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Australia's military suspends air operations over Syria

Australia's military on Tuesday said it was temporarily halting air missions over Syria, following the shooting down of a Syrian jet by US forces.

The decision came amid increasing tension between the US and Russia, which warned it would track US-led coalition aircraft in Syria as potential "targets", and halted a military hotline with Washington over the incident.



AFP

"As a precautionary measure, Australian Defense Force (ADF) strike operations into Syria have temporarily ceased," a defense spokeswoman said in a statement, AFP reported.

No reason for the suspension was given, but The Australian newspaper said it was implemented as a precaution after the jet's downing.

"ADF personnel are closely monitoring the air situation in Syria and a decision on the resumption of ADF air operations in Syria will be made in due course," the spokeswoman added.

"ADF operations in Iraq will continue as part of the coalition."

The United States has moved quickly to contain an escalation of the situation after the jet was downed on Sunday evening when Syrian forces targeted a US-backed alliance of Arab and Kurdish militants battling Daesh.

A top US general said the country would work to relaunch the "deconfliction" hotline established in 2015, after Russia said Washington had failed to issue the line – a vital incident-prevention tool – before targeting the plane near Raqqa.

Australia is part of the coalition fighting the Daesh terrorist group in Iraq and in late 2015 extended air operations into Syria, with a total of 780 defense personnel based in the Middle East.

The staunch US ally in September said it would widen the scope of targets in the war against Daesh by allowing its pilots to strike terrorists' support and logistics resources in Iraq and Syria.

Australia's Air Task Group consists of 300 personnel, six F/A-18 Hornets, an E-7A Wedgetail Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft, and a KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker and Transport plane.

Eni signs deal to conduct feasibility study in Iran



SHANA

Italian oil giant Eni signed a provisional agreement with Iran to carry out feasibility studies on the development of oil and gas fields, with government officials pointing to the move as the latest sign that global companies are not being deterred from investing in the country.

Eni signed a memorandum of understanding on Tuesday with National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), the state-owned energy group, to explore a potential investment in Kish gas field in the Persian Gulf and the third phase of development of the Darkhovyn oilfield in southwest Iran within the next six months, FT reported.

Iran had signed provisional agreements at the end of last year on the two fields with Royal Dutch Shell, Russia's Gazprom, Philippines' PNOC and an Iranian's Ghadir Investment Company.

The Italian energy group has completed phase one and two of Darkhovyn oilfield but stopped the development of the third phase in 2011 because of international sanctions against Iran over its nuclear program.

Iran hopes to increase oil production from the field from 160,000 barrels per day to 220,000 bpd.

NIOC's Managing Director Ali Kardor said that the deal was evidence that international companies have not been deterred from investing in the country.

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Exclusive

Brazil seeking long-term partnership with Iran

By Farzam Vazaki

Brazilian companies see Iran as a long-time partner with which they would like to embark on very effective and long-term joint ventures, said the Brazilian ambassador to Iran.

Speaking to Iran Daily, Rodrigo de Azeredo Santos also touched upon a wide array of topics, such as expanding cooperation between his country and Iran in oil and gas sector, the level of the two sides' bilateral trade, the agreements signed or to be signed between the two states, level of bilateral relations and banking ties after the conclusion of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Excerpts of the interview follow:



AMIR RAJABIRAN DAILY

IRAN DAILY: What is your assessment of Iran's economy?

RODRIGO DE AZEREDO SANTOS: I have been in Iran for five months. However, I had visited the country several times before moving to Tehran prior to assuming my new position as Brazil's ambassador. I am a career diplomat, but my background is in economics, trade and investment. During the past 15 years, I have dedicated my time at the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to promote my country's trade, partnership and economic cooperation with other countries.

When I arrived in Tehran, I knew a lot about its economic potentials. Iran has great potentials in the energy – oil and gas – sector. At present, the Iranian government seeks to establish joint ventures with international companies by presenting them with new proposals and allowing them to come to the country.

Iran's new oil contracts – known as Iran Petroleum Contracts (IPC) – for oil and gas explorations are more attractive to foreign firms than the previous ones.

How can Iranian and Brazilian companies establish cooperation in oil and gas sector?

This can be done in two ways. The first one is through exporting, joint manufacturing and re-exporting [from Iran to neighboring and regional countries] of equipment. Brazil has developed a very high-tech industry for producing oil and gas equipment and machines as well as providing techno-engineering services in different sectors. More than 10 years ago, a legislation was introduced in Brazil to promote local content. The law requires the foreign and domestic companies that intend to carry out oil and gas exploration operations in Brazil to purchase, depending on the size of the project, 40 to 60 percent of the machines and services they would need for the projects from the Brazilian market.

Most oilfields in Brazil are offshore, therefore, deep-sea exploration constitutes a major portion of the operations carried out in the country to extract oil and gas. Thus, Brazil has developed a very advanced technology for this kind of exploration.

The second way, in which the Brazilian companies can cooperate with the Iranian firms, is by carrying out oil and gas explorations in the Caspian Sea. The huge lake is home to important oil reserves. For instance, Petrobras, a semipublic Brazilian multinational corporation, has the best technology for deep-sea exploration and extracting oil and gas from pre-salt layers in the sea basin. Talks have already been held between the Brazilian companies and the National Iranian Oil Company to this end.

Brazil intends to encourage domestic companies to establish production lines in Iran. They do not plan to just export their products to the country. They see Iran as a long-time partner with which they would like to embark on very effective and long-term joint ventures. Forming partnership with Iran, in addition to providing Brazilian companies with the opportunity to be present in the country's 80-million-strong market, gives them easy access to the markets of the regional states. Brazil's focus is mainly on making investments in Iran to manufacture their products in the country, generate jobs for Iranians, transfer modern technologies to the Middle Eastern state and provide it with the opportunity to export the jointly manufactured products to the regional as well as neighboring countries.

What are other sectors and fields in which the two countries can foster collaboration?

They include production of agricultural machines and equipment. Brazil has also considerable expertise in the production of electric engines and generators which have a large number of industrial uses. A few weeks ago, a leading Brazilian company involved in the production of such engines travelled to Iran and held talks with a number of its local potential partners, discussing the possibility of setting up a unit in the country.

Production of hospital and medical equipment is another possible field for cooperation. Major Brazilian producers of medical equipment are very much interested in joint ventures with their Iranian counterparts.

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Germany urges EU unity after Brexit talks launched

German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Tuesday urged the European Union's remaining 27 members to stick together during talks on Britain's exit from the bloc, which began on Monday.

Merkel also said the talks were important for the future of European integration, Reuters wrote.

Brexit was a setback but election results in the Netherlands and France this year have presented an opportunity to push ahead, Merkel said.

"Let's stay together, let's not divide from each other," she said, with reference to the remaining EU 27.



REUTERS

"This is not just about the exit of Britain, with which we want to remain friends, with which we want to live in a good partnership, but it is also about the future of the European Union," she said at a German industry conference.

"The four freedoms that give us the internal market must not be jeopardized," she said with reference to the EU's freedoms of movement of goods, capital, people, and services. "This will be significant at the exit negotiations."

Merkel said she wanted the talks to be conducted "in a good spirit" and that Britain's position would become evident in the coming months.

"We will of course implement what Britain pitches, but in a way that the interests of the 27 member states are safeguarded."

At their first meeting in Brussels on Monday, British and EU negotiators agreed on a timetable for the Brexit talks. Both sides stressed their goodwill but acknowledged the task's huge complexity and tight deadline.

Iran: Missile strike part of response to Daesh

Defense Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan said Sunday's missile strike against Daesh in Syria was just a small part of Iran's reaction to the "indiscriminate" attacks by the terrorist group on the Iranian soil.

"Iran's defense doctrine is based on the principle of active and effective deterrence and responds to any possible regional and transregional threats in the strongest way," Dehqan said on Tuesday, according to Press TV.

The comments came two days after the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) fired six medium-range ground-to-ground ballistic missiles at the Daesh-held Syria town of Deir ez-Zor in retaliation for the recent terror attacks in the capital Tehran.

On June 7, gunmen mounted assaults on Iran's Parliament and Imam Khomeini's Mausoleum, killing 18 people and wounding 56 others.

Dehqan said Iran has, over the past three years, had serious and extensive programs on the agenda in the field of missile defense, adding that the country is today capable of designing and producing different types of ballistic and cruise missiles featuring high precision and destructive power.

The Iranian defense minister also stressed that the country is determined to boost its defense

might and no world power would be able to adversely affect such resolve.

He further noted that Western sanctions were not only ineffective, but also significantly promoted Iran's self-reliance in the missile sector.



IRIB NEWS

"The Islamic Republic's defense might serves regional peace, stability, security and will be used against those elements that contribute to insecurity such as the Daesh Takfiri terrorist group," Dehqan said.

The enemy thinks the recent Tehran attacks made a contribution to its plot to bring the battle to Iran, but the killing of all the perpetrators of the assaults by Iranian forces, the heavy blows dealt to the masterminds of the terror attack and the missile strike showed that Iran's response to such attacks "would be prompt and destructive."

He was referring to remarks by Saudi Defense Minister Mohammed bin Salman, who said last month that Riyadh would work to move "the battle" to Iran.

Iraqi PM in Tehran to further cooperation

Political Desk

Iraq's Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi arrived in Tehran on Tuesday and was scheduled to meet Iranian officials to discuss economic relations, government spokesman Mohammad Baqer Nobakht said.

Besides economic issues, joint efforts to confront terrorism as well as cooperation on religious tourism are on the agenda during the meetings, Nobakht told reporters at a Tuesday press conference in Tehran.

The Iraqi prime minister is on a three-day tour to Iran, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.



IRNA

The top Iraqi official began his tour with a visit to Saudi Arabia on Sunday. Abadi's visit to Saudi Arabia was aimed at promoting reconciliation between Baghdad and Riyadh.

Abadi had been due to visit Riyadh last week but postponed his trip to avoid appearing to take sides in a diplomatic dispute that erupted between Qatar and several other Arab states including Saudi Arabia, officials have said.

Qatar is facing a severe economic and diplomatic boycott by Saudi Arabia and its regional allies, which accuse Doha of funding terrorism and fomenting regional unrest. Qatar denies the charges.

Ahead of his three-day tour, Abadi said, "This (regional) trip had been arranged previously and has nothing to do with a growing (diplomatic) crisis in the Persian Gulf region."

Iran denies Saudi claim about arresting IRGC members

An official with the Iranian Interior Ministry denied a claim by Saudi Arabia that Riyadh has arrested three members of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC).

Majid Aqa-Babaei, the ministry's director general for border affairs, said on Monday that, "Saudi Arabia's claim about the arrest of Iranian military forces is not true," Press TV reported.

Earlier in the day, Saudi Arabia's Information Ministry said in a statement that Saudi forces had captured and were questioning "three IRGC members, who were intending to carry out an attack on a major offshore oilfield in the Persian Gulf," according to an Associated Press report.

Aqa-Babaei had on Saturday said that the Saudi coastguard had opened fire on Iranian fishing boats in the waters south of Iran, killing one fisherman.

Saudi Arabia, too, had reported the incident soon after it happened but had not made the claims about arrests and explosives. It offered a changed narrative, however, with the information ministry statement, which came some two days after the initial narrative.



Rouhani stresses expansion of ties in meeting with new envoys

Political Desk

President Hassan Rouhani underlined expansion of relations and strengthening of private sectors role while meeting with new ambassadors from Malaysia, Slovenia, Mexico, Thailand and Benin.

During his meeting with Malaysia's new Ambassador to Tehran Dato Roslan bin Yahya, President Rouhani expressed his happiness with the growing ties between Iran and Malaysia, saying expansion of ties is in the interest of both the countries, IRNA reported.

President Rouhani said that his last year trip to Malaysia had been positive in line with the expansion of ties between the two countries, stressing the necessity to implement the agreements signed between Tehran and Kuala Lumpur during the visit.

He added that Malaysia is important for Iran and hoped that the relations would quickly reach the expected level. Rouhani added that Iran is ready to expand ties with Malaysia in different fields including energy and tourism.

Calling Malaysia a "moderate" Muslim country, Rouhani said that extremism and violence are very dangerous for the Islamic world and the region.

The new Malaysian ambassador said his country calls for strengthened and improved ties with Iran in every field, especially in economic cooperation.

"Tehran welcomes development of ties with Bangkok in all fields and I hope that we witness closer bonds between the two countries through making the best use of the existing potentials," said President Rouhani while receiving the credentials of the new ambassador of Thailand to Tehran.

Rouhani also referred to four decades of relations between Iran and Thailand, saying: "Iran and Thailand have good



agreements for developing and deepening mutual ties, especially in energy, industry and agriculture".

Resolution of int'l conflicts

Rouhani called on independent nations to join hands and make concerted efforts for resolution of international conflicts through dialogue.

"From the viewpoint of the Islamic Republic of Iran, dialogue and political consultations are the solution to international problems," President Rouhani said in a meeting with Mexico's new ambassador to Iran.

Jose Alfonso Zegbe Camarena voiced Mexico's willingness to broaden relations with Iran.



Highlighting the widespread cultural interaction between the two nations, the envoy said he will try to enhance political, economic and trade ties with Iran.

President Rouhani also welcomed improvement of ties with Benin and Slovenia, while receiving the credentials of the new ambassadors of the two countries to Tehran.

UN envoy protests Tillerson's interventionist remarks

Iran's envoy to the United Nations in a letter on Monday protested to the UN chief over recent anti-Iran remarks made by the US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson.

Gholamali Khoshroo said that Tillerson's remarks about working towards "a peaceful transition of government" in Iran is clearly an "interventionist plan" that is against norms and principles of international law,

IRNA reported.

Iran's protest came after Tillerson, in comments at the US House Foreign Affairs Committee on Wednesday, announced that Washington's policy is driven by relying on "elements inside of Iran" to bring about "peaceful transition of that government."

"Interestingly, Mr. Tillerson's state-

ment coincides with the release of newly declassified documents that further clarify how US agencies were behind the overthrow of Mohammad Mossadegh, the popular and democratically elected prime minister of Iran, on August 19, 1953. That CIA-backed coup abruptly interrupted the path of Iran towards independence, democracy and development,

imposed and upheld a 25-year-long dictatorship that left deep scars on the Iranian society and its collective conscience," the letter read.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qassemi said Iran summoned the Swiss chargé d'affaires to Tehran to protest at the Tillerson's "meddlesome" remarks against the Islamic Republic.

Brazil seeking to form long-term...

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Another field of cooperation could be the production of auto spare parts. Brazil is the world's fifth biggest car and auto spare parts market. Most of the world's leading auto producers, including the Korean, Japanese, German and American car manufacturers, have production lines in the country. There are also a large number of efficient producers of auto spare parts in Brazil. Iran has a growing automobile industry which can use Brazilian auto spare parts.

Iran and Brazil can also foster collaboration in aviation sector. Brazil's Embraer is the world's third largest airplane manufacturer. The company manufactures aircraft for regional [two-three hour] flights. The Brazilian company has already signed an MoU with a number of Iranian firms. However, both sides are waiting for the US' Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) to grant the authorization for this cooperation to be initiated.

What about the present level of bilateral trade?

Bilateral trade between Iran and Brazil currently stands at around \$2 billion. Brazil's exports to Iran constitutes some 90 percent of the figure. Agricultural products account for the major part of the Brazil's overseas sales to Iran. In addition, Brazil sells \$400 million worth of meat to Iran per year.

Other export items are soybeans, corn, oil seeds and sugar, which, together with beef, constitute 70 percent of the Brazilian exports to Iran.

What are Iran's exports to Brazil?

Brazil imports carpets, pistachios and fruits from Iran. However, we would like to purchase petrochemicals, fertilizers and even oil from Iran. We used to import crude from the country.

In addition, talks are underway by a consortium of the two sides' private companies to make investments in the construction of a refinery in Brazil. Iran's contribution to the building of this refinery would be in the form of

exporting techno-engineering services and financing the joint venture.

We would also like to attract Iranian investments in agro sector. Iran already imports a large amount of agricultural products from Brazil per annum. By investing in the crop production in Brazil, instead of purchasing the products from the country, Iranians can own crops and export them from the Latin American state to any country they want.

Have the two countries reached any concrete trade or economic agreements?

Last month, the Iranian and Brazilian health ministers, Hassan Qazizadeh Hashemi and Ricardo Barros, signed an MoU to expand cooperation in the fields of controlling the population, enhancing health and production of pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and vaccines. Both sides are very much interested in the coproduction of vaccines. The two states have also signed two MoUs on manufacturing airplanes and buses.

Any improvement in the two sides' trade and political ties following the implementation of the JCPOA?

Brazil and Iran had always had very good relations prior to the intensification of the sanctions. In 2010, Brazil was helping Iran in the nuclear negotiations. At that time, Brasilia did its best to help Iran resolve the nuclear issue through diplomacy and dialogue. Unfortunately, in the following years, more sanctions were imposed on Tehran. After the signing of the JCPOA, Brazilian companies showed more interest to be present in the Iranian market as with the perspective of the sanctions being lifted, Iran's market had become much more attractive. Brazil's agro exports to Iran, however, never dropped even during the period of tough sanctions. However, exporting industrial products to Iran was not possible at that time due to the banking restrictions. It takes time for the two countries to increase trade to an acceptable level.

What about the banking relations between the two sides?

There are many banks in Brazil that would like to have direct contact with Iranian banks. But the six big banks of the country fail to do so due to having credit lines with their American counterparts for financing Brazilian imports and exports. In November last year, the Brazilian government invited OFAC representatives to talk to the country's banks about their banking relations with Iran. At that time, Brazilians were in favor of starting such a cooperation. The Americans also told us that, from their side, there were no banking sanctions on Iran anymore. They literally told us that they had imposed the sanctions because they thought that it was the [right] thing to do. They said, "Now that the JCPOA has been signed, we would feel obliged to tell our partners you can have banking relations with Iran."

We asked them to tell this to Brazilian banks as well. The US has, however, only lifted the secondary sanctions and not the primary ones. This prohibits the American banks from having relations with their Iranian counterparts. That is why the big Brazilian banks are still hesitant for initiating cooperation with their Iranian counterparts. They have links with the US banks.

To resolve this problem we keep Brazilian banks informed about the positive developments in Iran's banking sector and have focused on establishing connections between medium-sized banks in Brazil and the Iranian banks — as they do not have the same dependence on the US banks that the big ones have. At the same time efforts are underway to let Iranian banks open their branches in Brazil and have direct links with their headquarters in Iran. Another measure is to increase the use of local currency in mutual trade.

How close are the two countries to reaching the annual trade target of \$10 billion per year?

In case of signing some of the deals I mentioned earlier by the yearned, the target will be achieved within five years.

Iraqi forces advance in Mosul Old City, rescue civilians

Iraqi forces said Tuesday they were fighting fierce battles with the Daesh group and rescuing escaping civilians as they pursued their offensive against Mosul's terrorist-held Old City.

Staff Lieutenant General Abdulghani al-Assadi, a senior commander in the Counter-Terrorism Service (CTS), said the battle was proceeding as expected but that progress was slow, AFP reported.

"Things are good and the battle is going as planned," he told AFP.

"We have many obstacles — the nature of the land, the nature of the construction, the roads and the civilian population — all of which slows down our work."

He said civilians were escaping the Old City, with up to 400 approaching the positions of Iraqi forces on Monday.

Federal police forces said they were moving forward on the southern front of the battle with support from heavy weapons fire and on the northern front had surrounded a hospital.

Iraqi forces launched the operation on Sunday to retake the Old City, the last part of Iraq's second city still held by Daesh after a months-long offensive.

Commanders say the terrorists are putting up fierce resistance and there are fears for more than 100,000 civilians believed to be trapped in the maze of narrow streets.

Iraqi forces have been inching forward in the face of



A member of Iraqi forces patrols inside a damaged building during the advance towards the Old City of Mosul on June 19, 2017.

AHMAD AL-RUBAYE/AFP

heavy sniper and mortar fire and booby-traps laid by the terrorists.

On Monday, three French journalists were wounded and Kurdish reporter Bakhtiyar Addad was killed in a mine explosion while accompanying Iraqi forces in Mosul.

French public broadcaster France Television said Tuesday that one of the wounded

journalists, Stephan Ville-neuve, had died of his injuries.

The push into Mosul's historic heart on the west bank of the Tigris River marks the culmination of a campaign launched in October by Iraqi forces to retake the terrorist group's last major urban stronghold in the country.

The loss of Mosul would

mark the effective end of the Iraqi portion of the cross-border "caliphate" that Daesh declared in summer 2014 after seizing swathes of Iraq and Syria.

Earlier this week, Iraqi forces dropped nearly 500,000 leaflets over the city, urging civilians to stay indoors and escape if they can.

Iraqi forces launched a vast

operation to retake Mosul eight months ago, seizing the city's eastern side in January and starting an assault on the west the following month.

Since the start of the battle to retake Mosul, an estimated 862,000 people have been displaced.

Around 195,000 have since returned, mainly to the city's east.

AP poll: Few agree with Trump move to ditch Paris accord



A coal-fired power station in Mount Storm, West Virginia, US, in January.

Luke Sharrett/Bloomberg

A new poll found that less than a third of Americans support President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris climate accord, with just 18 percent of respondents agreeing with his claim that pulling out of the international agreement to reduce carbon emissions will help the US economy.

The survey conducted by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research this month found a slim majority — 52 percent — worry that withdrawing will hurt the economy. Another 27 percent think it won't have an impact either way, AP reported.

The poll found two-thirds of Americans think climate change is happening, while about 1 in 10 think it's not. The remaining quarter aren't sure.

Seven in 10 Americans think it's a problem that the US gov-

ernment should be working to address.

Trump announced early this month that the US would not be bound by Paris targets on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, saying they were unfairly damaging to the American economy and overly generous to India and China.

The Paris accord is aimed at capping the increase in global temperatures at two degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels.

Scientists warn that the alternative is unprecedented devastation as sea levels rise and extreme storms, droughts and heatwaves becoming more common, endangering crops and fragile environments with knock-on effects in the form of new conflicts and mass movements of people escaping affected areas.

French defense minister quits over fake jobs claims

French Defense Minister Sylvie Goulard announced her resignation on Tuesday over a fake jobs scandal that has hit her small centrist MoDem party, which has allied itself with President Emmanuel Macron's party.

Goulard, who was a member of the European Parliament from 2009 to May this year, said she could not remain in the government while facing a possible investigation of alleged misuse of expenses at that parliament, AFP reported.

Her resignation comes as Macron carries out a minor shuffle of his government following parliamentary elections on Sunday which handed him and his MoDem allies a commanding majority.

Goulard was named to the defense job only a month ago following Macron's election to the presidency. But she said the possibility of an investigation made it difficult for her to stay in the post given Macron's pledge to clean up politics.

"The president is committed to restoring confidence in public office, reforming France and relaunching Europe," she said in a statement.

"This reform agenda must take precedence over any personal considerations."

"That is why I have asked the president, with the agreement of the prime minister, to leave the government."

Macron accepted her resignation and said he "respected" Goulard's choice.

Paris prosecutors opened a preliminary investigation this month into claims in the Canard Enchaîné newspaper that MoDem was using European parliamentary funds to pay assistants who were actually based in France.

MoDem's leader Francois Bayrou was a key backer of Macron's one-year-old Republic on the Move (REM) movement during the presidential campaign, and his support was crucial in winning centrist votes for the new president.

Bayrou, whom Macron named Justice Minister as a reward for his support, last week dismissed the claims.

On Tuesday, the MoDem leader said he respected Goulard's "personal" decision.

MoDem won 42 seats in the parliamentary election



AFP

while Macron's party crushed its rivals by winning 308 seats, giving their centrist alliance a solid majority in the 577-seat National Assembly.

OPINION

The scandal business

By David Brooks

I was the op-ed editor at The Wall Street Journal at the peak of the Whitewater scandal. We ran a series of investigative pieces "raising serious questions" (as we say in the scandal business) about the nefarious things the Clintons were thought to have done back in Arkansas.

Now I confess I couldn't follow all the actual allegations made in those essays. They were six jungles deep in the weeds. But I do remember the intense atmosphere that the scandal created. A series of bombshell revelations came out in the media, which seemed monumental at the time. A special prosecutor was appointed and indictments were expected. Speculation became the national sport.

In retrospect Whitewater seems overblown. And yet it has to be confessed that, at least so far, the Whitewater scandal was far more substantive than the Russia-collusion scandal now gripping Washington.

There may be a giant revelation still to come. But as the Trump-Russia story has evolved, it is striking how little evidence there is that any underlying crime occurred — that there was any actual collusion between the Donald Trump campaign and the Russians. Everything seems to be leaking out of this administration, but so far the leaks about actual collusion are meager.

There were some meetings between Trump officials and some Russians, but so far no more than you'd expect from a campaign that was publicly and proudly pro-Putin. And so far nothing we know of these meetings proves or even indicates collusion.

I'm not saying there shouldn't be an investigation into potential Russia-Trump links. If the Trump people were involved, that would be treason. I'm saying first, let's not get ahead of ourselves and assume that this link exists.

Second, there is something disturbingly meta about this whole affair. This is, as Yuval Levin put it, an investigation about itself. Trump skeptics within the administration laid a legal minefield all around the president, and then Trump — being Trump — stomped all over it, blowing himself up six ways from Sunday.

Now of course Trump shouldn't have tweeted about Oval Office tape recordings. Of course he shouldn't have fired James Comey.

But even if you took a paragon of modern presidents — a contemporary Abraham Lincoln — and you directed a democratically unsupervised, infinitely financed team of prosecutors at him and gave them power to subpoena his staff and look under any related or unrelated rock in an attempt to bring him down, there's a pretty good chance you could spur even this modern paragon to want to fight back. You could spur even him to do something that had the whiff of obstruction.

There's just something worrisome every time we find ourselves replacing politics of democracy with the politics of scandal. In democracy, the issues count, and you try to win by persuasion. You recognize that your opponents are legitimate, that they will always be there and that some form of compromise is inevitable.

In the politics of scandal, at least since Watergate, you don't have to engage in persuasion or even talk about issues. Political victories are won when you destroy your political opponents by catching them in some wrongdoing. You get seduced by the delightful possibility that your opponent will be eliminated. Politics is simply about moral superiority and personal destruction.

The politics of scandal is delightful for cable news. It's hard to build ratings arguing about health insurance legislation. But it's easy to build ratings if you are a glorified Court TV, if each whiff of scandal smoke generates hours of "Breaking News" intensity and a deluge of speculation from good-looking former prosecutors.

The politics is great for those forces responsible for the lawyerization of American life. It takes power out of the hands of voters and elected officials and puts power in the hands of prosecutors and defense attorneys.

The politics of scandal drives a wedge through society. Political elites get swept up in the scandals. Most voters don't really care.

Donald Trump rose peddling the politics of scandal — oblivious to policy, spreading insane allegations about birth certificates and other things — so maybe it's just that he gets swallowed by it. But frankly, on my list of reasons Trump is unfit for the presidency, the Russia-collusion story ranks number 971, well below, for example, the perfectly legal ways he kowtows to thugs and undermines the norms of democratic behavior.

The people who hype the politics of scandal don't make American government purer. They deserve some of the blame for an administration and government too distracted to do its job, for a political culture that is both shallower and nastier, and for fostering a process that looks like an elite game of entrapment.

Things are so bad that I'm going to have to give Trump the last word. On June 15 he tweeted, "They made up a phony collusion with the Russians story, found zero proof, so now they go for obstruction of justice on the phony story."

Unless there is some new revelation, that may turn out to be pretty accurate commentary.

The above article first appeared in the New York Times under the title, "Let's Not Get Carried Away."

SPECIAL NEWS

Domestic Economy Desk

Iran to construct
6,500km of railroads by 2022

Iran will construct 6,500 kilometers of railroads in five years, announced the head of International Transportation Office at Iranian Railways.

Hossein Ashouri told Trend News Agency that the figure also includes underdeveloped projects, while the construction of further 3,500 kilometers of railroads after 2022 is currently under study.

He however did not mention the amount of investment required for the projects, but the General Director of Islamic Republic of Iranian Railways Saeed Mohammadzadeh said on Monday that in the past four years, Iran invested \$1 billion each year on railroad projects, and for the next five years the figure would reach \$1.5 to \$2 billion annually.

Currently, Iran's railroad network extends for 10,170 kilometers.

One of the railroad projects is the Rasht-Astara segment which extends for 175km. On completion, the North-South Transport Corridor will become fully operational.

The International North-South Transport Corridor is meant to connect Northern Europe with Southeast Asia. It will serve as a link connecting the railways of Azerbaijan, Iran and Russia.

The corridor is planned to transport six million tons of cargo per year in the initial stage and will subsequently rise to 15-20 million tons.

The only remaining section of the project in Iran is the Rasht-Astara segment, which Iran plans to complete within three years through a loan from Azerbaijan. Financial talks on this are continuing and an agreement is in the final stage, Ashouri said.

The Rasht-Astara segment would require an investment of \$1.1 billion. Iran and Azerbaijan are negotiating a \$500-million loan.

Pakistan in talks with Iran
on FTA: Minister

Pakistani minister of commerce said that his country is getting ready to sign a free trade agreement (FTA) with Iran.

Khurram Dasgir Khan told IRNA that as the first major step towards FTA, central banks of Iran and Pakistan have signed an agreement few months ago and all the required notifications have been done.

"At the moment, we are in contact and negotiations are underway with Pakistani banks to immediately open letters of credit (L/Cs) for trade with Iran," he said.

The minister added that there is a great positivity from both sides on that front.

"I am delighted to note that recently the government of Iran has reported that our bilateral trade has exceeded \$1 billion. That is excellent news for both countries and I see this trade will grow even further in future," said the minister.

Iran and Pakistan had earlier agreed to increase trade to \$5 billion in the next five years.

Responding to a question on Pakistan-Qatar trade ties, Dasgir Khan added that Pakistan continues to trade with all PGCC partners.

Armenia seeks
more natural gas import from Iran

The managing director of Yerevan thermal power plant underlined Armenia's interest in increasing electricity export to Iran and called for importing more natural gas from Iran.

Sassan Khachatryan said in a meeting with the Head of National Iranian Gas Exports Company (NIGEC) Ali Amirani that his country is ready to export more electricity to Iran in the summer, and called for more gas import from Iran in the cold months, IRNA reported.



IRNA

Amirani said in the meeting that Iran is willing to expand collaboration in the gas sector with Armenia.

He hoped to sign a new contract with Armenia to start a multifaceted collaboration with Yerevan.

The two sides looked forward to building the third electricity transmission line as the grounds for gas trade multiplies.

They also agreed to hold the next meeting in Tehran to discuss technical issues and sign relevant agreements.

Based on an agreement, the third transmission line will be built by the end of 2018. The line will increase electricity transfer to Iran between 350 and 1,000 megawatts. The line will also make it possible for southern and central areas of Armenia to have better access to electricity.

The plan, which is worth \$107 million, is part of the quadrilateral project between Iran, Armenia, Russia and Georgia.

GSFC keen to set up
ammonia urea plant in Iran

India's state-run Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals (GSFC) announced on Tuesday that it was exploring the possibility of setting up an ammonia-urea plant in Iran.

Speaking to PTI, GSFC Managing Director A. M. Tiwari said, "We are keen to set up an ammonia-urea plant in Iran due to the availability of natural gas, which is a raw material for ammonia at cheaper rate there. This plant is expected to cost around \$800 million."

He said this decision comes in the wake of the pact signed by India and Iran in May 2016 to develop the strategic Chabahar Port in Iran.

"One of the important things about this development is free trade zone, where a total investment of \$15 billion is envisaged. Indian companies would set up a range of industries from aluminum smelter to urea plants in the region," he added. 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.

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 34 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



SHANA

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 Fars 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 Tous gas field in the northeastern province of Khuzestan 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 Changleh oilfield in

western Iran.

Lukoil, Russia's second biggest oil producer, hopes to reach a decision on developing two new oilfields in 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.

South Korea Kemix to help develop Iran projects

Iran's Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Ali Tayyebnia met the President of South Korea Export-Import Bank (Kexim) Choi Jong-ku in Seoul to discuss the financing of Iranian construction and infrastructure projects in the energy, petrochemical, oil and health sectors.

According to IBENA, in the meeting, which was also attended by officials of the Organization for Investment, Economic and Technical Assistance of Iran, Central Bank of Iran and the banking system on the Iranian side as well as the top official of Kexim, an agreement was reached on extending an \$8-billion line of credit, for which preliminary talks started a year ago.

The line of credit is part of a recently unveiled \$13-billion South Korean FDI to be spent on Iranian projects, namely Isfahan refinery and eight Siraf gas condensate refineries in Asalouyeh, among



YONHAP

others.

The remaining \$5 billion, which have yet to be finalized, is to be provided by

Korea Trade Insurance Corporation.

In the meeting, the Korean official said his side is ready to support the projects

and asked the Iranian delegation to formally name the projects.

Pointing to recent positive economic developments since the implementation of the nuclear accord last year, Tayyebnia said potential grounds for cooperation have made many countries eager to finance Iranian projects.

"The interest and seriousness of the Korean side can pave the way for the implementation of agreements signed by the two countries," he added.

The Korea Eximbank, the country's flagship policy-based financial institution, was established in 1976 and has been an active catalyst in the growth of strategic Korean industries such as shipbuilding, industrial plants and construction.

Choi Jong-ku is the 19th chairman and president of the Korea Export-Import Bank who took office in March 2017.

Eni signs deal to conduct...

further agreements.

Patrick Pouyanne, Total chief executive, said this week that the French group would make an initial \$1-billion investment in the project after the US extended sanctions relief for Iran under a 2015 agreement that lifted economic blocks in return for the country modifying its nuclear program.

"It is worth taking the risk at \$1 billion because it opens a huge market," he told Reuters. "We are perfectly conscious of some risks. We have taken into account [sanctions] snap-backs; we have to take into account regulation changes."

The offshore field was first developed in the 1990s, and Total was one of the biggest investors in Iran until the international sanctions were imposed in 2006 over suspicions about Tehran's nuclear program.

Total has decided to return and develop Phase 11 of the South Pars project in the Persian Gulf, which will cost up to \$5 billion.

Total holds a 50.1 interest in the South Pars project along with state-owned China National Petroleum Corporation, with 30 percent, and Iran's Petropars with a 19.9 percent, he said.

Total aims for returns of above 15 percent on every new project it is enters into around the world. That includes South Pars, where terms discussed with the Iranian government would be significantly better than

those in the pre-sanctions period, Pouyanne said.

Investors have complained that previous Iranian contracts allowed foreign companies little profit. Total worked on phases 2-3 of South Pars in the 1990s.

The new Iranian Petroleum Contract (IPC) differs from its predecessor by offering the operator remuneration based on production rather than a simple percentage of the development costs, Pouyanne said.

It also extends over a period of 20 years rather than seven or eight. "The IPC is a real improvement," he said. "We will not go to Iran if there is not a reward which is commensurate."

With US sanctions still in place prohibiting trading with Iran in dollars, Total will finance the project in euros from its own resources.

Gas from South Pars will supply only the fast-growing domestic Iranian market and none will be exported, Pouyanne said. Total will be paid not in cash but in condensate — a very light crude oil which is a byproduct of gas production.

South Pars is part of a giant gas reservoir that straddles the territorial waters of Iran and Qatar, where Total is also a major player in gas production as well as in oil and refining. Total is also considering a petrochemicals project in Iran which would require external financing from Asian banks, although this remains in less advanced stage, Pouyanne said.



IRNA

From Page 1

He said that the \$4.8-billion deal between Iran and a consortium led by France's Total to develop part of the giant South Pars Gas Field would be finalized soon, adding that this would encourage other international companies including Eni, Royal Dutch Shell and Denmark's Maersk Group to sign

Why Asia's central banks should worry less about inflation and more about debt

Central banks have long used inflation expectations to set policy, including interest rates, but some analysts wonder if Asia's policy makers should have bigger fish to fry.

Michael Heise, group chief economist at Allianz, noted last week that Asia's economies have seen a solid recovery.

"Trade is one reason why the Asian economy has recovered. The other reason is a little more problematic and it's the credit cycle," he said, pointing to an "enormous" debt build-up across the region, including China, CNBC wrote.

He noted that between 2007 and 2016, private sector debt, including households and non-financial corporates, rose by around 90 percentage-points of gross domestic product in China and around 70 percentage points in Singapore.

"In the short term view, this was good news as it prevented the halt of demand and the weakness of the economies, but in the long term, it raises the question, is it sustainable," Heise asked. "Monetary authorities worldwide should start giving more weight to the issue of financial stability in contrast to pure inflation," he said.

Inflation globally has remained muted, despite policy makers' best efforts to goose it higher with low interest rates and, in some cases, quantitative easing (QE) programs.

In the US, the consumer price index for fell 0.1 percent on-month, but rose 1.9 percent on-year, skirting the US Federal Reserve's two percent inflation target. A continuing slump in oil prices has dampened consumer prices, with US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) hitting a seven-month closing low on Monday, according to Reuters data.

In Japan, headline CPI rose 0.4 percent on-year in April, up just a tad from March's 0.2 percent rise. Elsewhere in the region, China's CPI rose 1.5 percent on-year in May and Singapore's inflation was just 0.4 percent on-year in April.



ftthmb.lqn.com

Heise pointed to concerns some Asian central banks might also turn on the liquidity taps to combat low inflation, by cutting interest rates further.

"[By] pumping liquidity into a market that already has enough or even lowering interest rates, financial instability even worsens and this loan situation even accelerates," he said. "That would be the wrong reaction."

In a note on Monday, Citi also pointed to expectations

that a "tendency towards downside inflation surprises" meant lower interest rates and low bond yields.

"The downward pressure on yields is easing financial conditions and as yields fall it is also likely to exacerbate the reach for returns that continues to underpin risk assets at increasingly rich valuations," Citi said.

Buying overvalued assets could come back to bite investors later.

Fitch sees China growth below government target



agbrief.com

China's economic growth is expected to fall below the government's six percent target in 2018 and 2019, according to Fitch, reflecting the increasing challenge of supporting growth given a higher level of indebtedness.

The ratings agency, in its regular Global Economic Outlook report forecast growth in China of 5.9 percent in 2019 and 5.8 percent the year after. The economy is expected to grow 6.5 percent this year, according to FT.

Fitch noted tighter credit conditions as authorities clamp down on the growth of leverage in the financial system. The agency said new credit as a share of GDP has also "slowed sharply", suggesting a slowdown in housing sales ahead.

"Housing is the key cyclical sector in the economy and will weigh on growth in 2018 along with a likely slowdown in infrastructure development," Fitch said.

Fitch pointed out that its growth forecasts for China and Japan in 2017 and 2018 had been revised up by 0.2 percentage points since its March GEO report. Japanese growth is forecast to be 1.2 percent this year, slowing to 1.1 percent in 2018 and 0.7 percent the year after. The agency said "the recent flow of hard data suggests that Japan's growth momentum has continued to build in the first half of this year".

Globally, Fitch forecasts GDP growth of 2.9 percent in 2017, up 0.4 percentage points from last year, and rising to 3.1 percent in 2018 before easing to three percent in 2019. The US looks to be a key driver of growth globally and in the developed world in 2018.

CBI upgrades growth forecasts but warns government on economy

Britain's economy is in for a period of 'tepid' growth as households hold back spending in the face of higher inflation, the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) believed.

The leading business group fears that the government has taken its eye off the economy, losing its focus on growth, productivity and jobs at a vital moment for the country, The Telegraph wrote.

The CBI has upgraded its growth forecasts but still thinks the UK faces a modest slowdown, with GDP growth easing back from 1.8 percent in 2016 to 1.6 percent in 2017 and 1.4 percent next year.

It said that the UK has proved to be 'resilient' and unemployment should stay at or around its current very low levels in the years ahead.

The business economists also anticipate a pickup in exports, thanks to the weak pound and strong global growth, as well as modest but sustained investment from companies.

The 'steady and un-spectacular' forecast is an improvement on the sharper slowdown which it feared could take place following the Brexit vote, but still leaves the UK growing less rapidly than last year.

Carolyn Fairbairn, the CBI's director general, said that the Conservatives have lost their focus on the economy, and praised some of Labour's plans for spending on infrastructure and skills.

"There hasn't been enough emphasis on the economy in the past few months, and by that we mean jobs and growth and the impact on people's lives," she said.



British Prime Minister Theresa May

zimbio.com

South Korean current account surplus declined in 2016

South Korea's current account surplus dropped slightly in 2016 from a year earlier due mainly to decreased exports, data by the central bank showed on Tuesday.

The current account surplus came to \$98.68 billion in 2016, compared with \$105.94 billion a year earlier, according to preliminary estimates released by the Bank of Korea (BoK), Yonhap reported.

By country, South Korea's current account surplus with the United States fell to \$31.15 billion in 2016 from \$33.03 billion a year earlier. The 2016 figure marked the lowest since 2012, when the corresponding figure came to \$19.04 billion.

The BoK said a drop in the export of cars and steel products are to blame for the decline in the current account surplus with the US.

Still, South Korea's service balance deficit with the US rose to \$14.28 billion in 2016 from \$14.09 billion a year earlier.

The latest data came as South Korea is making efforts to cut its trade surplus with the world's largest economy by increasing imports of US shale gas and aircraft.

US President Donald Trump has signed a set of



businessstimes.com

executive orders to review all trade pacts as a way to reduce the country's trade deficit in goods that exceeds \$700 billion through anti-dumping and countervailing duties.

South Korea has been one of the targets as Asia's fourth-largest economy posted \$23.3 billion in a trade surplus with the US.

The Seoul-Washington free trade pact, which took effect in 2012, is regarded as one of the main reasons behind the US deficit.

Meanwhile, South Korea's current account surplus with China reached \$40.72 billion in 2016 — down from \$46.73 billion a year earlier, according to the BoK.

The decline came as South Korea's exports to China, its largest trading partner, fell 6.16 percent in 2016 from a year earlier. South Korea's current account deficit with Japan widened to \$20.48 billion in 2016 from \$19.08 billion a year earlier due to increased imports of machinery and precision equipment.

Main Indices of TSE

Index	Value	Change	Percent
Total Index	78868.6	(54)	0
Industry Index	67783.8	(18.3)	(0.08)
Free Float Index	85699.1	86.3	0.1
First Market Index	54365.3	(34)	(0.02)
Second Market Index	176894.5	192.8	0.15

Overall Index details on 20170620

First	78859.2	Change end of year(%)	918.32%
High	78884.4	Historical highest	89500.6 (20140105)
Low	78833.6	Historical lowest	100 (1369/1/6)
Close	78868.6	Base Value	100 (1369/1/6)
Change	0		

Industry Index details on 20170620

First	67760.3	Change end of year(%)	1027.74%
Max Value	67791.8	Historical highest	75181.9 (20140105)
Max Value	69610.5	Historical lowest	1226.8 (1377/8/25)
Closing	67783.8	Base Value	
Closing	(18.3)		

Free Float Index details on 20170620

First	85851.9	Change end of year(%)	
Max Value	88753.6	Historical highest	105040 (20140105)
Max Value	88687.9	Historical lowest	
Closing	85699.1	Base Value	
Closing	86.3		

Main Board Index details on 20170620

First	54406.9	Change end of year(%)	777.1%
Max Value	54413.7	Historical highest	67441.4 (20140105)
Max Value	55990.5	Historical lowest	
Closing	54365.3	Base Value	4740.4 (1381/6/2)
Closing	(34)		

Secondary Index details on 20170620

First	176598.8	Change end of year(%)	1345.03%
Max Value	176978.3	Historical highest	181353 (20170522)
Max Value	181452.5	Historical lowest	
Closing	176894.5	Base Value	4740.4 (1381/6/2)
Closing	192.8		

Major Currencies

Currency	To USD	Currency	To USD
Turkish Lira	0.2840	Chinese Yuan	0.1463
Euro	1.1153	UAE Dirham	0.2722
British Pound	1.2680	Kuwaiti Dinar	3.2924
Australian Dollar	0.7615	Iraqi Dinar	0.0008
Japanese 100 Yen	0.0089	Saudi Riyal	0.2666

Major Commodities

Crude Oil	\$44.29	Silver	\$16.58
Gold	\$1248.20	Platinum	\$928.10
Copper	\$2.58	Wheat	\$464.25

Ancient adobe structure found in western Iran

Archeological explorations at the Avicenna Petrochemical Complex in Famenin, Hamedan Province, led to the discovery of an adobe structure.



ISNA

The structure which dates back to Iron Age 3 (probably the Medians) has thick walls, fire platform and seating platforms of varying dimensions, IRNA reported.

The reclamation project was undertaken since the ancient Hajjabad Hill in the village of Razan is located within the precincts of Avicenna Petrochemical Complex of Famenin, reported the Research Institute of Iran's Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization.

Head of the archeological team Esmail Hemmati Azandaryani, said on Monday that archeologists in the area identified valuable works which are unique in archeological studies in the west of Iran from Iron Age 3 (probably the Medians) and similar works have not been found anywhere else except in Noushijan.

He pointed to the temple platform, adobe platform, the dividing wall, the U-shaped stove, niche and the remains of the clusters of wheat close to the temple platform, noting that all the clay findings in the area date back to Iron Age 3.

Seventy-four percent of the world's population will be exposed to deadly heatwaves by 2100 if carbon gas emissions continue to rise at current rates, according to a study published in Nature Climate Change.

Even if emissions are aggressively reduced, the percent of the world's human population affected is expected to reach 48 percent, phys.org wrote.

"We are running out of choices for the future," said Camilo Mora, associate professor of geography in the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and lead author of the study.

"For heatwaves, our options are now between bad or terrible."

Many people around the world are already paying the ultimate price of heatwaves, and while models suggest that this is likely to continue, it could be much worse if emissions are not considerably reduced. The human body can only function within a narrow range of core body temperatures around 37°C.

Heatwaves pose a considerable risk to human life because hot weather, aggravated with high humidity, can raise body temperature, leading to life threatening conditions.

A team of researchers led by Mora conducted an extensive review and found over 1,900 cases of locations worldwide where high ambient temperatures have killed people since 1980.

By analyzing the climatic conditions of 783 lethal heat episodes for which dates were obtained, researchers



internapcdn.net

Deadly heatwaves will continue to rise

identified a threshold beyond which temperatures and humidities become deadly.

The area of the planet where such a threshold is crossed for 20 or more days per year has been increasing and is projected to grow even with dramatic cuts in greenhouse gas emissions. Currently, about 30 percent of the world's human population is exposed to such deadly conditions each year.

Numerous examples, such as the 2003 European heatwave that killed approximately 70,000 people, the

2010 Moscow heatwave that killed 10,000 people and the 1995 Chicago heatwave that killed 700 people are staggering examples of the risk to life posed by heatwaves.

But beyond these highly cited examples, little was known about how common such killer heatwaves are.

The international group of researchers and students coordinated by the University of Hawaii at Manoa set out to answer that question. From over 30,000 relevant publications, the researchers identified 911 papers with data on 1,949 case studies of cities or

regions, where human deaths were associated with high temperatures.

From those cases, dates were obtained for 783 lethal heatwaves in 164 cities across 36 countries, with most cases recorded in developed countries at mid-latitudes. Some of the cities that have experienced lethal heatwaves included New York, Washington, Los Angeles, Chicago, Toronto, London, Beijing, Tokyo, Sydney and Sao Paulo.

When analyzing the climatic conditions for those cities, the researchers discovered a common threshold

beyond which temperatures and humidities became lethal. In agreement with human thermal physiology, the threshold was such that as relative humidity increases, lower temperatures become lethal.

"Finding a threshold beyond which climatic conditions turn deadly is scientifically important yet frightening," said Farrah Powell, a UH Manoa graduate student and one of the co-authors in the study.

"This threshold now allows us to identify conditions that are harmful to people."

"And because it is based on documented cases of real people across the globe, it makes it that more credible and relevant. The scary thing is how common those deadly conditions are already."

A web-application accompanying the paper allows counting, for any place on Earth, the number of days in a year when temperature and humidity exceed such a deadly threshold.

For example, by 2100 New York is projected to have around 50 days with temperatures and humidities exceeding the threshold in which people have previously died. That same year, the number of deadly days for Sydney will be 20, 30 for Los Angeles, and the entire summer for Orlando and Houston.

The study also found that the greatest risk to human life from deadly heat was projected for tropical areas. This is because the tropics are hot and humid year round, whereas for higher latitudes the risk of deadly heat is restricted to summer.

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جهت اجاره به یک سفارتخانه
و کمپانی های خارجی نیازمندیم

Treating deformities

Researchers are growing tiny functioning segments of organs, called organoids, in a bid to find ways to treat deformities of the craniofacial complex, namely the skull and face.

Age, cost of treatment among top reasons patients leave hospital early

It's a not uncommon occurrence: Patients discharge themselves from the hospital against their doctor's best advice.

Now, new research on over 29 million hospital stays sheds light on which types of patients are most prone to this behavior — and why, UPI reported.

Using 2013 US hospital data, researchers found that younger patients are much more likely than older patients to leave the hospital against the advice of their doctor.

Dr. Jashvant Poeran, of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City, said, "In fact, patients aged 65 and older were four times less likely to leave the hospital against medical advice than were adults under 65."

Other factors played a role as well. Regardless of their age, men were more likely to leave the hospital against medical advice than were women, the study found.

A lack of insurance, being covered by Medicaid, and the presence of a mental health disorder also raised the risk.

And among older patients, the risk of leaving the hospital against medical advice was 65 percent higher for blacks and 57 percent higher for those with low incomes, the researchers noted.

Poeran added, "Incidents like these are on the rise."

"Between 2003 and 2013, rates of unadvised self-discharge for adults under 65 rose from about 1.4 percent of all patient stays to nearly 1.8 percent."

And the consequences of such actions — for patient well-being and the healthcare system — can be dire.

According to the researchers, leaving the hospital against a doctor's orders is linked with a higher risk of hospital readmission, illness and death, as well as increased costs.

The study was published in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*.

Poeran said, "One of the reasons mentioned in previous studies for leaving the hospital against medical advice is suboptimal communication, which may indeed affect older minority patients more."

Dr. Liron Sinvani, directs the Geriatric Hospitalist Service at Northwell Health in Manhasset, NY, agreed with Poeran that a person's decision to leave the hospital against the advice of his or her care provider often represents a breakdown in communication between patients, family members and providers.

She said the study highlights the significance of communication between the patient and the care team.

Michael Duffy, a personal injury attorney and expert in malpractice law practicing in Uniondale, NY, said, "Discharging oneself from the hospital despite a doctor's orders can have legal ramifications, too."

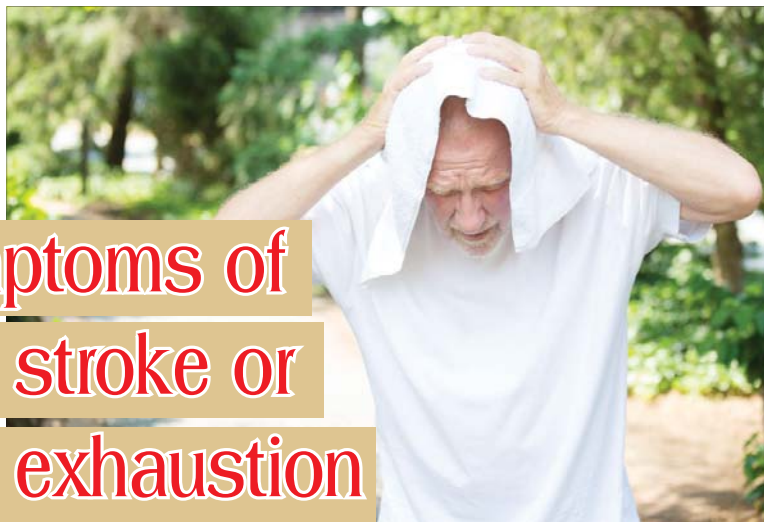
Duffy believes patients often feel pressure to discharge themselves from care because of coverage decisions made by their insurance company.

"We cannot allow insurance companies and hospital bean counters to determine when a patient is discharged."

"It is immoral for those who concern themselves only with the bottom line to override and contradict the expertise of health care providers."

Poeran added, "More research is needed to find out why exactly race/ethnicity and poverty are more pronounced as risk factors in older patients, especially since Medicare theoretically offers universal health coverage for patients aged 65 years or older."

Symptoms of heat stroke or heat exhaustion



ercare24.com

Heat stroke and heat exhaustion are serious conditions if they are not treated quickly and effectively, but people can ignore the symptoms and pass them off as normal during hot weather.

Temperatures across the UK are set to reach over 30°C, express.co.uk wrote.

Heat stroke and heat exhaustion can occur when people get too hot, during a heat wave or in a hot climate.

They can also occur when people are doing too much strenuous exercise and experts argue possible heat stroke must be treated as quickly as possible.

Heat exhaustion happened when people become very hot and start to lose water or salt from the body, whereas heat stroke means the body can no longer cool itself — causing the person's body temperature to become dangerously high.

Heat stroke usually occurs when the core temperature of the body reaches over 40°C. Heat stroke is less common, but more serious.

It can put a strain on the brain, heart, lungs, liver and kidneys, and can be life-threatening, according to NHS Choices.

Experts warn heat exhaustion or heat stroke can develop quickly — or gradually over several hours or days.

The NHS said that the symptoms of heat exhaustion include headache, dizziness and confusion, loss of appetite and feeling sick, excessive sweating and pale clammy skin, cramps in the arms, legs and stomach, fast breathing or pulse, temperature of 37°C or above and intense thirst.

People suffering with the condition should be moved to a cool place, and any unnecessary clothing should be removed.

People should lie down and raise their feet and drink plenty of water.

Experts also suggested cooling a patient's skin with cool water or ice packs.

Dr. Thomas Waite from Public Health England (PHE) said, "Much of the advice on beating the heat is common sense and for most people there's nothing to really worry about."

"For some people, such as older people, those with underlying health conditions and those with young children, the summer heat can bring real health risks."

"That's why we're urging everyone to keep an

eye on those you know who may be at risk this summer. If you're able, ask if your friends, family or neighbors need any support."

Unusual levels of UV are also being recorded in the UK at the moment — with the strength of the UV in some spots being as high as that in Cyprus and Gibraltar.

This has prompted warnings that people should take extra care in the Sun at the moment and should keep an eye on PHE's UV monitors.

The top ways for staying safe when the heat arrives are to look out for others, especially older people, young children and babies and those with underlying health conditions, close curtains on rooms that face the Sun to keep indoor spaces cooler and remember it may be cooler outdoors than indoors, drink plenty of water as sugary and caffeinated drinks can make you more dehydrated.

Experts said that people should never be left in a closed, parked vehicle, especially infants, young children or animals and advised people to keep out of the Sun between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Public Health England said people should walk in the shade, avoid physical exertion, apply sunscreen and wear a hat if you have to go out in the heat.

First Announcement

Call for identification of investors for

Completion of a section of wastewater system in Neyshabur through Buyback contract (Auction)

According to Article 214 of the fifth development plan, Article 2 of the law on establishment of water and wastewater companies approved in 1990 and article 27 of the Law for annexation of some articles to the law on drafting part of the government's financial regulations (2), the Khorasan Razavi Water and Wastewater Company intends to concede the completion of a section of the wastewater collection and treatment system in Neyshabur against the allocation of the determined volume of treated effluent for specific use for a limited and predetermined period through Buyback contract according to the following conditions to a qualified investor.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>A) Brief description of the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject: completion of a section of the wastewater system in Neyshabur, including WWTP and sewer Concessioner: The Khorasan Razavi Water and Wastewater Company Consultant: mahab sahen Construction period: 4 years Commercial operation period: Financial model to be submitted Treatment efficiency: Surface water discharge Population coverage: 410729 person Project site: City Neyshabur Pishvayeh Khorasan Razavi | <p>B) General conditions for investment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The investor must be a real or legal entity in possession of acceptable management experience to ensure and allocate the required investment Date, deadline and address to collect the qualification documents: Qualified investors may submit their letter of interest for investment in the plan and collect the qualification documents from 24/Jun/2017 until the end of office hours on 03/Jul/2017 from: mashhad-sadaf-vakil abad bvd-5 The Khorasan Razavi Water and Wastewater Company- the technical support line (TSU) |
|---|---|

- Address and deadline for submission of the required documents: The completed evaluation forms should be submitted at 15:00 on Monday dated 17/Jul/2017 to: The Khorasan Razavi Water and Wastewater Company Secretariat
- Following the review of the evaluation documents submitted by the interested parties, the qualified investors shall be invited for contract negotiations.
- The concessioner has the right to accept or reject the technical or financial proposals of the investors at any stage of the proceedings.

International Invitation to qualitative evaluation

First Announcement

JAM PETROCHEMICAL CO. intends to hold a tender for Consultation, Training, Designing, Implementation and Auditing Services for Process Safety Management System so in this step bidders are invited to take part in qualitative evaluation. Accepted companies will invite to the limited international Tender subsequently.

Tender Subject: Process Safety Management (PSM) System (According to OSHA 29 CFR 1910.119)

Tender No.: 96-11

Supervising Body: JAM PETROCHEMICAL COMPANY HSE DEPARTMENT

Other Details Are Presented By Tender Documents.

JAM PETROCHEMICAL COMPANY is entitled to freely accept or decline, without being required to provide a reason, any or all of the bids offered.

Deadline for Downloading Tender Documents: 2017-Jun-21

Qualitative Evaluation Documents: To acquire documents of the qualitative evaluation kindly apply to www.jpcomplex.ir and print the respective data from "Tender/Auction" section or sent an email to tender@jpcomplex.com.

Completed documents shall be duly signed and sealed by authorized persons and be submitted up to the end of working hours of the day 2017-Jun-30 to the address "Transactions Commission, P 4, No. 27, Nezami Ganjavi St., Tavanir St., Tehran- Iran, Postal Code: 1434843145. Fax: +98 21 88193485."

Note: The Bidders, Who Obtain the Minimum Score of 60 for the Qualitative Evaluation will invite to receive the Tender Documents.

JAM PETROCHEMICAL Public Relations

Discovery could guide immunotherapy for lung cancer

Immunotherapy is a type of cancer treatment that boosts the body's natural defenses to fight the cancer.

Scientists have discovered a new type of immune cell that could predict which lung cancer patients will benefit most from immunotherapy treatment, according to express.co.uk

Around 35,600 people die from lung cancer each year in the UK, making it the most common cause of cancer death in the UK.

Researchers at the University of Southampton and La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology, California, found lung cancer patients with large amounts of a particular type of immune T-cell, called tissue-resident memory T-cells, in their tumor were 34 percent less likely to die.

The study also found that it was not just the numbers of cells that increased survival, but the cells' behavior played a key role.

The cells clustered together and "took up residency" in a particular tissue, in this case the cancer tissue, to protect the patient.

These new T-cells also produce other molecules that attack the tumor, meaning that the body's immune system could be more likely to hunt out and destroy cancer cells.

Professor Christian Ottensmeyer, Cancer Research UK scientist at the University of Southampton, said, "These are hugely exciting results."

"For the first time we have a real indication of who might benefit from a particular drug before we make treatment decisions."

"So far when we use immunotherapy we do not know if a patient will benefit."

Experts have said immunotherapies have shown great

promise in the last decade.

However, identifying which patients respond to treatment and which don't has proven difficult for doctors.

In future, testing for levels of these cells could help doctors identify which patients will benefit most from immunotherapies that help to ramp up the body's attack on the cancer.

Scientists could take this one step further by using the T-cell as a template to develop a vaccine to boost immunotherapy even more — helping to tackle one of the hardest to treat cancers.

Ottensmeyer added, "The new findings are a big step towards making this exciting treatment much more predictable."

"Our results will also make the treatment pathway more reassuring for our patients."

"And if we can transcend survival, but the cells' behavior played a key role. The cells clustered together and 'took up residency' in a particular tissue, in this case the cancer tissue, to protect the patient."

Dr. Justine Alford, senior science information officer at Cancer Research UK, said: "The immune system can play a powerful role in fighting lung cancer, and this research sheds more light on the interplay between cancer, our immune system, and immunotherapies."

"Cancer Research UK is focusing more research on hard to treat cancers, like lung cancer, where survival has remained stubbornly low."

"Research like this is crucial to understanding why some people with lung cancer respond well to treatment and, in future, could guide more personalized treatments for patients."

The study was published in the *Journal Nature Immunology*.



express.co.uk

Coffee roasting

According to new research, coffee's antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties are diminished by roasting. The longer coffee beans are roasted, the less they offer antioxidant and anti-inflammatory benefits.

Bacterial 'hair' study could pave way for new antibiotics

Scientists have identified the molecular building blocks essential to the formation of hair-like filaments called pili, which bacteria use for a variety of functions.

Researchers said their analysis could pave the way for new antibiotics, UPI reported.



UPI
New research suggested a new class of drugs targeting hair-like bacterial filaments could help scientists battle a wide range of harmful bacteria.

Perhaps most importantly, pili help bacteria latch on and adhere to surfaces. The hairs allow bacteria to colonize parts of the human body, establishing a bacterial infection.

There are several types of pili, but the most universal and multi-functional hairs are type IV pili. Previous studies suggest type IV pili are made up of more than 15 protein building blocks.

But new research suggested only eight are essential to the pili-formation process.

In addition to moving and adhering, pili help bacteria interact with the outside world. They can analyze changes in their medium. The hairs can also grab DNA, which can be used to develop a more potent attack or defense.

In the lab, researchers withheld different proteins from E.coli bacteria to see which combination could be used to form pili. They found a protein subunit called pilin formed the bulk of the filaments. But pilin can only be properly linked together with the help of seven other essential proteins.

Vladimir Pelicic, a molecular biologist at the Imperial College London, said, "The approach is like building with Lego."

"We have these bricks and we were trying to put them back together to see what would be the minimum number of bricks that would allow these filaments to be assembled."

Because pilin filaments are universal among bacteria, antibiotics designed to target and disable their construction and functionality could be used to combat a range of bugs.

Pelicic said, "It's reasonable to imagine we could develop these sort of drugs within the next few years."

Researchers published their analysis of pili construction in the journal PNAS.

Volcanoes triggered dawn of dinosaurs

A million-year-long period of extreme volcanic activity most likely paved the way for the dawn of the dinosaurs, a study suggested.

Scientists have analyzed ancient rocks and have found traces of emissions from huge volcanic eruptions that happened about 200 million years ago, according to bbc.com.

This would have led to one of the largest mass extinctions on record, enabling dinosaurs to become dominant.

Lead author Lawrence Percival, from the Earth Sciences Department at Oxford University, said, "The dinosaurs were able to exploit those ecological niches that were left vacant by the extinction."

Mercury rising

The researchers looked at volcanic rocks from four continents that date to this turbulent time.

A previous study assessed how levels of carbon fluctuated in the rocks, which is linked to rises of carbon dioxide from volcanic eruptions.

But this research looked at a different fingerprint for volcanic activity: Mercury.

When volcanoes erupt, they emit traces of mercury in the plumes of gas that rise into the sky.

This then spreads throughout the atmosphere before being deposited in sediments on the ground, where it remains for millions of years.

Percival said, "If you can see a big spike in mercury in those sediments, you can infer there is volcanism happening at that exact time."

"And that's what we see at the time of this extinction."

The researchers found evidence for huge pulses of volcanic activity that would have continued for about a million years.

Professor Tamsin Mather from Oxford University said, "You get these fissures, these cracks opening up in the Earth's crust, and probably some fire fountains, and also lava flows opening up."

"You probably had different areas active at different times during the million years. And you likely get eruptive periods going on for a decade or so with enormous volumes of magma coming to the surface



news.nationalgeographic.com

and gases as well."

Anything living in the immediate vicinity of the eruptions would have fared badly. But creatures living far away would also have been in trouble: The repeated eruptions would have had a devastating impact on the wider environment, blocking out the Sun and leading to rising levels of carbon dioxide.

This would have triggered a major mass extinction: Animals including vast crocodile-like creatures and reptilian-looking mammals and early amphibians were wiped out.

However, early dinosaurs from that period clung on, although researchers are not sure how they survived the hellish conditions.

But once the volcanoes had simmered down, few

of their competitors were left, allowing the age of the dinosaurs to begin.

New tool

The researchers now want to use mercury to look at other periods of ancient volcanic activity.

Mather said, "I think what's really exciting is that we are talking about an episode of volcanism that happened 200 million years ago, and these mercury records in the sediments are allowing us to say new things about volcanism that happened that far back in deep Earth time."

"This is a new and powerful tool that will really allow us to understand more about the evolution of our planet and how it's come to be how it is today."

Researchers at the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) Professor Yasamin Mostofi's lab have given the first demonstration of three-dimensional imaging of objects through walls using ordinary wireless signal.

The technique, which involves two drones working in tandem, could have a variety of applications, such as emergency search-and-rescue, archeological discovery and structural monitoring, sciencedaily.com reported.

Mostofi said, "Our proposed approach has enabled unmanned aerial vehicles to image details through walls in 3D with only WiFi signals. This approach utilizes only WiFi RSSI measurements, does not require any prior measurements in the area of interest and does not need objects to move to be imaged."

The proposed methodology and experimental results appeared in the Association for Computing Machinery/Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers International Conference on Information Processing in Sensor Networks (IPSN) in April, 2017.

In their experiment, two autonomous octocopters take off and fly outside an enclosed, four-sided brick house whose interior is unknown to the drones.

While in flight, one copter continuously transmits a WiFi signal, the received power of which is measured



sciencedaily.com
Two drones work in tandem to discover what is behind a brick wall.

X-ray eyes in the sky: Drones and WiFi for 3D through-wall imaging

by the other copter for the purpose of 3D imaging.

After traversing a few proposed routes, the copters utilize the imaging methodology developed by the researchers to reveal the area behind the walls and generate 3D high-resolution images of the objects inside. The 3D image closely matches the actual area.

Chitra R. Karanam, the lead PhD student on this project, said, "High-resolution 3D imaging through walls, such as brick walls or concrete walls, is very challenging, and the main motivation for the proposed approach."

This development builds on previous work in the Mostofi Lab, which has pioneered sensing and imaging with everyday radio frequency signals such as WiFi.

The lab published the first experimental demonstration of imaging with only WiFi in 2010, followed by several other works on this subject.

Mostofi added, "However, enabling 3D through-wall imaging of real areas is considerably more challenging due to the considerable increase in the number of unknowns."

While their previous 2D

method utilized ground-based robots working in tandem, the success of the 3D experiments is due to the copters' ability to approach the area from several angles, as well as to the new proposed methodology developed by her lab.

The researchers' approach to enabling 3D through-wall imaging utilizes four tightly integrated key components.

First, they proposed robotic paths that can capture the spatial variations in all the three dimensions as much as possible, while maintaining the efficiency of the operation.

Second, they modeled the 3D unknown area of interest as a Markov Random Field to capture the spatial dependencies, and utilized a graph-based belief propagation approach to update the imaging decision of each voxel (the smallest unit of a 3D image) based on the decisions of the neighboring voxels.

Third, in order to approximate the interaction of the transmitted wave with the area of interest, they used a linear wave model.

Finally, they took advantage of the compressibility of the information content to image the area with a very small number of WiFi measurements (less than four percent).

It is noteworthy that their setup consists solely of off-the-shelf units such as copters, WiFi transceivers and Tango tablets.

Researchers build first deployable, walking, soft robot

Researchers have built the first robot made of soft, deployable materials that is capable of moving itself without the use of motors or any additional mechanical components.

The robot "walks" when an electric current is applied to shape-memory alloy wires embedded in its frame: The current heats the wires, causing the robot's flexible segments to contract and bend, according to phys.org.

Sequentially controlling the current to various segments in different ways results in different walking gaits.

The researchers expect that the robot's ability to be easily deployed, along with its low mass, low cost, load-bearing ability, compact size, and ability to be reconfigured into different forms may make it useful for applications such as space missions, seabed exploration, and household objects.

The scientists, Wei Wang et al., at Seoul National University and Sungkyunkwan University, have published a paper on the new robot and other types of deployable structures that can be built using the same method in a recent issue of Materials Horizons.

Coauthor Sung-Hoon Ahn at Seoul National University said, "The main advantage of this modular robot is robustness in various environments due to lack of mechanical systems such as motors and gears."

"Thus, problems facing motor-based robots, such as sealing and lubrication of mechanical systems in water or space environments, are not a problem for the smart actuator."

The robot, which the researchers call

DeployBot, is assembled from eight modules: Four for the body and one for each of the four legs. In their folded state, the modules lie flat, and after they are deployed they pop up into roughly a square shape.

The modules are made of both rigid and flexible materials and contain embedded magnets that connect and lock multiple modules together.

A shape memory alloy wire running through the square frame of each

back legs causes the robot to pull up its back legs while holding its front legs in place, resulting in forward motion.

The DeployBot can also walk with an ambulating gait, similar to the way a four-legged animal walks.

However, this gait requires the robot to support its entire weight on only two legs, and the robot's legs do not have enough lifting force to do this — at least, not on land.

But by placing the robot underwater, on the sandy surface of a water tank, the researchers took advantage of Archimedes' principle which reduces the force required to lift the robot.

Currently the robot moves very slowly, at a speed of a little over two meters per hour.

The robot can also turn, but again at a slow rate, requiring 21 strides to turn 90 degrees.

Although the robot is not fast, it could still serve as a useful tool for applications where speed is not important.

Going forward, the researchers expect that the techniques used here could also be used to make modules of different shapes, leading to a wider variety of robot designs and functions.

The researchers also noted that different methods of moving the robot besides an applied current could be investigated — for example, using pneumatic actuation, magnetic fields, or optical forces.

They also suggest that the same approach used here could be used to fabricate microscale and nanoscale structures, which would open up a new range of applications.



phys.org
Illustration of DeployBots deploying themselves on a planet for space exploration.

Iranian children, youth invited to take part in World Food Day contest

Representative Office of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Iran has invited all creative Iranian children and youth in the fields of painting, graphic and video to take part in the international competition to design poster and video for world food day in 2017.

According to IRNA, the motto of the competition is: "Change in emigration future, Investment for food security and rural development".

The representative office asked children and youth aged between five and 19 to design posters based on the event's slogan.

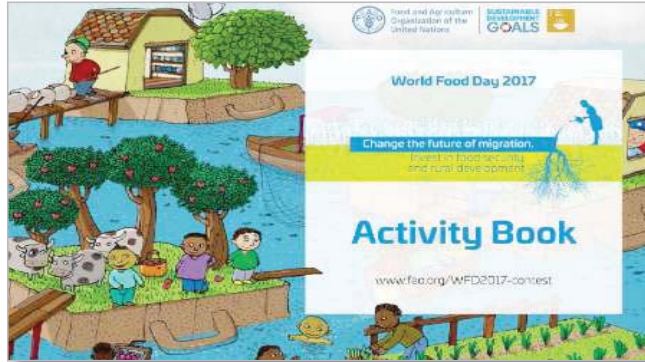
Also youth aged between 13 and 19 were invited to produce a short one minute video to put forward solutions for food problems in the world.

Those interested in taking part in the competition may send their works to www.fao.org/wfd2017-contest by November 10, 2017 at the latest.

Each section will have three winners and the works will be displayed in an exhibition in Rome.

FAO observes October 16, as World Food Day worldwide, which also coincides with its foundation day.

The ceremony is held in 150 countries, including Iran, and is among important festivities on the UN calendar.



irna.ir

Believing US system is fair predicts worsening self-esteem



squarespace.com

Disadvantaged youth who believe that the American social system is fair develop lower self-esteem, engage in risky behaviors, and are less attentive in the classroom over the course of middle school, found a study led by NYU's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development.

The findings, published in the journal Child Development, are the first evidence that young people's beliefs about the fairness of the system predict important developmental factors, physical growth.

"For youth disadvantaged by our social and economic system, believing it is fair can have long-term negative ramifications across a range of outcomes," said Erin Godfrey, assistant professor of applied psychology at NYU Steinhardt and the study's lead author.

Early adolescence is an important developmental period in which youth are thinking increasingly about the world around them and their place in it.

For youth who are marginalized due to their race, ethnicity, or

socioeconomic status, thinking about this social stratification is central to their development.

However, most research on the effects of societal disadvantage and marginalization on youth development does not incorporate young people's own views.

The current study investigated how beliefs in the fairness of the American social system are related to changes in self-esteem, depression, risky behavior, and classroom behavior.

The study included 257 middle school students from families of low socioeconomic status, as measured by their eligibility for the federal free or reduced-price lunch program. More than 90 percent of youth in the sample were racial/ethnic minorities.

When the students were in sixth grade, the researchers rated how fair they think the American system is and whether everyone has the chance to get ahead in our society.

The researchers then assessed their self-esteem, depressive symptoms,

experience with discrimination, risky behaviors (e.g. cheating on a test or lying), and classroom behavior (e.g. ability to follow teacher instructions (e.g. stay quiet) at three time points over the course of middle school.

The researchers found that believing the system is fair was associated with better outcomes at the start of middle school, but worse overall outcomes over the course of middle school.

By the end of the seventh grade, youth who believed the system was fair in sixth grade had lower self-esteem, engaged in more risky behaviors and were less able to follow directions in the classroom. For risky behavior, this reversal was particularly pronounced for youth who reported experiencing more discrimination.

"One explanation for this pattern may be that sixth graders have not yet developed a full understanding of status differences or do not yet identify as a member of a marginalized group. However, early beliefs about the fairness of the system may become a liability over

time as youth become increasingly cognizant of how the larger socioeconomic system puts them and their group at a disadvantage, and as their identity as a marginalized group member becomes more and more salient," Godfrey said.

The researchers note that the results have important implications for interventions that can raise youth's awareness of structural barriers and inequities.

For instance, after-school and community-based programs that create awareness of these barriers and provide avenues for youth to address them may be powerful ways to improve the outcomes of marginalized youth.

In addition, the researchers recommend that schools directly engage with controversial topics such as race, discrimination, and socioeconomic inequality.

Addressing these topics has been shown to improve academic outcomes among disadvantaged high school students, but educators could start earlier to promote well-being in the middle school years.

Police study links low self-control, officers' use of deadly force

Police officers who exhibit low self-control in their personal lives are more likely to use deadly force on the job, according to a University of Texas at Dallas study.

The study, published online in the journal Police Quarterly, analyzed the responses of 1,935 Philadelphia Police Department officers to determine each officer's level of self-control, utdallas.edu wrote.

"We know that self-control plays a role in many aspects of a person's life. We wanted to explore the relationship between self-control and police use of deadly force."

Researchers measured self-control based on eight indicators including whether the officer had financial problems or had been in a car accident. Each indicator increased the likelihood of an officer's involvement in a shooting by 21 percent, according to the research.

Dr. Jon Maskaly, assistant professor of criminology, and Dr. Alex Piquero, Ashbel Smith Professor of Criminology and associate dean for graduate programs in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, co-wrote the study with researchers at other universities.

"We know that self-control plays a role in many aspects of a person's life," Maskaly said.

"We wanted to explore the relationship between self-control and police use of deadly force."

Only five percent of the officers studied had been involved in shootings, reflecting the national average.

Officers were more likely to be involved in deadly shootings if they scored lower in self-control based on the following factors: A history of a suspended driver's license, involvement in a motor vehicle accident, had ever been behind on paying bills, had loans or debts over \$1,000, been under any type of court order, been divorced or separated or received a traffic ticket in the past five years.



vox-cdn.com

The findings suggested that police departments should consider paying more attention to behavioral markers that may reflect lower self-control and increase the use of psychological exams and interviews to better screen candidates, researchers said.

An officer having one or two of the indicators could be attributed to bad luck, but a pattern might indicate that more screening is needed, Maskaly said.

"What we see in criminology more generally is that a pattern of indicators tends to raise more of a yellow flag but not necessarily a red flag," Piquero said.

"But police departments can and should develop and employ screening devices to help them identify applicants who may need more additional vetting as well as continue to monitor their officers' behavior and provide additional screening and training over the course of the officers' careers," he said.

"Done well, this should help departments recruit and retain the best officers who can work with the community to keep our cities safe."

Poll: Most mothers have been 'mommy-shamed'

Sound familiar, Moms? It should: A new poll finds that six out of 10 American mothers say they've been criticized for their parenting skills.

It's called mommy-shaming, and it goes viral when it happens to the famous, upi.com reported.

But a nationwide poll of 475 mothers found it's a familiar experience for most with kids under the age of five — and the source of the shaming is most often a woman's own parents.

Major areas of criticism include discipline, 70 percent; diet and nutrition, 52 percent; sleep, 46 percent; breast-versus bottle-feeding, 39 percent; safety, 20 percent; and child care, 16 percent.

"Our findings put into the tensions moms face when parenting advice leads to more stress than reassurance and makes them feel more criticized than supported," said poll co-director Sarah Clark.

The new report is from C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health at the University of Michigan.

The criticism usually comes from a mother's own parents, 37 percent; a spouse or child's other parent, 36 percent; and in-laws, 31 percent.

Mothers said they were far less likely to be criticized by friends, other mothers they meet in public, their child's doctor, a child care provider or on social media, according to report.

While four out of 10 moms said criticism has made them feel unsure about their parenting skills, it also has led them to take action.

Many said they reacted by asking a healthcare provider for advice. Sometimes, that led to changes, but other times, a mother's parenting decisions were confirmed.

"Mothers can get overwhelmed by so many conflicting views on the 'best' way to raise a child," Clark said in a university news release.

"Unsolicited advice — especially from the people closest to her child — can be perceived as meaning she's not doing a good job as a mother. That can be hurtful," she added.

Clark pointed out that new information about child health and safety often clashes with long-held beliefs.

"Family members should respect that mothers of young children may have more updated information about child health and safety, and 'what we used to do' may no longer be the best advice," she said.

Premature deliveries double due to late marriages: Survey

South Korean premature birthrate has nearly doubled in the past 16 years, a survey showed, with a growing number of women getting married late and experiencing difficulties having babies.

The rate of premature delivery within less than 37 weeks of pregnancy rose to 6.44 percent between 2013 and 2014 from 3.31 percent between 1997 and 1998, according to the research of 2.1 million birth registrations filed with Statistics Korea done by Professor Im Dal-oh of Kongju National University and Park Sang-hwa, a researcher at Seoul National University, Yonhap reported.

The premature birthrate was 56.72 percent for twins and higher-order multiples between 2013 and 2014, much higher than 4.66 percent for single babies.

Im said babies born prematurely make up about 10 percent of all births around the world. Such babies are more susceptible to diseases and can lead to death if medical conditions are poor.

Any premature delivery within 24 weeks of pregnancy can lead to death because the babies' brains are not fully formed. Babies born after 32 weeks of conception have little brain damage, he said.

"We are witnessing a growing number of twins and other higher-order multiples and premature deliveries due to late marriages and the development of the assisted reproductive technology," Im said, stressing the need for the government to come up with medical programs to prevent and manage premature deliveries.



yonhapnews.co.kr

Phelps' latest challenge: 'Shark Week'



dailysabah.com

Discovery Channel's list of 'Shark Week' programming next month includes a July 23 show titled 'Phelps vs. Shark: Great Gold vs. Great White'.

Discovery Channel billed it as an event so monumental that no one has ever attempted it before and added that "the world's most decorated athlete takes on the ocean's most efficient predator: Phelps vs. Shark — the race is on!", according to abcnews.

go.com. Whether that means the winner of 23 Olympic gold medals is actually racing a shark remains uncertain.

The release announcing this event didn't offer many details or specifics aside from saying that Phelps has one competition left to win.

Discovery Channel officials didn't immediately respond to a message seeking additional information.

How to cheat on a lie detector test in just one simple movement — and get away with it

Hopefully, you'll have never been in a situation where you needed to take a lie detector test.

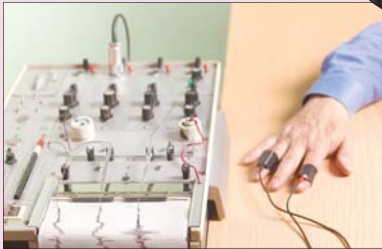
Because if you do find yourself wired up to that polygraph machine, it's safe to say something has gone wrong, mirror.co.uk wrote.

The accuracy of lie detector tests has been speculated over for a long time.

One big flaw is the fact an honest person may be nervous — and a dishonest person may be non-anxious.

That said, while not one percent foolproof, the consensus seems to be lie-detector tests ARE still accurate.

In fact, if you



GETTY

wanted to beat one — and we're not recommending you do this — there is apparently one tiny thing you can do.

Doug Williams joined the police force in Oklahoma in 1972 and as part of his training, actually went to polygraph school.

He later became a certified expert in lie detector tests, Mamamia

wrote.

As time passed, however, he began to tire of the process and begin to wonder exactly how effective the tests were.

"I began to have doubts in the tests after a while, I knew I could control my breathing but I didn't know for sure how to control the cardio and the blood pressure," he told radio show This American Life.

"It wasn't until my friend



came

in and started talking about the pucker factor and tightening up the anal sphincter muscle when he was under stress."

And that, as it turned out, proved to be the trick to duping the polygraph machine — clenching your anus.

"After he left, I just hooked myself up to the polygraph test...and tightened up my anal sphincter muscle like I was trying to stop my bowel movements and lo and behold there was the most gigantic, wonderful, naturally occurring cardio rise, accompanying a GSR rise."

While it's very kind of Williams to share this information with the world, his candor actually got him prosecuted for obstruction of justice and mail fraud.

Still, as he puts it in his own words, "It takes an a-hole with a little training to beat an a-hole with a little training."

Cruel Act of the Day

Faroe Islanders turn sea red in annual killing of herd of pilot whales



dailymail.co.uk

Faroe Islanders have turned the sea red during their annual killing of a herd of innocent pilot whales.

Every year, innocent whales are forced to swim towards the shores of the Danish islands during their migration, dailymail.co.uk reported.

But when local fishermen catch a glimpse of them, the mammals slow down before locals get in their power boats and dinghies to close in on the large school of whales.

The locals, many of whom are dressed in full wetsuits, then wade into the water and begin to violently drag the distressed mammals up the beach.

The hunts see the locals head down to two beaches on the islands armed with spinal lances.

Around the world, there are an estimated 1,000,000 long-finned pilot whales and around 200,000 short-finned pilot whales.

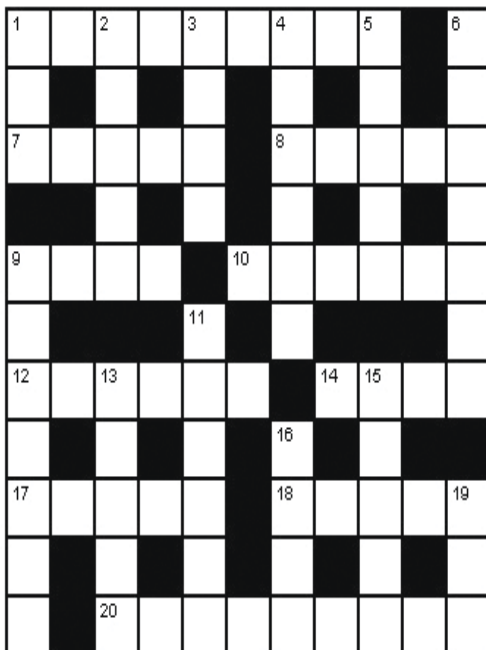


PICTURE OF THE DAY



ANTON GAUTAMA, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC YOUR SHOT
These colorful homes in China's Sichuan Province make up part of the Larung Gar Buddhist Academy, which teaches the tenets of Tibetan Buddhism.

Quick Crossword



DOWN

1. Buddy (3)
2. Parts of a ladder (5)
3. Mountain goat (4)
4. Dirge (6)
5. Tendon (5)
6. Made certain (7)
9. Tycoon (7)
11. Turn aside (6)
13. Molten rock (5)
15. Zest (5)
16. Japanese wrestler (4)
19. Plaything (3)

ACROSS

1. Molecules (9)
7. Spear (5)
8. Arithmetical operation (5)
9. Light fog (4)
10. Reply (6)
12. Ploy (6)
14. Matured (4)
17. Debate (5)
18. Tip over (5)
20. Study of the universe (9)

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.

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

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

Young Germans enjoy victory over battling Aussies

Germany's young players demonstrated a sheer joy of playing for the majority of their 3-2 victory over Australia in their opening FIFA Confederations Cup Russia 2017 fixture – and that

Bayern Munich's Joshua Kimmich in the mixed zone after the final whistle. "He covered so much ground getting forward and back, and his passing was great. It was fun." Bayern's

been clearly visible ever since the team arrived here in Russia.

It appears, then, that Joachim Low's squad selection for this competition has been justified.



Julian Draxler (L) of Germany celebrates his side's second goal against Australia at the 2017 Confederations Cup Russia 2017 in Sochi, Russia, on June 19, 2017.

was reflected in their post-match comments.

"I think we were able to implement a lot of what we had practiced in training," Germany's Leon Goretzka told fifa.com. "That we were able to do so makes us happy, and I'm sure it makes the coaching staff happy as well. But there are definitely things we can still improve, especially from the last 20 to 25 minutes. We'll have to analyze that calmly."

Goretzka was involved in the build-up to Germany's first goal, won the penalty that put them 2-1 up and scored his side's third after the break. "For me, Leon was the game's outstanding player," said

youngster added.

Kimmich's performance was no less impressive and he stood out through his agility, versatility and passing accuracy, as well as providing the assist for Goretzka's goal with a superb through ball.

"We had a couple of days to work on a few things and in the first half we put a lot of that into practice and controlled the game," said Lars Stindl, who, like Goretzka, scored his first senior international goal against Australia.

"I'm happy to be here," Stindl had said prior to the tournament, and although he is closer to turning 30 than most of his young teammates, that joy has

"Given that we've only been together for ten days, they did very well," said the 2014 FIFA World Cup winning coach after the game.

"A lot of energy has built up in this team in a very short space of time. The players take on board what we tell them."

They want to make this tournament their tournament. The teamwork and spirit are very good."

Those qualities, combined with their joy of playing, will be required again on Thursday when Germany faces a stiff test against South American champion, Chile, in Kazan. It cannot come soon enough.

Iran's sabre team snatches Asian silver

Iran's men's sabre team clinched a prestigious silver medal in 2017 Asian Fencing Championships in Hong Kong on Tuesday.

On the final day of the championships, Iran's team comprising Mojtaba Abedini, Mohammad Fotouhi, Ali Pakdaman and Mohammad Rahbari reached the final of the men's sabre team competition only to lose against South Korea 45-42 and settle for the silver medal.

Iran had overcome Chinese Taipei

and host country, Hong Kong, en route to the final.

China won the bronze after it defeated Hong Kong in the battle for third place. Earlier in the competition, Mohammad Rahbari and Ali Pakdaman had claimed a silver and a bronze, respectively, in the men's sabre individual competition.

The 2017 Asian Fencing Championships took place in Far East Asian country, Hong Kong, during June 15-20.



From left: Mojtaba Abedini, Mohammad Fotouhi, Ali Pakdaman and Mohammad Rahbari pose for a photo with their medals while standing on the second podium of the men's sabre team competition at the Asian Fencing Championships in Hong Kong on June 20, 2017.

Pérez describes Ronaldo's situation

'very strange'

Real Madrid president Florentino Pérez admitted he has not spoken with Cristiano Ronaldo about his desire to leave the club.

But the 70-year-old, speaking in an interview to mark his unopposed re-election as the club's supreme leader, backed the Portuguese star in his battle to clear his name of tax offences and insisted that the former Manchester United man remains a Madrid player, independent.co.uk reported.

"Cristiano has a contract and he is a Real Madrid player," Pérez told Spanish radio station Onda Cero.

"I have not talked with Cristiano... but they tell me he has been treated badly in this country. I have found everything out through the newspapers."

"The last time that I talked with Cristiano was in Cardiff, after the game. What happened with the tax authorities was after the game."

"Life throws up unexpected situations but one has to take them on and find a solution."

Manchester United and Paris Saint-Germain are the two clubs most keenly pursuing the 31-year-old forward's signature, but Pérez skipped over talk of a sale by pricing Ronaldo out of the market.

"The clause for Cristiano is €1 billion. We have not had an offer from Cristiano... the Sheikh at PSG is a friend of mine and he hasn't called me nor have we talked."

"This is all very strange. Cristiano is a good guy, I will have to talk with Cristiano and see what's happening."

And Pérez vigorously backed the Portugal skipper, claiming he will be cleared of tax charges against his name and dismissing suggestions Ronaldo's desire to leave could be remedied by the club picking up any potential fine.

"I will always defend Cristiano as a person and as a footballer. He's a very good person."

"Cristiano definitely didn't want us to pay his fine... he isn't like that."

"I'm sure that Cristiano meets all his tax re-

quirements, it must be a confusion that will be cleared up."

"Cristiano is not angry about who has to pay his fine."

"The only thing I know is that Cristiano is very angry with the treatment he has received in the press."

Ronaldo is currently with the Portugal national team in Russia as the UEFA Euro 2016 champion is a part of 2017 Confederations Cup.



Real Madrid president Florentino Pérez (L) says "The clause for Cristiano is €1 billion."

Mou accused of tax fraud in Spain

Spanish prosecutors said on Tuesday they had filed a claim against the Manchester United manager José Mourinho on two counts of tax fraud in 2011 and 2012, when he managed Real Madrid.

The state prosecutor based the accusations on information provided by Spain's Tax Office, which allege that Mourinho used shell companies in the Virgin Islands and Ireland to "hide profits made from im-

Meanwhile it has been confirmed Cristiano Ronaldo will testify in a case in which he is accused of hiding income from the tax authorities on July 31, the Spanish on-line newspaper El Confidencial reported on Tuesday.

The Spanish prosecutor claims the Real Madrid forward had knowingly used a business structure to hide his image rights income in Spain between 2011 and 2014.



José Mourinho was Real Madrid manager between 2010 and 2013 and won the Copa del Rey and La Liga title in 2011 and 2012 respectively.

age rights". It will now be up to a judge to decide whether to take the matter to court, the Guardian reported.

Mourinho, who is Portuguese, owes the Spanish tax authorities €3.1million (£2.9million), a Madrid prosecutor said in a statement, adding it had presented a claim to a local court. Mourinho is yet to comment on the allegations.

Last year, Barcelona forward Lionel Messi and his father, Jorge Horacio Messi, were found guilty on three counts of defrauding tax authorities of €4.1million from income made from image rights. The two were given 21-month jail sentences but neither is expected to serve prison time since it was a first offense and the sentence was under two years.

Murray pledges donations to Grenfell appeal

Andy Murray on Monday pledged his winnings at this year's Aegon Championships at Queen's Club – which will be more than £346,000 if he wins his sixth title on Sunday – to the families of the victims of the Grenfell Tower fire tragedy.

When he won the Queen's Club title in 2013, Murray donated his £73,000 winner's purse to the Royal Marsden Hospital, who successfully treated his friend, the former doubles player Ross Hutchins, for Hodgkin's lymphoma, the Guardian reported.

The tournament, the most prestigious on grass in the lead up to Wimbledon, has since been upgraded to an ATP500 event.

The world No1 joins the Arsenal defender Hector Bellerin, who said on Saturday that he would give £50 to the fund for every minute he plays at the European Under-21 Championship in Poland. If Spain, the tournament favorites, reach the final, they will have played five matches and Bellerin's contribution could be as high as £22,500.

The Manchester City midfielder Raheem Sterling has also promised to give "a substantial sum".

Ascot Racecourse is also making a donation of £100,000 to The British Red Cross UK Solidarity and London Fire Relief Funds and Local Charities, to support those affected.

Johnny Weatherby, Chairman of Ascot Racecourse, said: "We have all been deeply saddened by recent tragic events around the country. At the beginning of this important week for racing, we at Ascot Racecourse wish to pay our respects to the victims and offer

support to the families who have been so terribly affected."

The Grenfell Tower fire occurred on June 14, 2017 at a 24-storey high tower block of public housing flats in North Kensington, west London, England.



Andy Murray is in a training session at Queen's Club in West Kensington on June 19, 2017.

George Eliot:

Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together.

J.K. Rowling condemns anti-Muslim hate attack on London mosque-goers

J.K. Rowling wrote the (children's fantasy) book about the damage caused by sowing hate toward outsiders and division, so it's no surprise she's disgusted by anti-Muslim rhetoric.

In a horrific van attack on a crowd leaving a mosque in London's Finsbury Park neighborhood late Sunday, several people were injured and one man, who had reportedly become ill before the attack began, was left dead. Witnesses said a white, middle-aged man steered the van into a group of people who had been attending Ramadan services at the mosque. The man reportedly exited the van and shouted "I want to kill all Muslims" before being detained by bystanders.



British Prime Minister Theresa May has already described the event as an act of terrorism that targeted the Muslim community. In a statement, she urged British citizens to turn to unity.

But recent months have seen a rise in anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim rhetoric across Western nations, including the UK. Rowling was quick to comment on the vitriol toward Islam that preceded the attack — and the framing of the Finsbury Park incident in The Daily Mail.

"The Mail has misspelled 'terrorist' as 'white van driver'. Now let's discuss how he was radicalized," she wrote alongside a screenshot.

Rowling noted that certain outlets continued to direct blame at the mosque, which had just seen its worshippers targeted in a violent terrorist attack despite its well-documented work in combating extremism.

"Victim blaming in the usual newspapers is disgusting," she wrote.

But she didn't stop there: Rowling hasn't forgotten the anti-Muslim rhetoric that many prominent political figures in the UK have recently spread. She used messaging from Conservative British politician Nigel Farage, shown in one image standing next to a pro-Brexit ad accused of sowing racial hatred, to illustrate her point.

Challenged by British radio journalist Julia Hartley-Brewer, Rowling masterfully smacked down the hypocrisy of fixating on Islamist clerics who demonize Western values while deflecting any responsibility for demonizing Muslims, pointing out the subtle yet influential ways anti-immigration politicians gin up fear and hatred toward refugees and immigrants from the Middle East.

What's bad for the goose is bad for the gander, Rowling suggested — if Britons fear the influence of clerics who preach hatred toward white, secular societies, then it must also follow that politicians preaching fear and resentment toward Muslims, refugees and immigrants might also have the power to incite violence.

"Those who dehumanize and stereotype Muslims have no moral high ground from which to deplore demonization of secular westerners by Islamists," the author stated.

Nanjing-Florence Chinese ink art exhibit begins

An art exhibition titled 'Ganjing-Florence: A Tale of Two Cities' will open today at the Auditorium al Duomo in Italy and will continue until June 25.

According to theflorentine.net, it will be a unique exhibition of Chinese ink art, including paintings, music, photography and video installations.

The event aims to further encourage cultural exchange between the two sister cities, and bolster Italians' awareness of ink painting as an important age-old art form in China. The exhibition is promoted by the Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco — a prolific institution specialized in the fostering of intercultural dialogue.

The painted works on display are centered on the representation of Ganjing's ancient city walls, partly in reference to Florence's own walls, and are accompanied by traditional music, photographs and short films outlining the history and origins of ink art.

Ganjing and Florence signed their town twinning agreement in 1980, and have since enjoyed a connection based on their shared wealth of cultural heritage, with particular distinction in the arts and crafts.

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Iranian play 'Strangely Enough', directed by Ava Fayyaz, will be on stage at Tehran's Theater Hall until July 7, 2017.



Porto7 Best Actress Award goes to Iran's Bahrami



Art & Culture Desk

Iranian actress Sara Bahrami won the Best Actress Award in the competition section of the Porto7 (Oporto International Film Festival) in Portugal which was held from June 14 to 18.

She received the award for her role in 'Just Be My Mother' by Roqayeh Tavakkoli, porto7.com wrote.

The film is about Sarah who lives with a man after separating from her husband but her son is against their relationship. Sarah is forced to choose between her son and her love.

The Portuguese festival is one of the most famous European festivals which include films which are less than 20 minutes. The festival includes fiction, animation, documentary, music video and micro film sections and aims to promote cultural exchange between different countries.

Iran's 'The Iron Dream' comes true in France



Art & Culture Desk

Iranian filmmaker Yasser Talebi won the Best Director of a Short Documentary award for his film 'The Iron Dream' at the 2017 NICE International Film Festival.

The film won the prestigious award in its first international appearance, filmfestivalinternational.com reported.

Talebi's work was nominated for the best director and best producer award, but only managed to win the former.

The documentary recalls the story of travels by Masoud Jamali, an Iranian-German researcher, who lives in Nuremberg and decides to visit Iran to narrate the story of an event which determined the fate of Iran, Germany and many European countries.

On this railway trip, he studies the reasons of the construction of the countrywide railway of Iran by elite European engineers.

The Film Festival International is

a group of festivals founded by Carl Tooney and based in a number of locations around the world: London, Nice, Madrid, Tenerife, Berlin, Milan and Amsterdam.

Tenerife was the first festival to be founded as part of the group, in 2006, and Berlin is the latest, founded in 2016.



The festivals aim to give independent film makers an opportunity to showcase their works, network with their peers and submit their works for awards.

» Weather

37 14 Arak	26 22 Astara	39 22 Birjand	36 14 Qazvin	40 23 Mashhad	38 [^] v25 Tehran	33 19 Kabul	21 8 Minsk	19 9 Stockholm	38 23 Tashkent	29 21 Tripoli
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