

Iran expects steep increase in gas output, exports **5**

UN climate fund calls on Iran to present new ideas **12**

Ali Daei stands above all-time greats Pele and Ferenc Puskas **15**

First Malay translation of Sadi's Gulistan unveiled in Malaysia **16**

# No alternative to nuclear deal: Ryabkov



Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi (R) and his Russian counterpart, Ryabkov, meet in Tehran on July 11, 2017.

See page 2

## Dairy exports nearly doubled

**ECONOMY** TEHRAN — Iran's dairy exports of dairy products rose by 92 percent in the first 2 months of the current Iranian calendar year, which started on March 21, 2017, compared to the same period last year.

According to statistics released by the Iran Customs Administration, some 198,000 tons of dairies were exported in the 2-month timespan in comparison with 103,000 tons the year before, ISNA quoted Deputy Agriculture Minister Hassan Rokni as saying.

The products have been exported mainly to the neighboring countries,

Central Asia, Europe, and Russia, he said.

Iran exported 850,000 tons of dairy products in the past Iranian calendar year (which ended on March 20), while the figure was 600,000 tons in its preceding year, Fars news agency reported in late March quoting Rokni as saying.

The official announced that Russia joined the importers of Iran's dairy products in the past year.

While putting emphasis on supporting milk producers in the country, he expressed hope for an improvement in the production and export of dairy products.

## Trump's Mad Dog calls for 'regime change' in Tehran

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — As the White House formulates its official policy on Iran, its defense chief James Mattis has said "regime change" is necessary before Iran and the U.S. can revel in normal relations.

In an interview with a journalism student at the Mercer Island High School Islander, Mattis branded Iran as a "revolutionary" rather than "functional" country which is "certainly the most destabilizing influence in the Middle East."

Mattis, who has earned the sobriquet "Mad Dog" for his handling of U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, is long notorious for his anti-Iran animus.

In 2013, former president Barack Obama fired General Mattis, then the

head of Central Command, reportedly for discrepancies over Iran.

One year before his removal, the antagonistic Marine had considered the three biggest threats to the U.S. to be "Iran, Iran, Iran."

Mattis's provocative remarks drew a strong rebuke from his Iranian counterpart, who likened Mattis to a "febrile patient" talking nonsense.

"Such remarks are similar to the delirium of a febrile patient," Hossein Dehghan said on Tuesday.

The administration's "regime change" policy was openly voiced in June by U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson who said the U.S. major policy towards Tehran is to seek "peaceful transition" of the country's government. **→2**

## Ghani says Afghanistan committed to international water treaty with Iran

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — Afghan President Ashraf Ghani said on Monday that his country's friendship with Iran is long lasting, noting that Kabul is committed to international treaty on water sharing with Iran.

"Afghanistan is committed to the internationally accepted Helmand-River Water Treaty with Iran," IRNA quoted him as saying in a press conference.

During an opening speech at the International Conference on Combating Sand and Dust Storms in Tehran on July 3, President Rouhani said, "If Hamun's water dries up, in addition to Sistan and Baluchistan, Afghanistan itself will be in danger."

Rouhani said environmental issues are "extra-national and extra-regional challenges."

"We cannot succeed in overcoming environmental challenges without cooperating with neighboring countries," the president remarked.

Rouhani also said, "The only way to live peacefully in the West Asia and Middle East region is adopting a win-win policy in the area of environment, helping and standing beside each other."

Hamid Aboutalebi, a political advisor to President Hassan Rouhani, has indirectly called on landlocked Afghanistan that its interests lie in interaction with Iran in sharing water on the basis of international law.

"Interaction among the neighboring countries is based on common interests; ignoring common interests and violating the international law on water is not beneficial for (landlocked) countries," he tweeted on Saturday.

## Administration sees healthcare as 'essential principle': Rouhani

**SOCIETY** TEHRAN — The administration regards the issue of healthcare as an essential principle and it is a priority to not let people get sick, President Hassan Rouhani said on Tuesday, IRIB reported. Rouhani made the remarks in the Festival of Health Facilities Construction in Tehran.

"Firstly we are planning on decreasing the number of people suffering from diseases, which is our first step that is of utmost importance as it is closely related to people's soul and body," the president noted.

"In health sector we ought to strive for people's health as it is a fundamental principle to maintain one's health; people are born healthy and must live a healthy life," he added.

The president further commented on the healthcare reform plan which kicked off in 2014, saying, despite all setbacks and funding shortfalls the administration kept on carrying out the healthcare reform plan.

"We will continue to execute this plan," he highlighted, adding "although we lack adequate resources so we have to look for ways to prevent diseases or the easiest and cheapest treatment to minimize the expenses."

"We don't know if it is possible or not but we do our best to cut the expenses [within the framework of the healthcare reform plan]," he said, stating, "we have to let the expert decide whether it is possible or not."

We need to encourage philanthropist and

charity societies to be more active in health sector, Rouhani suggested.

**80% of people satisfied with health services**

Health Minister, Hassan Qazizadeh Hashemi, for his part, noted that some 80 percent of people, especially those underprivileged, are satisfied with the healthcare reform plan.

In order to decrease the out-of-pocket expenses the administration has spent some 50 trillion rials (nearly \$1.25 billion), minister Hashemi highlighted.

Expansion of healthcare insurance coverage to all took place after 20 years in the past administration and helped lessen the pain some are experiencing, he said. **→13**

## Electricity investment overtakes oil, gas for first time ever in 2016: IEA

Investments in electricity surpassed those in oil and gas for the first time ever in 2016 on a spending splurge on renewable energy and power grids as the fall in crude prices led to deep cuts, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on Tuesday.

Total energy investment fell for the second straight year by 12 percent to \$1.7 trillion compared with 2015, the IEA said. Oil and gas investments plunged 26 percent to \$650 billion, down by over a quarter in 2016, and electricity generation slipped 5 percent.

Oil and gas investment is expected to rebound modestly by 3 percent in 2017, driven by a 53 percent upswing in U.S. shale, and spending in Russia and the Middle East, the

IEA said in a report.

The global electricity sector, however, was the largest recipient of energy investment in 2016 for the first time ever, overtaking oil, gas and coal combined, the report said.

Electricity investment worldwide was \$718 billion, lifted by higher spending in power grids which offset the fall in power generation investments.

"Investment in new renewables-based power capacity, at \$297 billion, remained the largest area of electricity spending, despite falling back by 3 percent," the report said.

Although renewables investments was 3 percent lower than five years ago, capacity additions were 50 percent higher and expect-

ed output from this capacity about 35 percent higher, thanks to the fall in unit costs and technology improvements in solar PV and wind generation, the IEA said.

Investments in coal-fired electricity plants fell sharply. Sanctioning of new coal power plants fell to the lowest level in nearly 15 years, reflecting concerns about local air pollution, and emergence of overcapacity and competition from renewables, notably in China. Coal investments, however, grew in India.

The IEA report said energy efficiency investments continued to expand in 2016, reaching \$231 billion, with most of it going to the building sector globally. **→4**



© ISNA/Mostafa Ghorban Mowahed

## Maral lives in pristine Arasbaran forests

Maral, the Iranian red deer, lives in pristine forests of Arasbaran, northwest of the country. Maral is one of the largest deer types that unfortunately has disappeared except for some survivors recorded in Arasbaran.

However, the red deer occur literally from the shores of the Caspian Sea to the high alpine meadows of the Alborz Mountains.

In 2006, a protected zone was created where now over 30 Marals live in their natural habitat fenced away inside a couple of large lands.

## Yemen cholera outbreak exceeds 300,000 suspected cases: ICRC

The Red Cross says the number of suspected cholera cases in Yemen has now surpassed 300,000 amid fears of a runaway outbreak of the disease and the threat of famine looming over the war-stricken country.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) made the announcement, saying that the cholera epidemic "continues to spiral out of control" since it erupted in April.

"Today, over 300,000 people are suspected to be ill. More than 1,600 have died," the Geneva-based institution noted in a Twitter post.

The ICRC's head of operations for the Middle East, Robert Mardini, said about 7,000 new cholera cases were being recorded on a daily basis in the Yemeni capital of Sana'a and three other areas.

The announcement came two days after Yemen's former president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, singled out the House of Saud regime as the source of what the United Nations estimated to be the world's worst cholera outbreak in the country.

The Russia Today Arabic news channel quoted Saleh as saying that the Saudi regime-led coalition in the war on Yemen was behind the spread of the highly contagious disease through the use of internationally banned weapons.

Cholera is an acute diarrheal infection that is spread through contaminated food or water. It can be effectively treated with the immediate replacement of lost fluids and salts, but without treatment it can be fatal.

Cholera infection first became epidemic in Yemen last October and spread until December, when it dwindled. The second outbreak began in the Arabian Peninsula country on April 27.

The ongoing Saudi regime campaign against Yemen has destroyed the country's health sector, making it difficult to deal with the epidemic.

Over two years of war and conflict have significantly reduced Yemen's public healthcare capabilities. All operating hospitals and clinics are now overburdened by the epidemic for the lack of medicine, equipment and staff.

(Source: Press TV)

**TEHRAN TIMES**  
Iran's Leading International Daily

**Advertising Dept**

Tel: **021-430 51 450**

times1979@gmail.com



**MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**



**Rouhani says 80% of arms produced during his administration**

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — Iranian President Hassan d e s k Rouhani on Tuesday highlighted the importance of defense capability, saying his government has boosted production of home-made weapons to a large degree.

"Major tasks have been carried out to equip the military forces with strategic weapons," Rouhani said on Tuesday.

"As the defense minister has announced, the strategic weapons manufactured during the eleventh government (Rouhani's sitting administration) are equal to 80% of all arms produced (in the country) before," he added.



**Velayati: Fake U.S.-led coalition more vulnerable than ever**

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — Ali-Akbar Velayati, Head d e s k of the Expediency Council's Strategic Research Center, said in a message on Tuesday that fake coalitions led by the United States and some other countries will find themselves weaker than ever.

Velayati made the remarks in an Instagram post as he congratulated the liberation of Mosul, the second largest Iraqi city, from Daesh.

Velayati said holding celebration on the victory of Iraq and its real allies over Daesh testifies to resistance, sacrifice and authority of the regional countries.



**Hassan Khomeini: Bad temper stems from lack of dialogue**

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — "Immorality and bad d e s k temper in the political sphere of our society stem from lack of dialogue," Hassan Khomeini said on Tuesday, Jamaran reported.

"Many a time we think others develop negative feelings toward us, but as we socialize (with them), we realize it is not so, or if it is, it is not that severe," he noted.

"Today our society needs more and more communication," the grandson of Imam Khomeini stressed, adding lack of dialogue nurtures a "black or white" perception of other people.



**Netherlands ready to send parliamentary team to Tehran: envoy**

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — Susan Trstal, the Dutch d e s k ambassador in Iran, said on Tuesday that her country is ready to send a parliamentary delegation to Tehran in the near future.

In a meeting with Hossein Amir Abdollahian, the Majlis Speaker's special aide for international affairs, the ambassador highlighted the need for bolstering parliamentary relations, IRNA reported.

Amir Abdollahian, for his part, congratulated the new parliamentary election in Holland and appreciated the Netherlands for condemning the June 7 terror attacks in Tehran.



**Nouri al-Maliki salutes Iranian martyrs in liberation of Mosul**

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — Former Iraqi Prime d e s k Minister Nouri al-Maliki on Tuesday thanked Iran for its martyrs who helped liberate Mosul from Daesh.

He praised the Islamic Republic for its arms, supplies and advice to the Iraqi armed forces during the nine-month long offensive.

"We thank all those who ... stood with Iraq in the face of the most severe terrorist attack," Maliki said in a Facebook post. "First and foremost the Islamic Republic of Iran."



**Women's parliamentary faction elects new presiding board**

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — On Tuesday female d e s k lawmakers in the Iranian parliament voted to elect a new presiding board.

In the voting Parvaneh Salahshour was chosen as chairwoman of the parliamentary group, ISNA reported. Fatemeh Zolqadr and Somayeh Mahmoudi were elected as first and second deputies respectively.

Also, Nahid Tajeddin and Khadijeh Rabiee were elected as first and second secretaries respectively, while Zahra Saidi was elected as the spokeswoman of the faction.

The number of female MPs in the 290-seat parliament is 17.

# No alternative to nuclear deal: Ryabkov

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — Russian d e s k Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov said on Tuesday called the July 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and great powers "balanced" for which there is no "alternative".

On the basis the nuclear deal, officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the sanctions against Iran must be lifted in exchange for a limit on Tehran's nuclear activities.

The accord signed between Iran, the European Union, Germany and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council — Russia, China, the U.S., France and Britain — went into force in January 2016.

However, the new U.S. president, a vocal critic of the JCPOA, has vowed a revision of the nuclear deal, a move which other parties has strongly opposed.

"The JCPOA is a useful and beneficial agreement which benefits Iran and the international stability and security and we reject any attempt to rewrite and review it," Ryabkov told reporters before his meeting with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi in Tehran.

Ryabkov who represented Russia in drawing up the nuclear agreement said Moscow is trying to convince the U.S. that there is no alternative for the JCPOA.

In a statement issued in April, the U.S. Department of State notified Congress that Iran is complying with the nuclear deal.

While admitting that Tehran has honored the accord fully, the U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said, "President Donald J. Trump has directed a



© Tehran Times/Maryam Kamyab

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov (L) and his Iranian counterpart Abbas Araqchi in an appearance in Tehran on July 11, 2017

**"The JCPOA is a useful and beneficial agreement which benefits Iran and the international stability and security and we reject any attempt to rewrite and review it," Ryabkov said.**

National Security Council-led interagency review of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action."

On July 20, 2105, the United Nations Security Council adopted a resolution endorsed the nuclear deal.

European foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said on June 13 that she was confident the United States would stick to the nuclear accord, despite its protestations to the contrary, as the deal is working.

"I am confident that the review in the United States will bring to wise decisions, which means keeping something that is working," she told a news conference on the margins of a peace mediation conference in Oslo.

"In any case the European Union will guarantee that the deal keeps, that we stick to that ... and that our policy of engagement with Iran continues," European Union's chief diplomat asserted.

On June 29, 2017, the UN Security Council renewed support for Iran's nuclear deal, underscoring that Tehran has shown full commitment to the accord and the resolution supporting it.

Briefing the Security Council, Jeffery Feltman, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, said: "The Secretary-General believes that the comprehensive and sustained implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) will guarantee that Iran's nuclear program remains exclusively peaceful, while allowing for transparency, monitoring and verification."

Araqchi, the deputy foreign minister for legal and international affairs, also said the JCPOA Joint Commission will convene in Vienna on July 21.

The Joint Commission consisting of all the parties to the nuclear agreement is established to monitor the implementation of the JCPOA and carries out the functions provided for in the deal. It addresses issues arising from the implementation of the JCPOA and operates in accordance with the provisions as detailed in the relevant annex.

## Trump's Mad Dog calls for 'regime change' in Tehran

**1 ->** Tillerson raised the issue during a hearing on the 2018 State Department budget before the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

In a letter to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and the UN Security Council, Iran strongly objected to Tillerson's remarks, requesting "all States condemn such grotesque policy statements".

"The Iranian government expects that all States condemn such grotesque policy statements and advise the U.S. government to act responsibly and to adhere to principles of the UN Charter and international law," Gholamhossein Khoshroo, Iran's ambassador to the UN, remarked on June 20.

Khoshroo said the remarks brazenly contravene the 1981 Algiers Accords, to which Washington is a signatory.

"This statement is also a flagrant violation of the 1981 Algiers Accords and other treaty obligations to which the United States is a party."

According to the Algiers Accords, "the United States pledges that it is and from now on will be the policy of the United States not to intervene, directly or indirectly, politically or militarily, in Iran's internal affairs".

Tillerson's remarks had already drew strong rebuke from Tehran. Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei dismissed the statement as hackneyed and old, emphasizing that Washington has been and will continue to be a loser.



**Reacting to Mattis's comments, Defense Minister Hossein Dehghan said: Such remarks are similar to the delirium of a febrile patient.**

**Contrary to the people-regime differentiation in Mattis's comments, Trump's visa order has set criteria for visa applicants from six Muslim-majority nations, including Iran, affecting more than anything else, "the Iranian people" as well as more people from the other five countries.**

"In the past 38 years, when has there been a time when you haven't wanted to change the Islamic system?" he asked, adding, "Your head has hit the rock each time and always will."

Washington and Tehran have had no diplomatic ties since the 1980 hostage crisis, when a number of U.S. nationals were held in Iranian captivity for more than 400 days for espionage activities inside the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

Following that, Zarif tweeted: "U.S. officials should worry more about saving their own regime than changing Iran's, where 75% of people just voted," a reference to the unprecedented turnout in the May 19 presidential election in Iran.

On June 18, Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council reacted strongly, branding "American extremists and Daesh (Islamic State)" as "two sides of the same coin, both seeking to negatively influence the country's internal environment and make security issues a major concern for Iran."

Citing the U.S.-engineered coup in Iran in 1953, Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qassemi said on June 16 that "since the 1950s, the United States has tried to meddle in Iranian affairs by different strategies such as coup d'état, regime change, and military intervention."

These efforts have all failed, Qassemi said, adding that the new U.S. government was "confused" and could be "easily manipulated by wrong information."

In June, the U.S. State Department declassified documents on the role it played in the 1953 coup against the democratically-elected government of Mohammad Mosaddegh.

The 1,000-page "Foreign Relations of the United States, Iran, 1951-1954" provides information on the use of covert operations in Iran by the Truman and Eisenhower administrations.

The documents cover the period around the 1953 coup d'état, which saw the overthrow of Mosaddegh and the strengthening of the monarchical rule of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

Iran's Foreign Ministry also summoned the Swiss charge d'affaires to Tehran to protest at Tillerson's remarks. A note handed to the envoy, whose country represents U.S. interests in Iran.

■ **"Not the problem", Iranian people ironically fall prey**

Mattis's interview also included his attempt to differentiate, as he would have it, between the Iranian "regime" and Iranian people, a differentiation that has not been materialized in the official policy of the Trump administration toward Iranians.

"The Iranian people are not the problem," said Mattis "The Iranian people are definitely not the problem, it's the regime..."

Contrary to the people-regime differentiation in Mattis's comments, Trump's visa order has set criteria for visa applicants from six Muslim-majority nations, including Iran, affecting more than anything else, "the Iranian people" as well as more people from the other five countries.

Denouncing the ban, Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif on June 30 called it a "truly shameful exhibition of blind hostility to all Iranians" — and a measure that will prevent Iranian grandmothers from seeing their grandchildren in America.



**Mattis, who has earned the sobriquet "Mad Dog" for his handling of U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, is long notorious for his anti-Iran animus.**

## Shias, Sunnis, Kurds acted unitedly in fighting Daesh: Gen. Soleimani

**POLITICS** TEHRAN — Major General Qassem d e s k Soleimani, the head of the Qods Force, said on Monday that Shias, Sunnis and Kurds acted unitedly in fighting Daesh in Iraq.

The major general spoke one days after Iraqi Prime Minister officially announced that security forces have wrested control of Mosul from Daesh, also known as ISIS or ISIL.

Soleimani said that top Shia cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani supported all the Iraqi people regardless of their religion and ethnicity and proved that no one can create rift among the Iraqis.

"Solidarity among the Iraqis has been exemplary. The Iraqi people should know that the Shias came to help their Sunni brothers from various parts of Iraq," he explained, adding Shias rushed to the help of Sunnis from the Shia populated cities of Basra, Nasiriyah and Amarah, Kut and Karbala.

The general noted that the Iraqi people can live



together "brotherly" forever.

Elsewhere, he said that the Islamic Republic of Iran spares no effort to the Iraqi government and people in fighting terrorism.

In early 2014, Daesh drove Iraqi government

forces out of key cities in its Western Iraq offensive followed by its capture of Mosul and the Sinjar massacre.

At the time Iran rushed to the support of Iraqis in preventing the rapid advances of Daesh.

Soleimani said the Iranian Defense Ministry "worked round the clock" to provide weapons to the Iraqi Army and the Popular Mobilization Forces in fight against Daesh.

Soleimani also said that Iran prioritizes diplomatic moves to settle disputes, however there are certain that require actions other than diplomacy.

Hamid Baeedinejad, Iran's ambassador to London, praised the role of General Soleimani in recapturing Mosul as "unparalleled".

"The liberation of Mosul not only means the biggest defeat of Daesh over the last three years, but also represents a major development in the Iraqi and Syrian war against Daesh," Baeedinejad said in a tweet.



# Syrian Observatory says has 'confirmed information' that ISIL chief killed

The so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) told Reuters on Tuesday that it had "confirmed information" that the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Daesh) terrorist outfit's Leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi has been killed.

Russia's Defense Ministry said in June that it might have killed Baghdadi when one of its air strikes hit a gathering of ISIL commanders on the outskirts of the Syrian city of Raqqah, but Washington said it could not corroborate the death and Western and Iraqi officials have been skeptical.

Earlier on Tuesday ISIL has announced that the Takfiri terrorist group's leader Ibrahim al-Samarrai, aka Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, "has been killed," a local source in Iraq's Nineveh province said.

The local source told Iraq's al-Sumaria news website on Tuesday that ISIL announced the death of its leader in a brief statement released via the terrorist group's media outlet in the center of Tal Afar city, situated 63 kilometers west of Mosul, without providing further details.

The source, who asked not to be named, added that the group said it would name a successor to Baghdadi soon.

The SOHR, a monitoring group affiliated to Syria's foreign-backed opposition groups, has also said that it has "confirmed information" that Baghdadi has been killed.

Following the announcement by ISIL, another local source revealed that an internal revolt and infighting had broken out within ISIL ranks in Tal Afar.

The source added that a wide-scale arrest campaign was launched against supporters of Baghdadi.

According to the report, a curfew was also declared in most of the city.

No Iraqi official has confirmed the report yet.

The report comes weeks after Russia said it was



"highly likely" that the ISIL leader had been killed in an airstrike carried out by the Russian Air Force in Syria's Raqqah city in May.

On Monday, Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi formally declared victory of the country's forces over the ISIL Takfiri terrorist group one day after the country's military and Popular Mobilization Units (PMU/Al-Hashd Al-Sha'abi) Forces took full control of the northern city.

Iraqi army soldiers and volunteer fighters from the PMU have made sweeping gains against ISIL

since launching the Mosul operation on October 17, 2016.

The Iraqi forces took control of eastern Mosul in January after 100 days of fighting, and launched the battle in the west on February 19.

An estimated 862,000 people have been displaced from Mosul ever since the battle to retake the city began eight months ago. A total of 195,000 civilians have also returned, mainly to the liberated areas of eastern Mosul.

(Source: agencies)

## Swedish lawmakers sue Turkish president for 'war crimes'

A group of Swedish lawmakers have filed a lawsuit against Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, accusing him of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes in the Kurdish-dominated regions in southeastern Turkey.

Five Swedish lawmakers from the Left and Green parties signed the complaint to the Swedish International Public Prosecution Offices with regard to the conflict in Turkey's Kurdish-majority region, where Kurdish militants and Turkish security forces are engaged in clashes since their ceasefire collapsed in 2015.

The lawsuit is the first of its kind in Sweden against a head of state and it also names several Turkish ministers, including Prime Minister Binali Yildirim.

"We are five lawmakers handing in a complaint... (Requesting) punishment for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes," Annika Lillemets, an MP for the Left party, told a news conference in Stockholm.

A 2014 law in Sweden allows the country's courts to judge cases of alleged crimes against humanity, no matter where the crime is committed and who the perpetrator is.

The legislation says that "anyone,



who in order to completely or partially destroy a national or ethnic group of people" kills, causes serious pain or injury is "guilty of genocide."

The Swedish Public Prosecution Offices said it would decide whether to launch a preliminary investigation, noting, "It may take a while."

According to the lawmakers, Erdogan could face an arrest warrant in Sweden if prosecutors decide to launch the probe.

Carl Schlyter, a legislator for the Greens, expressed hope that other lawmakers in European countries would take similar measures against the Turkish president.

"If (Erdogan) is hindered from roaming around in Europe and influencing European countries the way he wants, then I hope that this will affect his politics," he said.

In March, the United Nations Human Rights Office issued a report on

allegations of "massive destruction, killings and numerous other serious human rights violations committed" between July 2015 and December 2016 in southeastern Turkey.

Turkish military forces have been conducting ground operations as well as airstrikes against the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK/Partiya Karkerên Kurdistanê) positions in Iraq's troubled southeastern border region and Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region since 2015.

The campaign began following the July 2015 bombing in the southern Turkish town of Suruc, which claimed more than 30 civilian lives. Turkish officials held the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Daesh) Takfiri terrorist outfit responsible for the act of terror.

The PKK militants, who accuse the Ankara government of supporting ISIL, launched a string of supposed reprisal attacks against Turkish security forces after the bomb attack, in turn prompting the Turkish military operations.

Turkey has banned the PKK as a terrorist organization. The militant group has been calling for an autonomous Kurdish region since 1984. The conflict has left more than 40,000 people dead.

(Source: Press TV)

## Rex Tillerson: Qatari position in Persian Gulf row 'reasonable'

### EU warns PGCC may fall apart amid Qatar dispute

The United States Secretary of State Rex Tillerson told reporters in Doha that the Qatari government had "reasonable" views in the month-old diplomatic crisis with Arab neighbors.

"I think Qatar has been quite clear in its positions, and I think those have been very reasonable," Tillerson said after his arrival in Doha on Tuesday.

The quartet accuse Qatar of funding "terrorism", an accusation Qatar rejects as "baseless".

Tillerson is holding talks with Qatar's emir and foreign minister on the second leg of his four-day trip to the Persian Gulf to help seek a resolution to the crisis.

The U.S. State Department said Tillerson would first meet with Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, before holding talks with Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani.

The visit to Doha follows a meeting with the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah and other senior Kuwaiti officials on Monday.

"We are trying to resolve an issue that concerns not just us but the whole world," Sheikh Sabah told Tillerson.

U.S. officials said Tillerson does not expect an immediate breakthrough, which they warned could be months away.

Rather, they said, he wants to explore possibilities for sparking negotiations.

The House of Saud regime, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain and Egypt cut ties with Qatar on June 5 and imposed a land, air and sea blockade on the country.



On June 22, they issued a 13-point list of demands, including the shutdown of Al Jazeera, limiting ties with Iran and expelling Turkish troops stationed in the country, as a prerequisite to lift the sanctions.

Doha rejected the demands and the countries now consider the list "null and void".

Kuwait is still trying to mediate the dispute. The U.S. has been supporting Kuwait's mediation efforts, but Tillerson's trip marks a new level of U.S. involvement.

Al Jazeera's Rosiland Jordan, reporting from Kuwait City, said Tillerson was basically visiting each side to "take the temperature in this dispute".

"After some initial missteps from the White House, in which the president seemed to take sides with the Saudis and their allegations, the U.S.' position now is to try to shore up the Kuwait efforts to mediate the crisis and to try to bring some pressure from Washington, if it's appropriate," she said.

Senior Tillerson adviser R.C. Hammond said the package of demands, as issued by Qatar's neighbors, was not viable, but said there were individual items on the list "that could work".

Hammond would not elaborate on which demands Qatar could meet, but said concessions from the others would be required.

"This is a two-way street," he said of a dispute among parties who each have been accused of funding "extremists" in some way. "There are no clean hands."

### EU warns PGCC may fall apart amid Qatar dispute

Meanwhile, the European Union (EU) has warned that the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (PGCC) might collapse as a result of the current diplomatic dispute among its member states.

PGCC members Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates have also cut all land, sea, and air routes with Qatar, accusing it of supporting terrorism and destabilizing the region.

Other members, Oman and Kuwait, have remained neutral. Kuwait City is also engaging in mediation efforts. And the only other PGCC member is Qatar itself, which has rejected the accusations against it and has ruled out submitting to the will of the boycotting countries.

Speaking on Monday, EU foreign policy director Federica Mogherini said the European bloc was "worried" that the PGCC "might come disintegrated out of these tensions."

Earlier, a Qatari deputy prime minister had also said the PGCC was in its dying stages. Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah said Qatar had learned not to put too much trust in the countries that have laid the siege on it.

(Source: agencies)

## Lavrov: Moscow mulls retaliatory steps in diplomatic row with U.S.

Moscow is outraged that Washington has not yet resolved the issue of Russia's diplomatic property arrested in the United States, state Rossiya 24 TV channel showed Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov saying on Tuesday.

"It is just shameful for the United States to leave this situation hanging in the mid-air," Lavrov said, adding that the outgoing administration of U.S. President Barack Obama had tried to "poison to a maximum U.S.-Russian ties" when it took the move last December.

Moscow is considering retaliatory steps, Lavrov said. He said Russia would not discuss its planned steps in public.

(Source: RT)

## Trump Jr knew of Kremlin efforts to aid campaign

The son of U.S. President Donald Trump was told ahead of time that "compromising" information being offered by a Russian lawyer last year was "part of a Russian government effort" to help the Trump 2016 election campaign.

The new development comes a day after Donald Trump Jr confirmed that he had met Russian Lawyer Natalia Veselnitskaya, who promised damaging information about Hillary Clinton, on June 9, 2016.

The New York Times cited three unnamed individuals who had knowledge of an email sent from music publicist Rob Goldstone, who helped arrange the June 2016 meeting, that informed Trump Jr that the source of the information was the Russian government.

The email did not "elaborate on the wider effort by Moscow to help the Trump campaign", The New York Times said.

Goldstone spoke to The Associated Press news agency on Monday and confirmed he had set up the meeting on behalf of his client, Russian pop star Emin Agalarov, but he did not disclose the contents of the email. Goldstone did not immediately respond to attempts to contact him Monday night.

In a statement, Trump Jr's New York-based attorney Alan Futerfas called the Times report "much ado about nothing".

He did acknowledge that his client had received an email from Goldstone

to set up a meeting with the purpose of passing along damaging information on Clinton. His statement did not dispute the The New York Times description of the email.

Futerfas said Trump Jr was not told the specifics about the information and nothing came of the meeting. "The bottom line is that Don, Jr. did nothing wrong," Futerfas said in the statement, noting that the younger Trump hasn't been contacted by any congressional committees office.

On Monday, Trump Jr said that he, along with his father's then campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, and his brother-in-law, Jared Kushner, also attended the meeting at Trump Tower.

"After pleasantries were exchanged, the woman stated that she had information that individuals connected to Russia were funding the Democratic National Committee and supporting Ms Clinton," Trump Jr said in a statement.

Clinton was the 2016 Democratic presidential nominee.

"Her statements were vague, ambiguous and made no sense. No details or supporting information was provided or even offered. It quickly became clear that she had no meaningful information," the statement also said.

President Trump was "not aware of and did not attend" the meeting, Mark Corallo, a spokesman for Trump's legal team, said in an emailed statement.



The Kremlin said on Monday that it was unaware that the meeting took place.

### Senate intelligence committee investigation

Also on Monday, Senator Mark Warner, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, said he would "absolutely" want to hear testimony from Donald Trump Jr and believes the meeting he had with Veselnitskaya should be investigated.

The committee is expected to conduct its first interviews with Trump campaign officials later this week in its ongoing investigation of allegations Russia meddled with the 2016 US presidential election.

The committee has not said it will interview the Trump Jr, but the presi-

dent's son did say in a tweet he would be "happy to work" with the committee to "pass on" what he knew.

Allegations of the Trump campaign's ties to Russia have cast a shadow over the president's first five months in office.

This week's revelations come after President Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed the allegations of election meddling during the summit of leaders from the Group of 20 major economies in Hamburg, Germany.

The Kremlin has denied US intelligence agencies' conclusion that Moscow tried to tilt the election in Trump's favour, using such means as hacking into the emails of senior Democrats.

(Source: The New York Times)



NEWS IN BRIEF



**Over \$4.7b paid to boost production, employment: spokesman**

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — Iranian government has paid 178.26 trillion rials (about \$4.715 billion) to the economic enterprises since the beginning of current Iranian calendar year (March 20) until July 10 to boost production and employment in the country, IRNA quoted Government Spokesman Mohammad Baqer Nobakht as saying in a press conference on Tuesday.

Also, as IRIB reported on Sunday, Iran's Ministry of Industry, Mining and Trade is going to allocate 100 trillion rials (about \$2.64 billion) of facilities for renewing production units across the country.



**Iran LiftEx 2017 hosting 280 companies**

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — The 6th International Exhibition of Elevators, Industrial and Related Equipment of Iran (Iran LiftEx 2017) is hosting 280 Iranian and foreign companies.

The event, which started operation at the Tehran Permanent Fairground on Tuesday, will finish its work on Thursday, IRIB news reported.

Some 190 Iranian companies and 90 foreign ones from Germany, Italy, Taiwan, Turkey, Japan, China, Switzerland, Croatia, and South Korea are showcasing their latest products at this exhibition.

**Business casts doubt on UK-U.S. post-Brexit trade deal**

The transatlantic trade deal U.S. President Donald Trump is offering UK Prime Minister Theresa May will ultimately prove easy to promise and hard to deliver.

That's the warning of business leaders and trade analysts after Trump told May last week that the post-Brexit accord she hankers after can be lined up «very, very quickly.»

The challenge for the UK with talks set to begin this month is that America boasts more leverage and negotiating know-how than the UK does. That will potentially force May to compromise on areas such as financial regulation and food standards to land the agreement she needs.

«The UK must be absolutely desperate to demonstrate that it's able to get something from the United States," said Peter Holmes, an economist at the Trade Policy Observatory, a research group. «The U.S. will make demands that even a desperate British government won't be able to accede to.»

While the UK can't formally sign deals with other countries until it leaves the EU in March 2019, it can prepare the groundwork in the hope of ratifying them soon after. Conversations with the U.S. are set to begin on July 24.

Trade between the U.S. and the UK amounted to a surplus 37 billion pounds (\$47.6 billion) a year as of 2015, according to Britain's statistics office. By contrast, the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis calculated a surplus of \$11.9 billion in the same year, providing an awkward starting point, with both countries claiming to export more than they import from each other.

«The U.S. has one of the best negotiating teams in the world in terms of trade deals," Paul Drechsler, president of the Confederation of British Industry, a lobby group, told Sky News. «We don't want to walk into a bear hug and I would be wary of trying to be too fast. A trade deal is a dog-eat-dog activity; it's not a diplomatic activity.»

The UK may already have a taste of things to come from the inability of the EU and U.S. to agree a trade deal. Those talks have been on hold since Trump took power in January amid differences over data privacy and the rolling back of financial regulations among other issues.

«You're starting from the same point and the same issues are going to come up," said Joseph Francois, managing director of the World Trade Institute, a group at the University of Bern.

«There are bigger potential gains from doing a deal with Europe than with the UK on its own, just because Europe is a bigger market," said Thomas Sampson, an economist at the Centre for Economic Performance. «The flip side of that would be that because the UK is just one country rather than a block of 27 countries it should have more flexibility.»

The UK is already viewing a pact as a way for London-based banks to secure easy access to Wall Street, according to International Trade Secretary Liam Fox. Yet that might require the UK to accept weaker rules on finance, less than 10 years after the financial crisis.

Agriculture could also emerge as a sticking point, according to Holmes.

«You can see a Trump administration coming to the UK and demanding a loosening of sanitary regulations on food, demanding that the UK allow hormone-treated beef to be sold in the UK and for the UK to accept GM crops," he said. «There will be quite a reaction against it.»

(Source: Bloomberg)

**Electricity investment overtakes oil, gas for first time ever in 2016: IEA**

➔ Spending on electricity networks and storage continued the steady rise of the past five years, reaching an all-time high of \$277 billion in 2016, with 30 percent of the expansion driven by China's spending in its distribution system, the report said.

China led the world in energy investments with 21 percent of global total share, the report said, driven by low-carbon electricity supply and networks projects.

(Source: Reuters)

# Chemical, petrochemical output rises 9% in a year

**ENERGY TEHRAN** — According to the latest report released by Iranian Industry Ministry, total production of chemical and petrochemical products in the past Iranian calendar year 1395 (ended on March 20), witnessed a nine-percent increase, IRNA reported.

Iran could manage to produce 50.73 million tons of such products in the last year, while the figure was 46.56 million tons in its preceding year.

The country's production of chemical products stood at 44.598 million tons in 1395, rising 9.2 percent from 40.846 million tons in 1394.

National Petrochemical Company (NPC) plans to increase its nominal production capacity by three percent by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2018).

Ali-Mohammad Bossaqzadeh, the production control director of NPC, said the goal will be achieved through implementing new petrochemical projects in the country, Shana news agency reported in late May.

Seven new petrochemical projects are planned to be implemented in the country by the end of the current calendar year, Bossaqzadeh had previously announced.



**Foreign debt at \$8.5 billion: CBI**

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — The latest report published by the Central Bank of Iran puts the country's foreign debt at \$8.481 billion by the end of the previous Iranian calendar year (March 20, 2017).

According to the report, foreign debt grew by \$910 million year on year, ISNA reported.

The amount of debt increased from \$7.571 billion in the first quarter of the past year to \$7.910 billion and



to \$7.840 billion in the second and the third quarters, respectively.

## China's monetary policies likely to tighten to fight economic risks

China's monetary policies are expected to become relatively tight in the second half of this year, as fending off financial risks has become a greater challenge than stabilizing growth, said economists and analysts.

The change may mean less monetary liquidity in the market, as the government strengthens measures to tackle risks.

Economists said the evidence of the central bank's switch of focus in its monetary policy is found in a quick review of the 2017 financial stability report, released on July 4.

It shows that although the People's Bank of China, the central bank, used the exact same wording describing its monetary policy stance "prudent and neutral" there was a change. It said it would keep liquidity and credit growth "at a basically reasonable level" this year. This was a change from last year, when it said it would keep liquidity and credit growth "ample and at a reasonable level".

That minor difference in wording in the midyear report put a greater priority on prevention of cross-sector financial risks, economists said.

«The central bank's expected fine-tuning of its monetary policy in the second half will depend less on changes in fundamentals, reflected by such indicators as CPI and employment. It has shifted its focus to adoption of monetary tools to tackle risk challenges," said Su Jian, an economist at the Economic Research Institute of Peking University.

Su said how China manages risks will hinge on how financial policymakers coordinate their roles during the upcoming Central Financial Work Conference, which is expected to open on Friday and involve discussions of the integration of financial regulatory bodies' roles.

Stable growth in the first half means the central bank does not need to continue to issue excessive credit to spur growth, Su said.

**Stock market index gains 113 points in a day**

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — Stock index gained 113 points to 79,490 in Iran's stock exchange market on Tuesday, Tasnim news agency reported.

The report said 871 million shares worth 3.030 trillion rials (about \$80.158 million) were dealt in the stock market.

Also, IFX, the main index of Iran's over-the-counter (OTC) market known also as Iran Fara Bourse (IFB), gained 3.9 points to 905 on Tuesday, as 360



million securities worth 1.4 trillion rials (about \$37.03 million) were dealt.

## IMF sees trouble ahead for emerging Europe

Emerging Europe is facing increasing economic stresses that threaten to unwind some of the political progress made over the past decades, a top International Monetary Fund official said on Tuesday.

Poul Thomsen, the head of the IMF European Department said central and Eastern Europe's economic growth potential has halved in the past decade and the rapid outflow of skilled workers is an increasing drag.

He noted at a conference in Dubrovnik that some governments in the region are even questioning the benefits of European integration.

With Europe struggling through a decade of crisis and economic malaise, convergence between the core Western countries and the Eastern periphery has slowed or stopped. This has raised domestic questions about the validity of painful economic and political reform.

«This is a timely reminder to all of us not to fool ourselves into believing that governance and institutional progress are inevitable; not to believe that such progress is an unstoppable outcome, a steady evolution. It is not," Thomsen said.

«Going forward, headwinds will grow stronger," the Danish economist said.

Thomsen, who has led IMF programs with countries such as Greece and Portugal, also noted that the excep-



tional support from a benign global growth environment that benefitted the region when it is initially emerged from Communism, was unlikely to be replicated.

Meanwhile, the outflow of skilled workers to Western Europe is a top issue for the region. The IMF estimates that 20 million people have left central and Eastern Europe in the past decades -- roughly 5-6 percent of the population.

Half of Hungarian and a quarter of Polish manu-

facturing firms now claim that a shortage of workers is limiting production and inhibiting investment, surveys showed.

**EU tensions**

On a political note, Thomsen pointed to increased tensions between some of the EU's eastern members and the European Commission as a key concern.

The EU is at loggerheads with Poland about rule-of-law issues and has clashed with Hungary over refugees, among other issues.

The turmoil of the past decade has also put into doubt the value of EU membership for countries still outside the bloc.

He added that another concern is that given the disappointments of the past decade, some countries may reverse the political and institutional reforms that were meant to solidify democracy and support long term growth.

«Some of the threats of (governance) reversal... are evident in some of the most advanced countries of the region," Thomsen said.

«There is clearly one area where we at the Fund are concerned: central bank independence," Thomsen said. «In a number of countries central bank independence is under threat.»

(Source: Reuters)

## U.S. small-business optimism dips in June

A gauge of U.S. small-business confidence fell in June as business owners expressed frustration over gridlock in Washington, according to a National Federation of Independent Business report released on Tuesday.

The group's Index of Small Business Optimism fell to 103.6 last month from 104.5 in May, although it remains near its highest lev-

el in more than a decade. The index surged following the election of Donald Trump as U.S. president last November, and in January hit its highest level since December 2004.

The rise was largely attributed to business owners' optimism surrounding Trump's promises of deregulation, tax breaks and infrastructure spending.

But Congress' inability to deliver on those

promises has muted confidence as business operators grow wary of political infighting over the healthcare reform legislation, and prospects for tax reform are uncertain.

«As Washington fails to deliver on those two priorities small-business optimism is dropping," said Juanita Duggan, president of NFB. «Gridlock is driving down small-business optimism, which will eventually drive

down the economy!'

With fewer small businesses anticipating improved business conditions, plans to increase employment have also declined, falling 3 percentage points in June to 15 percent of respondents. May's reading of 18 percent matched the highest level since 2006.

(Source: Reuters)



# Iran plans 14 oil and gas exploration tenders

Iran is readying its first round of oil and gas exploration tenders since the easing of economic sanctions, hoping to attract the likes of BP and Gazprom, an Iranian energy official said on Monday.

Sitting on some of the world's biggest energy reserves, Iran has already been working on deals to develop existing fields such as South Pars, South Azadegan, Yadavaran, West Karoon, Mansouri and Ab-Teimour.

France's Total last week became the first major to sign a post-sanctions development deal with Iran. Russia's Lukoil and Denmark's Maersk are also potential investors.

Next on the horizon is the search for new oil, with the state national oil company (NIOC) planning to tender 14 oil and gas blocks for exploration in the next two to three months, NIOC's deputy director for exploration blocks, Rahim Nematollahi, said on the sidelines of an energy industry conference in Istanbul.

Most of the new exploration blocks are in the Zagros, Koppeh Dagh and the Middle Eastern Persian Gulf region and would require minimum exploration expenditure of between 14 million euros (\$16 million) and 80 million euros.

The biggest exploration expenses are expected for blocks Parsa and Bamdad in the Persian Gulf, amounting to 80 million euros and 75 million euros respectively.

Nematollahi also said that BP, Austria's OMV, Gazprom, Lukoil as well as Italy's Edison and Malaysia's Petronas have expressed interest in new exploration blocks.

(Source: Reuters)



## Oil production cuts can go longer and deeper if necessary: Novak

OPEC and non-OPEC producers have the capacity to extend and deepen their production cuts should the oil market's situation become even more complex, Russia's Oil Minister Alexander Novak told CNBC.

"If necessary, we can extend the agreement. If necessary, we can increase the amounts that need to be reduced or on the contrary, we can move to reduce them," Novak said, according to a CNBC translation, on the sidelines of the World Petroleum Congress in Istanbul.

In May, OPEC and allied non-OPEC members, such as Russia, agreed to cap oil production through to March 2018. However, despite OPEC and non-OPEC

producers ratifying a deal to extend output cuts, prices have slumped.

Brent crude futures, the international benchmark for oil prices, have tumbled more than 9 percent since the announcement, in part because of the increased production levels of Nigeria and Libya – two OPEC members exempt from cutting output.

Novak argued it was important to remember a precedent had been created which meant OPEC and non-OPEC members could "take any decision that might have a positive influence on the industry."

Kazakhstan's Energy Minister, Kanat Bimbayev, reportedly told Russia's TASS

news agency on Sunday that the country wanted a gradual exit from the OPEC-led deal either one or two months after the agreement is due to expire.

When asked whether the comments from Kazakhstan's energy minister could signal a potential 'free for all' at the end of March 2018, Novak stressed it was "too early" to predict how countries would act from April 1 next year.

"When the first agreement was signed for six months, people immediately started asking me, what's going to happen in six months? And then as soon as we extended it for another nine months everyone is interested in what will happen in nine

months. It's an endless and eternal question," Novak said.

On Friday, OPEC delegates told Reuters they were encouraged by Russia's openness to discussing changes regarding an OPEC-led deal to curb supplies.

The world's leading exporter, Saudi Arabia, and top producer Russia had previously said there was no immediate requirement for additional measures to support prices.

Several key OPEC ministers are expected to meet with Russian representatives to discuss the situation in oil markets on July 24 in St Petersburg.

(Source: CNBC)

## Iran expects steep increase in gas output, exports

Iran will see a steep rise in its natural gas output and exports after last year's easing of Western sanctions, its deputy oil minister said on Tuesday, adding that recent deals with global firms show they believe sanctions will not come back.

Amir Hossein Zamaninia, Iran's deputy oil minister for trade and international affairs, said Iran's gas production would rise to 1 billion cubic meters a day by the end of the year from the current 800 million cubic meters (mcm) per day.

He said volumes available for export should reach 365 mcm a day by 2021, which is higher than the exports of the world's top liquefied natural gas producer Qatar.

France's Total signed a deal earlier this month to help Iran increase gas output from the giant South Pars gas field, which the country shares with Qatar.

Total will be the operator with a 50.1 percent stake, alongside Chinese state-owned energy company CNPC with 30 percent and National Iranian Oil Co subsidiary Petropars with 19.9 percent.

The deal marked the first by a major global energy company signed with Iran since the easing of sanctions against Tehran in January 2016.

"With the contracts signed last week, with the Chinese company and Total and the Iranian company, that is also a very good indication that the assessment by international oil companies is that the return of sanctions is very unlikely, if not impossible," Zamaninia told a conference in Istanbul. (Source: Reuters)

## Oil steadies but outlook remains weak

Oil steadied on Tuesday after almost a week of sharp falls, but the outlook remained weak amid oversupply and several banks cut their price forecasts.

Benchmark Brent crude was down 10 cents at \$46.78 a barrel by 0820 GMT. U.S. light crude was 5 cents lower at \$44.35.

Signs of strong short-term demand capped losses. Gasoline demand tends to increase in the northern hemisphere summer as U.S. drivers take to the road.

Weekly U.S. gasoline demand data "compares favorably to the five-year average and miles driven also continue to grow year-on-year", Bank of America Merrill Lynch said in a note to clients.

However, it also said: "U.S. gasoline demand may have peaked in absolute terms last year", adding that it expected no structural tightness once the peak demand summer season was over.

Crude prices are about 18 percent below their 2017 opening levels despite a deal led by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries to cut production from January.

(Source: Reuters)

# LONGINES



**SARMAN CO.**

1832 Dr. Shariati Ave. Next to Pol-E-Roomi Tehran IRAN  
Tel.: +98 21 226.137.52

**LONGINES DOLCEVITA**  
A NEW APPROACH TO CHARM  
AND GRACE



## Iraq's V-Day a beginning

Sunday was V-Day for Iraq in Mosul, as PM Haider al-Abadi finally declared victory over Daesh (ISIS).

Yet Abadi's declaration is premature, and not only because Daesh still holds much territory in Iraq.

Enormous challenges remain. Sectarian fault lines that allowed the extremist group to grow and then take control have not gone away, but instead become worse. Some 3 million people are displaced around Iraq, and many will not be eager to return home if places such as Mosul are not quickly rebuilt.

And the state must now deal with the militias it has relied upon, which will not be eager to disarm.

The road to victory in Mosul has cost thousands of lives, and vast areas lie devastated. Nations in the anti-Daesh coalition have unleashed the most sophisticated and destructive weapons in their arsenal on Iraqi homes and businesses.

And for this reason the militants' defeat was only a matter of time.

The management of Mosul's liberation has been haphazard, indiscriminate and in some cases unproportionately destructive.

The management of the battle's aftermath must be far better, because unless something resembling a Marshall Plan is implemented in Iraq as soon as possible, things could go from bad to worse.

In oil Iraq is blessed with copious amounts of natural resources, and its revenues must be allocated properly for reconstruction and rehabilitation as soon as possible. Unless this is done an already fractured nation could unravel further.

There are many countries that want to help Iraq avoid this fate, but the government must prove it is capable of such a task.

Otherwise the geographically, demographically and politically united Iraq of yesteryear will be gone forever, replaced with a country pregnant with civil wars and sectarian strife.

(Source: The Daily Star)

## North Korea's missile test was ominous, but a military response could be disastrous

North Korea's testing of a missile capable of reaching U.S. soil is an ominous development. For residents of Los Angeles — which is routinely cited as a potential target for such a weapon — it is especially so.

For the time being, North Korea does not appear to have a missile that can reach this city, nor has it figured out how to equip one with an effective nuclear warhead. But we have to face facts. North Korea's capabilities are growing rapidly, and efforts by successive U.S. administrations, the United Nations Security Council and even China have failed to restrain the nuclear ambitions of Kim Jong Un and his predecessors.

Given that reality, President Trump might be tempted to give up on diplomacy and take preemptive military action to destroy North Korea's nuclear program and perhaps the communist government along with it.

There is no guarantee that diplomacy will solve this problem; but a reckless military response will surely make it worse.

After all, the president declared last week that "the era of strategic patience with the North Korean regime has failed." Last Wednesday, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley said: "The United States is prepared to use the full range of our capabilities to defend ourselves and our allies. One of our capabilities lies with our considerable military forces."

### ■ Surgical airstrikes

But military action could be disastrous, leading to war on the Korean peninsula and the death of thousands of people. As the president's military advisors will surely tell him, even "surgical" airstrikes designed to destroy North Korea's nuclear weapons probably would trigger retaliation by the North against South Korea, using conventional weapons already amassed on the border. Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis has warned that the result "would be probably the worst kind of fighting in most people's lifetimes."

Some who argue for a preemptive strike justify it on the grounds that Kim is irrational and that once North Korea is capable of launching a nuclear weapon — against South Korea or a distant target in the United States — it won't be deterred by the certainty of massive retaliation. If military action is off the table, what should the United States do?

First, the U.S. should continue to lean on China to press North Korea to rein in its nuclear ambitions. Trump once held out great hope for Chinese intervention, but lately has expressed disillusionment. Last Wednesday he tweeted: "Trade between China and North Korea grew almost 40% in the first quarter. So much for China working with us — but we had to give it a try!"

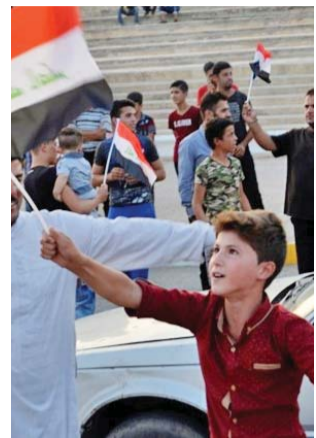
But Trump shouldn't give up. The truth is that China has made some efforts to pressure North Korea, supporting sanctions at the Security Council and restricting imports of coal from North Korea. But it should be pressed to do more, including support the new Security Council resolution Haley said the U.S. would introduce.

Second, the administration should leave the door open to negotiations with North Korea — including direct talks. It's understandable that the administration would be reluctant.

The administration seems to have ruled out participating in any negotiations that would result in a freeze on nuclear or missile tests by North Korea as opposed to a dismantling of that country's nuclear weapons program. Last Tuesday Secretary of State Rex Tillerson reiterated that the U.S. "will never accept a nuclear-armed North Korea." But perhaps there is a way for talks to take place without either side insisting on preconditions. If nothing else, a continuing channel of communication might reduce tension and prevent events from spiraling out of control.

There is no guarantee that diplomacy will solve this problem; but a reckless military response will surely make it worse.

(Source: LAT)



# Saudi Arabia's standing is damaged despite ruling on arms exports

## High court has concluded that Britain acted lawfully over weapons sales, but judgment will do little to help end war in Yemen

By Patrick Wintour

The high court ruling that the UK acted lawfully in granting export licenses to UK firms selling arms to Saudi Arabia for use in the Yemen conflict may be a relief to the government, but does little to clean up Britain's relationship with Riyadh, let alone bring an end to the desperate civil war in Yemen.

The judgment is a reflection on the way in which the government came to its decision rather than its wisdom. The ruling said the Saudi bombing campaign probably breached international humanitarian law, but that was for the UK government and not the court to assess.

The ruling is also likely to lead to political pressure for the law on arms sales to be tightened so the threshold for barring sales is lowered.

### ■ An arms ban

Labour has already said it would ban arms sales to Saudi Arabia. In the U.S., similar pressure for an arms ban is mounting. Saudi Arabia is suffering damage to its reputation. A poll by YouGov published in the last few days showed 66% of the UK population have an unfavorable view of Saudi Arabia. In France and Germany the figure is closer to 75%. Even in the U.S., the balance of opinion is turning against the Saudis, one of Washington's closest allies. Patience with Riyadh is ebbing further in European capitals now that it has locked itself into a new row with fellow [Persian] Gulf state Qatar.

It hardly helps the Saudi's standing that the Foreign Office won the case brought by the Campaign Against Arms Trade largely due to evidence provided by the UK security services in closed court. The UK-Saudi relationship is shrouded in too much secrecy — a government report into the overseas funding of extremism in the UK, in which Saudi charities are certain to feature prominently, remains unpublished.

Similarly a Foreign Office report on a new [Persian] Gulf strategy has been written, but marked for "ministerial eyes only". Post-Brexit the UK government regards the [Persian] Gulf as critical to future economic



## Patience with Riyadh is ebbing further in European capitals now that it has locked itself into a new row with fellow [Persian] Gulf state Qatar.

performance, but little is said in public about how this relationship is to develop.

A more open relationship would require the Saudis to make a big cultural shift, including explaining openly how they intend to conduct and win the war in Yemen.

The new UK Middle East minister, Alistair Burt, a returnee to the Foreign Office, has a chance to turn a new page with the Saudis and demand they improve the conduct of their air campaign in Yemen. The previous minister, Tobias Ellwood, now at the Ministry of Defense, became locked into a defensive posture demanding the Saudis be more open, but then rarely upbraided them in public when they failed to publish prompt and clear assessments of why specific raids had gone wrong.

### ■ Cluster munitions

No military likes advertising their failures, but the Saudis have been neuralgic. There has also been concern that the Saudis were not straightforward with the UK government over the use of British-supplied cluster munitions.

Similarly the UK has often been evasive about whether it is training Saudi pilots in the war in Yemen, or just helping the pilots with post-air strike assessments.

A plethora of select committees in both the Lords and Commons have argued for a tougher line on arms sales to Saudi Arabia. Ministers, armed with this court judgment, can doubtless dismiss the complaints of Labour, but two Conservatives, Lord Howell, the chairman of the Lords international relations committee, and Lady Helic, the former special adviser to Lord Hague as foreign secretary, only last week called for suspension of offensive weapons to Saudi Arabia. The issue is not just one of legal niceties about international humanitarian law played out in private, but moral issues about how civilian lives are protected in war.

Above all the high court ruling brings no one any closer to an end to the conflict in Yemen between Houthis, and the UN- and Saudi-backed government of

Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi. The Saudis in launching the war believed the Houthis could be rapidly defeated by superior air firepower. It has not worked out like that. The war has entered its third year and as many as 13,000 civilians have been killed or injured. The country is facing a major cholera outbreak with more than 300,000 suspected cases in the last two months. On Monday the International Committee of the Red Cross said the cholera epidemic "continues to spiral out of control" since it erupted in April. More than 21 million people are in need of some form of humanitarian assistance, and at least 3 million people have been forced to flee their homes since March 2015.

If the conflict continues indefinitely, the danger is that Islamic State [ISIS] will thrive. In that context, the legal arguments in the Royal Courts of Justice matter, but are dwarfed by the scale of the regional conflict.

(Source: The Guardian)

## Trump, the G-20 and the end of American superiority

### History now seems to be making a dangerous U-turn.

By Simon Serfaty

One hundred years ago, America reluctantly entered a war that set new standards of inhumanity among — and between — the Great Powers which had started that war nearly three years earlier. The U.S. intervention was costly but proved decisive. After victory, a twenty-year time out, dubbed "the interwar years," ended with another war, which America joined, no less reluctantly and as decisively. This time, though, there was no coming home. After victory, nine U.S. presidents from Harry Truman to George H. W. Bush, all different in character and background, organized an institutional order for a world that might at last proved to be worthy of America — open, liberal, motivated and rules-based.

Less than six months into his presidency, Donald Trump served notice in Hamburg, Germany, that the United States no longer deemed the order to be relevant. To set things straight — end the "carnage" at home and save Western values abroad — America is not retiring. Instead, America is taking a leave of absence, although with full pay for services rendered, including expected returns from past investments (in Europe and elsewhere) and new business opportunities (with Saudi Arabia and others). Call it a global version of repeal and replace: the "world we made," as Robert Kagan called it, is set aside, for lack of clarity and purpose. But can it be replaced?

### ■ The meeting's central figure

Although German chancellor Angela Merkel was very much in charge in Hamburg, the U.S. president was predictably the meeting's central figure. Admittedly, the unipolar moment that followed the Cold War did not outlive the wars of 9/11 in Afghanistan and Iraq. Yet, the United States has remained the world's most and only complete power. And with America in the lead, the world absorbed repeated system-changing shocks from which it might not have recovered otherwise—including the September 2001 terror attacks, the 2008 financial crisis and the 2011 Arab Spring. In each instance, and others, the worse might have been avoided had America acted earlier and differently or more effectively; but in most instances, too, things would have likely been worse had America failed to act at all.

But now what? If not the United States in the lead, who? For China, which remains an incomplete and untested power, it is too early; for Russia, which is a one-dimensional and overextended power, it is too late; and for Germany, which has become the reluctant and scarred leader of an unfinished EU, it is still too awkward. Elsewhere in the G-20 there are BITS of power with regional influence — Brazil, India, Turkey and Saudi Arabia. The four countries are assiduously courted but seriously limited by their own contradictions, insufficiencies or ex-



## Less than six months into his presidency, Donald Trump served notice in Hamburg, Germany, that the United States no longer deemed the order to be relevant.

cesses. Even when their contributions are acknowledged as indispensable, they cannot be decisive.

In short, take out one of twenty and you get close to zero: this is faux multipolarity, with the consequence that the balance of the decade is shaping up arguably as the first moment of global disorder ever, a variation on the interwar years of the 1920s and 1930s—en pire?

Back then, it was the United States that seized the baton of Western leadership from a failed Europe; there is little evidence, though, that Europe can now do the same, even pending America's return in 2020? Brexit, Putin and Trump have paradoxically restored some needed momentum for an "ever closer union" in Europe: Brexit, because it has shown its former partners how difficult it is to leave the EU; Putin, because he has reminded his neighbors how dangerous it is to live safely next to Russia; and Trump, because he is ending Europe's reticence to move out of its U.S. shelter. Watching Chancellor Merkel dismiss Trump's views on climate change, or hearing the newly-elected French president, Emmanuel Macron, deploring the "narrow-minded nationalism" of some, was indicative of an unfolding transfer of authority, from the one to the many.

### ■ Geopolitical theater

Admittedly, there is plenty of geopolitical theater here. A new institutional order will be neither reset nor recast without or against the United States. Yet, by comparison to the Euro-Atlantic G-2 that emerged out of the Cold War, any other G-2 is a fake, at best conducive to a dialogue on one specific issue at a time. Beyond that issue, whatever it is, there is too much history that stands

in the way, not to mention clashing interests, different goals, incompatible values and uneven capabilities.

Neither a multilateralist à la Obama nor a unilateralist à la George W. Bush, Trump is a bilateralist who thinks of one G-2 per issue, one issue per G-2. After he used Warsaw, the "geographic center" of World War II to sketch the specter of a war of civilizations, he turned to Vladimir Putin as a partner of choice in Syria. His goals "are exactly the same" as ours, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson surprisingly claimed. But by any standard, the Global War on Terror is not World War II, and regardless of what is thought of an analogy between Putin and Stalin, Trump is no Roosevelt and Assad's Syria is no Hitler's Germany. The idea of "pooling" Russian and American resources, another Grand Alliance, sounds odd: to what end and at what price, and past a possible ceasefire, with what consequence and follow ups? Who is using whom? The age of imperial viceroys is over.

Little has seemed normal over the past eighteen months, but that is no reason to delete prior knowledge and forego common sense. Hold on, therefore — what will come out of this moment, the Trump moment, is worrisome but not clear yet. For a while at least, it may be better to forget about trends. Predictability has had an especially poor record of late. As History stutters, events no longer seem to add up and memories of this failed G-20 will hopefully fade soon. The new American vision is a disappointment to at least half the world — the half which Dean Acheson emphasized "at the creation." The Trump administration claims to have "a clear-eyed" understanding of "an arena where nations, non-governmental actors and businesses engage and compete for advantage." For those who still believe in the American dream this is not a compelling vision.

And yet, it is true that history now seems to be making a dangerous U-turn. "Common goals have never been so threatened," said French president Macron at the close of the G-20 meeting. For those of us who remember how much has been accomplished over the past half-century, this is not an acceptable conclusion either. President Trump will spend his next weekend in Paris, which is a good thing, not as a tribute to him but in recognition of all that America has contributed since President Wilson took the country back to its First World. While watching the military parade, of which Trump is said to be especially fond, he, Macron and all those watching in Europe and around the world will hopefully be reminded that the best way to face the unsettling moment ahead is to stay the course set over the past seventy years. With and for us, there is still an institutional order worth preserving and completing, at twenty and many more.

(Source: National Interest)



# Iran, the U.S. and the World

By Robert Fantina

Maintaining a straight face, United States Secretary of Defense James Mattis calls Iran "the primary state sponsor of terrorism". This from the man whose country is bombing at least six nations.

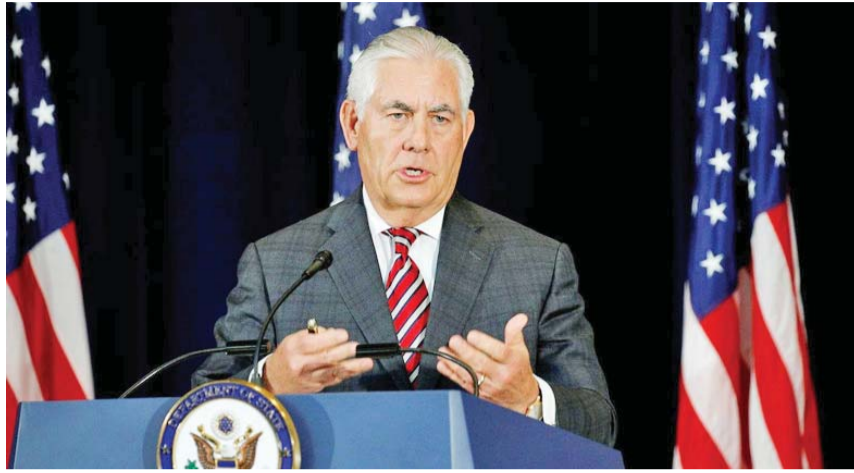
A week ago, I had the opportunity of travelling to Iran, to present at the conference 'United States, Human Rights and Discourse of Domination' held on July 2 in Tehran. Although only in Iran for four days, and only visiting two cities (Tehran and Mashhad), that is more time than most of the people who listen to Mr. Mattis's bizarre ramblings have spent there. So perhaps my impressions may be of some value.

Tehran is a bustling city: the business area is noisy, crowded and exciting, not all that different from any major city in the U.S. or Europe which I have visited. I observed women in various modes of dress; yes, all wore headscarves, as is required, but beyond that, they wore jeans, slacks, sneakers, high-heeled shoes, and any other fashion observed anywhere else. As I rode through both cities, I observed women driving, sometimes alone, sometimes with other women in the car, and sometimes with men in the car. Additionally, women with Ph.D.s presented at the conference, and I met a young woman studying for her Ph.D. in at the University of Tehran. It should be noted that none of these situations would be observed in Saudi Arabia, with which the U.S. has full diplomatic relations.

The hotels at which I stayed in Tehran and Mashhad were both modern, with the one in Mashhad being exceptional in style and amenities. Lights in the hallways turned on when there was motion, so it was available when needed, reducing waste of electricity. It was beautifully appointed throughout.

During my time in Iran, I saw one police officer, who was directing traffic; I could not tell if the officer was armed. I saw one armed soldier on duty at the airport in Mashhad, both when arriving and when leaving. I saw two other soldiers, apparently off-duty, awaiting a flight in Mashhad. Other than that, there was no military presence observed in either city.

I found the people helpful. Although I had guides through all my activities, these guides didn't accompany me on my flight from Mashhad. Prior to board-



**why does the U.S. want to convince the world that Iran is exporting terrorism, when it itself is doing so?**

ing, my guide asked a group of people if anyone would be interested in assisting me on my way back to Tehran, to assure that I found my contact there. As he was making this request, I, of course, didn't know what he was saying. A gentleman who spoke some English volunteered, my guide explained what was happening, and we proceeded.

Although I could certainly have located my Tehran guide back at the airport (I had previously met him), I appreciated this gesture. There is something a bit intimidating about looking at the 'Arrivals' and 'Departures' board in the airport, and not understanding a single word that is written.

Additionally, arriving back in Tehran, I realized that I had left my wallet and cell phone at airport security in Mashhad. The gentleman who had volunteered to assist me called my guide in Mashhad, who returned to the airport, retrieved my missing belongings, and is sending them back to me. The gracious volunteer remained with me until my guide and I found each other.

**Tillerson has said that U.S. policy is "to work toward support of those elements inside of Iran that would lead to a peaceful transition of that government," possibly, in the way the U.S. is supporting elements inside of Syria that are working, at U.S. behest, to overthrow that government.**

It may be a wonder to some people, but I walked wherever I wanted to in both cities. Restaurants abounded, and the group I was with enjoyed meals and sightseeing, with no restrictions.

What, one might ask, did I not experience in Iran that I might have expected to experience in the U.S. For one, no unarmed people were shot by the police while I was there. There were no mass shootings in schools or places of business. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani did not embarrass himself or his country on the international stage; he did not threaten 'regime change' against any country. There was no news about the country's officials attempting to deprive its citizens of health care.

Returning for a moment to the puzzling statement of Mr. Mattis, let us be reminded that Iran has not invaded another nation in over 200 years. The U.S. has been at war for at least 220 of its 241 year history.

Let us now ask: What country is the primary state sponsor of terrorism? Is it the one who is being threatened with

'regime change' by the country which is now bombing six other countries, and that has not invaded another country in over 200 years? Or is it the one doing the bombing?

Since logic and common sense tell us that it must be the one doing the bombing (the U.S.), we need to ask another question: why does the U.S. want to convince the world that Iran is exporting terrorism, when it itself is doing so?

The answer has been stated before, but I will not hesitate to state it again: the U.S. does not want any country in the Middle East to be powerful except apartheid Israel. Iran is a power broker in that part of the world, so the U.S. must reduce it to ruins, if it possibly can, as it did with Iraq. However, Iran is not Iraq: it is far bigger, more heavily populated, and more powerful than Iraq ever was. An invasion of Iran would be a disaster for the U.S., the Middle East and quite possibly, the entire world.

Will any of that matter to U.S. President Donald Trump? Probably not. He only cares about his popularity (his poll numbers are dismal, but he thinks they are just part of media lies; he seems to believe he is beloved around the world), and has only a minimal grasp, if any at all, of history, politics or current events. He is surrounded by the likes of Mr. Mattis, who also seems more than amenable to walking wide-eyed into certain disaster. Will Secretary of State Rex Tillerson be the voice of reason? When pigs fly. Mr. Tillerson has said that U.S. policy is "to work toward support of those elements inside of Iran that would lead to a peaceful transition of that government," possibly, one might think, in the way the U.S. is supporting elements inside of Syria that are working, at U.S. behest, to overthrow that government. The fact that Iranian president Rouhani was elected in a democratic process is not sufficient for Mr. Tillerson.

Perhaps we can look to the U.S. senate for some restraint: hardly. It recently voted 98 - 2 to increase sanctions on Iran.

The only real hope is that the U.S. will react to pressure from Russia, which will not look kindly on an attack on its ally. Perhaps, just perhaps, Messrs. Trump, Mattis, Tillerson, et. al will be sufficiently cognizant of the risks of a nuclear world war to prevent it. It is beyond frightening to consider that that is the slim hope upon which civilization relies.

## Detention, deportation and human rights in the United States

By Tanya Maria Golash-Boza

Part Two

O'Ryan, a Jamaican citizen, moved to the United States as a legal permanent resident when he was six years old. When he was 25 years old, O'Ryan was deported to Jamaica because of a drug conviction. When I spoke to O'Ryan, he had been in Jamaica for seven years and continued to have trouble getting adjusted to life in his birth country. He told me he understands he made mistakes, but did not see it as fair that he should pay the rest of his life for those mistakes. He doesn't see a future for himself in Jamaica, where he feels like a foreigner. He told me "I shouldn't be deported because I'm really not a bad person." For O'Ryan, deportation feels like a cruel punishment that he never had the chance to contest. His deportation was an automatic consequence of his drug conviction. He had no opportunity to explain to a judge that he grew up in the United States, that he was a college student, and that he had no ties to Jamaica.

The U.S. Constitution does not directly address deportation. However, the U.S. government is party to two international treaties that specify how governments should handle deportations. For example, Article 13 of the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which the U.S. has ratified, states, "An alien lawfully in the territory of a State party to the present covenant may be expelled therefrom only in pursuance of a decision reached in accordance with law and shall, except when compelling reasons of national security otherwise require, be allowed to submit the reasons against his expulsion and to have his case reviewed by, and be represented for the purpose before, the competent authority or a person or persons especially designated by the competent authority." In addition, the American Convention on Human Rights (ACHR), to which the United States is party, states, "Every person has the right to a hearing, with due guarantees and within a reasonable time, by a competent, in-

dependent and impartial tribunal, previously established by law." The absence of discretion in deportation hearings of legal permanent residents accused of aggravated felonies violates these treaties, both of which have been signed by the U.S. government.

In a groundbreaking case, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) concluded in July 2010 that the United States stands in violation of Articles 5, 6, 7, 18, and 26 of the American Declaration. This decision was made on the basis of the deportation of two legal permanent residents: Hugo Armendariz and Wayne Smith. Hugo Armendariz was born in Mexico, yet came to the United States when he was 2 years old in 1972. He became a legal permanent resident in 1978, when he was 8 years old. Armendariz's mother is a U.S. citizen, and he has two U.S. citizen children. Having lived nearly all of his life in the United States, he has no ties to Mexico. Nevertheless, when he was in his late 20s, Armendariz was convicted on drug charges and deported to Mexico. Wayne Smith is a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago and lived in the United States for 25 years before being ordered deported to his country of birth. The IACHR found that Smith and

Armendariz deserved judicial review of their cases, and that automatic deportation was in violation of the American

Declaration. The decision specified that it is well-recognized under international law that a Member State must provide non-citizen residents an opportunity to present a defense against deportation based on humanitarian and other considerations ... Each Member State's administrative or judicial bodies, charged with reviewing deportation orders, must be permitted to give meaningful consideration to a non-citizen resident's defense, balance it against the State's sovereign right to enforce reasonable, objective immigration policy, and provide effective relief from deportation if merited. The United States did not follow these international norms in the present case.

The IACHR found that the United States' decision to deport Hugo Armendariz and Wayne Smith, both long-term legal permanent residents of the United States, was in violation of international standards insofar as Armendariz and Smith did not have the opportunity to present evidence of their rehabilitation, their family ties, or other equities in their favor. As legal permanent residents convicted of aggravated felonies, Ar-

mandariz and Smith were not granted judicial review of their deportation orders. In addition to violating their right to establish a family, their deportation violated the rights of their children to special protections. The best interests of their U.S. citizen children were not taken into account. The IACHR recommended that the United States "implement laws to ensure that non-citizen residents' right to family life, as protected under Articles V, VI, and VII of the American Declaration, are duly protected and given due process on a case-by-case basis in U.S. immigration removal proceedings." The United States asserted its right to sovereignty and has not changed immigration laws on the basis of this decision.

Five million people have been deported from the United States since 1997 - nearly all of them to Latin America, and most of them men. Deportees - especially those who have spent much of their lives in the United States - often encounter severe distress and extreme duress in their countries of birth. Many also face stigma due to the perceived association between deportation and criminality. Deportation is nearly always a difficult process, as immigrants are arrested, detained, and often sent involuntarily, in shackles, to their country of birth. For some deportees, deportation is primarily a financial setback as their plans for repaying debts and/or accumulating capital in the United States are foiled. For other deportees, deportation is akin to social death as the United States is the only country they have ever known and it is where all family, friends, and memories reside. In the best of cases, deportees are able to get back on their feet and reintegrate into their home countries. In the worst of cases, they are stigmatized as criminals, failures, or gang members and denied integration into their countries of birth. For most deportees, deportation feels like a cruel punishment. In the eyes of U.S. laws, however, it is not technically a punishment and thus does not merit due process protections.



## Trump's experience in G20

By Mohsen Ebrahimi

Hamburg hosted the twelfth G20 Summit on the 7th and 8th of July, 2017. But the 2017 witnessed a very different summit of G20 as the rift between Trump and other important figures such as Mrs. Angela Merkel or Mr. Xi Jinping has become evident. It is the first time the US president is attending a summit after announcing that the US is getting out of the Paris Agreement signed by other 195 nation states. The meeting is taking place a few days after the new ICBM test by North Korea which is going to be one of the issues on the agenda of the summit. Interestingly enough the first face-to-face meeting between Trump and Putin happened during this summit and Trump has said he wants to find ways to work with Putin.

Although climate change, North Korea issue, terrorism and refugee crisis are the recurring theme of this meeting, this year's meeting is unprecedented in many other aspects. The summit usually takes place in quiet cities so as to avoid any disruption or big protests which is the usual concomitant of the meeting, but Hamburg unlike many of the previous venues is home to some 1.7 million people. While great security measures have been also put in place during the recent weeks and some 20,000 police officers have been summoned to Hamburg from across Germany to quell any disturbance, protestors had significant presence to voice their frustration with the selfish policies of the world leaders. Meanwhile, the German Chancellor Angela Merkel along with other world leaders want to pressure US president Donald Trump to heed the sage advice of scientists to remain committed to the Paris Agreement. But it looks increasingly unlikely that Trump will change his stance on the climate change issue and Paris Agreement.

The differences between the US and other world leaders regarding globalization and its challenges have become unprecedentedly evident. Trump with its #MAGA has alienated the traditional allies of the US. As the Trump team looks inwardly and regards every issue in foreign policy as a win-lose game, the international image of the US as a country which possess a significant leadership role in the global affairs has tarnished. So after Trump announced that the US is pulling out of Paris Agreement, other big countries such as Germany, China and India in an effort to build better images of themselves have declared that they are ready to assume greater roles in world leadership and facing the international challenges such as climate change, refugee crisis and terrorism.

Diplomatically speaking it is the first time the US is isolated to a high extent in an international gathering. So Trump will try to converge other countries on the issue of terrorism and security such as North Korea's ICBM test. This is also the reason why Trump began its second international trip by visiting Warsaw in a bid to get a warm welcome from a government which has more ideological commonalities with and which also is at odds with the EU on the issue of free market. By this move Trump wants to imply that US is not isolated and there are other countries who are on board with the US. But Poland is not a member of G20 and the European Union with its common policies will attend the Summit. So the visit to Poland will not have huge effects on the summit and US should try better ways to create a smoke screen for covering its isolation.

While Trump-Putin lengthy meeting is regarded as highly important, Trump will be well-advised to have lengthy amicable meeting with Xi Jinping to resolve the real issue of North Korea. Surely the gulf between the US and Russia is fundamental and it is clearly evident that no long-term amicable relationship with big achievements can be forged between the two countries. But on the other hand, China is the only viable option for Trump to contain North Korean missile test issue because China is the biggest trade partner of North Korea and can exert great economic pressure on Pyongyang.

Nevertheless, Trump is trying to work out some "good deal" and gain tangible economic benefit for the US. Therefore, he had accused China of steel dumping and will push hard for high tariffs against China. It appears that Trump can gain some economic concessions because he wants to depict himself as a winner and not as a loser in the international diplomacy especially regarding China. This is also a lame option for the US because other member states are bypassing his protectionist efforts by creating new trade deals such as the new EU-Japan trade deal.

While Trump is busy considering deals signed by the preceding administration and is looking for short-term benefits in them, other countries are taking advantage of this opportunity to invest in sustainable and long-term solutions for their countries. China has invested \$1.9 billion in research and development (R&D) in 2016 to dominate the renewable energy sector which is two times greater than that of what the US has spent in the same period for the issue. The \$1.4 billion expenditure of Europe also demonstrates the stronger determination of Europe in advancement of renewable energy sector which has taken appearances of a race with the US lagging behind in the third place. While development of renewable energy sector is a no-brainer, Trump is insisting on the use of fossil fuels which has short-term economic benefits but surely will work to the detriment of the US economy in the long run.

It is also clear that there is a split over the issue of free market and refugee crisis between Trump and the EU. Germany which is running on a 1% budget surplus, is the main opposition to Trump's economic and refugee policies. Merkel emboldened by the results of the recent election in France and Britain can play a more assertive role in confrontation with the US. As French president has said, France will be open, direct and constructive partner of Germany. Now the German Chancellor wants to unite the bloc against the challenges which has been threatening the Union in recent years such as the surge of anti-euro populism and refugee crisis. As she has said after G7 summit the times in which the EU can fully count on others are somewhat over and Europeans should take their destiny into their own hands.

Thus, the US will try to get the collective security and terrorism issues high on the agenda of the meeting in order to forge a convergence and avoid being depicted as an isolated country but on the other hand the EU with leadership of the Mrs. Merkel and Mr. Macron will try to pressure Trump by underscoring the US rejection of the Paris deal. As a result of this clear disagreement it will be very difficult for leaders to reach a consensus and work out the final communiqué of the summit. Therefore, one can predict how uniquely this year's meeting of G20 will end and to put it in a nutshell it will read: 'let's agree to disagree'.



## Steve Bannon is right on Afghanistan

By Dan DePetris

The trio known in foreign policy circles as the "adults" of the Trump administration wants the president to send more American soldiers into Afghanistan. Defense Secretary James Mattis, National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster, and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson are advocating for yet another troop increase less than three years after the U.S. of-

ficially transferred all security responsibility to the Afghans. But it's Steve Bannon, the White House's controversial chief political strategist, whom President Trump should listen to before dispatching his advisers to brief Congress on the strategy in mid-July.

As commander-in-chief Trump has granted the U.S. military tremendous latitude to resource operations as it sees fit. So Trump may not be inclined to overrule the Pentagon's

recommendation for 3,000 to 5,000 more American trainers and advisers to support the 8,500 troops. It seems clear, though, that the administration is divided over the decision - and Steve Bannon is the most influential adviser in the White House urging Trump to think twice before deploying those forces. In fact, Bannon may be the only aide among the non-interventionist camp in the White House, which also includes senior policy adviser Stephen Miller, who has

sufficient access to the president to persuade him to carefully review the military's request before approving it.

### Bannon is right

In this case, Bannon, who was removed from the National Security Council in April, is right. One doesn't have to agree with Bannon's world view or nationalist ideology to recognize his logical and pragmatic perception of the war in Afghanistan. ➔13

# Pars Diplomatic Real Estate

## Apartment

Amazing Luxury Apartment in Fereshteh  
200 sq.m, 3 Bdrs., 2 parkings, fully furn, large and beautiful, lobby, sauna, pool, Jacuzzi, gym saloon  
**Only \$4200 per month**  
Ms.Sara 09128103207

New Apt in Elahieh in beautiful building  
1<sup>st</sup> floor, 200 sq.m, 3 Bdrs., fully furn, lobby, spj cozy & diplomatic **\$4500**  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Super luxury Apt in Elahieh new Building, several Apts with 2 Bdrs. To 4 Bdrs., furn & unfurn, balcony, nice lobby, gym saloon, Spj, parking, unbelievable view, good access to highway, diplomatic building  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

New Apt in Farmanieh  
4<sup>th</sup> floor, 90 sq.m, 2 Bdrs., luxury New furn, Spj, cozy & quit, diplomatic, **\$2500**  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Apt in Kamranieh  
15<sup>th</sup> floor, 250 sq.m, 3 Bdrs., furn & unfurn, nice view, nice balcony, lobby, Spj, gym saloon, nice garden, diplomatic tower **\$4800**  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

## Villa

Villa in Darous duplex, 1200 sq.m built up, 1800 land, 5 Bdrs., renovated, big saloon, semi furn, beautiful garden, pool, sauna, Jacuzzi suitable for residency & embassy, **\$20000**  
Ms.Diba: 09128103207

Amazing Villa in Kamranieh duplex, 750 sq.m, 8 Bdrs., renovated, full furn, ceramic floor, driver room, balcony, 4Parking places, **\$15000**  
Suitable for foreign Embassies  
Ms.Sara 09128103207

Superlux villa in Zafaranieh 2 Bdrs., fully furn, green garden, outdoor pool, parking **\$4500**  
Suitable for Foreigners  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Villa in Shahrak Qarb 800 sq.m built up, 5 Bdrs., duplex, renovated, semi furn, nice & cozy, garden, pool, Parking  
Suitable for Residency or Embassy  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Villa in Dibaji 800 sq.m land, 700 sq.m built up, duplex, luxury furn, completely renovated, yard, small garden, parking, Spj **\$14000**  
Suitable for Residency  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206



Holder of  
ISO 9001:2008  
ISO 10004:2012  
ISO 10002:2014

From Oxford Cert Universal

**Best Consultation,  
Best Services, Best Result**

Section Manager "Tina 09128440154"

Tel: 22662452-8, Fax: 22667173

**Hot Line: 28141**

info@parsdiplomatic.com

## Building & Office

Whole building in Jordan each floor 126 sq.m, duplex store, open space, full glass, smart AC, furn/unfurn, storage, 900 sq.m Pkg  
Each floor available for Sale & Rent  
Ms.Sara 09128103207

Whole Building in Zafaranieh 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 4 Apts, each floor 160 sq.m with 3 Bdrs., garden, outdoor pool, parking, renovated **\$13000 Suitable for Embassy**  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Legal registered Offices in North & North-West available from 1400 sq.m each floor up to 800 sq.m, flat, open space  
Suitable for International Companies  
Ms.Sara 09128103207

Office in Bokharest 500 sq.m, flat, renovated, lobby, parking  
Price per each sq \$45  
Suitable for companies  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Luxury Office in Valiasr Jordan 100 sq.m to 230 sq.m, almost new, lobby, guest parking, good access to highway, full of foreign company  
Price per each sq \$40  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

## Ideal Offers

Limited Offer in Zafaranieh excellent, 170 sq.m, 3Bdrs., flat, furn/ unfurn, convenient access to Valiasr and Palladium Mall **\$1700**  
Ms.Sara 09128103207

Office in Jordan 110 sq.m to 240 sq.m, full of foreign companies, could be flat, parking lot with extra visitors parking, lobby, security, renovated, almost new,  
Price per each sq \$40  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Super luxury new Apt in Elahieh 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 140 sq.m, 2 Master rooms, nice view, full of diplomats, spj, gym saloon, lobby, green garden, furn/unfurn, parking **\$4200**  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Nice Apt in Zafaranieh 4<sup>th</sup> floor, 130 sq.m, 2 Bdrs., completely renovated, luxury furn, cozy & diplomatic, near to Paladium, **\$2300**  
Ms.Diba: 09128103206

Amazing spring offer in Jordan available from 21<sup>st</sup> April, 100 sq.m, 2 Bdrs., full furn, peaceful residency **\$1000**  
Ms.Sara 09128103207

مالکین محترم

بهترین مشاوره، برترین سرویس، بالاترین رضایت

مالکین محترم

ملک های فروش و اجاره ای خود را (آپارتمان، ویلا، مستغلات، اداری و تجاری) به ما بسپارید.

مالکین محترم املاک مبیل و غیرمبیل، مسکونی، اداری و تجاری، ویلا و مستغلات شما را جهت اجاره به سفارتخانه ها و شرکت های خارجی نیازمندیم.

ویلاهای شما را جهت اجاره به منزل سفیر و مدیران شرکت های بین المللی در مناطق شمالی تهران نیازمندیم.

ent around Palladium Shopping Nice 2 bedrooms furnished Flat-reasonable rent



Mr. Ghanizadeh Nobody does it better

آژانس املاک انتخاب اول در خدمت شماست  
TEL: 22041212 - 09121081212  
APARTMENT - VILLA - OFFICE  
PROPERTY@FIRSTCHOICECO.COM  
WWW.FIRSTCHOICECO.COM

### Don't Waste Your Time

Visit our website to choose your desired rental Properties

**www.DeltaHOME.ir**

The Most Specialized Website for Foreigners

**HOME**

Real Estate

Member of DELTA Real Estate Group  
(021) 8888865

jordan: 165 sq.m, 3bedrs, large balcony, f.furn. 2200\$

Elahieh: 250 sq.m, 3 large bedrs, marble floor, large balcony, f.furn. 2700\$

Zafranich: 270 sq.m, 4 bedrs, large balcony, all brand new, f.furn. 3300\$

Zafranich: 2600sq.m land, 1100 sq.m built up, duplex, all renovated, heated s/p, very nice garden, semi furn. 15000\$

Mr. Arvin

09121434592

PALLADIUM MALL E-Mail: Topplan.palladium@gmail.com

Add: No833, Palladium mall

Tel & fax: 021-22656523



ملک شما را با شرایط ایده آل جهت اجاره به خارجی نیازمندیم

**SHANON**  
Shanon\_zt@yahoo.com  
+989121907875  
Tel: 88510081

<b>(\$3500)</b> Elahieh, 3bdrs S/p, yard, F.F	<b>(\$2700)</b> Darrous Apt 200sq.m, 3bdrs	<b>(\$15000)</b> Farmanieh Villa 6bdrs, S/p, yard
<b>(\$3200)</b> Velenjak, 3bdrs S/p, S, J, & F.F	<b>(\$2200)</b> 3bdrs <b>(\$3000)</b> 4bdrs with S/p, S, J	<b>(\$45 per sq.m)</b> Jordan office 300sq.m, pkg lots

**ELAHIEH DIPLOMAT**  
Diplomat Elahieh REAL ESTATE  
our task is providing your comfort

- 1-155m 3B Jordan 2th F 2700\$
- 2-120m 2B Jordan 6thF 1700 \$
- 3-130m 2B vallyasr 5th F 2700\$
- 4- 120m 2B mirdamad 1thF 2000\$
- 5- 220m 3B fershteh 1thF 5000\$
- 6- 120m 2B Niavaran 5thF 2000\$
- 7- 200m 4B Elahieh 1thF 5000 \$
- 8- 155m 3B Elahieh 1thF 2500 \$

Tel: 22051010  
09121303515 SHAMS

**maharaja**  
Indian Restaurant  
**FIRST INDIAN RESTAURANT IN IRAN**  
PRIVATE PARKING LOT  
Jahan Hotel (Exelsior) - Rahimzade Alley - Taleqani  
Crossroads - Valiasr St. Tel: 66476855

Advertising Dept:  
times1979@gmail.com

**TEHRANTIMES** +9821 430 51 450  
Iran's Leading International Daily  
www.tehrantimes.com

**IRANIAHOME**  
Real Estate  
SH.LAVASANI  
**09123103526**  
Tel: 88888007  
Fax: 88675936

Specialise dans la location de villas, appartements, ou bureaux pour une clientele essentiellement etrangere. Fichier tres riche a votre disposition.

Mr. Ahrabi (franco phone)  
0919 2571076



# Snoring solutions

Simple changes can help to turn down the volume.

If your wife or sleep partner often seems bleary-eyed and resentful in the morning, you may be one of the millions of adults who snore habitually—a condition that affects twice as many men as women. Snoring occurs when your upper airways narrow too much, causing turbulent airflow. This, in turn, makes the surrounding tissues vibrate, producing noise.

"Snoring is a sign that there is a really narrowed space," says Dr. Sanjay Patel, a sleep disorder specialist at Harvard-affiliated Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. "That happens either in your nasal passages or in the back of your throat." Some men are snorers because they have excess throat and nasal tissue. Others have floppy tissue that's more likely to vibrate. The tongue can also get in the way of smooth breathing.

Once the source of the snoring is identified, you can take appropriate steps to dampen the nightly din. These include not drinking alcohol at night, changing sleep position, avoiding snore-inducing medications, and addressing causes of nasal congestion.

## How to alleviate snoring

Here are some factors that contribute to snoring and what you can do to alleviate them.

**Alcohol.** Alcohol, a muscle relaxant, can slacken the tissues of your throat while you sleep. "We see this all the time," Dr. Patel says. "Spouses say the snoring is tolerable except for the nights when their partner has had a couple of beers."

**Body weight.** Extra fat tissue in the neck and throat can narrow the airways. Losing some weight could help to open the airways if the person is overweight or obese, although many people who are lean also snore.

**Medications.** Medications that relax muscles can make snoring worse. For example, tranquilizers such as lorazepam (Ativan) and diazepam (Valium) can have this effect. In contrast, antihistamines may actually alleviate snoring by reducing nasal congestion.



**Nasal congestion.** Mucus constricts the nasal airways. Before bed, rinse stuffy sinuses with saline. If you have allergies, reduce dust mites and pet dander in your bedroom or use an allergy medication. If swollen nasal tissues are the problem, a humidifier or medication may reduce swelling.

**Sleep position.** When you lie on your back, slack tissues in the upper airways may droop and constrict breathing. Sleeping on your side may alleviate this. You can also try raising your torso with an extra pillow or by propping up the head of the bed a few inches.

**Smoking.** Men who snore are often advised not to smoke, but the evidence this will help is weak. Needless to say, there are already plenty of other good reasons to quit smoking.

## Anti-snoring products

Many products claim to help with snoring, but few of them are backed by solid research. One potentially effective option is wearing an anti-snoring mouth appliance, which pulls the jaw

(along with the tongue) slightly forward to open the upper airway. An appliance made by a dentist can cost around \$1,000. Do-it-yourself kits cost much less, but may not be as well tailored to your mouth.

Nasal-dilating strips are inexpensive and harmless, and some small studies suggest they may help reduce snoring. You apply these adhesive strips across your nose at bedtime to help to open up the nasal passages. Breathe Right is one well-known brand, but there are many others available at relatively low cost.

If you are unsure what to do about snoring, a physician can advise you and also make sure your snoring is not related to an underlying sleep disturbance, common in men, called obstructive sleep apnea. "The louder the snoring, the more likely it is to be related to sleep apnea," Dr. Patel says. "Not all men who snore have sleep apnea, but if the snoring is frequent, loud, or bothersome, they should at least be evalu-

ated."

## Snoring surgery: Try conservative steps first

Try the more conservative steps described above before considering one of these outpatient surgical procedures to alleviate snoring.

- **LAUP.** In laser-assisted uvulopalatoplasty, the physician uses a carbon dioxide laser to shorten the uvula (the hanging dangle of soft tissue in the back of the throat) and also make small cuts in the soft palate on either side of the uvula. As these nicks heal, the surrounding tissue stiffens.

- **Palatal implants.** Also known as the Pillar procedure, this treatment involves implanting up to three matchstick-sized plastic stiffening rods into the soft palate. The rods help prevent collapse of the soft palate that can trigger snoring.

- **Somnoplasty.** Also known as radiofrequency tissue volume reduction, somnoplasty uses radio waves to heat and shrink soft tissue that vibrates during snoring. It takes a few minutes to perform and doesn't cause bleeding, but it may have to be repeated to achieve results.

(Source: [health.harvard.edu](http://health.harvard.edu))

**The louder the snoring, the more likely it is to be related to sleep apnea.**

## Why swimming is so good for you

By Markham Heid

Every type of exercise has its selling points. But swimming is unlike any other aerobic workout in a few important ways.

First, the fact that you're submerged in water means your bones and muscles are somewhat unshackled from the constraints of gravity, says Hirofumi Tanaka, a professor of kinesiology and director of the Cardiovascular Aging Research Lab at the University of Texas.

This makes swimming the ideal exercise for people with osteoarthritis, for whom weight-bearing exercise can be excruciatingly painful. According to Tanaka's research of people with the condition, swimming decreases arterial stiffness, a risk factor for heart trouble. More of his research has linked swim training with lower blood pressure among people with hypertension. The coolness and buoyancy of water are also appealing to people who are overweight or obese, for whom load-bearing aerobic exercises like running may be too hot or uncomfortable, Tanaka says.

But don't be fooled; your body is working hard when you're in the pool. Water is denser than air, so moving through H<sub>2</sub>O puts more external pressure on your limbs than out-of-water training, studies have shown. Even better, that pressure is uniformly distributed. It doesn't collect in your knees, hips or the other places that bear most of the burden when you exercise with gravity sitting on your shoulders.

How you breathe during a swimming workout is another big differentiator, says David Tanner, a research associate at Indiana University and co-editor of an educational handbook on the science of swimming. During a run or bike ride, your breath tends to be shallow and your exhales forceful. "It's the other way around with swimming," says Tanner. "You breathe in quickly and deeply, and then let the air trickle out." Because your head is under water when you swim, these breathing adjustments are vital, and they may improve the strength of your respiratory muscles, Tanner says. "This kind of breathing keeps the lung alveoli—the millions of little balloon-like structures that inflate and deflate as your breathe—from collapsing and sticking together."

Plus, who wouldn't want a swimmer's body? Swimming fires up more of your body's major muscle groups than other forms of cardio exercise. "If you think about running or biking, you're mostly using your lower body," Tanner says. Swimming not only engages your legs, but also recruits your upper body and core—especially your lats, the muscles of your middle back, and triceps, the



**The coolness and buoyancy of water are also appealing to people who are overweight or obese, for whom load-bearing aerobic exercises like running may be too hot or uncomfortable.**

backs of your upper arms. "You look at pictures of swimmers, and you see how the upper body development is really tremendous," he says.

Finally, your back benefits. Working out in a horizontal pose—as opposed to the upright position your body assumes during other forms of aerobic exercise—may be an ideal way to counteract all the time you spend hunched over a desk or steering wheel. "There's no hard impact on your back like there is with running, and instead of being bent forward like you would be on a bike, your back tends to be arched slightly in the opposite direction," Tanner says. That may help improve your posture and prevent the back injuries and pain that stem from long stretches of sedentary time.

The exercise is also linked to many of the same life-extending, heart-saving, mood-lifting benefits associated with other forms of aerobic ex-

ercise. And it's fun, which matters. "People tend to enjoy swimming more than running or biking," Tanaka says. While about half of people who try a new exercise program give up within a few months, people who take up swimming are more likely to stick with it, he says.

If you're sold on swimming, Tanner recommends starting slowly. "Don't try to do too much too early, and focus on proper technique," he says. Consider enlisting the help of an instructor if you didn't have any formal coaching as a kid. "If you're not used to swimming, it can be hard to relax in the water," he says. Being nervous and tight may limit the sport's benefits.

Start off with 30-minute sessions three times a week, and don't forget to take frequent breaks. "You want to ease into it and build up," he says, "just like a running program."

(Source: [time.com](http://time.com))

## 5 super common nutrient deficiencies that are making you overeat

By Stephanie Eckelkamp

Do you ever feel a magnetic postlunch pull to chocolate? You tell yourself no! 20 times, but suddenly you're at the vending machine pressing F5 and frantically ripping open a bag of Peanut M&Ms like your next deadline depends on it. Well, good news (sort of)—your lack of willpower may not be to blame. Turns out that being low or deficient in certain micronutrients—vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants—can cause you to crave everything from cheese and steak to chocolate and curly fries. And contrary to popular belief, you don't necessarily crave what you need—being low in calcium and magnesium, for example, makes you more likely to down a sugary doughnut than a Greek yogurt.

How to truly crush these cravings? Becoming nutrient sufficient by eating the right good-for-you foods is best, but there's nothing wrong with supplementing either, especially if you follow a more restrictive Paleo or vegan diet that eliminates entire food groups.

Here, Jayson and Mira Calton, nutritionists and authors of *The Micronutrient Miracle* (Rodale), explain how being low in these five micronutrients can make you feel totally out of control when it comes to eating—and how to change that.



Low levels of these two minerals—which often go hand in hand—prime you for sugar and salt cravings. Low magnesium levels, specifically, are known to trigger chocolate cravings. Both stress and eating too much sugar can deplete your calcium and magnesium stores further, worsening cravings and making you a prime stress-eating candidate.

**Eat up:** Get your calcium fix from dairy products like yogurt, kefir, and cheese; bone-in sardines; and dark leafy greens. Hit your magnesium quota by downing nuts, seeds, potato skins, dairy, and broccoli.

## B vitamins

This class of vitamins is important because it helps

**A lack of this essential fatty acid is known for triggering cheese cravings. EPA and DHA (as opposed to the plant-based omega-3 ALA) are your best bets for quashing these cravings.**

your body deal with stress. B vitamins like B1 and B5 keep your adrenal glands functioning properly, and B6 and B9 aid in the formation of certain neurotransmitters that help regulate mood and make you feel good. In periods of high stress, your body uses up these vitamins more quickly, making you prone to the effects of stress—like overeating—if your levels aren't sufficient. Other B vitamin depleters include caffeine, alcohol, refined sugars, and medications like birth control pills and NSAIDs.

**Eat up:** B vitamins are found in a wide array of meats, seafood, dairy, and produce such as dark leafy greens, bananas, potatoes, avocados, egg yolks, chicken, salmon, and yogurt—so ensure you're getting enough variety in your diet. Big salads are your BFF.

**Zinc:** This mineral tends to be low in older people and anyone under a lot of stress—hello, that's like everyone. It's not so much that low zinc makes you crave, but it does significantly dull your sense of taste, prompting you to add more salt and sugar to foods while seeking out extra sugary and salty items before you're truly satisfied.

**Eat up:** This mineral isn't easy to find, but it's most prevalent in some animal sources like oysters, crab, liver, dark chicken meat, and to a lesser extent, eggs, green peas, and nuts.

**Iron:** No wonder you crave that steak or burger when you're PMS'ing. Being low in iron, which is especially common among premenopausal women, vegetarians, and vegans, is notorious for causing meat cravings.

**Eat up:** You can get a good dose of iron from meat, poultry, and even fish. Plant sources of iron aren't as readily used by the body, but your best bets include dried fruits, cashews, pumpkin seeds, legumes, and iron-enriched pastas and grains. For optimal absorption, make sure you eat your iron with a source of vitamin C. Think steak with spinach.

## Omega-3s

If you find yourself dialing up your favorite pizza joint for an 11 p.m. pie on a random Tuesday, well, you may be low in omega-3s. A lack of this essential fatty acid is known for triggering cheese cravings. EPA and DHA (as opposed to the plant-based omega-3 ALA) are your best bets for quashing these cravings.

**Eat up:** EPA and DHA are most abundant in fatty fish like salmon, sardines, and canned tuna if it's processed appropriately (Wild Planet and Safe Catch are good brands). Even pasture-raised eggs from chickens that have spent time in the sun can pack as much as 600 mg of omega-3s per egg—about a third of your recommended daily value.

(Source: [prevention.com](http://prevention.com))



10 hot titles of IT world

By Alireza Khorasani

Here are high rated IT titles in the world that reviewed by savvy tech users:

- 1 According to a statement from Apple, the tech giant is on course of developing a new data center in Denmark that should begin operations in the second quarter of 2019. The project is still in early stages, currently under judicial review, but should it go through, it would be Apple's second data center in the country. What is more, Apple will stick to its profile as one of the 'greenest' companies on the planet, and, like its all other such facilities, this data center will be wholly powered by renewable energy.
- 2 It's official! LG Q6 is announced with three variants, each sporting FullVision Display. All of them feature a 5.5-inch display with FHD+ resolution (1080 x 2160 pixels).
- 3 Apple released the developer version of iOS 11 beta 3, weighing in at 392MB. Among the new features is a different way to close apps on the iPad by swiping up on the multitasking screen. The "X" button seen on beta 1 and beta 2 of the build have been replaced by the new swipe to close gesture.
- 4 Audi introduces its semi-autonomous A8. The 2019 model is the first production car with level-3 autonomy.
- 5 Faraday abandons its proposed \$1 billion Nevada factory. The beleaguered automaker faces another setback. The company's plans for a \$1-billion Las Vegas production facility had been delayed before, but now the plant has been scrapped wholesale.
- 6 Online retail giant Amazon has secured approval to stock and sell food and groceries in India, potentially expanding its business in the fast-growing economy where it is in a pitched battle with home-grown rival Flipkart. Amazon confirmed winning government approval for its plan to sell food products, but it declined to provide further details.
- 7 Microsoft has announced a new Mixed Reality Partner Program that opens up its existing HoloLens agency certification program to include systems integrators (SIs). In a nutshell, the program has been about training and educating creative agencies to develop awesome and mind-blowing applications for mixed reality headsets, such as Microsoft's very own HoloLens.

- 8 At Inspire, its partner conference in Washington, Microsoft unveiled a new set of commercial offerings under the brand Microsoft 365. The confusingly named line is supposed to "empower all companies and all workers," but it's really just another way for the company to package, and for its partners to sell, Windows 10, Office 365, and related enterprise mobility and security offerings.
- 9 Waymo, the Google self-driving project that spun out to become a business under parent company Alphabet, has been ordered by a U.S. district judge to provide Uber with documents related to an alliance with rival Lyft.
- 10 Study: Bots have turned Twitter into a powerful political disinformation platform. A researcher at the University of Southern California found that almost 20 percent of Twitter bots that were engaged in spreading propaganda against Emmanuel Macron during the recent French presidential election had been used to spread misinformation in favor of Donald Trump last year during the U.S. elections.

Ubuntu Linux is available in the Windows Store

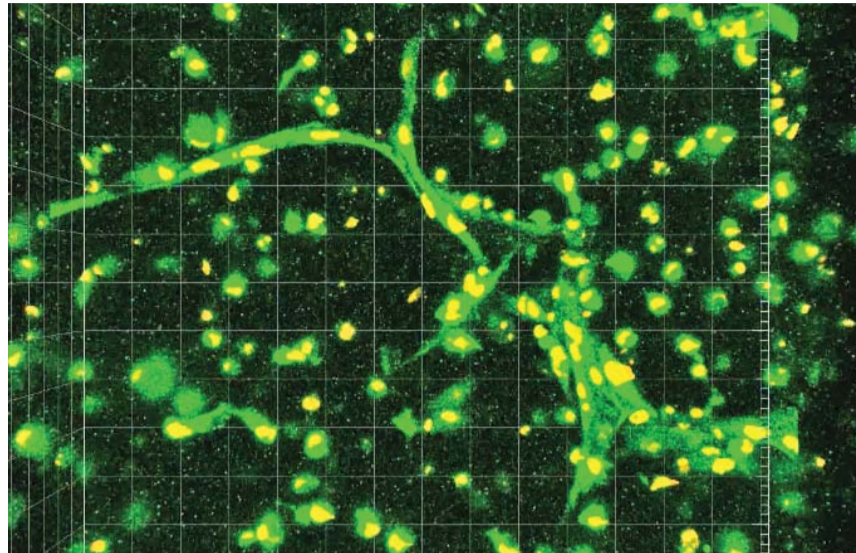
Here's a statement that would have been unimaginable in previous years: Ubuntu has arrived in the Windows Store. As promised back in May, you can now download a flavor of the popular Linux distribution to run inside Windows 10. It won't compare to a conventional Ubuntu installation, as it's sandboxed (it has limited interaction with Windows) and is focused on running command line utilities like bash or SSH.



However, it also makes running a form of Linux relatively trivial. You don't have to dual boot, install a virtual machine or otherwise jump through any hoops beyond a download and ticking a checkbox. Microsoft hasn't said exactly when you can expect to see Fedora and SUSE Linux, the other two distributions coming to the Windows Store. Nonetheless, this is a big milestone that reflects Microsoft's dramatic shift in attitude over the years. Where it used to be interested in protecting Windows sales at all costs, it's now much more interested in pushing services. The addition of Linux is a logical extension of that strategy -- developers and IT managers might be more likely to use Microsoft cloud offerings if they know that familiar Linux commands are a few clicks away. (Source: theverge)

Researchers are closer to working capillaries in 3D-printed organs

Researchers have brought 3D-printed organ and tissue capabilities a long way, but the technology still faces a few challenges. A major one is how to incorporate blood vessels into bioprinted tissue. Living tissue needs a blood supply nearby because without blood to bring in nutrients and take away waste, biological cells will die. Researchers have been able to print larger blood vessels, but functional small vessels like capillaries have been much harder to create and sustain. However, researchers at Rice University and Baylor College of Medicine have developed a new technique, published in Biomaterials Science, that might make it possible.



All of our blood vessels are lined with a type of cell called endothelial cells. To form vessels, individual endothelial cells begin to create empty holes in themselves, called vacuoles. They then connect with other endothelial cells that have done the same thing and the linked vacuoles form tubes, which ultimately become capillaries. Here, the researchers took endothelial cells and mixed them with either fibrin -- a protein involved in blood clotting -- or a semi-synthetic

material called gelatin methacrylate (GelMA), which can be easily 3D-printed. When mixed with fibrin, the endothelial cells formed tubes fairly easily, but that wasn't the case with the GelMA. However, when the researchers added in another type of cell, a stem cell found in bone marrow, the endothelial cells were then

able to form tubes in the GelMA. "We've confirmed that these cells have the capacity to form capillary-like structures, both in a natural material called fibrin and in a semi-synthetic material called gelatin methacrylate, or GelMA," Gisele Calderon, the lead author of the study, said in a statement, "The GelMA

finding is particularly interesting because it is something we can readily 3D print for future tissue-engineering applications."

The benefits of this method over others include cells that can be patient-specific, reducing the risk of immune system complications, and growth environments that are well suited for organ and vasculature growth -- they're reproducible, not likely to induce immune responses and help boost cell growth and vessel development.

Along with making 3D-printed organs more viable, this method will also allow for the development of tissue that could make for more effective and efficient drug testing. In a statement, Jordan Miller, whose lab the work was done in, said, "Preclinical human testing of new drugs today is done with flat two-dimensional human tissue cultures."

But it is well-known that cells often behave differently in three-dimensional tissues than they do in two-dimensional cultures. There's hope that testing drugs in more realistic three-dimensional cultures will lower overall drug development costs. (Source: Rice University)

China orders telecoms to block personal VPNs by February

China declared that virtual private networks were illegal back at the start of the year, and now it's giving telecoms no choice but to fall in line. Bloomberg sources understand that the government has told carriers to block individual access to VPNs by February 1st. Companies can still use VPNs internally, and will reportedly be allowed to use leased lines (registered with officials, of course) to access the full internet, but everyone else appears to be out of luck.



It's no secret as to why China would set a firm deadline. Officials know VPNs are regularly used to get around the Great Firewall and access blocked services that might host political dissent, but merely making these private, secure connections illegal won't deter people. It has to make the very act of accessing a VPN difficult if the law is going to have any teeth.

This is bad news for free speech in China, of course, as it makes eluding censorship that much harder. Moreover, it may hurt businesses that are just trying to get work done. What if you're visiting China and need to use a VPN account to access business info while you're away? Not every company needs or can justify internal VPNs in China, and it's not always an option to visit someone else's offices just to check a website or send a message.

Thankfully, this isn't the only way of dodging the censors. Open proxies like Shadowsocks are still around. The question is whether or not China will clamp down on these alternatives as swiftly and thoroughly as it is with VPNs. Historically, solutions like Shadowsocks tend to be reborn or adapt in the face of threats -- there's just no guarantee that they can keep it up forever. (Source: Bloomberg)

Google search now helps you find the 'best' torrent sites



Looking for a good torrent site? You can now get help from an unexpected source: Google.

The search engine is now prominently displaying several torrent sites at the top of search results, despite its longstanding cooperation with the entertainment industry to demote links to copyright-infringing content.

A carousel with more than a dozen torrent sites, including the Pirate Bay and Torrent Project, now appears when you search for terms like "torrent sites" or "best torrent sites." (Source: Mashable)

Umbrella-sharing startup fails to predict people would steal all their umbrellas



China-based startup E-Umbrella didn't count on is the fact that, unlike shared bikes, when someone gets a hold of a good umbrella, they don't really want to let go. According to a report from Caixin Global, the company lost a whopping 30,000 umbrellas after just a few days.

Back in May, the company had a plan to roll out 30 million E-Umbrella's in China and in other countries, according to the Straits Times, but this recent turn may force a major rethink of the overall strategy. (Source: Businessinsider)

eBay 'millionaire' sellers in Germany and UK grow 50 percent in four years



"Millionaire" online businesses selling on ecommerce site eBay have jumped 50 percent in key international markets Britain and Germany in the last four years, despite currency swings that have slowed growth outside the United States.

Fresh data published on Tuesday by eBay shows the number of million euro businesses selling on eBay grew to 1,095 from 731 in Germany last year since 2013 while million pound-plus businesses rose to 663 from 443 in Britain over the same time period. (Source: Reuters)

LG Q6 matches big FullVision displays to midrange phones

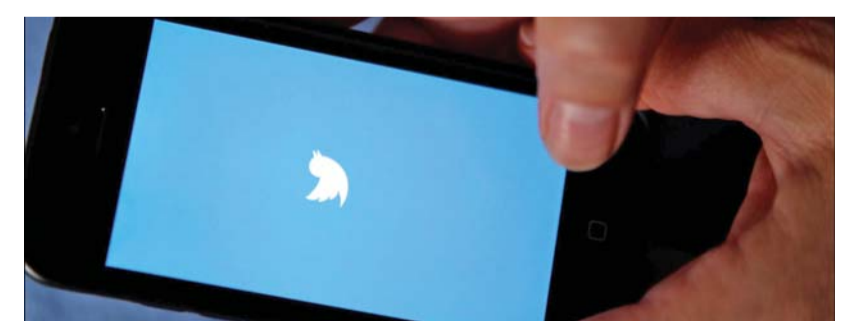


We loved LG's G6 and its 18:9 aspect ratio FullVision screen, and now the company will offer that setup in several smaller, lower-priced phones. While the G6+ takes care of the high-end with more storage and premium sound, the Q6+, Q6 and Q6? are aimed squarely at midrange buyers.

Instead of the G6's Snapdragon 821 CPU and a 5.7-inch display, all three feature last year's Snapdragon 435 chip and 5.5-inch 2,160 x 1,080 displays.

The (unspecified) price of each version will slide to match its capacity, but otherwise, the features are the same, and most importantly so are its sleek looks with that bezel-less front. They're all built on an aluminum frame, with the G6's new facial recognition feature, as well as a 100-degree wide angle front facing camera for selfies, with a 13MP rear camera and 3,000mAh battery. All three will go on sale next month in Asia, before launching in the rest of the world (including North America) later. (Source: LG)

Twitter adds more mute options to help filter out abuse



Twitter has added a few new options to its filter settings. Now you'll be able to disable notifications from accounts that you don't follow that are new, or don't follow you or just accounts you don't follow altogether. These additions follow a handful of others meant to help you keep out content that you don't want to see.

Last year, Twitter launched its quality filter tool as well as an option to mute notifications and messages from people you don't follow. Later, it began muting conversation reply notifications from people you've blocked or muted, even

if they @ you and began restricting the reach of accounts deemed abusive. Earlier this year, Twitter introduced filter settings that let users mute accounts if they had the default egg avatars or unverified email addresses or phone numbers and it began testing a feature that would grey out profiles that might contain sensitive content.

And in May, the website started siphoning off DMs from people you don't follow and putting them into a new "Requests" inbox. (Source: Twitter)



# Sixth mass extinction: The era of 'biological annihilation'

Many scientists say it's abundantly clear that Earth is entering its sixth mass-extinction event, meaning three-quarters of all species could disappear in the coming centuries.

But that's not even the full picture of the "biological annihilation" people are inflicting on the natural world, according to a study published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Gerardo Ceballos, an ecology professor at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, and his co-authors, including well-known Stanford University biologist Paul Ehrlich, cite striking new evidence that populations of species we thought were common are suffering in unseen ways.

Their key findings: Nearly one-third of the 27,600 land-based mammal, bird, amphibian and reptile species studied are shrinking in terms of their numbers and territorial range. The researchers called that an "extremely high degree of population decay."

## ■ Mammal species

The scientists also looked at a well-studied group of 177 mammal species and found that all of them had lost at least 30% of their territory between 1900 and 2015; more than 40% of those species "experienced severe population declines," meaning they lost at least 80% of their geographic range during that time.



Looking at the extinction crisis not only in terms of species that are on the brink but also those whose populations and ranges are shrinking helps show that "Earth's sixth mass extinction is more severe" than previously thought, the authors write. They say a major extinction

event is "ongoing."

"It's the most comprehensive study of this sort to date that I'm aware of," said Anthony Barnosky, executive director of the Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve at Stanford University, who was not involved in the study. Its value, Barnosky said, is

**Nearly one-third of the 27,600 land-based mammal, bird, amphibian and reptile species studied are shrinking in terms of their numbers and territorial range.**

## Nightmarish sea spiders pump their blood using their guts

Earth's oceans are well-stocked with otherworldly inhabitants, but few of these critters are quite as strange as sea spiders, which look like something that would lurk in the crawlspace under Slender Man's house. With their impossibly spindly legs, sea spiders — which aren't even actual spiders — stride across the ocean floor with eerily slow, deliberate steps. They eat by piercing stationary animals like sea anemones and sponges with their long proboscises, and sucking up chunks of tissue softened by digestive juices.

Now, new research published in the journal Current Biology piles onto the weirdness, demonstrating that sea spiders move blood and oxygen around their bodies not by pumping their hearts, but by pumping their guts.

## ■ Digestive tracts

Sea spider digestive tracts weren't exactly normal to begin with. There is precious little space in their tiny abdomens for organs, so sea spider guts branch out and feed down into the entire length of the animals' legs. "In effect, sea spiders' guts are 'space-filling' and ubiquitous in their bodies in the same way that our circulatory systems are space-filling and ubiquitous," said lead author H. Arthur Woods of the University of Montana, Missoula in a press release.

This space-filling gut is responsible for a method of transporting oxygen-rich hemolymph — the equivalent of blood in arthropods like sea spiders — that's totally new to science. The research team, made up of scientists from Montana, Hawaii, and Australia, determined that sea spiders use strong, rippling contractions of their guts to slosh hemolymph (which exists in an open pool, not in blood vessels) back and forth throughout their gangly frames. The sea spider heart beats weakly, and is only able to push blood throughout the central body, so this gut pump picks up the slack.

## ■ Pump complements

This pump complements a sea spider respiratory system which, unsurprisingly, is also incredibly unusual, and helps address some unanswered questions about how these animals manage to exist at all. Sea spiders don't have gills, and instead take in oxygen passively from the surrounding water via diffusion through their porous exoskeletons.

The majority of the more than 1,000 species of sea spider are itsy bitsy, often smaller than your pinky nail. But some species in the bone-rattling waters off Antarctica can get as large as dinner plates. All that extra body volume presents issues for the achingly slow process of



diffusion, which inspired Woods and his colleagues to explore how these lanky Antarctic titans manage to get enough oxygen.

In twelve species of sea spiders collected from Antarctica and temperate locations in Oregon and Washington, the researchers tracked the flow of hemolymph and dissolved oxygen using tracers and video microscopy, and manipulated the wave-like contractions of the gut.

(Source: Gizmodo)

## Scientists fighting over whether monkeys could ever talk like humans

The question of whether monkeys could ever talk like humans has been debated in scientific circles since the 1950s and now scientists from the U.S., Austria and Belgium claimed to have the answer — yes, physically they could, but they lack the cognitive abilities to do so.

The study, published in Science Advances, analyzed the vocal tracts of monkeys by taking X-ray videos and tracking the movements used to grunt, as well as observing their faces, tongues and larynxes to see how they used them to make sounds.

Anatomically, the team, led by Tecumseh Fitch, found monkeys made sounds in a similar way to humans. They put the measurements into a computer to simulate what a monkey would sound like

if it could talk. The reason why monkeys cannot talk, the team concluded, was that they lack the cognitive skills to do so.

But now Philip Lieberman, a cognitive scientist at Brown University, Rhode Island, says these findings are wrong.

## ■ Conclusions reached

In a letter also published in Science Advances, he argues that the findings by Fitch et al are inconsistent — in the "data presented and the conclusions reached."

Lieberman, who published a major study into the potential for monkeys to speak in 1969, looks at various aspects of the study, including analysis of the tongue and vocal tract, and what sounds a monkey could potentially produce with its anatomy.

Concluding, he says that if monkeys

had the cognitive abilities required, they would still not be able to produce human-like speech. He says the vocal range of a macaque is far lower than what is reported, so would not potentially result in human-like speech if the cognitive ability was there.

Monkey's vocal tracts are capable of producing monkey speech, not the full range of articulate human speech. "If monkeys had brains capable of learning and executing the motor commands involved in human speech, their 'monkey speech' would not be as robust a means of vocal communication as that of fully modern human beings," he writes.

The "evolution of human speech entailed both brains that could learn and execute voluntary complex acts and

that it makes visible a phenomenon typically unseen by scientists and the public: that even populations of relatively common species are crashing.

## ■ Earth's wildlife

"We've got this stuff going on that we can't really see because we're not constantly counting numbers of individuals," he said. "But when you realize that we've wiped out 50% of the Earth's wildlife in the last 40 years, it doesn't take complicated math to figure out that, if we keep cutting by half every 40 years, pretty soon there's going to be nothing left."

Stuart Pimm, chair of conservation ecology at Duke University in North Carolina, summed up the concept this way: "When I look out over the woods that constitute my view from my window here, I know we no longer have wolves or panthers or black bears wandering around. We have eliminated a lot of species from a lot of areas. So we no longer have a functional set of species across large parts of the planet."

It is an important point to emphasize, Pimm said. But the new paper's analysis risks overstating the degree to which extinction events already are occurring, he said, and the research methodology does not have the level of granularity needed to be particularly useful for conservationists.

(Source: cnn.com)

## Drinking a cup of coffee may add nine minutes per day to your life

It has become a national pastime but our obsession with drinking coffee could be having unexpected health benefits and even increasing our lifespan by up to nine minutes a day, new research suggests.



Two new studies, including the largest ever conducted into coffee drinking, have found that imbibing even a single cup a day reduces the risk of dying early from any cause, and dramatically cuts the chance of death from digestive problems.

People who consumed just one 350ml cup each day slashed their risk of dying early by 12 percent over 16 years, while three cups reduced the risk by 18 percent.

"Pro-rata, that's as if that cup of coffee puts, on average, around nine minutes on a man's life, and around three minutes on a woman's. So perhaps we should relax and enjoy it," he said.

"If you like to drink coffee, drink up. If you're not a coffee drinker, then you need to consider if you should start," said Dr. Veronica Setiawan, associate professor of preventative medicine at USC.

"Coffee contains a lot of antioxidants and phenolic compounds that play an important role in cancer prevention.

"Although this study does not show causation or point to what chemicals in coffee may have this 'elixir effect', it is clear that coffee can be incorporated into a healthy diet and lifestyle."

Coffee is one of the world's most commonly consumed beverages, and Britons now drink 55 million cups a day according to the British Coffee Association.

(Source: The Telegraph)

## Plants turn caterpillars into cannibals

It is not unusual for insect pests to feast on each other as well as on their staple veg, but it's now been shown that tomato plants can team up to directly push caterpillars into cannibalism.

"This is a new ecological mechanism of induced resistance that effectively changes the behavior of the insects," says Richard Karban, who studies interactions between herbivores and their host plants at the University of California at Davis and was not involved in the study.

Herbivorous pests often turn on each other when their food is of poor quality or it runs out. And some plants are known to affect the behaviour of their pests by making them more predatory towards other species. But until now it was unclear whether plants could directly cause caterpillar cannibalism.

Integrative biologist John Orrock and his colleagues at the University of Wisconsin in Madison triggered a defensive reaction in tomato plants (*Solanum lycopersicum*) by exposing them to various amounts of methyl jasmonate (MeJA).

The researchers then allowed caterpillars of a common pest, the small mottled willow moth (*Spodoptera exigua*), to attack the crop. Eight days later, they observed that plants more strongly cued with MeJA had lost less biomass compared with control plants or with ones that had received a weaker induction. This showed that the reaction was somehow effective at protecting the plants.

(Source: nature.com)

## Nagoya forensic scientists recover human DNA from mosquitoes

Most people would agree that painful mosquito bites are an especially annoying part of summer. Except perhaps forensic scientists, who can examine human blood from a mosquito's stomach and match the DNA to determine who was bitten. This technique can help police work out who was at a crime scene and in the future, might provide evidence that can be used to convict offenders. But questions remain about how long it takes a mosquito to digest human blood and how long before the DNA becomes unrecognizable.

"We asked several volunteers to let mosquitoes bite them," explains first author Yuuji Hiroshige. "After allowing the mosquitoes to digest the blood for a certain amount of time, we extracted the human DNA and used PCR techniques to amplify the sample for quantification and genotyping."

Polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, is a standard tool in forensics for amplifying a minute amount of DNA. A single DNA fragment can be multiplied many thousands or even millions of times. The team can then use the amplified samples to find out how much DNA is left after the mosquito feeds and who it belongs to.

By examining DNA in blood digested by two different species of mosquito over a range of times after feeding, the team was able to trace back blood samples to individual volunteers, even after two days of digesting in the mosquito. After roughly three days the mosquitoes completely digested the blood.

(Source: EurekAlert)

## Iran's Exim Bank Turns 25

Import and export banks around the world usually provide necessary financial resources for exporters and investors for having active presence in foreign markets. In addition, these banks provide quality banking services including granting long-term loans to foreign shoppers for selling major equipment and products.

Experts and economists consider "export and export activities" as driving force for economic growth and generating employment opportunities, the report added.

On the other hand, setting up export economic enterprises, which have high capability of competing in

international arena, requires all-out planning. Development and promotion of new export-based production enterprises has been put at the focal attention of economic officials in line with generating employment and removing unemployment problem.

After the glorious victory of the Islamic Revolution, Export Development Bank of Iran (EDBI) was set up as a strong arm for financing government with the aim of promotion of export of non-oil commodities and development and trade - economic exchanges with other countries.

As the first state-owned and specialized import-export bank in the country, EDBI started its ac-

tivity in 1992 and is offering quality import-export services to exporters and investors, the report added.

As an import-export bank, Export Development Bank of Iran is tasked with concentrating on export advantages in the country and paying due attention to the new fields of export products as well as identifying new export opportunities and investment in new markets in line with supporting promotion of non-oil export.

It should be noted that EDBI will take giant strides in current year in order to materialize most of its objectives, the report ended.

## Four New Cars to Be Rolled Out by IKCO

Iran Khodro has started rolling out Dena+, Peugeot 2008, automatic Peugeot 207i and Tondar 90+.

The high quality of Dena has turned it into a popular car in Iran, thereby, with improving the equipment of this car, IKCO has introduced a new version of this sedan i.e. Dena+ to the market.

Reports released by Iran Standard & Quality Inspection Co. (ISQI) indicates 3 stars for the quality rating of IKCO

Dena+.

It is predicated, constant quality improvement projects can noticeably boost the performance quality of this car, elevating Dena+ ranking among other domestically produced cars.

Peugeot 2008 is also marketed by IKCO. This cross-over is manufactured in IKAP- IKCO-Peugeot JV Company- as its first product. Peugeot 2008, which is also produced in France and Brazil, is

the Peugeot's best-selling car in this category.

In the meantime, IKCO has decided on introducing automatic Peugeot 207i after its manual one was well received in Iran's market. Peugeot 207i enjoying AL4 automatic transmission is available in silver, white, black, gray, blue and red.

IKCO Tondar 90+ is also the upgraded version of the manual IKCO Tondar

90, available in white.

Tondar 90 is simpler and more popular than any other Renault model in Iran's market, however its upgraded version has come up with a more luxurious effect, despite its small changes.

The car has undergone changes in design, the exterior and interior parts of the body, and some of the welfare equipment, but the powertrain remains intact.



**Sanguine temperament: Specifications and lifestyle**



**ARTICLE**

By Seyed Mahdi Mirghazanfari, MD, PhD

Part 1

**SOCIETY TEHRAN** — Personalized medicine (PM) is a novel term used for a medical model in which all diagnostic, prognostic, and therapeutic aspects of a disease are individualized for a patient.

The Iranian-Islamic traditional medicine is an ancient paradigm for personalized medicine based on which every person has an individual temperament, so they have individual and distinguishing behavioral and physical characteristics.

There are six essential factors behind the Iranian traditional medicine lifestyle in preventing diseases and maintaining one's health including food and drinks, climatic conditions and environment, physical activities and rest, psychiatric conditions including that of sadness, happiness, depression, and stress, sleep and wakefulness, absorbing key nutrients and ridding body from waste materials (sweat, urine, or feces).

In the Iranian-Islamic traditional medicine the excess or less of warmth and humidity define four essential temperaments of "Warm and Wet (sanguine or Damawiy)", "Warm and Dry (choleric or Saffrawiy)", "Cold and Dry (melancholic or Saudawiy)" and "Cold and Wet (phlegmatic or Balghamiy)" respectively. The terms in the parentheses refer to four groups of material in the body (called "humors" or Akhlat) including blood, yellow bile, black bile, and phlegm respectively. Words written in italic show original Persian terms in the ancient literature.

**■ Sanguine: warm and wet**

People with sanguine temperament are normally gregarious, sociable and cheerful. They are usually in high spirits, beaming and funny, patient, and adaptable.

They have rosy and ruddy complexion and soft and smooth skin. They also have thick black hair, with thick density and more volume which can easily hold a curl or style.

People with sanguine temperament are stout, sturdy, and burly with muscular body.

These people have bigger veins which are prominent and easily seen through the skin in the arms and legs. They also have a more powerful and stronger pulse.

They rarely get sick; however, they are more prone to develop diseases such as obesity, h

Drowsiness, particularly in spring, is pretty common among people with sanguine temperament.

They are more likely to get abscess or pimple.

They are good leaders and due to their wetness, they are patient and very well manage and cope with those inferior or superior to them.

Their bodies feel squishy and warm.

Those with warm and wet temperament have good appetite and have a craving for meat, bread, rice and in general wider selection of dishes.

Waste matter (urine, sweat, and feces) discharged from their bodies have usually strong color and odor. As they consume food in large quantities they expel more body waste.

Seyed Mahdi Mirghazanfari, MD, holds a PhD degree in medical physiology and is an Iranian-Islamic traditional medicine researcher. He is also an assistant professor in AJA University of Medical Sciences, Tehran.

**LEARN ENGLISH**

**Daily Life - Setting up Your Voice mail Message**

A: Can you help me **set up** my **voice mail** message? I just got this **service** and I am not really sure what I am supposed to say.

B: Sure! You just **basically** gotta let the caller know who they called, and ask them for their contact information so you can call them back.

A: Ok, so can I say, "This is Abby's voicemail. I will call you later, so leave me your name and number".

B: That's more or less the idea, but try something that sounds more friendly.

A: Ok, so how about this, "This is Abby and I am really happy you called! I promise I will give you a ring as soon as I can, so please leave me your name and number. Talk to you soon!"

B: A little too friendly Abby. Just say this, "Hi, you have reached Abby. I am unable to answer your call right now, but if you leave me your name and phone number, I will get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks".

A: That's perfect! Can you say that again and **record** it for me?

**■ Key Vocabulary**

**set up:** prepare  
**voice mail:** an electronic system enabling the recording and storage of voice messages

**service:** the supplying or a supplier of something required by the public

**basically:** essentially, fundamentally

**■ Supplementary Vocabulary**

**fundamentally:** a foundation or basis; basic

**repair:** to restore to a good or sound condition after decay or damage

**available:** accessible

**tape:** a ribbon of material used to record sound, images, data

**static:** atmospheric electricity interfering with radar, radio, the sending and receiving of wireless messages

**record:** set down in writing or voice or the like

(Source: [irlangua.ir](http://irlangua.ir))

**UN climate fund calls on Iran to present new ideas**

**ENVIRONMENT TEHRAN** — Green Climate Fund, a global fund aimed to support the efforts of developing countries to respond to the challenge of climate change, has called for new ideas by Iranian entities to implement regional climate change projects.

The fund was set up by the 194 countries who are parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010.

Private sector companies, the chamber of commerce, and NGOs are invited to submit their ideas to the Department of Environment until August 23, 2017.

The fund has allocated \$500 million for the selected projects.



**GREEN CLIMATE FUND**

GCF helps developing countries limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change and seeks to promote a paradigm shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development, taking into account the needs of nations that are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts.

It aims to deliver equal amounts of funding to mitigation and adaptation, while being guided by the Convention's principles and provisions.

The fund uses public investment to stimulate private finance, unlocking the power of climate-friendly investment for low emission, climate resilient development.

**Iran, Armenia plan to boost disaster management co-op**

**SOCIETY TEHRAN** — Iran and Armenia plan to boost cooperation in the field of disaster management as well as search and rescue operations.

Armenia's Minister of Territorial Administration and Development Davit Lokyan and Iranian Red Crescent

Society's Director Amir Mohsen Ziaee met in Yerevan on Monday, discussing ways to increase cooperation in the abovementioned areas.

As the two neighboring countries, the most important thing is to share experiences in the field of natural disasters management with each other, IRNA quoted Ziaee as saying during the meeting.

Lokyan, for his part, stressed the importance of cooperation in mitigating effects of natural disasters and enhancing relief operations jointly between Iran and Armenia.

The officials from two the countries will hold sessions for sharing and boosting their knowledge in the field of disaster management in the near future.

**Sturdy Aragog of Harry Potter found in Iran**

By Farnaz Heidari

Spiders are some of the most feared and least understood creatures in the animal world. These hairy hunters are famous for spinning webs but also very useful to humans, because they control insect pests and keep their numbers in check.

Due to the lack of information, finding new spider species in Iran is possible. Spiders in Iran live nearly everywhere, from South to North, from West to East. Forests, deserts, grasslands, caves, mines, burrows and even urban areas have the chance of harboring new spider species as the most sophisticated invertebrate predators.

A new species of burrowing wolf spiders in Iran has been recently described by Anton A. Nadolny from Institute of Marine Biological Research of Russian Academy of Science and his colleague Alireza Zamani from Science College of University of Tehran. The new species is named *Lycosa aragogi*, because of its exotic icons which is similar to a fictional spider from the "Harry Potter" series.

**■ Burrow dweller recognized**

From the outside, a spider's body is very different from ours. Lycosidae is one of the largest spider families. Just like other spiders, they have hard outer skeleton called an exoskeleton and eight legs that have many joints.

Spiders of Lycosidae (derived from the Latin *Lycosa* which means "wolf") are robust and agile hunters because of their excellent eyesight and other abilities. The most important and unique characteristic of wolf spiders refers to their no interest in spinning webs. About half of all spiders spinning webs, but wolf spiders have jaw-dropping techniques to catch their prey, then there is no need to spin webs. Lycosidae in Iran are poorly known because of lack of investigation.

The type genus, *Lycosa*, refers to large sized wolf spiders. In the Palearctic region, *Lycosa* is



The real life Aragog vs. the imaginery one in Harry Potter series/ Photo by Alireza Zamani

represented by 61 species according to the World Spider Catalog, four of which are known to occur in Iran, with a single record of one of them being definitely hinged on a misidentification. Meanwhile, one more species has been recorded from Iran by an Iranian researcher in 1994, but the record was consequently assigned to another species by Alireza Zamani, a young Iranian arachnologist. At this point, Zamani and his colleague, Anton A. Nadolny identified a new species of this genus which has been rapidly gaining ground because of its unique name, Aragog.

**■ Aragog, ingenious spider**

Iranian Aragog is a skilled nighttime hunter who lives in mountainous areas with xerophyte vegetation

of southeastern Iran. This species is yellow, brown and black in color. As you can see in the picture, the dull colors help to hide the spider as it hunts along the ground. It has long back legs to chase after its prey. Aragog has large eyes; the position and arrangement of a spider's eye can be useful in telling which family it belongs to and how it catches food. The main eyes of Aragog produce a focused image and help in pouncing on prey. Secondary eyes have light-sensitive cells to pick up movements from a distance. They all work rather like a telephoto lens on a camera. Spiders such as Aragog that spend much of their time in burrows usually rely on their eyesight and sense of touch to test objects around them.

**■ Aragog's tale**

Some typical names of species are deceiving, but some boast public attention for the purpose of drawing conservation inferences in the near future. Those names which are popular among people has the chance to gain importance in specific situations, it is quite simple: if people know spiders, they will help conservationists and if not, there would be little or even no chance of public support. Aragog has a legendry tale in "Harry Potter" series. The researchers pointed to some similar characteristics between this new species and the fictional character of Aragog.

Researchers believe that gaining public attention to these small, unique creatures is amongst the most important goals.

Zamani told the Tehran Times "as some people hate or fear spiders, it could be hard to soften the relationship between them. A considerable percentage of all people around the world have arachnophobia, which is a certain degree of fear of spiders, and meanwhile others believe that spiders are messy and so on. How can we educate these people, is there any hope? I think yes, perhaps choosing interesting names for our newly discovered species can be useful".

**ENGLISH IN USE**

**LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION**

**Tehran to host ECO workshop on combating desertification**

The Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) secretariat in Tehran will hold a project development consultation workshop on combating desertification on July 5-6.

Organized by the ECO Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, the event is held with a special emphasis on dust haze and sand storm in the ECO region.

Representatives from ECO member countries Iran, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Pakistan, Turkey, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan are to attend the event.

The ECO is a Eurasian political and economic intergovernmental organization which provides a platform to discuss ways to improve development and promote trade and investment opportunities.

**برگزاری نشست مشورتی مقابله با پدیده گردوغبار در منطقه اکو**

به دلیل گسترش روزافزون چالش‌های زیست‌محیطی، تغییر اقلیم و خشکسالی‌هایی که کشورهای عضو اکو با آن دست به گریبان هستند، پروژه‌ای تحت عنوان «مبارزه با بیابان‌زایی در منطقه اکو با تأکید ویژه بر گرد و غبار و طوفان شن» در دستور کار قرار گرفت.

این نشست با حضور نمایندگانی از کشورهای ایران، افغانستان، آذربایجان، تاجیکستان، ترکمنستان، پاکستان، ترکیه، قرقیزستان، قزاقستان و ازبکستان با هدف هم‌اندیشی اعضا و بحث و تبادل نظر در همین راستا در روزهای چهارشنبه و پنجشنبه ۱۴ و ۱۵ تیرماه ۱۳۹۶ در محل سالن همایش‌های اکو در تهران برگزار خواهد شد.

**ENGLISH PROVERB**

**Who makes himself a sheep will be eaten by the wolves**

**■ Explanation:** an easily influenced person can be misled  
**■ For example:** James should not disregard the cheating. Who makes himself a sheep will be eaten by the wolves!

**PHRASAL VERB**

**Write off**

**■ Meaning:** destroy a car in an accident  
**■ For example:** The car was a complete write-off.

**ENGLISH IDIOM**

**xerox subsidy**

**■ Explanation:** This term refers to the habit of using the photocopier at work for personal use.  
**■ For example:** A certain percentage of photocopies are in fact xerox subsidies.



# Arab states seek to step up pressure on Qatar over 2013 accord

Four Arab states sought on Monday to pile pressure on Qatar over charges it backs terrorism, saying the publication of a previously secret accord between Riyadh and Doha showed Qatar broke a promise not to meddle in the affairs of Persian Gulf countries.

The text of the 2013 accord, whose existence was known but whose contents have never before been made public, was first published by CNN on Monday and later released on social media by the House of Saud regime officials.

In a joint statement, Bahrain, Egypt, the House of Saud regime and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) said the publication of the accord, meant to settle a dispute between Qatar and its Persian Gulf neighbors, "confirms beyond any doubt Qatar's failure to meet its commitments and its full violation of its pledges".

Amid fresh tension with Qatar, the four slapped sanctions on Doha on June 5, accusing it of supporting terrorism, cozying up to Iran, backing the Muslim Brotherhood - the world's oldest Islamist organization - and interference in their affairs.

The four say Qatar pledged to desist from interfering in its neighbors' politics in the 2013 agreement.

Qatar has rejected the charges and said the four states are trying to impose their own views on its foreign policies.

The document surfaced as U.S. Secre-



Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir (2-R), UAE Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed al-Nahyan (R), Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry (L), and Bahraini Foreign Minister Khalid bin Ahmed al-Khalifa (2-L) meet to discuss the diplomatic situation with Qatar, in Cairo, Egypt, July 5, 2017.

tary of State Rex Tillerson arrived in the region to help Washington's allies hammer out a way out of the crisis.

In response, Qatar accused the Saudi regime and the UAE of breaking the spirit of the Riyadh agreement and engaging in an "unwarranted and unprecedented attack on Qatar's sovereignty".

The Riyadh accord aimed to enhance cooperation between sovereign Persian Gulf Arab states and avoid interference

in their internal affairs, the official Qatar News Agency (QNA) said.

Kuwaiti mediation efforts hit a snag last week when the four Arab states said they were disappointed with Qatar's response to their list of 13 demands.

### ■ Muslim brotherhood

Meantime, Qatar said the demands, which included ending support for militant groups, the closure of the Al Jazeera TV channel, shutting down a Turkish mili-

tary base in Qatar and downgrading ties with Iran, were an infringement of its sovereignty.

QNA reported Sheikh Saif Bin Ahmed Al-Thani, director of Qatar's government communications, as saying the 13 demands bore no relation to the Riyadh accord and the latest crisis was the result of a coordinated media campaign against Qatar.

"Some of the allegations and demands of the siege countries have no basis, while others were an unwarranted and unprecedented attack on the sovereignty of the state of Qatar in violation to all international and regional agreements."

The 2013 agreement, reached at a meeting in Riyadh hosted by the then Saudi regime King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, was signed by the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah, while an implementation mechanism was signed by the six PGCC (Persian Gulf Cooperation Council) foreign ministers.

In the document, the parties agreed to refrain from backing any "political currents that pose a threat to any member country of the Persian Gulf Cooperation", and provided for Muslim Brotherhood leaders who are non-PGCC citizens to leave the area.

(Source: Reuters)

## Administration sees healthcare as 'essential principle': Rouhani

➔ He went on to say that the maternal mortality rate dropped from 25 per 100,000 live births to 18.5 per 100,000 live births within the framework of the healthcare reform plan which is unprecedented.



The healthcare reform plan kicked off on May 4, 2014 with the main goals of decreasing the out-of-pocket expenses for the patients, promoting natural birth, and supporting underprivileged patients suffering from rare or incurable diseases.

One of the most important changes occurred within the framework of the healthcare reform plan was the reduction of out-of-pocket expenses for those living in rural areas to less than 3 percent and their insurance coverage free of charge.

Some 11 million people living in underprivileged areas are now under the coverage of health insurance services.

## Steve Bannon is right on Afghanistan

➔ After more than 15 years of combat, the spending of hundreds of billions of dollars of taxpayer money, and the ultimate sacrifice of nearly 2,400 U.S. troops, it's tragic that more officials in Washington can't see the war as it is: a chaotic environment full of false hopes, unrealistic promises, and an American inability to come to grips with the impossibility of creating a safe, democratic, and prosperous nation in a country where corruption, violence and patronage determine who wins and who loses.

America's military intervention in Afghanistan was the quintessential example of a war launched on solid moral and strategic grounds. The Taliban regime, after all, harbored al Qaeda, the group behind the 9/11 attacks on New York and Washington. Rooting out al Qaeda from Afghanistan, killing its top leadership, cutting off its financing and ousting the Taliban were all objectives that U.S. liberals and conservatives alike could agree on.

But after the invasion, the U.S. objective switched from destroying al Qaeda in Afghanistan to developing a new government in Kabul from the ground. Because Afghanistan had not possessed a national army or police force since the Soviet-backed government collapsed in the early 1990s, the U.S. was also put into the position of starting one from scratch.

Uprooting al Qaeda's terrorist infrastructure and supply lines in Afghanistan was diluted from the principal U.S. goal in the country to one of many. Perhaps it was hubris to think that the West could construct a democratic state in the middle of Central Asia, unshackled by corruption and strong enough to keep the militants and warlords at bay. Or perhaps Washington truly believed it could pacify a country that knew nothing but war since the late 1970s.

Whatever the reason, Afghanistan translated virtually overnight into a laboratory where the establishment of a presidential system could be tested.

### ■ U.S. forces dying in Afghanistan

This context is important because the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces have been fighting and dying in Afghanistan to this very day - with little sustainable, strategic success to show for it. It's a policy failure, not a military failure. And as the U.S. should have learned already through two troop surges - the first of which took place in 2007 and the second in 2010-2011 - a policy failure cannot be solved with a few more troops.

The latest quarterly report from the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction shows the war is nowhere close to being over. According to United Nations statistics, 2016 was the bloodiest on record for Afghan security forces and civilians alike. Over a third of the country's districts are either under the control or influence of the Taliban. It's difficult to say U.S. policy is going smoothly when General John Nicholson, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, calls the war a stalemate in public testimony to the U.S. Senate. It's even harder when so many "ghost" troops - non-existent soldiers listed by corrupt Afghan officials to obtain additional U.S. taxpayer funding - are on the Afghan Army's payroll that Washington can't be certain where its money is going or whether the Afghan security forces are equipped to respond to a crisis.

None of this lies at the feet of the corporal or sergeant on the ground risking their lives. Rather, the blame lies squarely on the policymakers in the national security bureaucracy who still think that the Afghanistan mess can be sorted out if just a few thousand additional soldiers are deployed, or a bigger check is written, or a few more years are dedicated to the mission. The blame should be directed at the generals and officials who fail to ask why 5,000 more trainers, advisers, and special operators will be capable of doing what 140,000 soldiers in the field during the troop surge couldn't. Congress shares the blame for deferring to the generals without asking questions and for failing to understand that military power alone can't quash an insurgency, especially when those insurgents can cross the border to find safe havens in neighboring Pakistan.

We don't know yet if Trump will follow the advice of the Mattis trio or his political adviser. But the fact that the president didn't announce his intentions at the May NATO summit in Belgium suggests that something may have made him think twice on troop deployment.

Thanks perhaps to Steve Bannon, the president may be slower to repeat the mistakes of his predecessors - at least when it comes to Afghanistan.

(Source: Reuters)

## China: 'China responsibility theory' on North Korea has to stop

China hit back on Tuesday in unusually strong terms at repeated calls from the United States to put more pressure on North Korea, urging a halt to what it called the "China responsibility theory", and saying all parties needed to pull their weight.

The U.S. President Donald Trump took a more conciliatory tone at a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping on Saturday, but he has expressed some impatience that China, with its close economic and diplomatic ties to Pyongyang, is not doing enough to rein in North Korea.

That feeling has become particularly acute since Pyongyang launched an intercontinental ballistic missile that some experts believe could have the range to reach Alaska, and parts of the U.S. West Coast.

Asked about calls from the United States, Japan and others for China to put more pressure on North Korea, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said it was not China ratcheting up tension and the key to a resolution did not lie with Beijing.

"Recently, certain people, talking about the Korean peninsula nuclear issue, have been exaggerating and giving prominence to the so-called 'China responsibility theory,'" Geng told a daily news briefing, without naming any parties.

"I think this either shows lack of a full, correct knowledge of the issue, or there are ulterior motives for it, trying to shift responsibility," he added.

China has been making unremitting efforts and has played a constructive role, but all parties have to meet each other half way, Geng said.

"Asking others to do work, but doing nothing themselves is not OK," he added. "Being stabbed in the back is really not OK."

While China has been angered by North Korea's repeated nuclear and missile tests, it also blames the United States and South Korea for worsening tension with their military exercises.

China has been upset with the U.S. deployment of an advanced anti-missile system in South Korea too, which it says threatens its own security and will do nothing to ease tensions.

Additionally, Beijing has complained about Washington putting unilateral sanctions on Chinese companies and individuals for their dealings with North Korea.

Geng questioned how China's efforts could bear fruit if, while it tried to put out the flames, others added oil to the fire, and if, while it enforced the United Nations resolutions, others harmed its interests.

Everyone needed to accept their responsibilities to get the North Korea issue back on the correct track of a peaceful resolution through talks, he added.

"The 'China responsibility theory' on the peninsula nuclear issue can stop," Geng said.

(Source: Reuters)

## Syrian Kurds must be given role in drafting new constitution: UN envoy

The United Nations special envoy for Syria says Syrian Kurds should be allowed to take part in drafting a new constitution for the country.

Staffan de Mistura told Russia's RIA news agency in an interview published on Tuesday that the Kurds should not be ignored and their representatives must be allowed to take part in producing the initial version of such a document.

Western diplomats have revealed that the UN has hosted two sets of technical talks on a future constitution with various Syrian opposition groups in the Swiss city of Lausanne in recent weeks, according to Reuters.

The Syrian government was yet to comment on de Mistura's remark or the revelation reported by Reuters.

De Mistura's remarks are, however, very likely to draw reactions from Ankara, which is wary of armed Turkish groups in Syria, Iraq, and Turkey itself.

The Turkish government regards Turkish groups fighting in Syria an affiliate of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, (PKK/Partiya Karkerên Kurdistanê) an internationally-designated terrorist group that has been involved in an armed conflict with the government in Ankara.

The United States, meanwhile, considers the Kurds as a main force on the ground in the fight against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Daesh) terrorist group. The U.S. has armed the Kurdish fighters but has said

it would take the arms back once ISIL is routed.

### ■ UN envoy upbeat about peace prospects

On Monday, de Mistura made optimistic remarks about the prospects of peace in Syria, which has seen more than six years of foreign-backed militancy.

"There is a higher potential than we have seen in the past for progress," he said after the first day of peace talks in Geneva. "But what I can tell you is that we are seeing several stars coinciding in a certain direction, both on the ground, regionally and internationally."

The diplomat said one of the things that had given him hope was a small-scale ceasefire recently brokered with U.S. and Russian help for southern Syria.

He said other hopeful signs were the creation of "de-escalation zones" during parallel talks in the Kazakh capital of Astana.

The talks are organized by Russia, Iran, and Turkey.

Another source of optimism, de Mistura said, was the recent recapture of the northern Iraqi city of Mosul from ISIL after a nine-month battle.

He concluded his remarks by saying "homework" was being done for the launch of a more ambitious peace process, "maybe much sooner than we are thinking."

(Source: SANA)

## EU money demands for Brexit deal seem extortionate: Johnson

The sums of money the European Union is to demand from Britain as part of its Brexit settlement "seem to be extortionate", British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said on Tuesday.

The EU wants an agreement on how the "Brexit bill" will be calculated before launching talks on a free trade agreement. It puts Britain's financial settlement at tens of billions of euros and includes covering a share of future EU budget commitments made while it was a member.

Asked by a lawmaker in parliament if the EU should be told to "go whistle" if it wants money from Britain to leave the bloc, Johnson said: "I think that the sums that I have seen ... seem to me to be extortionate and I think go whistle is an entirely appropriate expression." The phrase means to ask for something with little chance of obtaining it.

British Prime Minister Theresa May has said she could walk away from the EU without a Brexit agreement if she

believed the deal on offer was worse than not reaching any arrangement.

Johnson said this was unlikely as it was in the interests of both sides to reach an understanding, but asked to spell out what "no deal" would mean, he said: "There is no plan for no deal because we are going to get a great deal."

May's spokesman said contingency planning was taking place for "a range of scenarios".

(Source: AFP)

## UN concerned about situation of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Filippo Grandi has expressed concerns about the poor living conditions of Rohingya Muslim refugees, who have fled a "very dire state" in their homeland Myanmar to neighboring Bangladesh.

"The conditions are very minimal, very basic. I would say that this is quite worrying especially for those that have been here for a long time, and for the new arrivals that come from very traumatic situations; this is worse perhaps," Grandi said in Dhaka on Monday.

He made the remarks after visiting two refugee camps in the Bangladeshi city of Cox's Bazar, which borders Myanmar's Rakhine State. Cox's Bazar hosts hundreds of thousands of Rohingya ref-

ugees.

Grandi added that Rohingya refugees may stay "for some more time" in squalid Bangladeshi camps as Myanmar officials had said the verification procedure for refugees before any repatriation would be lengthy.

"We offered our technical expertise (to Myanmar). I think it's possible that refugees will stay here in Bangladesh for some more time," he said.

The UNHCR chief further warned that the minority Muslim group is facing a "very dire state in northern Rakhine," Myanmar's state where they are mainly based.

The UNHCR chief stressed that any relocation should occur voluntarily.

"None should be forcefully relocated,"

Grandi said.

Rakhine has been the scene of communal violence at the hands of Buddhist extremists since 2012. Hundreds of people have been killed and tens of thousands forced from their homes to live in squalid camps in dire conditions in Myanmar, Bangladesh, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

The government denies full citizenship to the 1.1 million-strong Rohingya population, branding them illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. This as the Rohingya are believed to be a community of ancient lineage in Myanmar.

According to the UN, the Rohingya are one of the most persecuted minorities in the world.

Struck by sense of despair of refugees

in Cox's Bazaar: tangible progress in Myanmar & better opportunities can restore trust in the future," Grandi also said on his twitter account on Monday.

In January, authorities in Bangladesh controversially decided to encamp tens of thousands of Rohingya refugees from Myanmar to the remote island of Thengar Char in the Bay of Bengal, which is prone to monsoonal flooding.

The plan has been met with an international outcry.

Bangladesh hosts more than 400,000 Rohingya Muslims, including about 73,000 who have fled persecution and violence in Myanmar since the army launched a crackdown in the northwestern Rakhine State early October.

(Source: Press TV)



## Brazilian stadium shut after fan shot dead

Brazilian club Vasco da Gama have been ordered to play home matches behind closed doors after a fan was shot dead during disturbances at their ground.

Vasco's 1-0 defeat on Sunday at home to title-chasing Flamengo in the Rio de Janeiro derby was marred by crowd trouble at the final whistle.

Liverpool midfielder Philippe Coutinho, a former Vasco player, was at the match as the club's guest of honour.



"I needed to apologise on behalf of Vasco," president Eurico Miranda said.

"What happened here is not Vasco. Do not qualify these people as fans. They are vandals, bandits. I'm not giving an explanation, but I'm sure it's something that was already prepared."

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said that Vasco's fans caused "serious disturbances and a show of violence". The governing body added that an official inquiry into the disturbances has been launched by Brazil's Superior Court of Sporting Justice.

"Taking into account that the safety of fans is a priority, it has been decided to ban the presence of the public at Sao Januario stadium in any football match. The decision is pending a decision by the Sporting Justice which will look into last weekend's events," the CBF said.

Davi Rocha Lopes, 27, died in the clashes following the match in Brazil's Serie A championship on Saturday.

Three other people were taken to hospital with two suffering from gunshot wounds, according to police.

Coutinho was paraded around Vasco's 21,000-capacity stadium before the match.

Fighting in the stands and outside the stadium began at the end of the match, after Flamengo had secured their first win at the Sao Januario stadium for 44 years.

Among the players who fled the pitch at full-time as police used tear gas was 16-year-old Real Madrid player Vinicius Junior, who is on loan at Flamengo following his £38m move to the Bernabeu.

Flamengo are second in the league, with Vasco in mid-table. (Source: BBC)

## Mirabelli: 'Donnarumma brothers will sign'

Milan sporting director Massimiliano Mirabelli confirms "we hope Gigio Donnarumma and his brother will sign in a few minutes".

The two Donnarumma brothers are expected at Casa Milan imminently, as Gianluigi is set to renew with the Rossoneri while his older brother is signing from Asteras Tripolis.

"We hope that Gigio and his brother will sign in a few minutes," Mirabelli confirmed to Premium Sport outside the club's HQ.

The younger Donnarumma is expected to sign until 2021 with a €70m release clause.

(Source: Football Italia)

## Setien still hopeful over Ceballos stay despite Real Madrid reports

Dani Ceballos could still stay at Real Betis despite reports the midfielder has agreed a six-year contract at Real Madrid, believes the club's coach Quique Setien.

Real Betis chairman Angel Haro announced on Monday that confirmation of a Ceballos move to Madrid is imminent.

But Setien says the 20-year-old, who starred for Spain in their run to the final of the European Under-21 Championship

in Poland last month, claiming the Player of the Tournament award, may yet turn down the chance to join the Champions League and LaLiga winners.

"You've seen what happened with Vitolo and Atletico, we've not seen yet how the Ceballos story ends," Setien told reporters, citing Vitolo's agreement of a new five-year Sevilla deal despite reports the winger would join Diego Simeone's side.

"Ceballos is a very important player for us of course and while it is reported that it is all done with Madrid, I have not received any notification.

"We'll see how things develop, there are questions that are still unresolved and he will offer our team a lot. If we can count on him it would be phenomenal for us but if not, we will look to others to strengthen us."

Madrid were reported to have beaten rivals Barcelona to the signing of Ceballos, with a fee worth €18million having been agreed for the player.

(Source: Soccerway)



# Nadal beaten by relentless Muller in fourth-round epic

Rafael Nadal's hopes of a third Wimbledon crown sank with the setting sun as Luxembourg's Gilles Muller returned to haunt the Spaniard with a nerve-jangling 6-3 6-4 3-6 4-6 15-13 victory in a fourth-round classic on Monday.

Twelve years after first getting the better of Nadal on the All England Club lawns -- since when his career has trundled along in unspectacular fashion -- 16th seed Muller stood firm in 135-minute fifth set of interminable tension.

Nine times in that heart-pounding decider, 31-year-old French Open champion Nadal served to stay alive.

Men of lesser resolve than the 34-year-old Muller would have cracked -- but the left-handed serve-and-volleyer was relentless in pursuit of victory and it was 15-times grand slam champion Nadal who succumbed when asked to walk the tightrope for the 10th time at 13-14.

A miss-hit forehand gave Muller two more match points and this time there was no escape for Nadal as another error off his trusty weapon ballooned over the baseline.

Muller stood motionless for a few seconds, taking in the enormity of his victory as the Court One crowd which has spent the past two hours on the edge of their seats, rose as one.

There was little doubt he deserved the ovation.

He outplayed Nadal in the opening two sets and then, after weathering a ferocious fightback, made the running in the fifth when his baseline craft matched Nadal's.

He struck 30 aces and 95 winners as he moved on to a quarter-final with Marin Cilic -- his second in majors after reaching the last eight at the 2008 U.S. Open.

"I'm just glad it's over," Muller, who was cheered on from the stands by Prince Felix of Luxembourg, said.

### BIG BATTLE

"I did really well in the first two sets, then Rafa stepped it up. It was a big battle. When I had the last two match points, I thought I just had to give it a shot.

"Somehow in the end I made it."

Nadal has now failed to get past the fourth round since



losing the 2011 final to Novak Djokovic.

Since then Nadal has lost to the likes of Lukas Rosol, Steve Darcis and Nick Kyrgios but this year, having claimed a 10th French Open, the Spaniard arrived at Wimbledon in peak form and fitness and looked a good bet for the title.

Had he pulled this match out of the fire who knows where it would have taken Nadal. The crowd, despite loving an under-dog at Wimbledon, were firmly in his corner but even with their vocal backing he gave himself

too much to do.

"I think I didn't play my best the first two sets, then I was always playing against the scoreboard. And that's so difficult against a player like him," Nadal told reporters.

"So well done to him. He played well. Especially in the fifth, he played a great game.

"It was a great atmosphere. I put everything on the court. I played with all my passion."

(Source: Reuters)

## James Rodriguez joins Bayern Munich from Real Madrid on a two-year loan



Real Madrid playmaker James Rodriguez has signed for Bayern Munich on a two-year loan deal - in a move that reunites him with Italian manager Carlo Ancelotti.

Rodriguez will have a medical with the German giants before completing his move to the Allianz Arena - in a deal which could cost up to £40million.

Bayern will also have an option to buy the Colombia international permanently at the end of the loan deal on June 30, 2019. The initial loan will cost them £9m with another £31m on top of that, should they wish to make it a permanent one too.

He will be a member of the Bayern squad that sets off on Sunday evening for their pre-season 12-day Audi Summer Tour to China and Singapore.

Bayern chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge expressed his delight at the capture of the 25-year-old - revealing that he was Ancelotti's main priority this summer.

"We're delighted we've been able to complete this transfer," he told the club's official website.

"Signing James Rodriguez was our coach Carlo Ancelotti's biggest wish, following their successful spell working together in Madrid.

"James is a very versatile player. He's

a goal scorer himself, he sets up a lot of goals and on top of that he's great from set-pieces. There's no question that this transfer further increases the quality in our team."

Ancelotti and Rodriguez worked together at Real Madrid with the latter joining in a £63million deal in the summer of 2014 from Monaco after excelling for his country at that year's World Cup.

During their one season in the Spanish capital together the duo won the UEFA Super Cup and the FIFA Club World Cup.

However, following Ancelotti's sacking in 2015; Rodriguez saw his influence at the Santiago Bernabeu wane.

Under Rafa Benitez and especially current boss Zinedine Zidane, Rodriguez found himself lower down the pecking order behind Cristiano Ronaldo, Gareth Bale, Isco, Lucas Vazquez and Marco Asensio in the wide attacking and creative areas.

Despite that Rodriguez won seven major honours with Real - including two successive Champions League triumphs (2016 and 2017) as well as La Liga last season.

Overall, the midfielder scored 36 goals and provided 41 assists in 111 appearances for the Spanish giants.

(Source: Daily Mail)

## Los Angeles spells out low-cost, bold Olympic future in Games pitch



Los Angeles could deliver a low-cost, low-risk model for the Olympic Games, officials outlining its 2024 candidacy to the International Olympic Committee said on Tuesday.

Bid chairman Casey Wasserman said in LA's penultimate presentation to IOC members before the Sept. 13 vote that the city, competing with Paris, would serve the Olympic movement.

"We don't believe in ultimatums. We don't believe this decision is only about us or Paris or 2024. This about the future direction of the Olympic movement," Wasserman said.

United States President Donald Trump later tweeted his support for the Los Angeles bid. "Working hard to get the Olympics for the United States (L.A.). Stay tuned!" he said.

Wasserman again left the door open for the 2028 Olympics, with Paris widely seen as the frontrunner for the 2024 event. The French capital, led by recently-elected French President Emmanuel Macron, presented its project after Los Angeles.

The IOC will then vote on whether to ratify its executive board's recommendation to award on Sept. 13. both the 2024 Olympics and the 2028 Games at the same time.

Multiple Olympic track and field champion and LA bid official Allyson Felix said

IOC members had asked about 2028.

"We clarified the focus is on 2024, but we would be blessed to have any Games," Felix said.

Wasserman had earlier stressed the importance of the decision on 2024.

"This decision is about the future direction of the Olympic Movement. Our objective is to best serve your (the IOC's) needs, not only ours," he said.

"We are offering a city ready to go. We are offering a Games with no incremental costs. We are offering a lasting definition of Olympic sustainability."

Four other cities -- Hamburg, Rome, Budapest and Boston -- have withdrawn bids, scared off by the size and cost of the Games, forcing the IOC to recommend the double awarding to make it more attractive for potential hosts.

LA officials highlighted the privately funded model, while stressing the involvement of the United States in the wider Olympic movement with thousands of foreign athletes training at U.S. colleges.

"We need bold new solutions and bold new thinking," LA mayor Eric Garcetti told reporters. "We want to leave something different."

(Source: Reuters)



realmadrid #WelcomeTheo...  
Welcome to your new home, @theo3hermandez!



d\_degeaofficial Thank you @waymrooney for making me understand what playing for @manchesterunited means since the first day.



manchesterunited The first day of training on #MUTOUR, featuring new boys @lukaku9and @victorlindelof



# Ali Daei stands above all-time greats Pele and Ferenc Puskas

Only one man in the history of football has scored more than 100 goals for his country, standing above all-time greats such as Pele and Ferenc Puskas and modern-day stars Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi.

That man is Islamic Republic of Iran legend Ali Daei, who netted an incredible 109 goals in 149 appearances for Team Melli, a staggering statistic that earns him place as the-AFC.com's next 'Asian Icon'.

**Age:** 48  
**Clubs:** Esteghlal Ardabil, Taxirani, Bank Tejarat, Persepolis, Al Sadd, Arminia Bielefeld, Bayern Munich, Hertha Berlin, Al Shabab, Saba Battery, Saipa  
**International appearances (Goals):** 149 (109)

After starting his footballing career as a teenager in 1988, Daei's ability to find the back of the net with regularity at his early clubs saw him snapped up by Tehran giants Persepolis in 1994, by which time he had already begun what would wind up as a record goalscoring spree with the national team.

A league title with Persepolis followed in the 1995-96 season, but it was at the AFC Asian Cup in the United Arab Emirates later that year that Daei alerted the wider world to a talent that would make him one of the most feared strikers ever to come out of Asia.

Now at Qatar's Al Sadd, Daei scored a goal a game in the first round of the 1996 AFC Asian Cup as Iran progressed to the quarter-finals on top of their group, but that paled into insignificance compared to what happened next.

With the Iranians and Korea Republic tied at 2-2 midway through the second half of the quarter-final, Daei took over. The striker put his side 3-2 up on 66 minutes before scoring another three to take his tally to four as Iran swept aside the Koreans 6-2 to advance, before ultimately finishing third after a penalty shootout defeat to Saudi Arabia in the last four.

"That match changed my sporting life because after that, I was transferred to Germany and my life totally changed," Daei, who finished the tournament as top scorer with eight goals, told the-AFC.com earlier in the year.

Now 28, Daei's time to test himself in Europe had arrived as Germany's Arminia Bielefeld came calling and, after only a season in the Bundesliga, he was on the move to one of the biggest sides in world football: Bayern Munich.

A year with the German giants saw Daei become the first Iranian to play in the UEFA Champions League as Bayern finished runners-up, while he also won the Bundesliga. Hertha Berlin then swooped for him in mid-1999, the same year he would win the AFC Footballer of the Year.

Daei spent three years in the German capital with highlights including a brace in a 2-1 UEFA Champions League win over Chelsea and another goal in the San



Siro against AC Milan.

"I learned many things [in Germany] and one of the most important things I bring to the Iranian teams now is the discipline I learned there," added Daei, who returned to Asia with the UAE's Al Shabab in 2002.

A year after Daei moved to Germany, the international team would compete at the 1998 FIFA World Cup in France, 20 years after their only previous appearance at the tournament.

The competition provided one of the most memorable matches in Iran's history as Team Melli claimed a 2-1 victory over the USA in a game that grabbed the world's attention.

Although Daei did not get on the scoresheet, the forward's defence-splitting pass teed up Mehdi Mahdavia for the decisive goal and the country's first-ever FIFA World Cup win.

Defeats to Yugoslavia and Germany either side of that victory meant the Iranians exited at the first hurdle, but Daei insists the class of '98 was the best national team he played with.

Daei netted another three in the 2000 AFC Asian Cup in Lebanon as Iran reached the quarter-finals. Twenty international goals in 2000, meanwhile, was more than any other player in world football managed for their country.

The striker then bagged 10 in the 2002 FIFA World Cup qualification campaign only for Iran to lose to the Republic of Ireland in the UEFA/AFC Intercontinental play-off as a golden generation narrowly missed out on a second successive FIFA World Cup.

Towards the end of 2003 came arguably Daei's

biggest achievement when a goal against Lebanon saw him surpass Ferenc Puskas to become the highest-ever goalscorer for a national team after striking for the 85th time.

Three more goals in the 2004 AFC Asian Cup, where Team Melli suffered more penalty shootout heartache to hosts China in the last four, left Daei on 14 AFC Asian Cup goals, a record that still stands to this day.

Still scoring at an incredible rate, Daei became the first male player to reach 100 goals for his country following four against Laos in 2004 en route to qualifying for the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany.

The forward's 109th and final goal for Iran came in a 3-2 friendly win over Costa Rica in March 2006, before Team Melli were eliminated at the first hurdle in Germany as Daei bowed out from international football.

"I think this record is for Iranian football, not only me. It is also because of other good players who were playing in the team with me and it was a gift from God," said Daei.

"I think all records are there to be broken, so maybe it will be broken in the future."

Daei would go on to win the Iranian Pro League as player/interim coach with Saipa the following year before hanging up his boots.

Stints at the helm of the national team, Persepolis and Naft Tehran followed, while he is now back as head coach of Saipa.

Inducted into the AFC Hall of Fame in 2014, Ali Daei's legend will live for years to come.

(Source: AFC)

## Iranian praclimber Khalaji aces Paraclimbing Master

Iranian paraclimber Behnam Khalaji has featured commendable performances at the fourth edition of Paraclimbing Master in Austria, and been awarded a precious gold medal.

Khalaji took on his opponents in the men's RP2 competitions in the western Austrian town of Imst, and tallied 97 points in the final attempt to claim the top position of the chart at the prestigious sporting event.

Alessio Cornamusini from Italy earned 82 points in his last contest, and finished in the second place to collect the silver medal. Germany's Michael Fuchsle bagged the bronze medal with 58 points.

The fourth edition of Paraclimbing Master began in Imst, Austria, on July 8 and finished the following day. A total of 56 athletes from 12 nations took part in the event.

(Source: Press TV)

## Uzbekistan's Server Djeparov joins Esteghlal

Iran's Esteghlal football team completed the signing of Uzbekistan international midfielder Server Djeparov on Monday.

On 15 January 2017, Djeparov joined Esteghlal after signing an internal one and-a-half year contract, but his internal contract could not be registered with Esteghlal due to a FIFA imposed transfer ban.

Shortly after, he joined Sepahan on loan with a half-season contract.

Djeparov played 10 times for Sepahan and scored one goal. Djeparov will travel to Armenia to join Esteghlal in the training camp.

The 34-year-old attacking midfielder has played 121 times for Uzbekistan national football team and scored 25 goals.

(Source: Tasnim)

## Inter Milan sign midfielder Borja Valero from Fiorentina

Inter Milan have completed the signing of Borja Valero from Fiorentina on a three-year contract.

Valero, 32, has already linked up with his new teammates in their preseason training camp in Riscone di Brunico and has now officially brought an end to his five-year spell with the Viola.

"Borja Valero Iglesias is officially an Inter player following the completion of all contractual formalities," a statement on the Nerazzurri's website read. "The Spanish midfielder has penned a three-year deal with the club."

The former West Bromwich Albion midfielder was already welcomed by Inter coach Luciano Spalletti on Sunday evening, following his side's first outing of preseason -- a 2-1 win over Wattens.

"Inter's fans are going to love him, I'm sure," he said. "He's one of those players who has his own style and shows it every time they go onto the field. He's got experience and quality, in addition to knowing how to play a variety of roles across the field."

Several hundred Fiorentina fans had protested outside their club's headquarters last week before moving to Valero's home, where they begged with the player to stay.

Valero made 166 Serie A appearances for Fiorentina, scoring 14 goals. He was also a regular for them in the Europa League, scoring twice in 33 outings over the past four seasons.

(Source: ESPN)

## Gabriel Batistuta has 'difficulty walking' after retiring from football

Gabriel Batistuta has said that he has "difficulty walking" because of the rigours of his football career.

Batistuta retired in 2005 having scored 200 Serie A goals for Fiorentina, Roma and Inter Milan and as Argentina's record goal scorer, a record that has since been overtaken by Lionel Messi.

In an interview with FIFA he said: "I lived and breathed football. Now I have difficulty walking because of that: because I gave much more than I actually had to give."

In 2014 Batistuta said he asked a doctor to amputate his legs to relieve intense pain in his ankles following 17 years playing professionally.

Batistuta also said that although the standard of football in Serie A has declined and been overtaken by the Premier League and La Liga, he hopes for it to recover and become the best in Europe again.

"Football now is nothing like what we played," he said. "I hope that it's in a period of renewal, and not just a debacle. But the football of the '80s and '90s was different."

"All the best players wanted to come to Italy. That hasn't been the case for quite a while, and the level has come down a bit. They still play very tactical, very disciplined football and all that, but they lack champions, as they say themselves."

"Looking from the outside at English football, at Spanish football, it's more interesting, and they have the champions and the celebrities that they want to see."

"But with the passion that Italians have for football, the pride that they have, I don't think the game will stay that way. I think they'll get back to being what they were before."

(Source: Soccernet)

## Jalil Bagheri Jeedi aims for London 2017 gold



**S P O R T S** Iranian shot putter Jalil Bagheri Jeedi wants to improve on World Para Athletics Championships London 2017 performance.

The competition will be held in London, England from July 14 to 23.

There are 202 medal events, more than at Rio 2016, featuring around 1,300 athletes from 100 countries.

"I have won a silver medal in the previous edition and I am determined to claim a gold medal at the London 2017," Bagheri Jeedi told Paralympic.ir.

"I've been training well after the 2016 Paralympic Games and I am ready for the World Para Athletics Championships. I hope to get the best result in London," the 2014 Para Asian Games flag bearer.

## Ali Dadgar elected new president of Iran's Shooting Federation



**S P O R T S** TEHRAN — Ali Dadgar has been elected as new president Islamic Republic of Iran Shooting Sport Federation (IRISSF) on Tuesday.

Dadgar was elected as (IRISSF) with 23 of 39 total votes.

Mehrali Baran Cheshmeh came second with 15 votes and Hossein Zakadeh finished in third with one vote.

Mohammadreza Davarzani, deputy-minister of Youth & Sports Ministry of Iran, was the chairman of the election held in Iran's Academy Olympic.

"Iranian shooters have still never won an Olympics medal. I want to end the medal drought. That's why I am here.

From now on, we are concentrating to win the medals in the 2018 Asian Games and 2020 Olympic Games," Dadgar said.

## Atletico Madrid overtake Barcelona, Bayern Munich in UEFA rankings

Atletico Madrid have overtaken Barcelona and Bayern Munich to move into second place in the UEFA rankings for club competitions.

The latest official list published ahead of the 2017-18 season sees Atletico with a coefficient of 133,799, putting them ahead of third-placed Barca (128,799), fourth-placed Bayern (122,656) and fifth-placed Juventus (119,049).

Real Madrid, who beat Atletico in the 2014 and 2016 Champions League finals, as well as retaining the trophy by defeating Juve 4-1 in the 2017 decider, top the table with a coefficient of 151,799.

When Diego Simeone took charge of Atletico during the 2011-12 campaign, the club were down in 23rd place in the rankings -- between CSKA Moscow and Marseille -- but they have climbed steadily each year since due to their success in that season's Europa League, followed by consistently reaching the latter stages of the Champions League each year since.

"Atletico Madrid has climbed to second place of the ranking of European clubs that UEFA elaborates," a club statement read. "Our team's coefficient is of 133,799 points, which has allowed us to surpass FC Barcelona and Bayern Munich in the ranking. Our scores of the last five seasons are: in the campaign 2013/14 we accumulated 37,600, 26,042 in 2014/15, 32,785 in 2015/16 and 33,028 in 2016/17.

"In addition, our team starts next season with 4,342 points since it has qualified for the group stage of the Champions League. We need to remember that in the last four seasons, our team has reached two Champions League finals, a semi-final and a few quarter-finals. In addition, for the first time in our history, Simeone's squad will play for the fifth consecutive season in the continental showpiece."

The highest ranked Premier League club in the latest UEFA standings is Manchester City -- who sit ninth [94.363], ahead of Arsenal (11th - 84.363), Chelsea (13th

- 80.363), Manchester United (16th - 78.363), Tottenham (22nd - 62.363) and Liverpool (35th - 44.363). When Simeone took over Atletico English clubs were much higher -- United were then second, Chelsea third, Arsenal sixth and Liverpool 11th.

Other clubs to rise during recent years include current leaders Madrid [who were seventh back in 2011], Juventus (up from 43rd to fifth), Sevilla (up from 11th to sixth) and Paris Saint-Germain (up from 38th to seventh).

Significant fallers have been Inter Milan (ninth, down to 59th), AC Milan (10th to 58th) and Valencia (15th to 30th).

The club coefficient rankings are based on the results of clubs competing in the five previous seasons of the Champions League and Europa League. The rankings determine the seeding of each club in all UEFA competition draws.

(Source: Soccernet)



INTERNATIONAL DAILY  
www.tehrantimes.com

Managing Director: Ali Asgari  
Editor-in-Chief: Hassan Lasjerdi

Editorial Dept.: Fax: (+98 21) 88808214 — 88808895  
editor@tehrantimes.com  
Switchboard Operator: Tel: (+98 21) 43051000  
Advertisements Dept.: Tel: (+98 21) 43051450  
Public Relations Office: Tel: (+98 21) 88805807  
Subscription & Distribution Dept.: Tel: (+98 21) 43051603  
www.eshterak.ir Distributor: Padideh Novin Co.  
Tel: 88911433  
Webmaster: webmaster@tehrantimes.com  
Printed at: Kayhan - ISSN: 1017-94

No. 18, Bimeh Alley, Nejatollahi St., Tehran, Iran  
P.O. Box: 14155-4843  
Zip Code: 1599814713



NEWS IN BRIEF



**Tehran center to host performance inspired by folk dances**

**A R T TEHRAN** — Arax Ballet Studio is scheduled to stage a performance inspired by folk dances from various countries around the world at Tehran's Niavaran Cultural Center on July 13 and 14.

The performance titled "Around the World in 80 Minutes" will be directed by Narineh Galstanian, the center announced on press release on Tuesday.

The performance will be executed by Dina Sharif, Sara Kazemi, Narges Adim, Banafsheh Reza and Bahar Bani-Asadi.

Only women are allowed to attend the performance.



**Iran's "Servant" to compete in Elche festival**

**A R T TEHRAN** — Iranian director Farnush Abedi's "The Servant" will compete in the 40th edition of the Elche International Independent Film Festival, which will be held in the Spanish city from July 14 to 21.

The animated film is about a servant who becomes a master and a bug becomes his servant. After a while, the man understands that he has begun a game that has no rules.

In addition, short movies "A" by Hamidreza Saket and "Attendant" by Mohammad Afsharnejad will be displayed on the official website of the festival and audiences can vote for them.

**Madrid museum must face heirs' claim in Nazi art case: U.S. appeals court**

**NEW YORK (Reuters)** — A federal appeals court on Monday revived a lawsuit seeking to force a Madrid museum to return an Impressionist masterpiece to the family of a Jewish woman who was compelled to sell it to a Nazi art appraiser for \$360 in 1939 so she could flee Germany.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said two of Lilly Cassirer's great-grandchildren may sue the Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum for the return of Camille Pissarro's 1897 depiction of a Paris street scene, «Rue Saint-Honoré, Après-midi, Effet de Pluie.»

Monday's decision revived a 16-year legal battle that began after the Cassirers learned that the Pissarro, whose value may exceed \$40 million, was on display in the Madrid museum, its home since 1992.

Applying Spanish law, the appeals court said it was an open question whether the museum knew the painting was stolen when it acquired it in 1993 in a \$338 million purchase of Baron Hans Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza's art collection.

It said that price was well below the collection's estimated \$1 billion to \$2 billion value, and the baron may have known he also got a bargain when he bought the Pissarro from a New York art dealer for \$275,000 in 1976.

«The Cassirers have created a triable issue of fact whether (the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection) knew the painting was stolen from Lilly when TBC purchased the painting from the Baron,» Circuit Judge Carlos Bea wrote. «There is a triable issue of fact as to the Baron's good faith.»

Bea also said Lilly Cassirer did not waive her ownership rights when Germany's government paid her 120,000 marks for the loss of the painting in 1958, when its whereabouts were unknown.

The Pasadena, California-based appeals court returned the case to U.S. District Judge John Walter in Los Angeles, who dismissed the lawsuit in June 2015.

«We're obviously very pleased,» said Stephen Zack, a Boies, Schiller & Flexner partner representing the Cassirers, in a phone interview. «This has been a scar they've had to deal with for generations.»

David Boies, a prominent U.S. lawyer, had argued the Cassirers' appeal.

Thaddeus Stauber, a lawyer for the foundation that runs the museum, wrote in an email that the baron and the museum acquired the Pissarro in good faith.

«We remain confident that the foundation's ownership of the painting will once again be confirmed,» Stauber said.

Both sides agreed that Lilly Cassirer's sale of the Pissarro to Berlin art dealer Jakob Scheidwimmer amounted to a forcible taking. Pissarro's works had been popular among European Jewish collectors.

**First Malay translation of Sadi's Gulistan unveiled in Malaysia**

**CULTURE TEHRAN** — The first Malay translation of Sadi's Gulistan (The Rose Garden) was unveiled during a ceremony in the National Library of Malaysia on Tuesday.

Published under the title "Taman Mawar", the book has been translated into Malay by a team of Malaysian translators, the Persian service of IRNA reported on Tuesday.

Sheikh Muslih od-Din Sadi Shirazi (C. 1213-1291) is one of the greatest figures of classical Persian literature famous worldwide for his Gulistan and Bustan (The Orchard).

The director of the National Library of Malaysia, Nafisah Ahmad, Iran's Ambassador to Kuala Lumpur, Marzieh Afkham, and a number of Iranian and Malaysian scholars attended the ceremony.

In her opening speech, Afkham called Sadi one of the greatest poets in Iran and the world, and talked about Sadi's famous books Gulistan and Bustan.

"This Persian poet has beautifully described the (moral) values in beautiful language, and now this book is available here in the Malay language," Afkham said.

Pointing to the rich Persian literature, she hoped that the Malay translation would bring joy to the readers.

Nafisah Ahmad, for her part, called Sadi's Gulistan a world classic hit.

She expressed hope that the translation of great Persian literary works helps develop ties between the two countries and reinforce cultural relations.

Scholars Faizal Musa from the National University of Malaysia, author Muhammad Bukhari Lubis and Persian scholars in Malaysia Amir Zekrgu and Naser Qoli Sarli next talked about the Gulistan of Sadi.



National Library of Malaysia director Nafisah Ahmad (2nd right) and an unidentified person hold a copy of the Malay translation of Sadi's Gulistan at the library on July 11, 2017. Iranian Ambassador Marzieh Afkham (R) is also seen in the photo. (IRNA)

Iran's cultural attaché in Malaysia, Ali-Mohammad the central themes of children, and the history and Sabeqi, donated a collection of 500 Persian books with culture of Iran to the National Library of Malaysia.

**Gipsy Kings to perform in Tehran again**

**A R T TEHRAN** — France's most successful group of all time, the Gipsy Kings, will make a welcome return to the Grand Hall of the Interior Ministry in Tehran for the second time on July 28 and 29.

Their first performance took place in Tehran's Vahdat Hall in August 2016.

Paul Reyes, the veteran guitarist of the Gipsy Kings, along with other members including Jose Reyes will be giving the performances, Persian media reported on Tuesday.

Based in Camargue, the very famous land by the Mediterranean Sea, the Gipsy Kings are made up of two families, the Reyes family from Arles and the Baliardos from Montpellier.



The Gipsy Kings performs at Tehran's Vahdat Hall on August 14, 2016.

The band members speak French, and perform music in the Spanish dialect of Gitanes, the native Gipsy language, which is a mixture of Spanish, French and Catalan.

The Exir Novin Advertising Agency and Persia Film from Iran are the organizers of the event.

**Five TV hosts competing at Hafez Awards**

**A R T TEHRAN** — Five TV personalities have been nominated for the best host award at the 17th Hafez Awards, which is annually organized to honor Iranian cinema and television artists.

Mehran Modiri and Rambod Javan are competing for the award for their talk shows "Dorehami" and "Khandevaneh" that are being broadcast from the Nasim Channel.

Other nominees are Ehsan Alikhani and Mohammad Saleh-Ala for the talk shows "Mahe Asal" and "Cheshme Shab Roshan".

Adel Ferdowsipur, the host of "90", Iran's most popular TV program on soccer, has also been shortlisted for the award.



The awards ceremony will be held in August without its founder Ali Moallem who died of a heart attack in March.

His Persian cinematic monthly Donya-ye Tasvir (Picture World) is the organizer of the Hafez Awards that is Iran's first and only private awards in the film industry and TV productions.

**Actor Tom Hanks to receive award for work reflecting U.S. history**

**NEW YORK (Reuters)** — For his work in films reflecting U.S. history such as "Saving Private Ryan", "Apollo 13" and "Bridge of Spies", actor Tom Hanks has won this year's Records of Achievement Award, the National Archives Foundation said on Monday.

Hanks, 61, will receive the award, given to individuals who bring a broad awareness of U.S. history through their work, at an Oct. 21 event at the National Archives Museum in Washington, the nonprofit organization said in a statement.

"As a dive into archives of almost any kind is, to me, a swim in the finest of waters, I'm dazzled to be a part of this event," said Hanks, a two-time Oscar winner, who last year was one of 21 people awarded the 2016 Presidential Medal of Freedom - the highest U.S. civilian honor.

"Part of my job has always been one not far from that of a lay-Historian, to understand that I am a part of the documenting of the human condition and the American idea, even in the silliest of stories," he added in the statement.

Hanks has appeared in numerous films based on

historical events and figures, including the World War Two drama "Saving Private Ryan" and crime thriller "Catch Me If You Can", based on the true story of fraudster Frank Abagnale.

More recently, Hanks played the title role in "Sully", based on pilot Chesley Sullenberger's 2009 emergency landing of a passenger flight on the Hudson River.

He was also an executive producer and co-writer/director on the 2001 World War Two television miniseries "Band of Brothers."

"He's served in World War II (in both the European and Pacific Theaters), negotiated for the U.S. in the Cold War, fought in Vietnam, worked in Congress, and led the space program," said David Ferriero, archivist of the United States and board member of the National Archives Foundation.

A past winner of the award is Steven Spielberg, who directed Hanks in "Saving Private Ryan", "Bridge of Spies" and the upcoming Pentagon Papers movie "The Papers".

Previous recipients also include Pulitzer Prize-



Actor Tom Hanks arrives for "The Circle" premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival in the Manhattan borough of New York, New York, U.S. April 26, 2017.

(Reuters/Carlo Allegri)

winning historian Ron Chernow, Tony award-winning film and theater director Thomas Kail and Tony award-winning "Hamilton" composer, lyricist and performer Lin-Manuel Miranda.

**"Planet of the Apes" flags dangers of lack of empathy, actor Serkis says**

**NEW YORK (Reuters)** — The "Planet of the Apes" films highlight the risks of a lack of empathy with people from different cultures, actor Andy Serkis said at the premiere of "War for the Planet of the Apes", the final film of a recent trilogy spun off from science fiction.

Set in a post-apocalyptic world, the film depicts an epic battle between a band of intelligent apes led by a chimpanzee called Caesar, played by Serkis, and an army led by a ruthless colonel, who is played by Woody Harrelson.

"It's (about) the perils of lack of empathy, and we live in a world that is sadly getting closer to reaching a tipping point of not being able to empathize with other cultures, other people," said Serkis.

Matt Reeves, director of the second and third films in the current trilogy, called his five years of immersion in the tale a "great journey", adding, "It's very bittersweet because now this chapter is over."

The "Planet of the Apes" science



Actor Andy Serkis is seen on the red carpet at a screening of "War for the Planet of the Apes" in Manhattan, New York, U.S., July 10, 2017. (Reuters/Bria Webb)

fiction franchise began with French author Pierre Boulle's 1963 novel of the same name, which spawned a five-film series that ran from 1968 to 1973.

The first movie, starring Charlton Heston, won an Oscar for its prosthetic make-up effects, and was a critical and commercial hit that led to sequels, television series and other related releases.

"The War for the Planet of the Apes" hits U.S. cinemas on July 14.

**Thousands of goldfish bring Tokyo art exhibit to life**

**TOKYO (Reuters)** — A Japanese artist has used thousands of fish in illuminated tanks to create a sprawling psychedelic visual art installation, drawing tens of thousands of viewers in Tokyo.

Hidetomo Kimura's traveling 'Art Aquarium' exhibition puts on display around 5,000 goldfish and 3,000 other maritime creatures, such as seahorses, in 130 LED-lit tanks of various shapes, colors and sizes.

The LED displays provide a colorful variety of moving images, such as one of sakura blossoms falling serenely from the sky, to the accompaniment of music.

"I wanted to create an artistic installation which is alive by using real fish, rather than materials or pictures," Kimura said on the sidelines of the exhibition.

Kimura creates similar installations several times a year to show all over Japan. This year's 'Art Aquarium', which marks a decade since Kimura's first such display, is also set to show in the western city of Kyoto in the fall.

This year's exhibition features hun-



A man looks at an installation that uses goldfish in illuminated bowls at the Art Aquarium exhibition in Tokyo, Japan. (Reuters/Kim Kyung-Hoon)

dreds of varieties of goldfish, including several cross-bred species. The fish swim in bubbling fishbowls made of magnifying glass, draped with lace or shaped like Japanese lanterns, among others.

One of the new works this year, in which Black Moor goldfish swirl about as their shadows are projected onto a white LED screen, creates an illusion of a Japanese ink-and-wash painting.

The exhibition is on show at the Nihonbashi Mitsui Hall till Sept 24.