146 billion, we are talking about that of each \$5 in fish products, \$1 is subsidized," David Vivas of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) warned ahead of the United Nations Ocean Conference which was held on June 5-9.

So it's not a small amount. People are paying very

expensively for a fish, continued Vivas, adding that people pay it by the dish and with their taxes.

This financial motivation creates 'a race to the bottom' as fleets compete against each other to harvest increasing amounts of fish — at a time when seafood is already a scarce resource, said the ex-



ipnews.net

pert, while explaining that subsidies "create incentives to deplete resources faster than if there weren't the subsidies".

The facts are just shocking: The international community is harvesting fish at unsustainable biological levels, according to UNCTAD.

"The Mediterranean Sea is

about 70 percent exploited; the Black Sea 90 percent."

Roughly 56 percent of all fish products come from wild harvest, with the remaining amount farmed, according to figures cited by the UN.

"The demand remains quite strong, mainly from the head Asian region. Hence countries are not only going to

fish and access to markets. "Not all countries participate equally," Assuncao said of the nearly \$150 billion market for fish and marine products. "[The oceans are] a global common good that is not benefiting all countries that have coasts in equitable ways."

Here, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) informs that annually, the worth of fish caught by illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing methods is estimated at \$10 billion-\$23 billion.

This, as well as the governments subsidies that encourage over-fishing while not making enough efforts to prevent illegal fishing, explain the fact that currently fishing vessels around the world have reached 4.6 million.

Oceans offer both challenges and solutions to the world's Sustainable Development Agenda, and managing them more carefully is essential for global food security today and tomorrow as well as the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people, FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva said at the Oceans Conference.

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Importance of handicrafts underscored

Cultural Heritage Desk

June 10 is observed as World Handicrafts Day. Handicrafts embody the spirit of nations and various generations of a land. They can introduce the culture of a country.

Fath'ali Qashqaeifar, a faculty member of the Faculty of Architecture and Arts at Kashan University, said handicrafts boost the market and economy.

He further said handicrafts are purchased as souvenirs and decorative items in domestic and foreign markets.

Once economic conditions of the people improve, handicrafts will be taken more into consideration, he added.

Qashqaeifar said lots of handicrafts are imported from India and Pakistan at cheaper rates. They have an impact on the domestic handicrafts market since the people usually take the price into consideration, he cautioned.

He continued that creativity in traditional arts is



seerain.ir

of great importance for their durability.

One of the features of Iranian handicrafts is their high diversity which can be considered as an advantage for marketing them globally, he said.

When tourism industry is promoted across the country, traditional arts and handicrafts will thrive, he said. In addition many tourists will visit the country and purchase handicrafts, he added.

The government should support graduates of handicraft fields by granting low-interest loans, he concluded.

Also, deputy head of

Chaharmahal-Bakhtiari Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Department said Chaharmahal-Bakhtiari Province has received five authenticity seals of UNESCO and 37 national seals of excellence for handicrafts.

Mehrdad Raesse cited handicrafts production in deprived rural regions as the department's most important program in the year to mid-March 2018.

He put the province's handicrafts exports at \$250,000 in the year to mid-March 2017 and predicted that the figure will rise to \$400,000 during the year to mid-March

2018. Woodworks, pottery, ceramics, traditional glassware, copper-made crafts, precious stones, kilim (flat tapestry carpet), carpet, miniature and tazhib (a kind of Persian painting used to decorate calligraphy) are Iran's main export items in the handicrafts sector.

Iraq, Georgia, Turkey, the Netherlands, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Romania, Ukraine, Russia, Tajikistan, Italy, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, Japan, Qatar and Denmark are the main importers of Iranian crafts.

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و مدیران شرکت‌های بین‌المللی
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If expectant mothers are taking an antidepressant, it won't make their newborn cranky or at higher risk for other problems, researchers reported.



Neuroimaging technique may predict autism in high-risk infants

UPI

into studies of infant adaptations of current toddler-age interventions."

The new study included 59 infants considered at high risk of autism because they had a sibling with autism.

Emerson said, "In this high-risk group, there's a 20 percent conversion rate to autism."

The babies underwent fMRI when they were six months old. They were sleeping during the test.

The fMRI viewed neural activity across 230 different regions in the brain.

The researchers looked for areas with coordinated activity, and focused on those connections known to be tied to features of autism — language skills, repetitive behaviors and social behavior.

The researchers then developed a computer program to help them sort through this information and identify which babies were likely to develop autism, and which would probably not.

Eleven of the 59 babies developed autism. The test and program were able to predict 82 percent of those cases.

All of the children who didn't develop autism were correctly identified as unlikely to get the disorder in the toddler years, the researchers said.

Thomas Frazier is the chief science officer of Autism Speaks. He wasn't involved with the study, but reviewed the findings.

"Autism has been thought to be a disorder of connections in the brain, and the fact that the function connectivity MRI is a good predictor of autism helps confirm those suspicions."

"Another interesting thing is that it shows how early in life we can see differences in autism. It's remarkable that they could capture brain changes related to autism at six months."

Like the researchers, Frazier said this study needs to be replicated. And he expanded, "Can it be replicated in a way to wonder its use beyond high-risk siblings?"

The findings were published in the journal *Science Translational Medicine*.

Researchers said a special type of MRI may someday help doctors predict which high-risk babies might develop autism in their toddler years.

Known as functional connectivity MRI, or fMRI, the scan gives a peek at how different regions of the brain work together. As it turns out, certain areas that are connected also seem linked to autism risk, UPI reported.

The fMRI allowed the researchers to accurately predict nine out of 11 high-risk babies who later showed behavioral signs of autism.

Study author Robert Emerson, a postdoctoral fellow at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said, "We used functional brain imaging information at six months and clinical information from 24 months to figure out if we could identify which

high-risk infants would go on to develop autism."

The hope is that such a prediction tool could one day be used to identify babies in need of early intervention.

Co-senior study author Dr. John Pruett Jr., an associate professor of psychiatry, radiology and psychological and brain sciences at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, said, "What we found is exciting, but our findings have to be replicated."

Autism spectrum disorders affect about one in 68 children in the US, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Currently, children can't be diagnosed until they're around two years old. At that time, behavioral symptoms of the disorder — such as difficulty behaving, communicating and interacting

with others, repetitive behaviors and obsessions — begin to show.

The earlier a child gets behavioral intervention services, the better the outcome generally, according to the CDC.

And a recent study even found that when an intervention was started in babies before symptoms first appeared, those babies had better attention, language, communication and social skills at age three.

The study was presented recently at the International Meeting for Autism Research, in San Francisco.

Pruett said, "There's very little behaviorally that tells us about autism in the first year of life."

"It would be very important if we could identify brain-based features early in life. We could identify infants at an even higher risk and get them

A simple blood test could detect brain cancer up to five years before current diagnosis, groundbreaking research has revealed.

And the results might apply to other cancers, leading to an early diagnostic test, according to express.co.uk.

Brain cancer patients are on average diagnosed three months after symptoms such as headaches, memory loss and blurred vision begin to show.

By the time patients are diagnosed tumors have already advanced but a test of the proteins in the blood could reveal the early stages of tumor development.

In brain cancer patients the proteins, which relay information from one immune cell to another, are weaker, a study by Ohio State University has shown.

Dr. Judith Schwartzbaum, associate professor of epidemiology, said, "It's important to identify the early stages of tumor development if we hope to intervene more effectively.

Simple blood test could detect brain cancer five years before diagnosis



express.co.uk

"If you understand those early steps, maybe you can design treatments to block further tumor growth."

"It's possible this could also happen with other tumors — that this is a general sign of tumor development."

In the study Schwartzbaum and her team examined blood samples from 974 Norwegians, 50 percent of whom were diagnosed with brain cancer in the years after their blood test.

Her team focused on

gliomas which make up around 80 percent of brain cancer diagnoses and used past research by Schwartzbaum which showed that allergies could offer protection against brain cancer.

They examined the role of cytokines, proteins that communicate with one another and with immune cells to spark immune responses.

Scientists evaluated 277 cytokines in the blood samples and found less cytokine interaction in the blood of people who

developed cancer.

The cytokine protein, despite being weakened in the blood of cancer patients, was found to play an important role in glioma development. The average survival time for the most common type of glioma is 14 months.

Schwartzbaum added, "There was a clear weakening of those interactions in the group who developed brain cancer and it's possible this plays a role in tumor growth and development."

"Cytokine activity in cancer

is especially important to understand because it can play a good-guy role in terms of fighting tumor development, but it also can play a villain and support a tumor by suppressing the immune system."

The discovery offered important insights into diagnosing brain cancer but the study results must continue to be scrutinized and further evaluated.

She said, "The results of this study must be confirmed and further evaluated before it could translate to changes in the earlier diagnosis of brain cancer, but the discovery offers important insights."

"While widespread blood testing of people without symptoms of this rare tumor would be impractical, this research could pave the way for techniques to identify brain cancer earlier and allow for more-effective treatment."

The study was published in the journal *PLOS ONE*.

Researchers develop treatment to 'arrest growth' of breast cancer tumors

Australian scientists announced that they have developed a treatment that is capable of stopping the growth of aggressive breast cancer tumors.

Researchers from the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute (WEHI) in Melbourne are optimistic that their finding will offer hope to patients who carry a faulty BRCA1 gene that causes rare triple-negative breast cancer, news.xinhuanet.com wrote.

Triple negative breast cancer is a form of cancer that does not have the three receptors found on most cancers, rendering most drugs ineffective against the tumors.

Daniel Gray, the leader of the study, said that administering two immunotherapy drugs — anti-PD1 and anti-CTLA4 — as well as standard chemotherapy halted the growth of the aggressive tumors.

The immunotherapy drugs provide a boost to the



pentelutellabmit.com

immune system, which has usually been shut down by the cancer, effectively stopping growth while chemotherapy continue to attempt to shrink tumors.

Gray said, "The combination of the two drugs and chemotherapy completely arrested the growth of the tumors."

"It's a new treatment paradigm and we are really excited and pleased by these results."

Researchers said the method had proved successful in treating melanomas and lung cancer in the past but had never showed signs of slowing the progression of breast cancer.

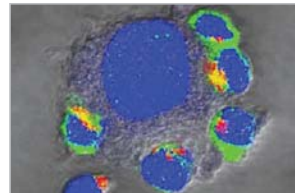
Geoff Lindeman, a researcher from the Peter MacCallum Research Center who worked on the study, said, "Our hope would be that we can combine two types of immunotherapy with chemotherapy to more effectively treat breast cancer for women who have a faulty BRCA1 gene and develop clinically aggressive breast cancers."

Lindeman said that results were promising enough in trials to take the treatment to human trials.

Scientists find an approach in T-cell therapy to treat cancer

German researchers have developed a way to arm immune cells with a new surface molecule in an effort to combat difficult to treat cancers.

Researchers from the Helmholtz Zentrum München in Germany armed immune cells with a new surface molecule causing the cells to respond particularly aggressively when it encounters a protein that tumors actually use to camouflage themselves from the immune system, UPI wrote.



UPI

They did this by using adoptive T-cell therapy of removing immune cells from the body and genetically arms them by giving them new structures on the surface that accurately lead them to cancer cells.

Dr. Elfriede Nöfner, head of the Tissue Control of Immunocytes Research Group at the Helmholtz Zentrum München, said, "Because cancer emerges from the body's own cells, it is usually difficult for the immune system to distinguish good cells from bad ones."

"But there are ways to support the immune system in recognizing and combating cancer cells."

Researchers used a new surface molecule made up of two halves, the outside binds to the PD-L1 molecule tumor cells form in order to stop the attacking immune cells.

Inside of the T-cells, the binding does not activate a sleep mode and instead activates the T-cell's killer program to make it more aggressive.

The study showed that T-cells armed with a new surface molecule were more effective at proliferating tumors and destroying tumor cells. Nöfner said, "If that step succeeds, the approach would enlarge the arsenal of T-cells suitable for adoptive T-cell therapy."

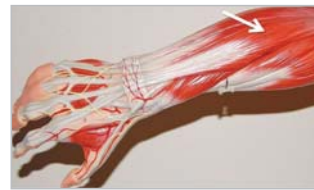
"This could not only make the treatment more effective but would allow it to be used in more patients in the framework of personalized medicine."

Viral infections found decreasing muscle health

Researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, have found that viral infections turn down the intensity of a key cell-signaling pathway linked to healing and health of skeletal muscle and bone, mental well-being and prevention of obesity.

While the findings were recently published online in the journal *Skeletal Muscle*, the signaling pathway, called oxytocin receptor MAPK, or OXTR, has been well studied for its role in trust and bonding and more recently was found to be needed for muscle maintenance and regeneration, which declines with age, news.xinhuanet.com reported.

Irina Conboy, an associate professor in the Department of Bioengineering, whose lab performed the study, said, "Our results suggest that viral infections in general may play a role in decreasing muscle health and regeneration, a decline in metabolic health and a lower sense of well-being, as these rely on effective OXTR signaling."



sherifhosni.wordpress.com

The unexpected effects of viral infections, which may explain why viruses can make people feel lousy, were discovered by the research team with a standard method for inserting genes inside cells and organisms, one that deploys viruses as tools of molecular biology.

Viral vectors are tools regularly used to insert pieces of genetic material into cells or animals for further testing.

To ensure that any observed effects are caused by the genetic material of interest, and not by the viral vector, an experimental test is to test the effects of the viral vectors alone.

This is called an experimental control, and the vectors tested are called control viral vectors, as they are not supposed to change anything in a cell or organism.

Yet the study's results show that cells and animals exposed to control viral vectors differ from unexposed organisms in a number of ways.

The researchers found that control viral vectors actually changed the intensity of OXTR signaling, which diminished the regenerative ability of any direct descendants of these cells or tissues, thus aging them rapidly.

In one experiment, OXTR declined by 70 percent in mouse and human muscle cells that were given the control viral vectors.

The researchers then tested how a downregulated OXTR pathway affected muscle cells, and found that control viral vectors decreased mouse muscle cell proliferation from 85 to 20 percent; and cells also lose a key marker of muscle stem cell proliferation.

The researchers also examined a database of human studies and found that OXTR becomes severely diminished in humans after viral infections compared to healthy individuals.

Conboy said, "Our study further implies that viral infections may play a role in decreasing OXTR and thus broadly interfering with regeneration and maintenance of multiple tissues."

Computers helping scientists discover new materials

Scientists in England have developed a new computer algorithm to aid the search for new materials. The system helped researchers create two new promising materials in the lab.

Machine learning allowed the model to acquire an understanding of the structural properties of different materials, UPI wrote.



UPI

The algorithm uses its knowledge to predict new combinations of atoms to form materials with valuable physical and structural properties.

With the endless possible atomic combinations, materials scientists can be overwhelmed. Computer models can help researchers narrow their focus.

Matt Rosseinsky, a professor of chemistry, said, "Understanding which atoms will combine to form new materials from the vast space of possible candidates is one of the grand scientific challenges, and solving it will open up exciting scientific opportunities that could lead to important properties."

The model works by identifying only chemically stable combinations that can be reliably synthesized in the lab.

Researchers hope the model can help material scientists develop new materials for energy generation and storage.

Rosseinsky and his colleagues detailed their work in the journal Nature.

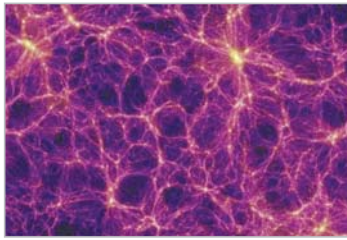
Rosseinsky said, "The key step in this research was the ability to generate large numbers of truly representative structures that could be used to assess which element combinations were stable."

"It greatly narrowed the space that had to be explored experimentally — like having a map with someone's address, rather than knowing they live in London somewhere."

Study: Our galaxy exists in a cosmic void

Our galaxy and its neighbors exist in a sort of cosmic void, research suggested.

The latest analysis supports the conclusion of a 2013 study which showed the Milky Way exists in a region of the Universe sparsely populated by galaxies, stars and planets, UPI reported.



UPI

Researchers liken the structure of the Universe to Swiss cheese, with holes representing portions of the cosmos where ordinary matter is sparse. A new study suggests the Milky Way exists within an especially large hole.

The new research — presented this week at the annual American Astronomical Society meeting — also helps bridge the divide between astronomers torn by competing measurements of the Hubble Constant, the rate at which the Universe is expanding.

Different groups of astronomers have developed different techniques for measuring the Hubble Constant, with each method yielding different numbers.

Ben Hoscheit, a grad student at the University of Wisconsin, said, "No matter what technique you use, you should get the same value for the expansion rate of the Universe today."

"Fortunately, living in a void helps resolve this tension."

Because one of the two techniques relies on analysis of nearby supernovae, the fact that our galactic neighbors exist in a void is relevant to the math.

Astronomers liken the structure of the Universe to Swiss cheese, filled with holes where ordinary matter is scant.

The hole in which the Milky Way resides stretches roughly one billion light-years across — seven times bigger than the cosmos' average void.

Because the second method for calculating the Hubble Constant uses the cosmic microwave background as a guide — the leftover energy from Big Bang — the arithmetic is unaffected by the cosmic density irregularities.

Wisconsin astronomer Amy Barger, who first hypothesized that the Milky Way is in an unusually large void, said, "It is often really hard to find consistent solutions between many different observations."

"What Ben has shown is that the density profile that Keenan measured is consistent with cosmological observables. One always wants to find consistency, or else there is a problem somewhere that needs to be resolved."

New research on how the brain makes preference-based decisions

Researchers have found a direct window into the brain systems involved in making every day decisions based on preference.

The study, led by a team of neuroscientists at the University of Glasgow's Institute of Neuroscience and Psychology, and published in Nature Communications, offers crucial insight into the neural mechanisms underlying our decision-making process, opening up new avenues for the investigation of preference-based choices in humans, according to medicalxpress.com.

Whether we decide to opt for a piece of apple or a piece of cake is, for example, a preference-based decision. How our brains arrive at such decisions — as well as choices that rely on our subjective valuation of different alternatives — is currently a popular research topic.

Previously it was unclear where the brain implements preference-based choices and whether it uses a mechanism similar to when we make decisions purely based on the perceptual properties of the alternatives (like choosing the bigger of two items).

Study lead Dr. Marius Phillipsides said, "Our research suggested that preference-based and perceptual decisions might share a common underlying mechanism in the brain."

"Our findings also suggested that



medicalxpress.com

preference-based decisions might be represented in the same brain areas that plan the action to execute the decision, i.e. the hand reaching to grab the preferred item.

"Our findings have important implications for a broad range of socioeconomic problems ranging from public policy analysis, like informing health behaviors, to brain-informed advertisement strategies and product design.

"In addition, the work can improve our understanding of mental and neurodegenerative disorders known to compromise one's decision-making faculties, like depression, schizophrenia and Parkinson's disease by offering a direct window into the brain systems involved in goal-directed choices."

The study presented participants with pairs of snacks, like a chocolate bar and a pack of crisps, and asked

them to choose their preferred item.

To identify the brain areas involved in these decisions, the team used a state-of-the-art multimodal brain imaging procedure. Volunteers wore an EEG cap (to measure their brain electrical activity) whilst being simultaneously scanned in an MRI machine.

An EEG cap records neural activity (tiny electrical signals on the surface of the scalp), providing information about 'when' a certain event takes place in the brain and how it unfolds in time, while functional MRI provides information on 'where' this activity happens in the brain.

The EEG revealed that decision activity unfolds gradually over time and persists until one commits to a choice.

This EEG activity was then localized with fMRI in the posterior medial frontal cortex of those who participated in the study of a brain region that has not been previously linked directly with preference-based decisions.

Andrea Pisaro, the first author of the paper, said, "This is similar to when we make perceptual decisions, like choosing the larger of two slices of cake."

"The brain accumulates information supporting one of the decision alternatives until an internal criterion is reached and a decision is made."

Choosing white or whole-grain bread may depend on what lives in your gut

Whether standard white bread or an artisanal sourdough loaf is 'healthier' depends on the microbes living in a person's intestines, a new study suggested.

Averaging results from 20 people who ate white and whole wheat sourdough bread for one week each, researchers found no difference in people's response to the breads, which includes changes in blood sugar levels, according to sciencecene.org.

But when researchers examined each person individually, a different pattern emerged.

Some people's blood sugar levels climbed more after eating white bread compared with sourdough bread. For others, the opposite was true, the team reported in Cell Metabolism.



sciencecene.org

The results are part of a growing body of evidence that nutrition advice should

be personalized.

Previous work showed that different

people's responses to eating a variety of foods vary considerably.

Research with mice also suggested that genetic differences may cause one strain of mouse to gain weight on a diet that helps another strain slim down.

In the new study, researchers Eran Elinav, Eran Segal and colleagues analyzed the study participants' genetic makeup along with the mix of microbes in stool samples from each person.

The team could predict a participant's response to the two types of bread based only on which microbes were present in the stool — particularly the amounts of two types of bacteria called Coprococcus fastidiosus and Lachnospiraceae bacterium 3_1_46FAA.

The researchers don't yet know how the bacteria change blood sugar levels.

Largest virtual Universe ever simulated

Researchers from the University of Zurich (UZH) have simulated the formation of our entire Universe with a large supercomputer.

A gigantic catalogue of about 25 billion virtual galaxies has been generated from two trillion digital particles, phys.org reported.

This catalogue is being used to calibrate the experiments on board the Euclid satellite that will be launched in 2020 with the objective of investigating the nature of dark matter and dark energy.

Over a period of three years, a group of astrophysicists from the University of Zurich has developed and optimized a revolutionary code to describe with unprecedented accuracy the dynamics of dark matter and the formation of large-scale structures in the Universe.

As Joachim Stadel, Douglas Potter and Romain Teysier report in their recently published paper, the code (called PKD-GRAV3) has been designed to use optimally the available

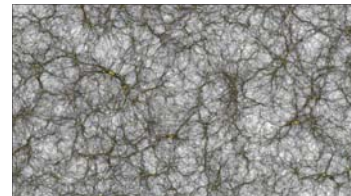
memory and processing power of modern supercomputing architectures, such as the 'Piz Daint' supercomputer of the Swiss National Computing Center (CSCS).

The code was executed on this world-leading machine for only 80 hours, and generated a virtual Universe of two trillion (i.e., 2,000 billion or 2x10¹²) macro-particles representing the dark matter fluid, from which a catalogue of 25 billion virtual galaxies was extracted.

Studying the composition of dark Universe

Thanks to the high precision of their calculation, featuring a dark matter fluid evolving under its own gravity, the researchers have simulated the formation of small concentration of matter, called dark matter halos, in which we believe galaxies like the Milky Way form.

The challenge of this simulation was to model galaxies as small as one tenth of the Milky Way, in a volume as large as our



A section of the virtual Universe — a billion light-years across — showing how dark matter is distributed in space, with dark matter halos the yellow clumps, interconnected by dark filaments.

entire observable Universe.

This was the requirement set by the European Euclid mission, whose main objective is to explore the dark side of the Universe.

Measuring subtle distortions

Indeed, about 95 percent of the Universe is dark. The cosmos consists of 23 percent of dark matter and 72 percent of dark energy.

Romain Teysier, UZH professor for computational

astrophysics, said, "The nature of dark energy remains one of the main unsolved puzzles in modern science."

A puzzle that can be cracked only through indirect observation: When the Euclid satellite will capture the light of billions of galaxies in large areas of the sky, astronomers will measure very subtle distortions that arise from the deflection of light of these background galaxies by a foreground, invisible distribution of mass — dark matter.

Joachim Stadel from the Institute for Computational Science of the UZH said, "That is comparable to the distortion of light by a somewhat uneven glass pane."

Optimizing observation strategies of the satellite

This new virtual galaxy catalogue will help optimize the observational strategy of the Euclid experiment and minimize various sources of error, before the satellite embarks on its six-year data collecting mission in 2020.

Stadel said, "Euclid will perform a tomographic map of our Universe, tracing back in time more than 10-billion-year of evolution in the cosmos."

From the Euclid data, researchers will obtain new information on the nature of this mysterious dark energy, but also hope to discover new physics beyond the standard model, such as a modified version of general relativity or a new type of particle.

Obesity, inactivity could outpace smoking in cancer death risk



consciouslifenews.com

Obesity and inactivity could someday account for more cancer deaths than smoking if current trends continue, a leading cancer expert said.

As the rate of smoking decreases, other unhealthy habits threaten to offset the progress in reducing cancer deaths, said Richard Wender, a physician and chief cancer control officer at the American Cancer Society (ACS). A study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* last fall found 13 types of cancer were linked to excess body weight, wtsp.com wrote.

There's no guarantee that obesity and inactivity will surpass smoking as a cancer cause, Wender said, but the possibility is startling.

"Who would've thought we'd ever see the day where what you eat (and) exercise, could account for more cancer deaths than smoking?" he asked.

The connections between smoking and too much exposure to the Sun and cancer are well known, but the

connections between nutrition and exercise and cancer are less known and harder to determine.

Calculating cancer's link to obesity is difficult in part because of an overlap in cancer risk factors, said ACS' Rebecca Siegel. While 20 percent of cancers are caused by poor diet, a lack of physical activity and/or excess weight, that can't be combined with the 30 percent of cancer deaths caused by cigarette smoking.

That's because poor people are more likely to be obese and to smoke than more affluent people, said Siegel, strategic director of ACS' surveillance information services.

A striking 50 percent of all cancer deaths could be prevented by following the basics of a healthy lifestyle, said Wender. That includes diet and exercise and having regular cancer screenings and getting the HPV vaccine that helps prevent cervical cancer and likely oral cancer and for Hepatitis B, which can lead to liver cancer.

Wender was speaking at a recent meeting of the

Council of Accountable Care Physicians, which represents the doctors who work at integrated health care systems like Kaiser Permanente and Geisinger Health, which treat and insure patients. These groups said they are better positioned to address social determinants of health that can lead to cancer — like access to healthy food — than other health systems.

After all, they don't have to worry about whether federal programs like Medicare or Medicaid or independent commercial insurers will reimburse them, say, for connecting patients to diet and fitness professionals. They are motivated to screen patients more often for cancer, since they have to pay to treat cancer that is caught too late.

The effect of the decline in smoking on cancer "has been somewhat counterbalanced by this steady rise in obesity trends beginning in the '70s," said Wender. The obesity rate has tripled since the early 1970s to now comprise about 36 percent of adults.

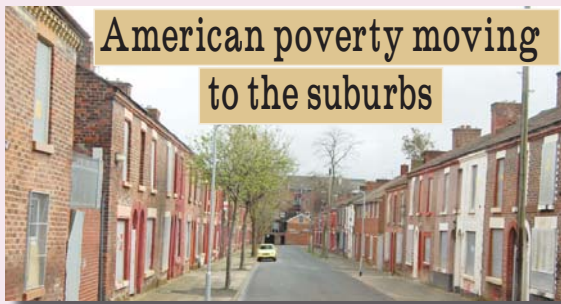
In his inaugural address, US President Donald Trump listed out the problems he saw in a declining America. At the top of his list: "Mothers and children trapped in poverty in our inner cities."

It was not the first time Trump had spoken of urban poverty. "Our inner cities are a disaster," Trump said in the third presidential debate of 2016, reported.oz.com.

"You get shot walking to the store. They have no education. They have no jobs."

In addition to their racist undertones, Trump's statements promote a dangerous misrepresentation of the geography of poverty in the United States.

Over the last several decades, US poverty has increasingly spread to the suburbs. In 1990, the majority of poverty in the 100 largest US metro areas was found in urban areas. But recent research by the political scientist Scott Allard showed that, in absolute numbers, this no longer holds true. The University of Washington professor estimated that there are 17



theconversation.com

American poverty moving to the suburbs

million people living in poverty in the suburbs of the US's big cities — four million more than in cities themselves.

Part of the rise comes down to the fact that the suburbs are generally growing faster than cities, but it's not just that. From 1990 to 2012, the poverty rate in large metro areas grew by 43 percent in suburbs, compared to 17 percent in urban areas — though it is worth noting

that urban poverty rates, at 21 percent, are still nearly double the 11 percent suburban rate.

In Allard's new book, "Places in Need: The Changing Geography of Poverty," he explained the rise of suburban poverty as, primarily, the result of a worsening suburban labor market. Families that moved out to the suburbs in the 1970s to 1990s, attracted by well paying, low-skilled

jobs in manufacturing, have seen those jobs disappear.

The unemployment rate in the typical suburban tract (government-created subdivisions of around 3,000 to 5,000 people) are nearing that of the typical urban tract, and the post-recession job recovery has been weakest in suburban areas that were already poor.

Allard found that the rise in suburban poverty is not strongly

tied to the changing ethnic and racial demographics of American suburbs. Suburban poverty trends among white, black, and Hispanic populations have grown similarly since 1990.

Contrary to one popular narrative, Allard also didn't find that lower-income families being pushed out of cities due to gentrification is a major cause of suburban poverty's rise.

The move of poverty to the suburbs is a challenge for the American social-safety net. Many anti-poverty programs in the US were designed to address urban issues — and nongovernmental organizations supporting the suburban poor are comparatively rare and underfunded.

Allard found that federal programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (where "food stamps" come from) and the Earned Income Tax Credit, are designed in such a way that benefits have quickly flowed to the suburban poor, but the benefits of locally controlled programs, like Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, have been slow to reach the suburbs.

Hospitals come together to address violence

At Detroit Medical Center's Sinai-Grace Hospital — one of five trauma centers serving the metro-Detroit area — there are daily reminders of the violence that plagues the city and its residents.

"The number one cause of death for Detroiters between the ages 15 and 24 is violence," said Dr. Reginald Eadie, regional chief operating officer at Detroit Medical Center. There were 302 homicides last year in Detroit. With a total population of 677,116, that equates to 44.6 per 100,000 residents, one of the highest rates in the nation, modernhealthcare.com wrote.

In an attempt to help to stem the impact of violence, DMC has implemented a two-pronged approach that focuses on prevention within the community as well as within the hospital. The health system works with the Ceasefire Detroit program, a nationally-recognized anti-violence intervention initiative where violent street offenders, as a condition of their parole or probation, talk with ex-offenders and families of violent crime victims.

In addition, the hospital in 2014 launched the DLIVE, or Detroit Life is Valuable Everyday program, which provides violence intervention counseling at the bedside throughout a patient's stay and offers resources to make it easier for them to choose other alternatives to violence once they are discharged.

"We thought that having one intervention program in the community and one in the hospital would be the most effective to mitigate the issue," Eadie said.

Initiatives like the ones at Sinai-Grace are part of a larger trend among healthcare providers across the country grappling with the devastating impact of violence in their communities.

"Violence in the community inevitably impacts hospitals in a number of ways," said Mindy Hatton, chief counsel at the American Hospital Association.

"Engaging with your community and engaging with workforce I think really is an essential part of being a good community member."

The AHA Friday sponsored national day of awareness, including a digital media campaign, for its Hospitals Against Violence campaign, or #HAVIHope. The concept for the campaign began last year in reaction to events such as the Orlando shooting, when a gunman killed 49 people at a club.

The AHA along with more than 100 organizations participated in the event by sharing tweets and posting photos in a show of support. Participating healthcare organizations like DMC were encouraged to use social media to highlight their anti-violence efforts.

Parents eye Austrian asylum in Italy vaccination dispute

A group of German-speaking parents in northern Italy are so angry about a new requirement to get their children vaccinated that they plan to seek asylum in nearby Austria.

The 130 families live in Alto Adige — also known as South Tyrol — a region that was part of Austria before 1919, BBC reported.

Last month the Italian government ruled that children must be vaccinated against 12 common illnesses before they can enroll for state-run schools.



bbc.co.uk

Cases of measles have risen in Italy.

The highly-contagious sickness is fatal in some cases. Some other European countries, including France and Romania, have also seen more measles cases this year.

In some parts of Europe, including Italy, vaccination rates have dropped below those recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO).

The leader of the South Tyrol protest, Reinhold Holzer, said the group had sent protest messages to Italian President Sergio Mattarella, Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen, and the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva.

"We won't allow our children to be poisoned. Asylum is claimed not just by people fleeing war, but also by people whose rights are being violated," said Holzer, quoted by Austria's *Der Standard* daily.

Trentino-Alto Adige, a mountainous Alpine region, is reported to have one of the highest vaccine refusal rates in Italy.

In an interview with *Radio Südtirol*, Holzer alleged that some chemicals in vaccines were risky, and said parents should have a free choice about child immunizations, as in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

However, Germany recently announced plans to fine parents who failed to get medical advice about immunizing their child. Holzer voiced concern about Thiomersal (or Thimerosal) — a mercury-based preservative used in some vaccines — and about genetically engineered vaccines.

The UK National Health Service said Thiomersal is not used in child vaccines — and added that it poses no risk anyway.

Conspiracy theories about the health risks of certain vaccinations — largely based on one discredited paper — have spread on the Internet, prompting some parents to shun immunization.

Scientific studies have debunked an alleged link between vaccines and autism, as the US Centers for Disease Control point out on their website.

Your coffee habit could be harming the environment

A new study suggested that America's coffee habit is harming the environment.

Researchers have discovered that because the human body is unable to consume all of the caffeine, the leftovers are expelled in urine and have made their way into rural streams.

Studies have found that, when exposed to caffeine, animals become stressed and are unable to protect their DNA for being genetically mutated by the stimulant, dailymail.co.uk wrote.

Experts have previously known that the caffeine expelled by humans made its way to sewage systems in urban areas, but new findings have found that the stimulant has reached rural streams.

A team from the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board had found traces of it in the wild, knowing that there are no natural sources of caffeine in North America, they were forced to conclude that it came from humans.

Researchers collected samples from 2008 to 2015 from streams in the San Diego Region and parts of

Orange County, reported Matt Weiser with UPI.

The samples were taken from both raw sewage and treated water in urban areas, in addition to some in streams in remote areas.

After analyzing the water, the team had concluded that the urban water had traces of caffeine — a result that was expected.

Samples from untreated sewage had between 0.052 and 8.5 micrograms per liter and those from septic systems ranged from 0.029 to 1.19 micrograms per liter.

However, researchers were surprised when they discovered that the streams had also tested positive — the samples ranged from 0.032 to 0.662 micrograms per liter.

Other than caffeine, traces of other human waste was also uncovered, such as viruses, pathogens and pharmaceuticals and personal care products were also detected in the samples.

"No caffeine was detected in samples collected from the sites with little to no known recreational use, and caffeine was detected in all but two of the samples



dailymail.co.uk

collected from sites with known recreational uses, such as hiking, fishing, or horseback riding," the team explained in a press release.

The team had determined that the potential caffeine sources included "leaky sewer lines, poorly maintained septic systems, food waste or beverage containers from trash receptacles or littering, recycled water used for irrigation and storm-water runoff."

Bear spotted in motorcycle sidecar

A bizarre video has emerged of a huge brown bear sitting in the sidecar of a motorbike — and he looks like a seasoned rider.

The clip — reportedly filmed in the city of Syktyvkar in Russia's Komi Republic — showed the giant predator happily playing the role of pillion, mirror, co.uk wrote.

Eyewitnesses were reportedly left gobsmacked at the unusual sight, with many of posting footage of it on social media.

The bear even seems positively happy in the sidecar, which is attached to the Russian-made IMZ-Ural motorcycle.

Nicholas Pasyukov, who captured



myjoyonline.com

explained he was "driving Saturday in Syktyvkar when he spotted the large bruin calmly riding in a motorcycle sidecar that had been

designed to resemble the face of a wolf."

It was later revealed to have been a charity PR stunt by local biker club, the Polar Wolves, and a visiting circus to raise money for a children's psycho-neurological clinic in the city.

The circus reportedly provided the 22-year-old bear, which was decided to have the ideal temperament for the role as it has spent its entire life performing.

The man behind the handlebars was apparently the bear's trainer.

Various clips of the biker bear have since gone viral after being widely shared on social media.

Crane falls on man as he sits in lorry

A man survived after a heavy metal container crashed down onto the back of a truck while he was inside.

Shocking footage showed the huge crate being maneuvered on a crane, towards the large truck.

A man, wearing a white T-shirt, was seen in the back holding on to a rope attached to the container, seemingly guiding it in to place, according to The Mirror.

But suddenly the crane gave way and the massive container came plummeting down and it looked like the man was crushed underneath.

The near tragedy was caught on camera by an eyewitness with a smartphone in northwestern Kazakhstan.

The mobile crane was trying to lower the metal container onto the back of a truck, but was having difficulty aligning it with the sides of the vehicle.

The man's anxious



CEN

workmates ran to the scene, but it turned out that the container had narrowly missed him and he survived.

Watching the video in slow motion revealed that he had

realized what was about to happen and scrambled out of the way.

The footage is proving popular with viewers after being posted on video-sharing websites.

Family held prisoner by bobcat

Police in New Jersey, the US, said a mother locked herself and her two young children in their bathroom after a bobcat got into their house, prompting a police response.

The Morris County family called police to report that a bobcat had somehow gotten inside, nj.com reported.

Officers opened all of the doors and

windows in the house to coax the bobcat into leaving.

Washington Township police Sgt. Robert Oranchuk said the bobcat left after about an hour. He said it didn't appear to be sick or rabid.

The animal did not make any contact with the family or the officers.



AP

Woman distracted by phone in stable condition after fall

A woman distracted by her cellphone is in stable condition, one day after she tripped over a door and fell six feet (1.8 meters) into a basement opening in New Jersey, the US.

Plainfield Public Safety Director Carl Riley said the woman, whom he would not identify, remained hospitalized, AP reported.

Surveillance video captured the woman as she walked along a Plainfield street. It shows her looking at her phone, walking into the open door and then tripping and falling into the opening.

The 67-year-old landed in the cellar of Acme Windows, where workers were repairing gas lines.

Police said her injuries were not life-threatening.

Martin Delgado, a barber, told WNBC-TV he saw the woman plunge through the access door. He said: "I thought texting and driving was a bad thing. Now it's texting and walking."

Student who missed graduation over subway delay gets diploma

A nursing student, who celebrated a makeshift graduation on a New York City subway train after a train breakdown made him miss the actual ceremony, finally received his diploma.

Hunter College President Jennifer Raab and nursing school Dean Gail McCain presented Jerich Alcantara with his diploma. He said he is enjoying his brief moment in the spotlight and said he was happy to see things end

on a positive note, according to AP.

Alcantara was on his way to commencement on May 30 when his subway train stalled. Passengers waited an hour and a half for a rescue train.

Friends, family members and strangers threw Alcantara an impromptu ceremony while they waited.

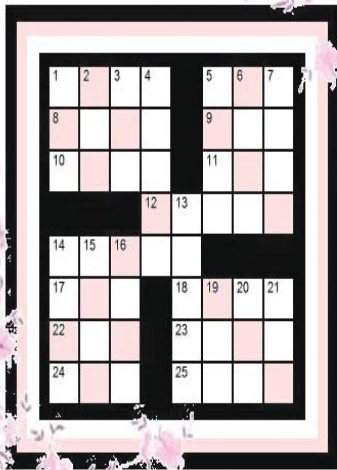
Alcantara said he still doesn't have a nursing job lined up, but is preparing for his licensing exam.



Three snow leopard cubs, born 32 days ago, are weighed at the Wildpark Lueneburger Heide Wildlife Park in Nindorf-Hanstedt, Germany.

PICTURE OF THE DAY

Octo-Cross



ACROSS

- Solemn promise
- Insane
- Notion
- Single
- Temporary provision of money
- Consumed
- Fabric
- Woodland deity
- Eggs
- One time only
- Lair
- Morose
- Biblical vessel
- Jug

DOWN

- Lubricant
- Fuss
- Beverage
- Useful
- Complain
- Against
- View as
- Wear away
- Pop
- Assert
- Military vehicle
- At present
- Hint
- Make a mistake

Yesterday's solution



Sudoku

Sudoku was inspired by the table devised by Iranian mathematician Khwarazmi. Fill 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row and each of the nine 3x3 sub-grids that compose the grid, contains all of the digits from 1 to 9.

	5							7
			7		9			
7	2							8 3
8			9		3			7
	3			6				4
2			5		8			1
5	8							1 2
			8		4			
4								5

6	5	8	1	7	2	3	4	9
6	3	4	7	3	5	8	2	1
5	4	1	2	6	9	3	7	8
2	7	3	9	1	6	5	4	8
8	4	8	2	7	9	1	3	5
8	1	4	2	3	6	9	5	7
7	2	9	5	1	4	6	8	3
4	6	8	7	3	9	1	2	5
7	4	9	2	6	8	5	1	3

Zlatan Ibrahimovic gave another indication through an Instagram post that he's not hanging up his boots just yet after being released by Manchester United due to a career-threatening knee injury.

Massive support gives Iran the edge over Belgium

Milad Ebadipour scored 20 points to contribute enormously to Iran edging Belgium in a five-set thriller in their opener in Pool D1 fixtures of the 2017 FIVB World League.

Belgium's Bram Van Den Dries set the pace for his team scoring 17 points, but he and teammates still came up short in the tiebreak, as Iran eventually came out victorious by three sets to two (23-25, 25-17, 25-23, 15-12), fivb.com reported.

12000 spectators were in the Azadi Indoor Stadium to push their national team forward through the point-for-point fixture, which happened to be the two side's first ever encounter in the history of the competition.

Iran got off to a better start rushing to 6-4 lead in the tiebreak and the host crowd led Iran to an inspiring 15-12 win against Belgium in the final set.

Captain Saied Marouf acknowledged the important role of playing in front of a home crowd after a narrow win against Belgium on Friday.

"It was a tough game as it was the first game at home. We were supposed to play against a team who won their two last matches and were at a better place in standing. In a tie-breaker match, the role of fans is so significant. People helped us to save our energy but it was not a great day for us. We played with 12 out of our 15 players who all helped the team. I am happy with the opening victory," Marouf said after the massive victory over the European side.



Iranian players (R) came from one set down to beat Belgium in five sets in Azadi Indoor Stadium in Tehran, Iran, on June 9, 2017.

"It was a difficult match between Iran and Belgium. I respect the work of Heynen, the coach of Belgium. This year, Belgium improved a lot with him. They showed good performance and power. Today, I am so happy because we got the victory especially with the spectators who played with their heart at the court. In the first set, we played under pressure maybe because it was the first game at home. But, we got better at the other sets especially in the fifth set. In important moments, we kept calm. I am so happy because we made this victory," Iran's coach, Igor Kolakovic, said after he saw his team come from one set down to win the game.

Belgium's coach, Vital Heynen, was full of praise for Iran's world-class captain, saying: "I have a problem which is how to change the nationality of an Iranian into a Belgian. Because I wished I could change Marouf's nationality into Belgian. Of course, we have a good setter in our team but playing against Marouf is so difficult. We tried to fight with him in the game but I did expect anything. He did a great job tonight. We had the control of the first set and then lost the concentration. Iran deserves to win. It was a pretty good match both for the fans and the players. I am happy with our performance, not completely but in general."

Pool D1 of the 2017 World League sees host Iran, Belgium, Serbia and Argentina play each other in the Azadi Indoor Stadium in Tehran, Iran, during June 9-11.

Cavaliers deny Warriors historic series win

The defending NBA champions, Cleveland Cavaliers, delivered a breathtaking shooting display to stave off elimination and deny the Golden State Warriors the first perfect postseason in league history with a 137-116 victory in Game 4 on Friday night at Quicken Loans Arena.

The Cavaliers poured in a record-breaking 24 three-pointers to break the NBA finals record set by the Warriors in Sunday's Game 2. They were led by LeBron James, who finished with 31 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists for his ninth triple-double in NBA finals history, surpassing Magic Johnson's previous mark of eight. No other player has more than two, The Guardian reported.

"It's going to be even tougher in Game 5, but we look forward to the challenge," said James, who remains on pace to become the first player to average a triple-double over an entire finals. "We know it's going to be very difficult, but if we can continue to not turn the ball over like we've done the last two games, if we can continue to defend and keep bodies on bodies, we give ourselves a good

chance." History would suggest Cleveland's win only delays the inevitable: no team in NBA history has ever rallied from a 3-0 deficit to win a playoff series in 126 previous tries. But no team had ever won an NBA finals from 3-1 down until the Cavaliers pulled it off last year. Now they'll look to repeat the feat starting with Game 5 on Monday night in Oakland. "Obviously the job is still far from over," said Kyrie Irving, who finished with a game-high 40 points. "This is a good start."

Cleveland led by as many as 22 points during a record-breaking first half that saw them connect on 60.9% of their shots including 13-for-22 from beyond the arc. When the dust cleared the Cavaliers led 86-68 and had set the all-time playoff record for points in a half.

It was often physical and fraught with hostility: including seven technical fouls, a flagrant and a heated exchange of words between James and Kevin Durant, who finished with a team-high 35 points.

Golden State chipped away methodically during the third quarter, getting as

close as 104-92 with 2:38 remaining. But Kyle Korver, Deron Williams and James added three-pointers before the end of the frame, stretching the lead back to 19 points and giving Cleveland the record before the fourth quarter had even started.

But the Warriors could not get within single digits of Cleveland throughout the second half, prompting renewed optimism amid the sellout crowd of 20,562, who chanted "Cavs in seven!" in the dying minutes.

"We have championship DNA as well," said James, who surpassed Michael Jordan for No3 on the all-time finals scoring list. "We just kept our composure. We shared the ball, we moved the ball and defensively we were physical."

The result cost the Warriors, winners of 30 of their last 31 games extending back to the regular season, a chance at the NBA's first ever flawless playoff run. Instead, they'll try to join the select list of one-loss champions: the 2001 Los Angeles Lakers (15-1) and 1983 Philadelphia 76ers (12-1).



Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James slam-dunks the ball against Golden State Warriors in Game 4 of the NBA Finals on June 9, 2017.

Nadal to play Wawrinka in final, Murray out

Andy Murray's French Open hopes ended with a five-set defeat by Swiss third seed Stan Wawrinka in the semifinals.

The world number one was beaten 6-7 (6-8), 6-3, 5-7, 7-6, (7-3) 6-1 in four hours and 34 minutes, BBC reported.

weight on my shot at the end to put him under any real pressure.

"A lot of the points he was dictating from the middle of the court, and I was retrieving and allowing him to pretty much hit the shots that he wants." "And against a shot-maker, someone who hits



Stan Wawrinka (L) and Rafael Nadal celebrate their triumphs in French Open semifinal on June 9, 2017.



PASCAL ROSSIGNOL/REUTERS

It was a repeat of last year's semifinal, which the Briton won before going on to lose the final to Novak Djokovic.

Former champion Wawrinka will play Rafael Nadal in French Open final later today after the Spaniard beat Dominic Thiem.

Nadal, who beat the Austrian 6-3, 6-4, 6-0, will become the first player in the open era to win 10 titles at one Grand Slam if he beats Wawrinka.

The 31-year-old Nadal is yet to drop a set in this year's tournament as he looks to secure his first Grand Slam since winning in Paris in 2014.

Fitness takes its toll on Murray

Wawrinka will get the chance to add a second Roland Garros title to his 2015 victory, and move ahead of Murray with four Grand Slam titles, after his shot-making won the day.

The Swiss hit 87 winners - 45 on the forehand side - as he finally overcame the determination and defensive skills of Murray.

Short on matches after a season interrupted by illness and injury, Murray got within four points of victory but ultimately ran out of gas as Wawrinka made him cover a punishing 4.5km over more than four hours.

"Physically I didn't feel my best at the end," said Murray. "It is more like I didn't have enough

the ball as big as him, that's obviously not ideal."

Nadal too strong for Thiem

Austria's Thiem, 23, is the only player to beat Nadal on clay this year and showed his serious promise by beating defending champion Novak Djokovic in the quarterfinal.

But, when faced with nine-time champion Nadal - who has only lost twice at Roland Garros - the challenge proved too much.

Thiem broke his opponent's serve in the first game of the match before Nadal repeated the trick in the following game.

The Austrian let four more break-point opportunities slip in a tight opening set but from that point Nadal dominated and he went on to complete victory in two hours and seven minutes.

"I was starting a little bit more nervous today than normal, but then I played well, I think," said Nadal.

"It's true that Dominic played with more mistakes than usual."

Asked about the prospect of a 10th title, he said: "I think I don't make more history, it's enough. Nine are more than good."

"Another thing is today is not the moment to think about that. It's the moment I have to be very happy."

Plato:

You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation.

Two Iranian films to compete in Spanish festival

Art & Culture Desk

Four Iranian filmmakers will take part in 32nd Cinema Jove in Valencia, Spain with two films. 'AniMal' by Bahman and Bahram Ark and 'The Silence' directed by Farnooosh Samadi and Ali Asgari will participate in the festival which will take place from June 23 to July 1, IRNA wrote.



The two Iranian films will compete in festival's competition section along with 61 other short films from 21 countries. 'AniMal' received the second prize at the Cinfondation Selection at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival. The International Festival of Valencian Cinema — 'Cinema Jove' — has sections dedicated to full-length and short films and the Young Audiovisual Encounter (Encuentro Audiovisual de Jóvenes). It has become established as one of the most relevant European events in supporting the industry and training.

Exhibition brings together a rich constellation of key sculptures by Calder

In the early 1930s, Alexander Calder (1898-1976) invented an entirely new mode of art, the mobile — a kinetic form of sculpture in which carefully balanced components manifest their own unique systems of movement. These sculptures operate in highly sophisticated ways, ranging from gentle rotations to uncanny gestures, and at times trigger unpredictable percussive sounds.

'Calder: Hypermobility', on view at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, focuses on the extraordinary breadth of motion achieved by Calder from the moment he turned to radical abstraction in 1930 and continuing throughout the subsequent decades of his career. This exhibition brings together a rich constellation of key works, some of which will be activated regularly in the gallery to more fully elucidate their inherent motion and their relationship to performance as well as the theatrical stage. In addition to the gallery display, a central component of the exhibition is an expansive series of performances and events, including a number of episodic, one-time demonstrations of additional rarely seen works overseen and led by the Calder Foundation as well as concerts, screenings, and special programs. New commissions will bring contemporary artists into dialogue with Calder as these artists interplay their own practices with Calder's innovations, revealing the many ways in which his art continues to challenge and inform new generations, artfully, com wrote.

'Calder: Hypermobility' encompasses major examples of Calder's work, including his early motor-driven abstractions and wall panels with suspended active elements, as well as his sound-generating Gongs and standing and hanging mobiles, among others. Newly restored motorized sculptures will be activated for the first time in 80 years, including at least one work that has never previously been exhibited, revealing their original movements and intentions. Influenced in part by the artist's fascination and engagement with choreography, Calder's sculptures contain an embedded performativity that is reflected in their idiosyncratic motions and the perceptual responses they provoke in the viewer. Even in his stationary works, a sense of implied movement, deliberate staging and unfolding complexity is palpable.

The Whitney has long been dedicated to the work and legacy of Alexander Calder. As a young artist, Calder became a member of the Whitney Studio Club and soon after, in 1926, he participated in the Studio's Eleventh Annual Exhibition. Following his inclusion in numerous Whitney Annuals in the 1940s, the museum began to grow deep holdings of the artist's work. In the 1970s, Calder lent one of his most beloved works to the Whitney — the Cirque Calder, which the museum purchased in 1983 and committed further resources to restoring in the 2000s.

Calder has been the subject of many exhibitions at the Whitney, including 'Alexander Calder: Tapestries' (1971), 'Calder's Circus' (1972), 'Three Sculptors: Calder, Nevelson and Smith' (1974), 'Alexander Calder: Sculpture of the Nineteen Thirties' (1987-88), 'Celebrating Calder' (1991), 'I Think Best in Wire: Alexander Calder' (2006), 'Alexander Calder: The Paris Years, 1926-33' (2008-09) and 'Collecting Calder' (2014).

In 1976, the Whitney mounted a major retrospective on Calder, which opened just before the artist's death. Today, the Whitney's collection is the largest repository of Calder's work in the world.

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In the last days of spring, a photo exhibition titled 'Light, I, Flower, Tree' by Arman Molavi was held at Tehran's Seyhoun Art Gallery 2.

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Holy Qur'an written with acrylic glass on display in Tehran

A large copy of the Holy Qur'an written with acrylic glass is on display at the Tehran International Qur'an Exhibition.

According to IQNA, the 40-page Qur'an weighs over 1,400 kilograms and are made of six millimeter plywood on which verses have been written with acrylic glass.

Some 40 inmates from the Isfahan Central Prison created the massive project.

Various decorations using woodwork techniques such as marquetry, wood carving, wood inlay and the like are among the embellishments of the Qur'an.

The artwork will be donated to the custodianship of Imam Reza's (PBUH) holy shrine in Mashhad, northeast Iran.

The 25th Tehran International Qur'an Exhibition is underway at the Imam Khomeini Grand Prayer Hall (Mosalla) and will run until June 16.

The expo includes sections on Qur'anic activities, international, children and young adults, arts, government organizations and NGOs.

Many of the pavilions in the event showcase works by professional Iranian traditional and visual artists — with the works sharing a common theme: The Holy Qur'an.

Russian version of 'Shahnameh' grabs Red Square certificate

Art & Culture Desk

Russian translation of 'Shahnameh' for children and teenagers received the best book certificate at the Red Square Book Festival in Moscow.

Yousefi was born in Hamedan, Iran, in 1953. With over two hundred titles to his credit, he is one of the most prolific authors of children's and young adult books in Iran.

He has received numerous prizes and a number of his texts have been adapted for children's and young



IBNA



IRNA

The book was warmly received in Russia and the Russians are eagerly awaiting subsequent volumes of the book. This provides is a fine opportunity to introduce Iranian culture to the Russians.

The Persian version of the book was compiled by prominent Iranian author Mohammadreza Yousefi.

The full collection will have 100 volumes of which 37 have been written, IRNA reported.

20 volumes of the series were marketed so far, while the writer has prepared 17 other books for publication.

people's theater. He has twice received the IBY Diploma, and in 2000 was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award.

The objective of introducing the best book of the year is to appreciate Russian publishers' activities. That's why receiving the award is of high significance for them.

The Red Square Book Festival was held in Moscow from June 3-6, timed to coincide with the birthday of Russia's most famous poet, Alexander Pushkin, and Russian Language Day.

» Weather

29 22 Bandar Anzali	38 17 Isfahan	37 29 Kish Island	34 22 Sari	41 26 Yazd	37 [^] 24 _v Tehran	31 17 Kabul	46 29 Mecca	21 13 Stockholm	33 20 Tashkent	29 20 Tripoli
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