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IRAN DAILY



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Number 5697 • Sunday August 6, 2017 • Mordad 15, 1396 • Dhu al-Qadah 13, 1438 • Price 5,000 Rials • 12 Pages • www.irandailyonline.ir



New government will be pacific in foreign, domestic policies

Rouhani sworn in for second term as Iran president

Iran not to breach JCPOA, but would react to its breach

Iran 'extends hand of friendship' to neighbors, other countries

Let's unveil mother of negotiations, instead of mother of sanctions

Hassan Rouhani was sworn in as Iran's 12th president on Saturday in front of high-ranking officials and foreign guests.

The inauguration ceremony opened at the parliament building in the capital Tehran with delegates from more than 100 countries, including several heads of state, in attendance.

After the playing of the anthem of the Islamic Republic and recitation of verses of the Holy Qur'an, Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani kicked off the ceremony in earnest by welcoming all the participants, particularly the foreign dignitaries.

He said the participation of more than 72 percent of the Iranian people in the presidential election showed that they are dedicated to the Islamic establishment.

The top lawmaker added that the Parliament would support any effort by

the new Iranian government to remove obstacles in the way of increasing national production and foreign and domestic investments.

Judiciary Chief Ayatollah Sadeq Amoli Larijani was next at the podium to deliver his speech. He said that the Iranian nation has shown that it supports the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Rouhani then took the oath of office and proceeded to his speech. Rouhani, 68, was reelected in a landslide victory in May after securing 57 percent of the votes and defeating his main contender Ebrahim Raisi.

'Pacifist' government

Addressing the ceremony, he thanked world leaders and dignitaries for taking part in the swearing-in ceremony.

He said the Iranian nation has made

great sacrifices in the path of safeguarding freedom and the rule of law, adding that Iranians have put their trust in the Islamic establishment.

He vowed to follow the Iranian nation's demands and emphasized that his government is ready to defend the country's national interests.

"Today, as the president of Iran, I am duty-bound to safeguard the rights of the entire Iranian nation and this duty cannot be fulfilled without the help of all pillars of the Establishment and the people," Rouhani said.

"This government wants to be moderate; one is not intimidated into surrendering with any scolding nor infuriated to make war with any provocation," Rouhani said, adding that his government is "pacifist" in both domestic and foreign policies and "prefers peace to war."

Iran's 'united reaction'

The Iranian president referred to the landmark nuclear agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), signed between Iran and the P5+1 group of countries as an example of national consensus on important issues.

Rouhani said the US has not adhered to its obligations under the JCPOA, stressing that Iran would never initiate the violation of the nuclear deal but would not remain silent in the face of US non-performance of the deal.

He emphasized that the Iranian government and people would react to any breach of the deal.

"The world should bear in mind that any breach of this international accord will face a united reaction from the Iranian government and nation."

He said the US has failed to fulfill its obligations under the JCPOA because it is "addicted to the illegal and ineffective policy of sanctions and threats" and this proved to the world that Washington cannot be trusted.

"Those who want to tear the JCPOA should realize that they would rip the scroll of their political life and that the world will not forget their breach of promise," Rouhani said in a clear reference to US President Donald Trump who had threatened to tear up the nuclear deal.

He emphasized that the time of imposing sanctions is gone and called for holding negotiations in dealing with issues.

"Today is not the time to unveil the mother of bombs. Let's unveil the mother of negotiations. Today is not the time to unveil the mother of sanctions. Let's unveil the mother of cooperation."

Economic reforms

Rouhani said the Iranian government has taken great steps to improve nation's health, adding that the level of education and health in Iran is better than many other countries.

Iran, however, is still facing big challenges including water shortage and unemployment, he noted.

Rouhani stressed the importance of a strong economy in the country and said the next government eyes economic reforms.

'Hand of friendship'

He described unity as a key factor behind the Iranian nation's success and added that Tehran seeks to boost ties with neighboring countries.

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Venezuelan chief prosecutor's office blocked by security forces

Venezuelan security forces took up positions outside the office of the country's chief prosecutor on Saturday, a day after the government inaugurated a new legislative body that the prosecutor said was fraudulently elected.

Chief Prosecutor Luisa Ortega had asked a local court to halt the inauguration of the country's new 545-member constituent assembly, citing allegations that the government fudged the results of the vote that created it, Reuters reported.

The new legislative body has no checks on its powers.

It could re-write the constitution, re-arrange state institutions and allow socialist President Nicolas Maduro to rule by decree. Assembly members had said they would fire Ortega the first chance they got. It took less than 24 hours from the assembly's inauguration for her offices to be cordoned off.

Ortega, in a tweet, asked the international community to denounce what she called "arbitrary action" of security forces blocking entrance to her offices. Luis Almagro, head of the Organization of American States, said he was concerned that evidence against Maduro's government was at risk of being compromised by the security forces

surrounding Ortega's office.

Since the opposition staged a round of protests in April, Ortega has become the president's main challenger from within the ruling socialist movement,



accusing him of human rights abuses and of running roughshod over democracy.

The opposition, which won control of congress in 2015, boycotted Sunday's vote, calling it a naked power grab by Maduro. The boycott meant that all candidates for the new assembly were from Maduro's coalition, giving him carte blanche to pass laws aimed at locking his policies into place.

The assembly was installed despite opposition street protests. More than 120 people have died in four months of sustained marches against Maduro. Critics say his policies have pushed Venezuela into an economic crisis marked by triple digit inflation and severe shortages of food and medicine.

Maduro says the US "empire" is waging economic war on Venezuela. He says the new assembly is the only way to unify Venezuela into a peaceful, prosperous socialist state.

Former Foreign Minister Delcy Rodriguez, a hard-line Maduro loyalist, was named president of the new assembly.

"There is no humanitarian crisis here. What we have is love. What we have is a crisis of the right-wing fascists," said Rodriguez, in a fiery inaugural address in which she paid homage to late socialist leader Hugo Chavez, Maduro's mentor and predecessor.

The assembly will function in the same downtown Caracas legislative complex as the existing opposition-run congress, which could potentially be dissolved. For now, the two bodies are set to hold sessions in parallel, separated by an ornate cobblestone courtyard.

US Justice Department vows to go after government leaks

Attorney General Jeff Sessions pledged to rein in government leaks that he said undermine American security, taking an aggressive public stand after being called weak on the matter by President Donald Trump.

The US top law enforcement official cited no current investigations in which disclosures of information had jeopardized the country, but said the number of criminal leak probes had more than tripled in the early months of the Trump administration, AP reported on Saturday.

Justice Department officials also said they were reviewing guidelines put in place to make it difficult for the government to subpoena journalists about their sources, and would not rule out the possibility that a reporter could be prosecuted.

"No one is entitled to surreptitiously fight to advance their battles in the media by revealing sensitive government information," Sessions said in an announcement that followed a series of news reports this year on the Trump campaign and White House that have relied on classified information. "No government can be ef-



fective when its leaders cannot discuss sensitive matters in confidence or talk freely in confidence with foreign leaders."

Media advocacy organizations condemned the announcement, with Bruce Brown, the executive director of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, saying the decision to review existing guidelines was "deeply troubling."

Trump's outbursts against media organizations he derides as "fake news" have led to predictions that his administration will more aggressively try to root out leakers, and the

Justice Department under Sessions is prosecuting a contractor in Georgia accused of leaking a classified government report to a media organization. "This nation must end this culture of leaks. We will investigate and seek to bring criminals to justice. We will not allow rogue anonymous sources with security clearances to sell out our country," Sessions said in his remarks.

Ammar Hakim: Iran, Iraq enjoy strategic ties

Head of Iraqi National Alliance Ammar Hakim said Iran and Iraq have strategic relations.

Hakim made the remark Saturday in an interview with reporters in the Iranian capital Tehran, IRNA wrote.



He appreciated President Hassan Rouhani's role in Iraq's victory against the Daesh terrorists.

He called for Iran's support in renovating demolished areas in Iraq and also promoting bilateral commercial and military relations.

Iran, Russia stress development of ties

Iran's defense minister and Russia's deputy prime minister discussed issues of mutual interests on Saturday.

Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehghan and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin emphasized the development of bilateral ties and speeding up the agreements already signed between the two countries, Mehr News Agency wrote.

Larijani: Nuclear weapons threat to world security

Iran's Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani reiterated the country's right to enjoy nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, as he warned against the harmful impacts of nuclear weapons on the international peace and security.

"We uphold (the right to enjoy) peaceful nuclear energy, but consider nuclear weapons to be detrimental to any country and to world security," Larijani said in a meeting with President of the President of the Supreme People's Assembly of North Korea Kim Yong-nam, in Tehran on Saturday, Tasnim News Agency reported.

Describing world peace and security as the major achievement of the international community, Larijani stressed that chaos in the world would harm all countries.

He also praised North Korea for standing against the US "bullying" policies, expressing hope that hegemonic powers would realize that their approach goes nowhere.

For his part, the senior North Korean official said he was delighted to pay a visit to Iran, saying Tehran and Pyongyang have common enemy, namely the US.

He also voiced North Korea's "strong support" for Iran's stance that the country would not ask for any permission for making and launching missiles.

Kim further expressed North Korea's willingness to expand relations with Iran at the international levels, particularly within the Non-Aligned Movement.



Zarif: European states joint statement with US wrong move

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif criticized three European countries for issuing a joint statement with the United States against Iran's recent test-launch of a satellite rocket.

In a meeting with the European Union's top diplomat, Federica Mogherini, in Tehran on Saturday, Zarif said the decision by the European states to join the US in putting out the statement last week had been "a move in the wrong direction."

He told the high-ranking EU official that the administration of US President Donald Trump was attempting to block the Islamic Republic from benefiting from the deal, which he said was a violation of the text of the agreement.

Last month, Iran successfully launched its domestically-manufactured Simorgh satellite carrier, whose mission is to put Iranian satellites into the orbit.

Britain, France, and Germany then joined the US in condemning the test, which they described as having been "inconsistent" with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231.

That resolution was adopted in July 2015 to endorse a nuclear agreement between Iran and six other countries, including the three European states. But the resolution does not prohibit missile or rocket launches by Iran, which is merely "called upon" by the resolution to refrain from activities related to ballistic missiles "designed to be capable of" carrying nuclear warheads.

Iran says it has no such warheads and no such missiles and has put its



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nuclear program under enhanced international monitoring as part of the nuclear deal. Iran says that its missile activities do not breach Resolution 2231.

Iran has been complaining that the US, as another party to the deal, has been seeking to sabotage international — including European — trade with Iran. This is while according to the deal, the US and the EU must "refrain from any policy specifically intended to directly and adversely affect the

normalization of trade and economic relations with Iran."

The US has also imposed sanctions on Iran over the country's missile activities, which the Islamic Republic says are for defense purposes and not banned.

In his meeting with Mogherini, Zarif called on the EU to be vigilant in the face of Trump's attempts to undermine the deal "at Iran's cost."

Mogherini, who is the EU's high representative for foreign affairs and

security policy, said for her part that the international community shared interests with Iran in implementing the deal.

She also stressed that the EU strongly supported the nuclear accord, adding that the bloc was trying to keep the US on board.

Zarif and Mogherini also underlined the need for the boosting of the relations between Iran and Europe in different areas, especially in the economic field.

Iranian VP condemns US sanctions against Tehran, Moscow

Iranian First Vice-President Eshaq Jahangiri denounced Washington's new sanctions against Tehran and Moscow.

"Today, we are in special conditions and the new and unilateral US sanctions against Iran and Russia are condemned

especially Iran and Russia," he added.

Sargsyan, for his part, hoped that negotiations between Iran and the Eurasia would be finalized as soon as possible.

Jahangiri's remarks came after US



and unacceptable," Jahangiri said in a meeting with Chairman of the Eurasian Economic Commission Tigran Sargsyan in Tehran on Saturday, Fars News Agency reported.

"Under such conditions, enhancement of relations with the neighbors and using the Eurasia's capacities can help resolve the problems facing certain states,

President Donald Trump on Wednesday morning signed legislation imposing sanctions on Russia, Iran, and North Korea.

His signature caps a months-long process of passing a sanctions bill that started in the Senate as an effort to rein in Iran, but quickly expanded to target Russia.

Official: Iran not to allow US inspection of military sites

An Iranian official slammed the US notion of inspection of Iran's military centers as "absolute nonsense", stressing that the country would never allow Americans to have access to its security sphere.

Speaking to reporters on Saturday, Head of the Strategic Research Center of Iran's Expediency Council Ali Akbar Velayati underscored that the US would not be allowed or dare to infringe on Iran's security, according to Tasnim News Agency.

"They (American inspectors) would not dare to come to Iran, and will not get access to the military centers at all, because they are part of the Islamic Republic of Iran's security sphere," Velayati, a former foreign minister, underlined.

His comments came after AP quoted senior US officials as saying in late July that the Trump administration is pushing for inspections of Iranian military sites in a bid to test the strength of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), a nuclear agreement between Iran and the 5+1 (Russia, China, the US, Britain, France and Germany).

Donald Trump is pushing for inspections of Iranian military sites as he con-

siders canceling the Obama-era nuclear agreement with Tehran, US officials told The Associated Press.

Elsewhere in his comments, Velayati said such US comments would only fur-



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ther dishonor Washington in the international arena.

Raising subjects such as the inspection of Iran's military sites is a reminder of Don Quixote, Velayati said, noting that the US once perceived itself as the world's superior power, but its successive defeats in Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere proved the "hollowness" of that notion.

Rouhani sworn in for second...

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The Iranian chief executive said regional problems could be solved only through dialogue and cooperation and invited countries in the region to join political initiatives to end the crisis in Yemen.

He stressed the importance of promoting dialogue among governments and nations in order to repel "the present dangerous and complicated" threats.

"[Boosting] constructive interaction with world countries, deepening bonds with neighboring and regional countries and expanding the level of cooperation with friendly countries are not only a wise choice but a necessity," Rouhani said.

"The Islamic Republic... is ready for cooperation based on mutual interests... sees no limits for cooperation with any country,"

The president stressed that Iran "extends a hand of friendship" to its neighbors.

He warned of plots by foreign powers pursuing their self-interests in regional issues, saying they are creating chaos and instability in the Middle East.

After Rouhani's speech, Ali Larijani wrapped up the session by urging Rouhani to present his cabinet choices to the parliament at the earliest for their confirmation hearings to be held.

On Thursday, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei

formally endorsed Rouhani as president for the second term.

During the ceremony, Ayatollah Khamenei gave his official approval for the president-elect by giving him a decree assigning him his duties.

Under Iran's election law, the president-elect is required to gain the Leader's official approval before being sworn in before the Parliament. Through this process, the Leader approves the outcome of the presidential election.

Rouhani will have two weeks to present his cabinet to Parliament for a vote of confidence.

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Turkey sent artillery units to the border with Syria Saturday, where its army regularly clashes with Kurdish militia, the state-run Anadolu news agency reported.

Russia: New EU sanctions over Siemens turbines violate international law

Russia said on Saturday the European Union's decision to sanction a Russian deputy energy minister over the delivery of Siemens turbines to Crimea was politically motivated and illegal, Reuters reported.

On Friday, EU introduced additional measures in response to the delivery of Siemens gas turbines to Crimea, which violated its existing sanctions.

Crimea rejoined Russia following a referendum on March 16, 2014 deemed illegal by Kiev and the West. With an 83.1 percent voter turnout, 96.77 percent supported the region's cessation from Ukraine and reunification with Russia.

In response, the US and the European Union imposed sanctions on Moscow.

The Russian Energy Ministry said in a statement on Saturday that, "Interference in a dispute between two business entities is a direct violation of international legal norms."

"The Russian Energy Ministry has no doubt that the EU took this decision based solely on political reasoning."

Right to retaliate

Also on Friday, Russian Foreign Ministry said that the European Union's move is "deeply regrettable," and Moscow reserves the right to retaliate, Xinhua reported.

"We consider this step, undertaken on the initiative of Berlin, as unfriendly and unjustified," the ministry said in a statement, adding that the new sanction expansion contradicts both international



REUTERS

al laws and principles of international relations in general.

"Responsibility for this decision, including the possible economic costs of Siemens and other German companies, as well as European companies operating in Russia, lies entirely with the EU and the German government," it said.

Earlier on the day, the EU announced sanctions against three Russian nationals and three companies, who will face

asset freeze and travel ban in the EU for their responsibility in the allegedly illegal delivery of four gas turbines to Crimea.

The turbines were originally sold by German company Siemens for use in other parts of Russia and were then transferred to Crimea, according to the company.

Kiev also launched a military crackdown on pro-Russia forces fighting for

greater autonomy in the Donbass region - the self-proclaimed republics of Donetsk and Lugansk.

The crisis has left almost 10,000 people dead and over 23,000 others injured, according to figures provided by the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine.

Kiev accuses Moscow of involvement in the conflict, a charge denied by Russia.

South Korean FM open to meeting North Korean counterpart

South Korea's foreign minister said Saturday she was open to rare discussions with her North Korean counterpart at a security forum in the Philippines.

The diplomatic olive branch came as the North Korean state faces increasing global pressure following its second intercontinental ballistic missile test on July 28, with the United Nations Security Council set to vote this weekend on new sanctions, AFP reported.

"If there is an opportunity that naturally occurs, we should talk," Kang Kyung-Wha told reporters as she landed in Manila on Saturday, according to South Korea's Yonhap news agency.



AFP

North Korea's top diplomat, Ri Hong-yo, is also attending the regional summit, which is hosted by the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Kang, South Korea's first female foreign minister, said any meeting with Ri would be an opportunity "to deliver our desire for the North to stop its provocations and positively respond to our recent special offers (for talks) aimed at establishing a peace regime".

Seoul last month proposed military talks with Pyongyang but the North refused to respond. Had they gone ahead, they would have been the first official inter-Korean talks since 2015.

The North has been pushing to develop a wide range of weapons systems since early last year at an unprecedented pace including a long-range missile.

The country rejects UN and unilateral sanctions by other states against its weapons program as an infringement of its right to self-defense and says the program is necessary to counter US aggression.

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has defied international pressure to accelerate his country's nuclear weapons capabilities, and boasted after the second intercontinental ballistic missile test that he could strike any target in the United States.

In response, Washington drafted the planned UN resolution to toughen sanctions against Pyongyang.

The United States also said it hoped to build unified pressure on the North at the Manila event, known as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), which US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is attending.

In the run up to this year's gathering, Washington lobbied to have Pyongyang expelled from the ARF. But there is limited appetite among Asian countries to shut North Korea out of one of the few diplomatic gatherings it attends.

The newly elected South Korean government of President Moon Jae-in is also more open to negotiations than the previous administration of conservative Park Geun-hye.

Tensions on the Korean peninsula often dominate the ARF because it is one of the few annual diplomatic gatherings attended by the key stakeholders: South Korea, North Korea, the United States, Russia, China and Japan. China and Russia have insisted that sanctions alone will not change Pyongyang's behavior and that talks are needed to address the crisis.

Brazilian troops launch anti-crime operations in Rio slums

Heavily armed Brazilian Army troops and police launched a pre-dawn crackdown Saturday on gangs operating out of slums across Rio de Janeiro, following a steep rise in crime.

Five favelas were targeted by the combined forces in a swoop that started in the small hours. The Rio state security service said in a statement. Their main goal was to stop gangs behind a surge in brazen robberies of commercial trucks, AFP reported.



CHRISTOPHE SIMON/AFP

Brazil's Globo television showed footage of soldiers in camouflage searching residents in the favelas and driving down streets in armored personnel carriers.

Officials said the favelas were Lins, Camarista Meier, Morros de Sao Joao and Engenho Novo in the north and Covaca in the west.

"The armed forces are responsible for the perimeters in some of these regions and based at strategic points," the state security service said. "Some roads are blocked and the airspace is restricted to civilian flights over the sectors where the armed forces are operating."

Rio's airports, however, were not affected. The big crackdown on Rio's heavily armed criminal gangs came exactly a year after President Michel Temer opened the Olympics.

Saudi-led airstrike kills nine family members in Yemen

A Saudi-led airstrike killed nine members of the same family in Yemen, local officials said.

Three women and six children died after their house was hit during a dawn offensive on the outskirts of the northern city of Sa'ada, Independent reported.

The attack on the family home of Taha al-Dharafi in Mahda district also injured three other people, according to the head of the local health department Dr. Abdel-Ilah al-Azzi.

"We are recording all the crimes of the enemy and we will not forget them," Dr. Azzi said. "All the criminals will be put on trial soon, God willing."

Yemen has been torn apart by a brutal war since 2015 when

The Saudi military has been pounding Yemen since March 2015 in an attempt to undermine the popular Houthi Ansarullah movement and restore power to the resigned president, Abd Rabbuh

Mansur Hadi, who has fled the capital Sana'a.



REUTERS

People stand on the debris of a house at the site of a Saudi-led airstrike on an outskirts of the northwestern city of Sa'ada.

A spokesman for the Saudi-led coalition did not respond to a request for a comment,

Independent said.

A family relative, who declined to be identified, said the attack happened while the family slept. He said the bodies were taken to the morgue while rescue workers continued to search for a missing woman in the rubble of the house.

Pictures from the scene showed the house completely destroyed by the strike. Residents who rushed to help were reportedly afraid to start rescue work while planes continued to hover overhead.

Sa'ada has been repeatedly hit by airstrikes since the coalition of Arab states joined the war in March 2015.

The war has sparked one of the biggest humanitarian crises in history, displacing more than three million people.

An estimated 600,000 people - or one in every 45 - could contract cholera before the end of the year, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

German publisher complains to EU court over Turkey detention of journalist

The publisher of Germany's Die Welt and Welt am Sonntag newspapers filed a formal complaint at the European Court of Justice about Turkey's detention of German-Turkish journalist Deniz Yucel since February, the newspaper reported on Saturday.

Turkish authorities arrested Yucel in February on charges of propaganda in support of a terrorist organization and inciting physical violence, amid a large-scale crackdown on alleged supporters of a failed military coup in Turkey a year ago, Reuters reported.

Yucel has already filed a separate complaint with the European Court that is being supported by the German government.

Berlin has repeatedly called for the release of Yucel and other Germans being held in Turkey and the detentions have contributed to a sharp deterioration in relations between the two NATO allies.

"We are using all legal means to defend

the freedom of Deniz Yucel and our publishing house to report," said Stephanie Caspar, managing director of the publisher, WeltN24 GmbH.

"It cannot be accepted without objection that a journalist is thrown into prison simply for doing his job," she added.

A spokesman for the publisher could not immediately be reached by Reuters for further comment.

During Turkey's post-coup crackdown, some 150 media outlets have been shut and around 160 journalists jailed, the Turkish Journalists' Association says.

In total, authorities have jailed more than 50,000 people pending trial and suspended or dismissed some 150,000 state workers including teachers, judges and soldiers since the coup.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government said the crackdown is necessary to tackle security threats facing Turkey. More



FABRIZIO BENSCH/REUTERS

Protesters carry placards during a demonstration to support arrested German-Turkish journalist Deniz Yucel outside the Turkish Embassy in Berlin, Germany, on February 28, 2017.

than 240 people were killed in the coup attempt in July 2016.

Turkish opposition leader Kemal Kilicdaroglu told the German weekly magazine Focus that it was not safe for Germans to travel to Turkey.

"There are no security guarantees for anyone in Turkey," Kilicdaroglu, head of the secularist Republican People's Party, (CHP) told the magazine.

Kilicdaroglu, who recently completed a 25-day march from the capital Ankara to Istanbul to protest against the crackdown, said he also feared being arrested and hauled before a court, and he sharply criticized Turkey's arrest of journalists.

"I consider it completely inappropriate to designate German journalists or other citizens who come to Turkey for professional reasons as spies," he said.

Iran's July LPG shipments surge to year-to-date high

Iran's LPG shipments jumped to a year-to-date high of 381,500 tons in July — up 39 percent from around 274,000 tons in June and surpassing the previous high of 360,000 tons in January, shipping and trade sources said this week.

The country's LPG shipments over January-July totaled about 1.94 million tons, of which 968,000 tons was sent to China and a number of cargoes to Indonesia, shipping fixtures showed, reported Platts.

The shipments to Indonesia follow an agreement signed in May last year between Indonesian state-owned Pertamina and National Iranian Oil Company for a total 600,000 tons of LPG to be delivered in 14 cargoes over 2016-17.

Based on the contract, Pertamina received its first 44,000 tons evenly split LPG cargo from Iran aboard the Very Large Gas Carrier Pertamina Gas-2 last October.

After that, shipping fixtures show that Pertamina received a cargo in November on the VLGC Pertamina Gas-1, in December on the VLGC Gas Courage, late-January/early February on the Pertamina Gas-1, March on the Pertamina Gas-2 and in May on the Sea Dolphin.

All the shipments were loaded from the Iranian port of Assalouyeh.

Pertamina received its latest cargoes in June and July. The VLGC Pertamina-Gas 1 carried a 44,000 tons cargo from NIOC in June, according to S&P Global Platts' vessel tracking tool, cFlow.

Pertamina Gas 1 is currently at Indonesia's Kalibut, Situbondo port after arriving from Assalouyeh on July 1, cFlow showed.



The 50,500 dwt Pertamina Gas-2 is currently off Assalouyeh since arriving on July 29 to load a cargo from Iranian Gas Commercial Co., or IGCC, according to cFlow and shipping sources.

The IGCC cargo was the first to be shipped to Indonesia that was not taken from NIOC, shipping fixtures show.

China plant

Other active lifters of Iranian LPG this year are Oriental Energy, which operates two propane dehydrogenation plants in China, according to shipping sources and fixtures.

Oriental Energy's latest lifting from Assalouyeh is a 44,000 tons cargo taken from the Persian Gulf Petrochemical Industry Commercial Co., or PGPICC, aboard the 54,450 dwt Pacific Rizhao. The VLGC is currently off Hainan Island in the South China Sea, according to cFlow.

Oriental Energy, via Caspian Petrochemical, also lifted a 44,000 tons cargo from PGPICC aboard the Gas Commerce in July, shipping fixtures show. The 49,609 dwt vessel is now off Khor Fakkan in the UAE, cFlow shows.

Since receiving its first Iranian cargo in May last year, Oriental Energy has been a regular lifter of LPG from Iran, having taken about 308,000 tons in seven cargoes between January and July, shipping fixtures showed.

Prior to that, under a contract signed in October 2013, Oriental Energy had agreed to buy from independent trading house Mabanafit two cargoes per month of US propane, totaling at least 1,045 million barrels, to be loaded between January 2017 and December 2022 from the Houston Ship Channel.

However, a lawsuit filed in the US last November alleged Oriental Energy China and Oriental Energy Singapore failed to provide Mabanafit with a letter of credit ahead of the first US shipment due in January, resulting in a breach of contract.

Thai trader

Other active buyers of LPG from Iran include Thai LPG trader Siam Gas, which has a terminal in China's southern Shantou Province. To date this year, Siam Gas has taken about 352,000 tons of LPG in eight cargoes from Iran.

Siam Gas took three cargoes loaded in May, one in June and two in July, the fixtures showed. The July liftings were aboard the VLGCs Ming Ming and Ming De.

Ming Ming departed Assalouyeh on July 26 with an evenly split LPG cargo from IGCC and is due to arrive at Zhuhai on August 11, cFlow showed.

Ming De left Assalouyeh on July 28, also with an IGCC cargo comprising 33,000 tons propane and 11,000 butane, and is now off southwest India, cFlow showed.

Other July liftings included Caspian Petrochemical's cargo from IGCC aboard the Sea Dragon, Petrodec's cargo from PGPICC aboard the BW Odin, Glencore's 10,000 tons cargo from Kharg Petrochemical Co., Global Reality's cargo from PGPICC aboard the Gas Jasmine, Prime Energy's 4,500 tons lot aboard Everrich 6 and Glencore's 15,000 tons parcel aboard Sea Speed.

Among the trading firms lifting Iranian cargoes this year are Triliance Petrochemical Co., Jovo Energy, Arab Maritime Petroleum Transport Co. and Sinochem, shipping fixtures showed. Trade sources said the availability of Iranian cargoes helps to fill any gaps in Asia whenever term cargoes from the US are canceled due to lack of spot cargoes from other Middle Eastern producers emerges in the region.

Tehran hosting specialized exhibition of NTBF of electricity, electronics, IT

By Reza Abesh Ahmadlou

The First Specialized Exhibition of New Technology Based Firms of Electricity, Electronics and IT is underway in Tehran, said the secretary of the event.

Ebrahim Sadeqi further said that 100 top Iranian companies using modern technologies in the fields of power industry, electronics and information technology (IT) are taking part in the event.

Foreign visitors have commended the progress made by Iranian companies, he said, adding that most of them expressed willingness to purchase technology-based products from Iranian companies.

Sadeqi expounded the main achievements of Iran's new technology based firms (NTBFs) which attracted the visitors are as follows:

Oil, gas, petrochemicals

Two Iranian companies, using expert software, developed the control and monitoring systems of refineries and piping grids of oil and gas as well as power plants. The modern devised system helps the companies to have an online control on many parts of a power plant, refinery and transfer network to prevent any error.

Medical equipment

An Iranian company has designed sets to monitor vital signs of patients which were exported to 43 countries including Germany and Canada. The introduced sets controls the heart rate, blood pressure and patient anesthesia.

Electronics

Iranian researchers are showcasing electronic boards of 4 gigahertz frequency in the exhibition. The frequency range of these boards is about four times broader than normal boards which Iran is allowed to import.

The developed board makes use of modern field-programmable gate array (FPGA) which enables more speedy process of data.

Telecommunications

Some companies have designed antennas using 4G and beamforming technologies which allows the users to focus on WiFi signal. Just some few companies enjoy the technology which allows the antennas to alter the beams horizontally and vertically.

IT

Some other Iranian firms are taking part in the event to showcase their products which analyze "big data" using artificial intelligence with high speed.

Power plants

A company has designed turbine blades using modern single crystal technology. Prior to current event, just German company of Siemens provided Iranian companies with limited access to blade production know-how, but an Iranian company provides the technology for Iranian plants.

Optic devices

Dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM) is a technology that puts data from different sources together on an optical fiber, with each signal carried at the same time on its own separate light wavelength. Some Iranian companies presented their DWDM products in the exhibition.

The exhibition kicked off on Thursday and will continue until Monday.



IRAN DAILY

Iran, South Korea sign refinery project deal

Exclusive

By Sadeq Dehqan

Iran and South Korea signed a €1.6-billion memorandum of understanding (MoU) to process fuel oil at a refinery in the northwestern city of Tabriz into value-added products.

agreed to cooperate based on a specific strategy aimed at financing the project and paving the ground for its implementation.

Gholamreza Baqeri Dizaj further said that the project will become operational in four years. He added that due to environmental con-

ditions, the latest international standards to take part in the global markets. Deputy Oil Minister Abbas Kazeni, who attended the ceremony, said Tehran and Seoul have been cooperating in the oil sector for 55 years. "About half a century ago, Iran set up a refinery in South Ko-



IRAN DAILY

The deal was inked between Iran's Oil Design and Construction Company (ODCC) as the employer and SK Engineering and Construction (SKEC) as the project operator to upgrade Tabriz Oil Refinery.

Senior Iranian Oil Ministry officials and lawmakers as well as South Korea's parliament speaker attended the signing ceremony.

Head of Tabriz Oil Refinery told Iran Daily that the two sides have

remained unchanged.

He noted that the facility seeks to keep up with modern technology and raise the quality of its products to Euro 5 standard.

Baqeri Dizaj pointed to lowering the use of fuel oil as among the objectives pursued by the refinery.

He described Tabriz Refinery as one of Iran's leading refineries noting the facility seeks to conform to

re. South Korean companies also had good cooperation with Iran in oil projects after the 1979 Islamic Revolution," he said.

The Tabriz oil processing plant, built in 1976, is among the Iranian refineries in dire need of upgrade and modernization. Tabriz Refinery operates with a capacity of 110,000 barrels per day, turning crude oil to liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), gasoline and diesel.

Iran, Pakistan explore ways to expand trade

Iranian and Pakistani officials in a meeting in Islamabad discussed ways to boost trade exchanges.

The officials were taking part in a conference organized by Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) at Pakistan's House which was also attended by Iranian Ambassador to Pakistan Mehdi Honardoust, Fars News Agency reported.

In the meeting, Honardoust hoped that such meetings would play an important role in strengthening economic and trade ties between the two countries.

Referring to the problems in bilateral trade, the Iranian ambassador said that the resumption of banking ties would help overcome all the challenges the two countries are facing in trade activities.

He added that Pakistan holds an important position in Iran's foreign policy and the Islamic Republic

wants to have strong relations with Pakistan in all areas.

Honardoust noted that both countries are striving



IRNA

to boost trade ties and commercial exchanges between the two countries had witnessed a considerable growth this year.

Pointing to the achievements of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), he said Iran welcomes the connectivity project and is interested in joining it.

Pakistani traders and business activists said that they are willing to boost trade relations with Iran.

The first round of the talks between the two countries was held in Tehran in December 2016.

Iran and Pakistan have agreed to increase annual trade to \$5 billion by 2021.

In a major development after the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the central banks of the two countries signed an agreement to resume banking cooperation.

British new car registrations fell 9.3 percent in July from a year earlier, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

RBS fate shows global crisis not over



ft.com

Ten years ago, Royal Bank of Scotland was battling with Barclays to take over a Dutch rival, ABN Amro. RBS eventually slapped £49 billion on the table and won. It was to be a transformational deal, and it certainly was — but not in any way that the boss of RBS at the time, Sir Fred Goodwin, had ever planned.

Today, the Edinburgh-based bank is still displaying the damage caused by doing that deal. Still 71 percent owned by the taxpayer after a bailout in October 2008, the bank will once again sink to a big loss by the end of the year — its 10th consecutive year in the red, according to The Guardian.

The story of RBS showed that, even now, the global financial crisis is having a profound impact. But it also raises another issue: Has enough been done to prevent a repeat of the horrors of a decade ago, which began in August 2007?

Given concern that the record low interest rates and electronic money printing that central banks resorted to in the face of the biggest recession since the 1930s are storing up problems for the future, the question is simple: Has anything really changed?

Those responsible for dealing with the crisis said

there is little doubt about its lingering impact. Alistair Darling, who had been chancellor for little more than a month when the markets froze in early August 2007, said the events generated a sense of injustice that is still shaping politics.

"Very few people would have thought, back in 2007, this will provoke an economic crisis that will still be under way 10 years later. Everything that's happening in the world just now — UK included — has to be seen in light of the backwash of what happened with the economic crash that followed the banking crash," said Darling.

Events moved swiftly 10 years ago. A month after the banks stopped lending to each other there was a run on Northern Rock — the first to affect a UK high street bank since Overend Gurney in the 1860s. A year later, Lehman Brothers collapsed in the US — triggering shockwaves through global markets. In the UK, the government bailed out RBS and Lloyds Banking Group.

No longer an MP but now a Labour peer, Darling reckons it could happen again — but not for a long time. "When the present generation is gone, the people who were in shock, a bright spark will come along

and say 'I've found a great way of making money' and there'll be nobody to say 'the last time we did that we went bust'."

Mervyn King, with whom Darling had a sometimes testy relationship during the crisis, agrees. Like most of those in the eye of the storm a decade ago, King thinks the financial system is in much better shape, but would be even healthier had Darling fully nationalized RBS and forced all the leading banks to take bailout cash, as happened in the US.

Even so, he said, banks were stronger and individuals now had to take greater personal responsibility for their actions.

"In that sense we are in a much better position, but the challenge for policymakers is not to worry about today but to worry about what happens in 20 years' time, when everyone will have forgotten about this," said King. "That's what a central bank is all about, it's an organization with institutional memory."

His idea is for central banks to become a "pawnbroker for all seasons" — agreeing in advance the terms of any loans by a lender of last resort, helping to avoid the moral hazard problem where banks take risks because they know they are going to be bailed out.

Brazil needs to improve business environment to attract Chinese companies

Brazil needs to improve its business environment and have a more open structure to attract more Chinese investors, an expert panel concluded.

The 1st Brazil-China Seminar — Regulation and Legal Challenges for Chinese Companies and Investments in Brazil' was held in Rio, organized by the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV) — a renowned governance and business think tank and college named after one of Brazil's most prominent presidents, Xinhua reported.

China is Brazil's leading trade partner with an increasing number of Chinese companies establishing branches in the South American country.

Representatives of some Chinese companies operating in Brazil described their main problems in the country, and discussed possible solutions with members of the business community, professors and diplomats from both countries to help advance Chinese investments in Brazil.

Wan Guangfeng, head of the Brazilian branch of oil giant China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC), stressed



fastcompany.com

the importance of the oil sector in Brazil, with the pre-salt reserves and a great potential for growth.

However, he pointed out that some regulations have been posing obstacles for the development of the investments, such as the requirement for local content, which is widespread in the oil sector and

the ill-organized regulation agencies.

In addition, he suggested that a tax reform may be beneficial for the development of the oil sector in particular.

Jia Yao, administration director at the Brazilian branch of China National Offshore Oil Corp (CNOOC), added that the country has the potential to be great with

its territory, human resources and a good legal basis.

Floriano Azevedo, law professor at FGV think tank in Rio de Janeiro, said that the business environment has experienced a lot of progress in the past two decades, but there is still much to go to build a more efficient and attractive environment for foreign companies and investors.

The required taxes and the bureaucracy to open a business are the main problems for a Chinese business seeking to invest in Brazil, said Li Tie, head of Chinese vehicle maker BYD's Brazilian branch.

In addition, he stressed that Brazil lacks tax incentives for green businesses, which would have been very encouraging and positive for such companies as BYD, which operates on clean energy and electric vehicles.

Brazil's current business environment is much too similar to that of China in the 1990s, Brazilian Consul to Rio de Janeiro Li Yang observed. Though Brazil produces a lot of industrialized goods, it rarely manages to be internationally competitive, which is unjust to local production.

Japan monthly wages suffer sharpest fall

Monthly wages for Japanese workers took a turn for the worse in June, dropping at the fastest pace in 24 months thanks in large part to a drop in bonus payments.

Real cash earnings, which account for inflation and often correlate with household spending, fell 0.8 percent year on year in June, according to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare. A median forecast from economists surveyed by Bloomberg had predicted growth of 0.1 percent.

The ministry also revised May's annualized growth of 0.1 percent to zero, meaning wages had remained static during the previous two months.

Unadjusted labor cash earnings fell 0.4 percent year on year, down markedly from revised June growth of 0.6 percent (previously a 0.7 percent rise) and missing a

forecast of 0.5 percent growth by a wide margin.

Overtime pay also fell 0.2 percent in June compared to a year ago — down from a rise of 0.7 percent in May.

Marcel Thieliant, senior Japan economist at Capital Economics, said the year-on-year drop in wages was due to a 1.5 percent fall in bonus payments, which accounted for 39 percent of pay as companies doled out summer bonuses. Those, he noted, are more a reflection of profitability than the state of Japan's labor market.

"Wage growth is set to stay volatile for now as bonus payments usually account for another hefty 30 percent of total pay in July," he added. "But the bigger picture is that the labor market has continued to tighten so underlying wage growth is set to strengthen."



japantimes.co.jp

Why is 'Made in Germany' fading?

'Made in Germany' is fading as the country's most well-known automobile industry was in crisis and the latest 'Diesel Summit' ended in Berlin with a widely-called 'Micky Mouse deal'.

'Made in Germany' is now less taken as the distillation of all German characters of efficiency, reliability, precision and the pursuit of excellence, rather more marked by cheating and lack of innovative spirit, Xinhua wrote.

Germany's cherished reputation for engineering excellence and reliability, which have long been the secret to success of 'Made in Germany', was jeopardized by 2015 exposure of Volkswagen (VW) software cheating and illegally pumping out tons of deadly nitrogen oxides in millions of diesel cars worldwide.

Audi and Daimler, another two major German automakers, were also found cheating on emissions.

Cars 'Made in Germany' have been confronting growing public outrage domestically and overseas for underplaying the health effects of diesel fumes and misleading customers about their cars' daily pollution.

Speaking at the conference press after the Diesel Summit, Daimler Chairman Dieter Zetsche said, "We know, we've lost trust."

This was confirmed by the Emnid poll, showing a majority of Germans thought the carmakers' untrustworthy'.

In an interview with Germany's daily newspaper Bild, Germany's Transport Minister Alexander Dobrindt said, "The automobile industry has driven itself into difficult territory. The reputation of cars 'Made in Germany' risks being damaged and that's something that would be dreadful."

German news magazine Der Spiegel shocked the world again by exposing the price-fixing and component-coordinating cartels of the three German powerful carmakers, which has allegedly been running for two decades to the detriment of consumers, suppliers and the market environment.

Stefan Bratzel, professor of automotive economy at FHDW university at Bergisch Gladbach near Germany's western city of Cologne, said, "Recent events make it evident that an ethical cultural change must take place in large parts of the automobile industry."



euractiv.com

While France and Britain successively announced their ban on oil-fueled vehicles by 2040, Germany appallingly decided to prolong the life of highly polluted diesel cars. The belated transition in German automotive industry has somewhat dragged its heels.

Oliver Krischer, a leader of the opposition Green Party, said in a statement, "The government's chumminess with the auto industry continues. While China, California, Norway and many others are tackling electromobility, the government is turning Germany into a diesel museum."

With another 15 million diesels cars rolling on its roads, Germany, mother land of diesel engines, is now in a crying need for diesel cars. The past glory, together with the temptation of interest, dragged the transition of German automakers, and weakened their competitiveness.

Holding merely 36 percent of European market, German automakers have to compete with traditional rivals of Japan, France, Britain, South Korea and the United States on the one hand, and with electric vehicle manufacturers, including Tesla, on the other.

Germans are still proud of a sector that is key to the country's identity as 'Exportweltmeister'. VW, Mercedes-Benz and BMW account for half the country's trade surplus. Yet it is precisely this dominance that is under threat.

Germany's reactions to the unveiling of Tesla 3 were equally fascination, envy and panic. Britain has joined France in committing to fully phasing out fossil-fueled cars by 2040, dealing a potential blow for the Germans, as some 10 percent of the country's industrial workforce depends on the internal combustion engine.

Major Currencies

Currency	To USD	Currency	To USD
Turkish Lira	0.2832	Chinese Yuan	0.1486
Euro	1.1774	UAE Dirham	0.2721
British Pound	1.3037	Kuwaiti Dinar	3.3102
Australian Dollar	0.7927	Iraqi Dinar	0.0008
Japanese 100 Yen	0.0090	Saudi Riyal	0.2665

Major Commodities

Crude Oil	\$49.52	Silver	\$16.23
Gold	\$1264.30	Platinum	\$967.60
Copper	\$2.88	Wheat	\$455.50

Deadly heat waves could hit South Asia this century

In South Asia, a region of deep poverty where one-fifth of the world's people live, new research suggests that by the end of this century climate change could lead to summer heat waves with levels of heat and humidity that exceed what humans can survive without protection.

There is still time to avert such severe warming if measures are implemented now to reduce the direct consequences of global warming. However, under business-as-usual scenarios, without significant reductions in carbon emissions, the study showed these deadly heat waves could begin within as little as a few decades to strike regions of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, including the fertile Indus and Ganges river basins that produce much of the region's food supply, sciencedaily.com wrote.

The new findings, based on detailed computer simulations using the best available global circulation models, are described this week in the journal Science Advances, in a paper by MIT Professor of Environmental Engineering Elifatih Eltahir, MIT Research Scientist Eun Soon Im, and Professor Jeremy Pal at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

The study follows an earlier report by Eltahir and his team that looked at projected heat waves in the Persian Gulf region.

While the number of extreme-heat days projected for that region was even worse than for South Asia, Eltahir said the impact in the latter area could be vastly more severe.

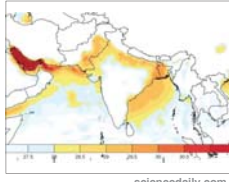
That's because while the Persian Gulf area has a relatively small, relatively wealthy population and little agricultural land, the areas likely to be hardest hit in northern India, Bangladesh, and southern Pakistan are home to 1.5 billion people.

These areas are also among the poorest in the region, with much of the population dependent on subsistence farming that requires long hours of hard labor out in the open and unprotected from the Sun.

Eltahir, who spoke with MIT News from Singapore, where he is carrying out follow-up research on potential climate effects in that area, said, "That makes them very vulnerable to these climatic changes, assuming no mitigation."

While the projections show the Persian Gulf may become the region of the worst heat waves on the planet, northern India is a close second, Eltahir said, and eastern China, also densely populated, is third.

But the highest concentrations of heat in the Persian Gulf would be out over the waters of the Persian Gulf itself, with lesser levels over inhabited land.



sciencedaily.com

Extreme weather 'could kill up to 100,000 a year' in Europe

Extreme weather could kill up to 152,000 people each year in Europe by 2100 if nothing is done to curb the effects of climate change, scientists said.

This is 50 times more than reported now, the study in The Lancet Planetary Health journal said, according to BBC.

Heat waves would cause 99 percent of all weather-related deaths, it added, with southern Europe being worst affected.

Experts said the journal's findings were worrying but some warned the projections could be overestimated.

If nothing is done to cut greenhouse gas emissions and to improve policies to reduce the impact of extreme weather events, the study by the European Commission's Joint Research Center said:

• Deaths caused by extreme weather could rise from 3,000 a year between 1981 and 2010 to 152,000 between 2071 and 2100

• Two in three people in Europe will be affected by disasters by 2100, against a rate of one in 20 at the start of the century

• There will be a substantial rise in deaths from coastal flooding, from six victims a year at the start of the century to 233 a year by the end of it



yarr.me

The research analyzed the effects of the seven most dangerous types of weather-related events — heat waves, cold snaps, wildfires, droughts, river and coastal floods and windstorms — in the 28 EU countries as well as Switzerland, Norway and Iceland.

The team looked at disaster records from 1981 to 2010 to estimate population

vulnerability, and combined this information with predictions of how climate change might progress and how populations might increase and migrate.

Giovanni Forzieri, one of the authors of the study, said, "Climate change is one of the biggest global threats to human health of the 21st century, and its peril to society will be increasingly connected to

weather-driven hazards.

Paul Wilkinson, a professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine,

who was not involved in the study, said the findings were "yet another reminder of the exposures to extreme weather and possible human impacts that might occur if emissions of greenhouse gases continue unabated."

"It adds further weight to the powerful argument for accelerating mitigation actions to protect population health."

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مالکین محترم ویلای شما را جهت اجاره به منزل سفیر و مدیران شرکت‌های بین‌المللی در مناطق شمالی تهران نیازمندیم

بهترین مشاوره، برترین سرویس، بالاترین رضایت مالکین محترم املاک میله و غیر میله، مسکونی، اداری و تجاری، ویلا و مستغلات شما را جهت اجاره به سفارتخانه‌ها و شرکت‌های خارجی نیازمندیم

مالکین محترم ساختمان دربست در مناطق شمال تهران جهت اجاره به یک سفارتخانه و کمپانی‌های خارجی نیازمندیم

High-fat diet linked to lung cancer risk

People who eat a lot of saturated fat — the 'bad' kind of fat that's abundant in foods like butter and beef — are more likely to develop lung cancer than individuals on low-fat diets, a recent study suggested.

Compared to adults who didn't get a lot of fat in their diets, people who ate the most total fat and saturated fat were 14 percent more likely to get lung malignancies, the study found, according to Reuters.

For current and former smokers, the added risk of a high fat diet was 15 percent.

Study coauthor Dansia Yu of Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee, said, "While the best way to lower the risk of lung cancer is to not smoke. A healthy diet may also help reduce lung cancer risk."

She said, "Specifically, our findings suggest that increasing polyunsaturated fat intake while reducing saturated fat intake, especially among smokers and recent quitters, may (help prevent) not only cardiovascular disease but also lung cancer."

The American Heart Association recommends the Dietary Approaches To Stop Hypertension (DASH) diet or a Mediterranean-style diet to help prevent cardiovascular disease.

Both diets emphasize cooking with vegetable oils with unsaturated fats, eating nuts, fruits, vegetables, low-fat



medscape.com

dairy products, whole grains, fish and poultry, and limiting red meat and added sugars and salt.

Dr. Nathan Berger, a researcher at Case Western Reserve University and University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center who wasn't involved in the study, said, "Those guidelines are the same for avoiding heart disease, stroke and diabetes, and I would say they are also exactly the same for helping with cancer prevention in general and lung cancer in particular."

Berger said, "This doesn't mean you

need to throw away all the steak and butter in your freezer, but cutting back to once a week would be good for you."

For the current study, researchers examined data from 10 previously published studies in the United States, Europe and Asia that looked at how dietary fat intake influences the odds of lung malignancies.

Combined, the smaller studies had more than 1.4 million participants, including 18,822 with cases of lung cancer identified during an average follow-up of more than nine years.

Researchers sorted participants into five categories, from lowest to highest consumption of total and saturated fats. They also sorted participants into five groups ranging from the lowest to highest amounts of dietary unsaturated fats.

Overall, people who ate the most unsaturated fats were eight percent less likely to develop lung cancer than people who ate the least amounts, researchers report in the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

Substituting five percent of calories from saturated fat with unsaturated fat was associated with a 16-percent lower risk of small cell lung cancer and 17 percent lower odds of another type of lung malignancy known as squamous cell carcinoma.

One limitation of the study is that dietary information was only obtained at one point, the authors noted.

This makes it impossible to track how changes in eating habits might influence the odds of cancer.

Glenn Lawrence, a biochemistry researcher at Long Island University in Brookly, New York, said, "They also didn't account for two other things that may contribute to cancer — sugar and trans fats."

Previous research has also found that unsaturated oils may increase the risk of certain cancers, added Lawrence, who wasn't involved in the current study.

Drug therapy could reduce kidney transplant rejection

Researchers at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center have developed a new drug therapy from lethal bacteria that could reduce rejection rates in kidney transplantation.

Approximately 128,000 people in the US are waiting for organ transplants with more than 105,000 needing new kidneys, UPI reported.



UPI

The study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, showed that treating patients with the drug IdeS before transplantation significantly reduced and in many cases eliminated, donor-specific antibodies that can lead to organ rejection or failure.

IdeS comes from an enzyme in the bacteria *Streptococcus pyogenes*, which causes sore throats and can become a life-threatening infection.

Dr. Stanley C. Jordan, medical director of the Kidney Transplant Program at Cedars-Sinai, said, "We found that IdeS could immediately cut patient antibodies in half, making them powerless to attack and injure a newly transplanted kidney."

"We can put a new kidney in a patient without it being rejected."

"The enzyme IdeS is derived from is the only one that can completely remove organ-rejecting antibodies and allow kidney transplantation to occur."

Human leukocyte antigens, or HLA, are proteins that enable the immune system's defense against bacteria, viruses and other harmful invaders, however, transplant patients can develop antibodies to foreign HLA from failed organ transplants, transfusions or pregnancy.

Jordan said, "IdeS could change the way we treat antibody rejections overall."

"We think this approach to preventing organ rejection has the potential to offer significant benefits to those in need of heart, lung, liver and bone marrow transplants."

Stopping statins after stroke may raise risk for another

Stroke survivors who stop taking cholesterol-lowering statins are at increased risk for another stroke, a new study found.

Researchers studied more than 45,000 ischemic stroke survivors who were prescribed a statin within 90 days of leaving the hospital, UPI wrote.

Ischemic stroke is caused by blocked blood flow to the brain. It is the most common type of stroke.

Compared to those who continued taking statins, patients who stopped three to six months after their stroke were 42 percent more likely to suffer another stroke within a year and 37 percent more likely to die from any cause.

There was no increased risk of another stroke or of death during the study period among patients who continued taking statins at a lower dose, the investigators found. Statins help prevent cholesterol from building up in the arteries.

The study was published in the Journal of the American Heart Association.

Dr. Meng Lee, an assistant professor in the Department of Neurology



UPI

at Chang Gung University College of Medicine in Taiwan, said, "Based on our findings of this large group of patients in the 'real world', we believe that statins should be a lifelong therapy for ischemic stroke patients if a statin is needed to lower the patient's cholesterol."

"Even though the study included patients in Taiwan, the results should apply to patients in the US and other

countries. "Discontinuation of statin treatment in patients with ischemic stroke should be strongly discouraged in any stage — acute or chronic — of stroke."

"Shifting to low-intensity statin therapy could be an alternative for stroke patients not able to tolerate moderate or high-intensity statin therapy in the years following a stroke."

Eating healthy fruits could protect you

Strokes happen to more than 100,000 people in the UK, and are similar to a heart attack — except that they affect your brain.

However, eating something as simple as a watermelon and a bunch of tomatoes could protect you, express.co.uk wrote.

According to the National Health Service (NHS), the best way to prevent a stroke is to eat a healthy diet.

However, some foods are particularly effective at doing this.

Research has found watermelon — £2 from Tesco — and tomatoes can reduce risk of a stroke and cancer.

They both contain an antioxidant, lycopene, which provides the beneficial effects.

Indeed, a 2014 study found lycopene lowered stroke risk by over 19 percent.

Previous 2012 research found that men with the highest blood levels of lycopene were 55 percent less likely to have a

stroke than those with the lowest. In addition to preventing strokes, it's also been shown to protect against heart disease, cancer, skin health and sperm count. Tomatoes, in particular, provide one of the richest concentrations.

Cooking tomatoes increases the level of lycopene that can be absorbed by the body.

However, since it's a fat-soluble nutrient, it must be eaten with some dietary fat for it to be used by the body.

This could be olive oil or oily fish.

Lycopene is also found in papaya, pink grapefruit and guava.

The antioxidant gives fruit and vegetables their red or pink color. Eating watermelon can provide you with a number of other benefits.

It's packed with beta-carotene which is important for immunity, cancer prevention and eyesight. Additionally, it contains vitamin B6 for brain health.



express.co.uk



Iranian Islamic Republic Railways (RAI)
General Department of Procurement and Logistics
Foreign Orders Department

International Tender Notice No. 19-94-1 Request for Qualification (RFQ) Qualitative Evaluation of Bidders

Subject: Procurement, installation and implementation of signaling systems along Isfahan-Yazd-Bafq double-track line

Iranian Islamic Republic Railways (RAI) intends to entrust the supplying, installing and commissioning works of the signaling systems along Isfahan-Yazd-Bafq double-track line to the competent companies in form of utilizing mid-term foreign financing (Finance) and within framework of Tender-holding Law approved by Iranian Parliament on 08.10.2006 as well as by observing the law of "maximum utilization of production and service capability of local Iranian companies for supply of internal requirements and their promotion for export" approved by Islamic Republic Parliament under Decree No. 22/26060 dated 02.06.1381. Hence, all qualified companies with related records, are invited to obtain the documents of qualitative evaluation of the bidders.

1- General specifications of tender subject:

Procuring, installing and commissioning of signaling systems along Isfahan-Yazd-Bafq double-track line

2- Project implementation place:

The Railways of Islamic Republic of Iran

3- Deadline for purchasing qualitative evaluation documents:

Bidders should hold a letter of introduction for receiving a version of qualitative evaluation documents utmost by 4:00 p.m. local time on Wednesday 02.08.2017 corresponding to 1396/05/11 from the Procurement and Logistics General Department (Foreign Orders Department) located at 2nd Floor, Iranian Railways Central Building ; Argentina Sq., Africa Blvd., Tehran- Iran, P.O. Box 15197-13111.

4- Deadline for submitting completed qualitative evaluation documents:

Bidders should submit the completed qualitative evaluation documents not later than 4:00 p.m. local time on Saturday 02.09.2017 corresponding to 1396/06/11, to the Procurement and Logistics General Department (Foreign Orders Department) located in 2nd Floor, Iranian Railways Central Building; Argentina Sq., Africa Blvd., Tehran- Iran, P.O. Box 15197-13111.

5- Price of qualitative evaluation documents and method of payment:

RLS 400,000 should be remitted to Account No. 4001064004005747 of the Iranian Railways opened with the Central Bank of Iran (payable at all branches of Bank Melli Iran).

Note: Receipt of documents through <http://iets.mporg.ir> site is free of charges.

Astronomers found an alien world with glowing water atmosphere

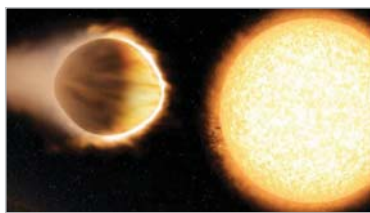
Scientists have discovered evidence of a stratosphere surrounding a large exoplanet located 900 light-years from Earth. A team of astronomers from the University of Exeter and the University of Maryland discovered glowing water molecules while surveying Hubble's observations of WASP-121b's atmosphere, according to UPI.

Drake Deming, a professor of astronomy at Maryland, said, "When it comes to distant exoplanets, which we can't see in the same detail as other planets here in our own solar system, we have to rely on proxy techniques to reveal their structure."

"The stratosphere of WASP-121b is so hot it can make water vapor glow, which is the basis for our analysis."

Water molecules interact with certain wavelengths of light in predictable ways.

At cooler temperatures, water molecules block light. At higher temperatures, water molecules radiate or shimmer.



UPI
Water vapor glowing in the atmosphere around a newly discovered exoplanet suggested the alien world boasts a stratosphere.

As water molecules are heated and vaporized, their electrons move into higher energy states. As they do, they emit infrared light. Scientists were able to identify the phenomenon in spectral data collected by Hubble.

David Sing, an associate professor of astrophysics at the University of Exeter, said, "This new research is the smoking gun evidence scientists have been searching for when studying hot exoplanets."

"We have discovered this hot Jupiter has a stratosphere, a common feature seen in most of our solar system planets."

WASP-121b is so hot because it orbits so close to its host star. If the star and exoplanet were any closer, the star's gravity would likely rip WASP-121b to shreds.

The temperature of Earth's stratosphere is stratified, it gets warmer as the stratosphere extends away from Earth.

Ozone in the layers closer to the Sun absorb more heat from solar radiation. Methane in the stratosphere of Jupiter and Saturn's moon Titan has a similar effect.

Researchers believe WASP-121b is host to a similar stratification, only more dramatic.

Most stratospheres feature a temperature difference of 100°C. The stratosphere of the newly discovered exoplanet features a temperature difference of 1,000°C.

Nikolay Nikolov, a research fellow at Exeter, said, "We've measured a strong rise in the temperature of WASP-121b's atmosphere at higher altitudes, but we don't yet know what's causing this dramatic heating."

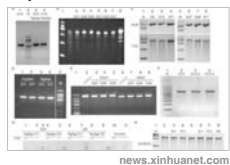
"We hope to address this mystery with upcoming observations at other wavelengths."

Researchers described their analysis of WASP-121b's atmosphere in the journal Nature.

Chinese scholar retracts paper from Nature Biotechnology

A group, led by Chinese scholar Chunyu Han, has decided to retract their controversial paper about a new gene-editing technique, according to a retraction statement posted on the website of the journal Nature Biotechnology.

Han, a scholar from Hebei University of Science and Technology, and his team published a paper in Nature Biotechnology last May, news.xinhuanet.com wrote.



They reported that nanobacterium argonaute (NgAgo) could be used to locate and snip specific bits of DNA in laboratory-grown human cells, permanently disabling genes.

The paper claimed that NgAgo might be more efficient and versatile than the CRISPR-Cas9 gene-editing technique. But their paper soon attracted controversy.

In their latest statement, the authors said despite the efforts of many laboratories, an independent replication of the results in their paper has not been reported.

"We are therefore retracting our initial report at this time to maintain the integrity of the scientific record."

But the authors also said that they nevertheless continue to investigate the reasons for this lack of reproducibility with the aim of providing an optimized protocol.

Han's paper has become a focal point in the academia and media following its publication.

It was the most widely covered paper in China last year, according to media monitor Meltwater, with nearly 4,000 Chinese news stories citing the paper in just the first two months after its publication.

But the technique proposed in the paper soon attracted controversy.

Initial complaints on social media that the research could not be replicated were followed by a series of peer-reviewed publications demonstrating the same.

Some researchers used human cells as Han did, while others tried zebrafish or mouse cells.

Device makes washing machines lighter, greener

A simple device to cut the weight of washing machines could save fuel, cut carbon emissions and reduce back injuries, according to researchers.

A typical budget washing machine is weighted by 25kg of concrete to stop it moving while on a spin cycle, bbc.com reported.

The alternative is a plastic container that is filled with water — but only once the machine is in place.

The team at Nottingham Trent University said the change makes machines easier — and cheaper — to transport.

By replacing the concrete with empty containers, the weight of the machine is cut by a third.

If the change became standard, it would cut the weight of trucks carrying the machines which would in turn cut emissions.

The research suggested that with around 3.5 million washing machines sold annually in the UK, the new device could save around 44,625 tons of carbon dioxide emissions a year.

The idea was devised by product design company Tochi Tech Ltd, which works with the university to find innovative solutions to manufacturing common appliances.

It was tested by an undergraduate on



Professor Amin Al-Habaibeh (L) and Dylan Knight

bbc.com

a project, Dylan Henderson, 22. He said, "Everyone thinks the idea must have been thought of before. No one can really believe it. But I promise you it definitely works."

Henderson said the average cheaper washing machine has two concrete

blocks — one under the drum at the front and one on top. For the test, he replaced the one on top with a water-filled container. As concrete is heavier than water, the containers need to be bigger than the blocks, to make up the weight

difference. The firm is in discussions with manufacturers, who will want to ensure there is no downside to this ingenious re-think of a familiar product — and maybe to ask why no-one thought of it before.

Researchers set new record for tape storage

Researchers have set a new world record for magnetic tape storage.

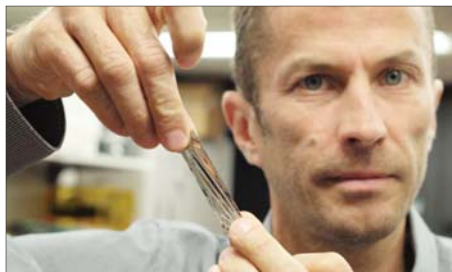
The team of International Business Machines (IBM) scientists achieved an areal density of 201 gigabits per square inch using a prototype spattered magnetic tape designed and produced by Sony Storage Media Solutions, UPI wrote.

The new record was presented at the 28th Magnetic Recording Conference, held in Tsukuba, Japan.

Despite the myriad technological innovation in computer electronics, magnetic tape remains one of the most secure and efficient ways to store large amounts of data.

The medium is mostly used for archival and backup storage, as the slower reading and writing process can make data retrieval too cumbersome for daily computation.

The new density record allowed researchers to store 330 terabytes of uncompressed data on a single tape



phys.org

cartridge. The prototype tape boasts a storage density potential 20 times greater than current state-of-the-art magnetic tape. IBM fellow Evangelos Eleftheriou

said, "Tape has traditionally been used for video archives, back-up files, replicas for disaster recovery and retention of information on premise, but the industry is also expanding to off-premise

applications in the cloud. "While sputtered tape is expected to cost a little more to manufacture than current commercial tape, the potential for very high capacity will make the cost per terabyte very attractive, making this technology practical for cold storage in the cloud."

The new record was made possible by a number of technological breakthroughs achieved by scientists at both Sony and IBM, including low friction tape head technology, which enabled the use of much smoother tape.

Both IBM and Sony have been making magnetic tape for more than 60 years. IBM said, "The areal density demonstration announced today represents a potential increase in capacity of 165 million times compared with IBM's first tape drive product."

"This announcement reaffirms IBM's ongoing commitment and leadership in magnetic tape technology."

Researchers at North Carolina State University and Duke University have developed a way to assemble and pre-program tiny structures made from microscopic cubes — microbot origami — to change their shape when actuated by a magnetic field and then, using the magnetic energy from their environment, perform a variety of tasks — including capturing and transporting single cells.

The findings, published in Science Advances, pave the way for microbots and micro-origami assemblies that can serve as cell characterization tools, fluid micromixers and components of artificial muscles and soft biomimetic devices, phys.org reported.

Orlin Velev, co-corresponding author of the paper, said, "This research is about a topic of current interest — active particles which take energy from their environment and convert it into directional movement."

To create the microbot origami, the researchers started with microscopic polymer cubes that are metallic on one side, essentially allowing the metallic side to act as a magnet.

Depending on their positioning, the cubes can be assembled in many different ways.

Velev said, "Since they are magnetized and interacting, the cubes store energy.

Microbot origami can capture, transport single cells



cheers.ws

"Tiny particles in the shape of cubes can attach together in sequences where they face in different directions to make, for example, clusters that behave like a tiny Pac-Man: You can open them by applying a magnetic field and then let them close by turning the magnetic field off."

"They close because they are releasing the stored magnetic energy."

"Thus, you inject internal energy every time you open the microclusters and release it when they close."

The researchers then gave the tiny Pac-Man a specific task: Capturing a live cell, in this case a yeast cell.

The microbot formed into a boxy shape and, through its opening and closing motions, "swam" to surround the yeast cell.

The researchers then turned off the magnetic field that controlled the folding of the microbot to capture the yeast cell, moved it and finally released it.

Velev said, "We've shown here a prototype of self-folding microbot that can be used as a microtool to probe the response of specific types of cells, like cancer cells, for instance."

Koohye Han, a PhD candidate at North Carolina State and first author of the paper, said, "Previously reported microbot structures have been limited to performing simple tasks such as pushing and penetrating objects due to their rigid bodies."

"The ability to remotely control the dynamic reconfiguration of our microbot creates a new 'toolbox' for manipulating

microscale objects and interacting with its microenvironment."

Wyatt Shields, a postdoctoral researcher at Duke University and North Carolina State University who co-authored the paper, added, "As the microbot folds, it can compress liquids or solids and you can use it as a tool to measure bulk mechanical properties, like stiffness."

"In some ways, it is a new metrological tool for gauging elasticity at the microscopic level."

The authors said that the design of microbot origami mimics nature.

Shields said, "The cube sequence programs the shapes of the folding microbots. Proteins work in the same way."

"The sequence of amino acids in a protein will determine how it folds, just as the sequence of cubes in our microbot will determine how it folds."

Velev added that future work will concentrate on making the particles move on their own, rather than steering them with magnetic fields.

Han is working on making bots that self-propel in complex fluids with non-Newtonian behavior.

Shields is studying how the dynamics of the microbot reshaping could be used to study the microstructure of surrounding macromolecules.

Is social media the new tobacco?

By John Battelle*

Instagram, Snapchat and others have a business model based on addiction. This is not how we want to be raising our children.

I'll admit I was a slow-follower when the iPhone launched ten years ago. I was suspicious of Apple's intent — I was not fan of its closed, vertically integrated model — and the market's infatuation with apps felt like a fad that would ultimately fade. When I finally did get an iPhone, I felt complicit in what amounted to internet climate change: Slowly but surely, our new addictions were bound to swamp all that we had worked so hard to build on the open web, newco.co wrote.

As Tristan Harris and many others have pointed out, the economic incentives driving our mobile landscape (in short: Advertising) are based fundamentally on the science of addiction, and addicted we certainly are.

And as we've learned from tobacco and processed foods, an industry based on addiction preys on the young. In what I hope will be a landmark piece in the Atlantic, social scientist Jean M. Twenge, who has studied generational differences for decades, concluded that the first generation of teenagers to grow up with a smartphone in their hands is demonstrating wildly different patterns from any group she's previously researched. And those patterns are not good.

Three out of four American teenagers own a smartphone, and they grew up with an entirely new kind of social topography: They live their lives on Snapchat and Instagram, in a kind of social purgatory where their adolescent brains — so eager for validation and approval — are constantly inflamed by the drama of the now. Anyone with teenage children understands this drama, but when it's conducted on a stage free of adult role models, the result looks an awful lot like the Lord of the Flies.

If you are constantly in the thrall of the high-octane drug known as social approval, you're far more likely to be depressed. "Rates of teen depression and suicide have skyrocketed since 2011," Twenge wrote, coining the



huffpost.com

cringeworthy term 'iGen' to describe today's young teenagers.

"It's not an exaggeration to describe iGen as being on the brink of the worst mental-health crisis in decades. Much of this deterioration can be traced to their phones."

She continued: "The twin rise of the smartphone and social media has caused an earthquake of a magnitude we've not seen in a very long time, if ever. There is compelling evidence that the devices we've placed in young people's hands are having profound effects on their lives — and making them seriously unhappy."

As our teenagers retreat into their phones, they are also

retreating from the world, going out less than any generation before them, dating less, engaging with other generations less, working less (the ad-driven apps are free, after all), shunning drivers licenses, staying in their rooms, and substituting being in the world with 'talking' via their apps. It's time for the companies driving that impact to take responsibility for the destructive nature of their business models. If sugar is the new tobacco, then Instagram and Snapchat may well be the new sugar.

*John Battelle is a founder of NewCo and writer on media, technology, culture and business.

Poor sleep

Poor sleep may increase the risk of being overweight and obese, a new study contended.

Too much age gap may take a toll on marriage

Researchers said similarly-aged couples are more in sync on life decisions that affect both partners.

Age may be no bar for most when it comes to love and matrimony, but a new study suggested that the contentment in such unions fades away over time, according to hindustantimes.com.

The findings also suggested that marriages with large age gaps are less resilient in the face of economic downturns as compared to those in which the spouses are of the same age. Research from University of Colorado at Boulder, the US, revealed that men reported greater marital satisfaction when paired with a younger spouse, especially in the early years of marriage.



wordpress.com

Study author Terra McKinnish said that men who have younger wives are the most satisfied and men who are married to older wives are the least satisfied.

"Women are also particularly dissatisfied when they're married to older husbands and particularly satisfied if they're married to younger husbands," McKinnish added.

That initial satisfaction erodes rapidly, however, after 6-10 years of marriage for the couples with a big age gap between the partners, said researchers.

"Over time, the people who are married to a much older or younger spouse tend to have larger declines in marital satisfaction over time compared to those who are married to spouses who are similar in age," McKinnish noted.

One mechanism for this decline could be how the age difference between spouses affects the couple's ability to respond to economic setbacks, such as a job loss, McKinnish said.

The nationally representative sample was initially comprised of 7,682 households containing 19,914 individuals. The participants were re-surveyed every year with questions that measured various aspects of life satisfaction.

The results suggested that when couples have a large age difference, they tend to have a much larger decline in marital satisfaction when faced with an economic shock than couples that have a very small age difference.

A possible explanation for this, McKinnish said, is that similarly-aged couples are more in sync on life decisions that affect both partners (having children, general spending habits) and thus, may be better equipped to adjust to a negative financial shock.

The research appeared online in the Journal of Population Economics.

Low-nicotine cigarettes: Misperceptions may not lessen benefits

When cigarettes contain less nicotine, smokers see them as safer, because they equate the stimulant with smoking-related diseases. But that misperception doesn't cancel out the potential benefits of low-nicotine cigarettes, a new study suggested.

In fact, while nicotine is addictive, it doesn't lead to the health conditions caused by smoking. Heart attacks, lung cancer and respiratory conditions can be blamed on other cigarette additives like tar, reported Reuters.

Last week, the US Food and Drug Administration announced plans to begin a public dialogue about lowering nicotine levels in cigarettes to non-addictive levels.

But some experts fear people may smoke more, or be less likely to quit, if they believe low-nicotine cigarettes are safer, said Lauren Pacek, of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

Perceived nicotine content was indeed associated with perceived health risks in her team's study, as reported in the journal Tobacco Control.

However, Pacek said, "On the positive side, we found perceived nicotine content wasn't associated with smoking behavior."

Smokers still wanted to stop smoking within a year even if they believed low-nicotine cigarettes to be less risky than traditional smokes.

The findings are drawn from participants in a 2015 study, in which people who smoked cigarettes with less nicotine ended up smoking less and having less exposure to nicotine.

For the six-week study, 839 daily smokers were randomly assigned to smoke either their usual cigarettes, or experimental cigarettes with varying levels of nicotine for six weeks.

Participants who smoked experimental cigarettes were unaware of the nicotine content.

At the end of the study, about 34 percent thought they were smoking cigarettes with a very low nicotine level.

About 36 percent thought the nicotine level was low, about 24 percent thought it was moderate and 6.8 percent thought it was high or very high.

Based on survey responses at the end of the study, Pacek and colleagues found that participants believed the health risks posed by the cigarettes increased with the level of nicotine.

But even if they believed that low-nicotine cigarettes are less harmful, people who thought they were smoking very low nicotine cigarettes were more likely to say they would quit within a year if those were the only cigarettes on the market, compared to people smoking cigarettes with low or moderate nicotine levels.

The study can't say definitively that seeing low-nicotine cigarettes as safer won't lead people to smoke more, said Pacek.

Governments should support older people's transport needs

Governments across Europe could be doing more to develop transport policies that ensure those over the age of 65 remain active and mobile, according to a new study led by the University of Plymouth.

With the health and life expectancy of older people generally improving across the continent, it is likely they will make more journeys by car, public transport and foot over the coming years, sciencedaily.com wrote.

However, active aging spans many policy areas — including health, social care, economic development and urban design — and, as such, there is often a lack of joined-up thinking about the best approaches to older people's mobility.

To address this, the researchers sought to establish the extent to which national governments promote the specific age-friendly qualities of transport systems.

By assessing documents across the European Union, Norway and Switzerland, and speaking to government employees in 20 countries, it determined to what extent individual nations encouraged mobility, independence and social and economic inclusion.

The results, published in Transport Policy, showed disproportionate emphasis was being placed on safety, affordability and disabled (or barrier-free) access whereas a more rounded approach could actually lead to greater mobility among older people.

The study was led by Research

Shaw said: "It's very clear from this work that there will be difficult challenges for policy makers as they seek to cater for older people's transport requirements in the future. This may well be the last thing they want to hear in an environment of restricted public expenditure, but a key message here is

the bus regarding what stop is coming next not only helps people whose hearing or sight is deteriorating, but also anyone who isn't familiar with the route. And if some of those people who aren't familiar are car drivers, then a better experience on public transport might help us address our traffic

older people.

If then scored them against 11 qualities, seeking to establish if they were focused on being: Affordable; available; barrier-free; comfortable; comprehensible; efficient; friendly; reliable; safe; secure and transparent.

The extent to which these qualities are addressed varies across Europe, but safety, barrier freedom and affordability are prominent at both a national and EU level.

However, the researchers suggested there are sporadic pockets of excellence in the other areas across Europe, and that by talking to each other governments could learn valuable lessons from each other.

The research added: "As attention shifts to considering and providing for older people's mobility in years to come, we would suggest that increasingly flexible thought will need to be devoted to their transport system needs. The basic desire of people to be together is unlikely to go away, and the challenge for policy makers will be to provide systems capable of meeting the travel patterns of senior citizens in such a way that proper account is taken of their needs."



theplanner.co.uk

Fellow Rebecca Johnson and Jon Shaw, professor of transport geography, from the University's School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, and also involved academics from the Erfurt University of Applied Sciences in Germany.

that improving the quality of the transport system for older people generally means improving it for everyone.

"One small but important example is better information provision: Clearly legible and audible announcements on

congestion problems."

The international assessment identified 146 documents from 29 countries which could be classed as falling under EU-wide guidelines on 'people with reduced mobility', with 63 percent solely concerned with

Parents have more conflicts with in-laws than do childless couples



wisegeek.com

Intergenerational relations include various forms of help and support but also tensions and conflicts. Although relations with in-laws are the subject of many anecdotes and proverbs across cultures, they remain little studied in contemporary societies.

A new study investigates how being a parent is associated with conflicts between family generations. The research is part of the Generational Transfers in Finland — research project lead by Professor Anna Rotkirch and funded by the Academy of Finland, sciencedaily.com wrote.

Using survey data from Finland with over 1,200 respondents, the authors studied conflicts that couples reported having with their own parents and their in-laws.

Overall, Finns reported higher conflict occurrence with their own parents than with their in-laws.

Compared to childless couples, couples with children were as likely to report conflicts with their own parents. However, they were more likely to report conflicts with their parents-in-law.

The results took into account how frequently family members were in contact with each other and how emotionally close they felt, as well as other sociodemographic factors.

Previous studies have shown that in-laws become more 'kin-like' to each other when a grandchild unites kin lineages.

Treating an in-law almost as biological

kin can make the adults involved feel closer to each other and help each other more, what has been called a 'kinship premium'.

This study documented evidence also of a 'kinship penalty'. As in-laws become more kin-like through the presence of a grandchild, their mutual conflicts increase.

Childcare provided by grandparents is of great help to parents of young children, but may also be a source of conflicts.

Researcher Mirikka Danielsbacka said, "Daughters-in-law were more likely to report conflicts when their mother-in-law provided more grandchild care."

"This indicates that the increase in conflicts between in-laws are related to grandchild care."

Mummy found with perfect hair, eyebrows after 900 years

A mummy has been found preserved with perfect hair and eyebrows.

Archeologists dug up the 900-year-old 'polar princess' at the Zeleny Yar burial site near Salekhard, Russia.

Her facial features were also clearly visible and her teeth were immaculate, according to metro.co.uk.

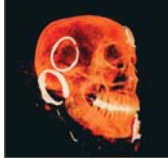
Scientists thought she was so well preserved from the 12th century because she had been buried in a cocoon made of copper and fur.

The metal, which showed up as green on her remains, may have helped to mummify her head.

Dr. Sergey Slepchenko, from the Institute of the Problems of Northern Development,



EASTWEST/SIBERIAN TIMES



Tyumen, told The Siberian Times: "During the natural conservation of the mummy in the soil, the rotting process was completed."

"The remaining soft tissues were soaked with copper solution

from those ritual plates with which the bodies were covered."

The mummified woman, who was aged around 35 when she died, was the only adult female found in a grave alongside three dozen men.

Archeologists said she was a

member of a mysterious hunting and fishing civilisation that operated in the polar region and had links to Persia.

The remains of a small baby, thought to be female, were also found in the burial site but she was not related to the woman.

Archeologist Alexander Gusev, from Russia's Arctic Research Center, added: "We clearly see from the face that she was a woman."

"This radically changes our concept about this graveyard."

"Previously, we thought that there were only adult men and children, but now we have a woman. It's amazing."

It wasn't the first time an interesting looking mummy had been dug up at the Zeleny Yar burial site.

Archeologists found a 'red haired' man buried with a bronze buckle before.

Kingfisher plucks its prey before perching on a photographer's head



CATERPILLAR NEWS AGENCY

Nature photographers are no strangers to spending hours sitting completely still, waiting for the perfect shot of their animal subject.

This photographer had clearly mastered the art, as a kingfisher mistook him for a rock, and used his head as a landing spot as he ate his meal, dailymail.co.uk wrote.

Alan McFadyen was out with friend John Hannah, when the bird started using his skull to try to kill the fish he had caught after diving into the water.

McFadyen, 47, who runs Scottish Photography Hides, said the bird dived into the River Tarff, scooped up fish before using his head as a dining spot several times.

McFadyen, from Kirkcudbright, Dumfries and Galloway, said: "The bird was fishing in the river below and every time it caught a fish it would come back to my head where it would grab it by the tail and swing it against my skull to try and kill it."

"They often use a hard surface to do this, but it's normally a branch and not someone's head."

"But instead of landing on my intended perch, it landed in my head 12 times in the first hour. It ignored the perch completely."

He added: "I have a purpose built hide at this site and have photographed from it thousands of times."

"However, I like change so I decided to shoot from outside the hide to give me something different."

"My friend in the hide had my other camera as I wanted a wide shot of me and the bird in the same image."

"I have been an avid wildlife lover for over 40 years and witnessed and experience countless great moments."

"To have a wild kingfisher on my head and using it as a fishing spot is unimaginable and is by far the highlight to date."

"I believe it's the first time ever that something like this has been captured. I've certainly never seen it before."



Animal Farm is an allegorical novella by George Orwell, first published in England on August 17, 1945. According to Orwell, the book reflects events leading up to the Russian Revolution of 1917 and then on into the Stalinist era of the Soviet Union.

This book is set in a future when animals are much cleverer than now. And because of their cleverness, the pigs started a revolution against the humans.

Here are some quotes from the book:

Weak or strong, clever or simple, we are all brothers.

The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again, but already it was impossible to say which was which.

Several of them would have protested if they could have found the right arguments.

Man is the only creature that consumes without producing.

Windmill or no windmill, he said, life would go on as it had always gone on — that is, badly.

The animals were happy as they had never conceived it possible to be. Every mouthful of food was an acute positive

pleasure, now.

I have no wish to take life, not even human life.

Somehow it seemed as though the farm had grown richer without making the animals themselves any richer — except, of course, for the pigs and the dogs.

Now, comrades, what is the nature of this life of ours? Let us face it: Our lives are miserable, laborious, and short.

All the habits of man are evil.

Their lives now, they reasoned, were hungry and laborious; was it not right and just



that a better world should exist somewhere else?

The distinguishing mark of man is the hand, the instrument with which he does all his mischief.

There, comrades, is the answer to all our problems. It is summed up in a single word — man.

Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy. Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend.

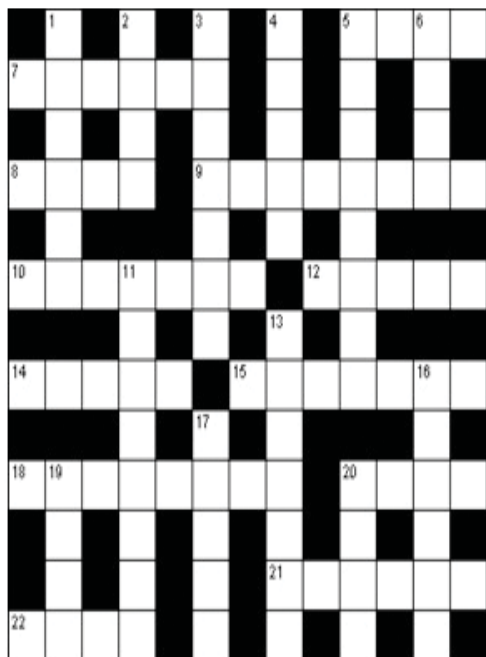
Donkeys live a long time. None of you has ever seen a

And who are its enemies? It always appears that they are not only those who attack it openly and consciously, but those who 'objectively' endanger it by spreading mistaken doctrines.

In other words, defending democracy involves destroying all independence of thought.

I meant the moral to be that revolutions only effect a radical improvement when the masses are alert and know how to check out their leaders as soon as the latter have done their job.

Themed Crossword



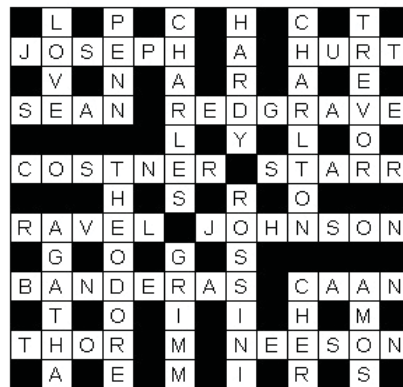
DOWN

- Roe of sturgeon (6)
- Baked flour, sugar and eggs (4)
- Aromatic herb (7)
- Type of dark coffee (5)
- Game bird (8)
- Cut of steak (4)
- Sometimes made from 5 across (8)
- Sweet (7)
- Type of biscuit (6)
- Jelly made from stock (5)
- Edible pods (4)
- Fried potato (4)

ACROSS

- Type of meat (4)/ Salmon
- Used to make a 'split' (6)
- Acidic fruit (4)
- Spirit distilled from potatoes (8)
- Cut of beef (7)
- Shaped and dried dough (5)
- Milled from grain (5)
- Salad vegetable (7)
- Thick syrup (8)
- Part of a rib of meat (4)
- Dried grape (6)
- Fresh or saltwater fish (4)

Yesterday's solution



Sudoku

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

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

Farah: I will overcome injury

Mo Farah said he will overcome a leg injury to defend his 5000m world title after winning the "toughest race" of his life to retain his 10000m crown.

The Briton, 34, was tripped and almost fell twice late on as he won the first medal of the 2017 World Athletics Championships in thrilling fashion at London Stadium, BBC reported.

"I hurt my leg and I'm going to see a doctor, a few stitches maybe," he said. The 5000m, which begins with heats on Wednesday, is Farah's final major track event before switching to the marathon.

"I've got a bad leg," he explained. "I've got such a long stride I got caught twice and at that point I was just trying to stand up."

"I am hurt. I just had to be strong. I've got a few cuts and bruises, just recover and get ready for the 5k. I've got enough days."

'This is tough, this is tough'

A relentless pace meant his time of 26 minutes 49.51 seconds on Friday was his quickest over 10000m since 2011, yet it put him less than half a second ahead of Uganda's Joshua Cheptegei, with Kenya's Paul Tanui third. BBC commentators Steve Cram and Brendan Foster believe the win –



Mo Farah (L) gets the better of Abadi Hadis in the 10000m final at the 2017 World Athletics Championships in London on August 4, 2017.

Farah's 10th global title – required the finest display of his career and Farah, who has now won six world titles over the two distances, said he "definitely agreed with them".

"It was one of the toughest races of my life," said Farah. "The guys gave it to me, it wasn't about Mo, it was about 'how do we beat Mo?'"

"You had the Kenyans, the Ethiopians, the Ugandans, everybody working as a team against me. Fair play to them, they worked it hard and they chucked everything at me."

"At one point in the middle of the race I wasn't thinking I was going to lose, but I thought 'this is tough, this is tough.'"

'I owe it to the people'

Farah has not been beaten over 10000m since 2011 – a run of nine races. He completed the 5000m and 10000m double at the 2013 and 2015 World Championships and also secured long-distance doubles at the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games.

"It was about believing in my sprint finish and knowing that I have been in that position before," he added. "It helped a lot having that experience."

"I just had to stay strong, believe in myself and think, 'I didn't work for nothing, I'm not losing in my home town. I can't.'"

"I get emotional talking about it, but I owe it to the people in London, I owe it to the people in Great Britain and to have so many people supporting you, keeping you going, it makes the difference."

Iranians collect seven medals at World Para Athletics Championships



Mehrdad Moradi won the gold medal in the 100m T11/T13 contests at the 2017 World Para Athletics Junior Championships.

Young Iranian Paralympian athletes collected seven medals at the 2017 World Para Athletics Junior Championships in Switzerland.

On Saturday, Iran's Mohammad Fat-Hi grabbed a bronze medal in the shot put F42/47 contests after he made the best attempt of 10.33m in the final competition. Athletes from the US and Belarus claimed the gold and the silver, respectively.

Also on the third day of the competitions, Ashkan Cheraghi settled for the silver medal of the discus throw F35/38 competitions with his best record of 31.98m. The Mexican athlete clinched the gold medal with the Argentinian finishing third.

Cheraghi had earlier won a bronze medal in the shot put F35 contests.

On Friday, Ali Sepahvandi participated in the discus throw F42/47 category competitions, and registered a throw of 32.90m in his final attempt to earn the bronze, Press TV reported.

German discus thrower won the gold medal with a winning throw of 39.30m while Czech contestant claimed the silver medal.

In the javelin throw F32/34 discipline, Iranian pitcher Mohammad-Taha Beygrezai claimed the silver medal with his best attempt of 25.36m.

The Colombian athlete won the gold

medal with a throw of 33.76m, and Iran's Erfan Rezaei Moein finished third but did not receive the bronze based on the minus-one rule, which states if only 3 athletes remain in an event, only gold and silver would be awarded.

Furthermore, Mehrdad Moradi clocked 11.33 seconds at the 100m T11/T13 running contest, and stood on top of the podium.

Jamaica's athlete and the Brazilian registered 11.33 and 11.37 seconds respectively to land in the second and third places.

Iranian discus thrower Mohammad-Hassan Mirzaei threw 25.97m in the F51/F57 class and struck the gold medal.

Mahdi Qaderi finished second with 16.84m but did not take the silver due to the minus-one rule since they were only athletes in action.

Earlier in the tournament, Iranian shot putter Aref Baharvand had claimed the silver medal in the F36 category.

The 2017 World Para Athletics Junior Championships started in Nottwil, Switzerland, on August 3 and will finish on August 6.

Some 275 Paralympian athletes from 41 countries, including Brazil, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Germany, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico and Poland, have taken part in the international multi-sport event.



Conte: This will be my most difficult season

Chelsea boss Antonio Conte revealed that he thinks the forthcoming campaign will be the "most difficult" of his career.

Chelsea goes into the new season reigning Premier League champion, and the Italian believes that this will only increase the expectation level of him and his team, goal.com reported.

"For me, it will be the most difficult season of my career," he said. "I'm sure about that."

"I don't have a lot of time to explain a lot of these reasons. But I'm sure about this. I have this perception and I hope I've made a mistake."



GETTY IMAGES

"In England, the pressure is high and you have to live with that pressure. In England, the league is strong, the strongest in the world."

"You have six teams ready to fight and to win the title. But only one team can win. It won't be easy. But we are trying to do this."

Pressure, meanwhile, is something the Italian needs to feel at his most competitive.

"If I don't feel the pressure, then I put myself under pressure," he said. "That's my life. The pressure helps me to give the best, 120 per cent."

Chelsea's competitive campaign begins with a Community Shield meeting with Arsenal today.

Wenger sets team target of 85 points

For Arsenal this season, the target is 85 points and to push for silverware, manager Arsene Wenger said.

"When you have made 75 points (last season), your target is to get 10 points more. And with 10 points more, you are in there (the title race)," Wenger was quoted as saying by ESPNFC.

Arsenal failed to qualify for the UEFA Champions League for the first time since Arsene Wenger took over as manager in 1996 after the Gunners finished fifth last season.

Since then, catcalls for Wenger's resignation has gathered pace and majority shareholder Stan Kroenke and chief executive Ivan Gazidis have pushed for a major silverware.

Wenger signed a new two-year contract after May's FA Cup final win over Chelsea, but the Frenchman knows he needs to deliver in order to win back support of his bosses and supporters of the club.

Coming to Alexis Sanchez, Wenger has been adamant the Chilean is staying and said he would lead the side this season.

Asked whether he was confident that Sanchez will give everything to the team if he remains at the club this summer, Wenger replied, "Of course. Why not?"

"My conviction — and if you look well — it's always in your interests, even if you have a short contract, to do well. And the kind of character he is."

"He is a winner. When he goes on the football pitch, he wants to win. He is a guy who loves foot-

ball. He has advantages and disadvantages on both sides going into a situation like that."

Wenger added that Champions League return is a priority but also underlined that winning the Europa League and making it to the competition is not the way out.

Manchester United finished sixth last year but will be playing in the Champions League after beating Ajax 2-0 in the Europa League final in May.

"I was always against it," he said.

"Because apart from Man United, who did win the Europa League, all the years before it was always a team who was kicked out of the Champions League by having been kicked out of it before."

"You cannot go into the season and think that (you will get into the Champions League by winning the Europa League)."

"I always was not in favor of that, because I think at some stage it can influence on the championship, because if a team is in April in a position where to win the Europa League, they have more chance they can let some games go in the championship, and not completely focus on that, on the regularity of the competition."

"I will always play a team that has a good chance to win the next game. In the Europa League if we can afford sometimes to rest some players we will do it."

"But we have to adapt to the level of the competition and see first what kind of group we play in."



GETTY IMAGES

Ronaldo reveals he wants to return to England



AP

Cristiano Ronaldo admitted he wants to leave Real Madrid and return to England, just days before facing his old club Manchester United in the UEFA Super Cup.

Spanish radio Cadena Ser revealed extracts of Ronaldo's defense in front of a judge this week held in a court just outside of Madrid as part of the investigation into his alleged €14.7 million tax fraud, the Daily Mail reported.

The player had a private hearing with judge Monica Gomez Ferrer on Monday and it is not unusual for declarations to be

leaked to the media often by the investigated parties themselves.

Cadena Ser reported on Friday that Ronaldo told the judge, "I never had a problem in England... that's why I would like to go back to England."

Ronaldo was furious when originally accused of tax evasion earlier this summer and the Portuguese paper 'A Bola' reported that he had made an "irreversible" decision to leave Spain as a consequence.

With PSG focusing on Neymar and Manchester United convinced it could not afford

to re-sign the Red Devils' former player Ronaldo's determination appeared to subside.

But in his 90 minute hearing in midweek he seems to have made it clear a summer exit is still on his mind.

Real Madrid is keen to sell one of the club's famed front three forward line of Karim Benzema, Ronaldo and Gareth Bale this summer so as to make space for €180 million-rated 18-year-old Kylian Mbappe who has told the club he does not want to come only to sit on the bench.

Art & Culture

Switzerland picks Volpe's 'The Divine Order' for foreign-language Oscar race

Switzerland picked 'The Divine Order' — a feel-good drama about the fight for women's suffrage in Europe's last patriarchal holdout — as its entry for the 2018 foreign-language Oscar race.



hollywoodreporter.com

The film chronicles Switzerland's long-suffering suffragettes, who finally won women the right to vote in 1971. Marie Leuenberger stars as a young housewife and mother living in a Swiss village who gets caught up in the campaign, hollywoodreporter.com wrote.

Directed by Petra Volpe, 'The Divine Order' premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival, where it won an audience award, as well as actress honors for Leuenberger and the festival's Nora Ephron Prize for Volpe.

At home, the movie has been a box-office smash, selling more than 300,000 tickets for a total box office of some \$4.5 million — a huge figure for the tiny Alpine nation. The film is looking to continue its winning streak when it bows in neighboring Germany soon.

Kino Lorber and Zeitgeist Films have picked up 'The Divine Order' for the US and plan to release the film stateside this fall. TrustNordisk, which is handling international sales on the title, have already inked deals for more than 15 territories for 'The Divine Order'.

Switzerland has punched above its weight at the Oscars, with five nominations and two Academy Awards in the foreign language category. In 1984 for Richard Dembo's 'Dangerous Moves' and for Xavier Koller's 'Journey of Hope' in 1990.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will announce its shortlist of the films in the running for the 2018 foreign language category this December.

The final Oscar nominations will be announced on January 23, 2018.

The 90th Academy Awards will be held in Los Angeles on March 4, 2018.

French scientists crack mystery of luckless apostles of Paris

Having lost their heads, been pulled from their plinths, smashed and even buried, things are at last looking up for some of the unluckiest statues in Christendom.

For five centuries the 12 apostles looked down on the adoring hordes who marveled at the Sainte-Chapelle in Paris — arguably the greatest Gothic edifice ever build, artdaily.com reported.

Standing between its spectacular stained glass windows — one of the wonders of the medieval world — they could have been forgiven for feeling smug having survived the Reformation without a scratch.

But the statues were caught in the whirlwind of not just one French revolution but two, and since then history has been less than kind.

A team of French scientists are at last revealing their original colors and forms from 1248 when they first stood guard over one of the most revered of Christian relics, the crown of thorns that Christ reputedly wore on the cross.

French king Louis IX built the staggeringly beautiful private chapel to house the relics after buying them from the cash-strapped Latins who sacked Constantinople in 1204 and began stripping the Byzantine capital of its treasures.

The crusader king, who was later made a saint, also acquired parts of the True Cross and the Holy Lance for the chapel, which backed onto his royal palace.

Six of the most heavily damaged of the apostle statues are now being analyzed by the French museums' restoration and research center, known as C2RMF, at its laboratories underneath the Louvre.

Its director of sculptures Alexandra Gerard told AFP that as well taking tiny samples from 'the sandwich layers' of paint to find the first coat under a microscope, experts were also trying to crack the puzzle about how the much-damaged, repaired and repainted statues were first made.

Using X-rays and ultraviolet scans they have been able to cast new light on statues whose nicknames are vaguely reminiscent of the Seven Dwarves, from 'The Melancholic' and 'The Philosopher' to the 'Headless One'. But the most exciting potential discovery for the Cluny Museum of the Middle Ages in Paris, where the six badly damaged apostles are held, is how different the original colors were.

IRAN DAILY



» License Holder: Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA)
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 » Website: http://www.irandailyonline.ir
 » Email: irandaily@icpi.ir
 » Printing House: Iran Cultural & Press Institute

Add.: Iran Cultural & Press Institute, #208 Khorramshahr Avenue Tehran/Iran

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Kiarostami's '24 Frames' will wind up Hong Kong filmfest

Art & Culture Desk

The final work of prominent Iranian cineaste Abbas Kiarostami will go on screen at the 20th Hong Kong 2017 Summer International Film Festival (Summer IFF).

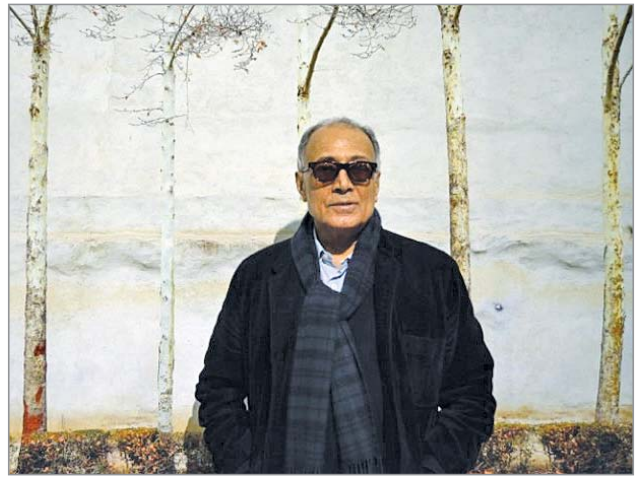
This year's Summer IFF is set to open with a bang and close with a quiet trance. The bang comes courtesy of Hong Kong director Wilson Yip Wai-shun's 'Paradox' — the latest instalment in his martial arts crime thriller series SPL — and the trance in the form of late Iranian auteur Abbas Kiarostami's meditative final film, '24 Frames'. They will wind up a program of 40 new and classic films.

Summer IFF runs from August 15 to 29 at various venues.

'24 Frames' animates photographs Kiarostami took over 40 years into 4½-minute vignettes.

Kiarostami started with paintings. He said: "These painters, they painted one scene. But that's only one shot. I wonder what happens before and after?"

Among the highlights in the full line-up announced by the Hong Kong International Film Festival Society (HKIFFS) are two masterclasses led by another prominent Iranian filmmaker, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, who will present his films 'The Nights of Zayandeh-rood' (1990) and 'Salaam Cinema' (1996). This marks a return to Hong Kong for the director, who was a guest at the Hong Kong International Film Festival in 2015.



ISNA

Iranian puppets to go on display in Poland

Art & Culture Desk

Theater director, playwright, puppet maker and stage designer Zahra Sabri will hold an exhibition featuring her stage puppets at Teatr Wielki in Warsaw, Poland.

'A Dreamer from Iran' exhibition showcases puppets from six plays directed by Sabri and performed by her group 'Yas-Tamam'.

The exhibition features puppets from 'Count to One', 'Naneh Delavar (courageous mother) and Her Children', 'The House of Bernard Alba', 'Eight Moments', 'Parrot's Quill' and 'Earth and Universe'.

The dolls had been earlier been showcased at the International Puppet Center in Tolosa, a Spanish town, in November, ISNA reported.

In all, 120 dolls of various size from the aforementioned theaters will go on display from September 18 at the Polish exhibition which will run for two months.

Sabri said that Teatr Wielki is a theater complex, opera company, and home of the Polish National Ballet, located on historic Theater Square in Warsaw, Poland. The Grand Theater in Warsaw is one of the largest theaters in Europe and in the world.

Speaking about the agenda of the Polish exhibition, Sabri said, "Marekzurawski, who is the secretary of an exhibition in Poland, expressed interest in holding the exhibition in Poland after 'A Dreamer from Iran' was held in Spain."

The theater was inaugurated on February 24, 1833 with a production of Rossini's 'The Barber of Seville'. After the building's bombing and near-complete destruction during World War II, it was rebuilt and reopened on November 19, 1965 following a closure of over twenty years.



MEHR NEWS AGENCY



An art exhibition titled 'Spirit of Desert' is underway at Tehran's Art Center Gallery. The exhibition presents a visual narration of artists about the environment.

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Weather

36 23 Bandar Anzali	36 17 Isfahan	41 33 Kish Island	36 23 Sari	38 23 Yazd	37 [^] 24 _v 24 Tehran	37 21 Kabul	42 31 Mecca	18 11 Stockholm	38 23 Tashkent	36 25 Tripoli
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