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IAEA chief: Iran meeting terms of nuclear deal

The head of the International Atomic Energy Agency said on Monday that Iran is honoring a nuclear accord it signed with six world powers in 2015. Yukiya Amano said that the terms Iran accepted "are being implemented" and that Tehran has not broken any promises. "The nuclear-related commitments undertaken by Iran under the JCPOA (nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) are being implemented," he said in the text of a speech to a quarterly meeting of the IAEA's 35-member Board of Governors, Reuters reported.

Amano noted that Iran is not receiving special treatment. He added that his report on Verification and Monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in light of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015) covers the activities conducted by the IAEA over the last few months to certify Iran's commitment to its obligations as per the deal. "We fulfill this role in accordance with the modalities set out in the JCPOA, consistent with the agency's standard safeguards practices, and in an impartial and objective manner," Amano said.

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Iranian President Hassan Rouhani called for promoting bilateral relations between Tehran and Islamabad in all areas, in line with the interests of the two neighbors. Speaking at a meeting with visiting Pakistani Foreign Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif in Tehran on Monday, President Rouhani hailed growing collaborations between Iran and Pakistan, saying that, as major regional players, the two countries have "friendly and brotherly" ties, Tasnim News Agency reported.

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Economic cost of Harvey, Irma could be \$290bn

The combined economic cost of hurricanes Harvey and Irma could reach \$290 billion, equivalent to 1.5 percent of the US gross domestic product, US forecaster AccuWeather said in a report Sunday.

"We believe the damage estimate from Irma to be about \$100 billion, among the costliest hurricanes of all time," said the firm's CEO and founder Joel Myers, AFP reported on Monday.

Harvey, which battered Texas and parts of Louisiana in late August, will be "the costliest weather disaster in US history at \$190 billion or one full percentage point of GDP" which stands at \$19 trillion.

The report said it arrived at the figure by calculating disruptions to business, increased unemployment rates for significant periods of time, damage to transport and infrastructure, crop loss including a 25 percent drop of orange crop, increased costs of fuels including gasoline, heating oil and jet fuel, household damages and loss of valuable documentation.

Only a fraction of the losses would be covered by insurance, said Myers.



Harvey made landfall in Texas in late August, causing severe damage to property and paralyzing the country's fourth-largest city, Houston, with major flooding.

Florida situation

Hurricane Irma, which has toppled cranes, swallowed streets and left millions without power, was starting to weaken on Monday while still pummeling parts of Florida on its destructive march north.

Irma was downgraded to a Category 1 hurricane early Monday and forecasters expect it would become a tropical storm later in the morning, but warnings of hazardous storm surges persisted in several areas even after the worst of Irma's ferocity had passed.

Maximum sustained winds had decreased to 75 miles as Irma blazed its disastrous path through Florida, where more than six million people had been ordered to flee in one of the biggest evacuations in US history.

The massive storm's center was forecast to move near the northwest coast of Florida before crossing into the state of Georgia later on Monday. The National Hurricane Center cautioned that tornadoes remained possible in northeast Florida as well as southeast parts of Georgia and South Carolina into the evening.

Warnings of "life-threatening" storm surges remained in place in several areas of south and central Florida, including the heavily populated Tampa Bay region.

Pope blasts climate change doubters

Pope Francis sharply criticized climate change doubters, saying history will judge those who failed to take the necessary decisions to curb heat-trapping emissions blamed for the warming of the Earth.

Francis was asked about climate change and the spate of hurricanes that have pummeled the US, Mexico and the Caribbean recently as his charter plane left Colombia on Sunday and flew over some of the devastated areas, AP reported on Monday.

"Those who deny this must go to the scientists and ask them. They speak very clearly," he said, referring to a consensus by scientists that global warming is caused by human activity such as fossil fuels.

"You can see the effects of climate change and scientists have clearly said what path we have to follow," he said.

Francis said scientists have also clearly charted what needed to be done to reverse course on global warming and said individuals and politicians had a "moral responsibility" to do their part.

"All of us have a responsibility, all of us, small or large, a moral responsibility. We have to take it seriously. We can't joke about it," he said. "Each person has their own. Even politicians have their own."

"These aren't opinions pulled out of thin air. They are very clear," he said. "Then they (leaders) decide and history will judge those decisions."

He said the recent spate of hurricanes should prompt people to understand that humanity will "go down" if it does not address climate change and history will judge those who deny the science on its causes.

"If we don't turn back, we will go down," Francis said.

Francis strongly backed the 2015 Paris agreement on reducing global warming, from which the United States withdrew this year.

The accord, agreed on by nearly 200 countries, aims to cut emissions blamed for global warming. The United States committed to reducing its own by 26 to 28 percent, compared with 2005 levels, by 2025. Many world leaders criticized Trump for pulling out.

US President Donald Trump withdrew from the Paris agreement shortly after visiting the Vatican in May. The Vatican had urged him to stay in the accord.

A Vatican official said at the time that the US move was a "slap in the face" for the pope and the Vatican.

UN brands Myanmar violence 'textbook example of ethnic cleansing'

The United Nations' top human rights official on Monday slammed Myanmar for conducting a "cruel military operation" against Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine state, branding it "a textbook example of ethnic cleansing."

Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein's comments to the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva came as the official tally of Rohingya who have fled Myanmar and crossed into southern Bangladesh in just over two weeks soared through 300,000, Reuters reported. The surge of refugees—many sick or wounded—has strained the resources of aid agencies already helping hundreds of thousands from previous spasms of bloodletting in Myanmar.

"We have received multiple reports and satellite imagery of security forces and local militia burning Rohingya villages, and consistent accounts of extrajudicial killings, including shooting fleeing civilians," Zeid said.

"I call on the government to end its current cruel military operation, with accountability for all violations that have occurred, and to reverse the pattern of severe and widespread discrimination against the Rohingya population," he added.

"The situation seems a textbook example of ethnic cleansing." Human rights monitors and fleeing Rohingya accuse the army and Rakhine Buddhist vigilantes of mounting a campaign of arson aimed at driving out the Rohingya.

The government of Myanmar, a majority Buddhist country where the roughly one million Muslim Rohingya are marginalized, has repeatedly rejected charges of "ethnic cleansing."

Zeid said Myanmar should "stop pretending" that Rohingya were torching their

own houses and its "complete denial of reality" was damaging the government's international standing.

Dalai Lama appeal

Western critics have accused Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi of failing to speak out for the Rohingya, who are despised by many in the country as illegal migrants from Bangladesh.



The Dalai Lama also spoke out for the first time about the Rohingya refugee crisis, saying Buddha would have helped Muslims fleeing violence in Myanmar.

The top Buddhist leader urged Suu Kyi to find a peaceful solution to the crisis and

expressed concerns about violence.

Thousands of Rohingya refugees are still stranded on the Myanmar side of the Naf River, which separates Myanmar and Bangladesh, with the biggest gathering south of the town of Maungdaw, monitors and sources in the area said.

About 500 houses south of the town were set on fire on Monday, a villager in the Maungdaw region, Aung Lin, said.

Reuters journalists in Cox's Bazar could

see huge blazes and plumes of smokes on the other side.

Those still waiting to cross into Bangladesh—many hungry and exhausted after a days-long march through the mountains and bushes in monsoon rain—have been stopped because of a crackdown on Bangladeshi boatmen charging 10,000 taka (\$122) or more per person, sources said.

Qassemi: Afghan conflict has no military solution

The Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman said there is no military solution to the conflict in Afghanistan and the continuation of foreign military presence in the country will further complicate the situation.
Bahram Qassemi said in his weekly press briefing on Monday that all of Afghanistan's neighbors had to strive toward facilitating stability in the country, Press TV reported.



A US-led coalition invaded Afghanistan in 2001, claiming that the then-Taliban regime in the country had harbored Osama bin Laden, the now-slain leader of the Al-Qaeda terrorist group. While the war has continued to become the longest in US history, peace has not been established in the country, as the Taliban have been fighting an armed militancy both against the Afghan government and the foreign forces.
Qassemi said countries interested in seeing calm in Afghanistan had to reduce their meddling there and allow the Afghan people to determine their own fate through dialogue.

Saudi Arabia & 9/11

Qassemi was asked about the recent publication of documents showing that Saudi Arabia may have been involved in the September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States. Without naming Saudi Arabia, he said the 9/11 attack was clear and "a certain country" was accused of involvement in the attacks. He said he hoped that justice would be served and that no such attacks would ever occur again.
Around 3,000 people died in the 9/11 attacks when hijackers rammed airplanes into the World Trade Center in New York City. Of the 19 people involved in the attacks, 15 were Saudi Arabian nationals.
The Al-Qaeda terrorist group claimed responsibility for those attacks, and the US and its allies invaded Afghanistan shortly thereafter.

'Zarif to travel to New York'

Qassemi said Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif had now been scheduled to travel to New York for an annual meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.
Asked about whether Zarif would meet with P5+1 foreign ministers, Qassemi said the Foreign Ministry was currently planning meetings that are necessary.
A reporter asked Qassemi about the recent anti-Iran remarks by Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir. He replied that Iranophobia had turned into a worn-out tactic and was being used as a tool for the pursuit of political goals by certain countries in the region.



Zarif: Iran opposes any threat against its neighbors

Political Desk

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said Iran opposes any pressure or threat against its neighbors by anyone.
He made the comments in a meeting with Qatar's Ambassador to Tehran Ali Hamad al-Sulaiti on Monday.
Zarif said that Iran's regional policy is clear, underlining that problems in the region should be resolved through dialogue.
Both officials also discussed expansion of economic relations.
Ignoring the demands by some Persian Gulf Arab nations, Qatar restored its ambassador to Iran on August 26 after more than 20 months.
Qatar recalled its ambassador from Iran in early 2016 in a show of solidarity with Saudi Arabia after Iranian protesters stormed Saudi Arabia's diplomatic posts in Tehran and Mashhad over the kingdom's execution of Sheikh Nimr al-Nimr, a Shia leader in the Arab country.
Doha is under pressure by Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to downgrade its ties with Tehran.
On June 5, the four Arab countries cut ties to Qatar, alleging it was funding extremists and is too close to Iran.
Qatar and Iran share a massive offshore natural gas field that requires communication between the countries.



Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif (L) shakes hands with Qatar's Ambassador to Tehran Ali Hamad al-Sulaiti in a meeting in Tehran on September 11, 2017.

FM: Rhetoric on Iran nuclear deal has hurt US stature

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said the United States' belligerent rhetoric on a multilateral deal with Iran has impacted other countries' faith in potentially negotiating with Washington.
In an interview with the Iranian Borna News, Foreign Minister Zarif referred to the "very dangerous" tensions between the US and North Korea and implied that Pyongyang was not interested in talking to Washington to defuse the tensions because of the US's past behavior, Press TV reported.
However, he said, dialogue was badly needed.
"The situation is very dangerous. I do not recall any time in my 40 years in politics when there was talk of using nuclear weapons] in the international community," he said.
Tensions have been running high between the US and North Korea in recent months. Pyongyang has been swiftly advancing its missile and military nuclear programs, which Washington perceives as a threat to itself and its allies in East Asia.
Both sides have been threatening one another with military action, and the prospect of a nuclear confrontation remains on the horizon. On September 3, North Korea conducted a nuclear test — its sixth overall — and said it was now capable of building a nuclear

warhead small enough to fit on a missile.
The US, which has a permanent military presence in the region, angrily reacted to the test. Washington has reportedly prepared a sanctions resolution, which it plans to table at the United Nations Security Council on Monday. Trump has not ruled out military action against North Korea.
Zarif said a solution had to be reached peacefully, and threats and pressure had to be avoided.
He said that the US, however, suffered from a reputation problem and negotiating with it was not viewed as a favorable option.
"Some of the rhetoric that the US has adopted about the JCPOA since Mr. Trump took office has cast doubt about the US's reputation as a [credible] negotiating partner," the Iranian foreign minister said, referring to the Iran deal by its official abbreviation.
"Other countries, too, feel that this administration is not trustworthy. The US's own allies in Europe say that, too," he said.
Zarif added that the proliferation of nuclear weapons had to stop and all such weapons in the world had to be destroyed.
As foreign minister, Zarif was Iran's chief negotiator in long-running talks in 2013 to 2015 that culminated in the

Iran deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or the JCPOA.
The US was a party to the talks and is a party to the deal. But the new American president, Trump, has called the deal the "worst" he has ever seen and has been publicly undermining it.
Zarif has said before that the Trump administration has violated the text of the deal by attempting to discourage Iran's European partners from doing business with Iran.
Iran and the other parties to the deal — namely the UK, France, Russia, China, and Germany — have stressed that the agreement should be sustained.
In the interview, Zarif said while Iran tried to maintain the agreement as it was, Tehran had the option of withdrawal.
He said another option was to "create conditions in which America's withdrawal from or non-performance of the JCPOA would lead to the US's isolation."
He referred to the fact that the Trump administration has twice verified Iranian compliance with the deal to the US Congress, adding that happened despite the White House's skepticism because Washington knew that acting otherwise would lead to its isolation.

IAEA chief: Iran meeting terms of nuclear deal

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He emphasized that the UN nuclear agency would continue to verify the non-diversion of nuclear material declared by Iran under its Safeguards Agreement, adding, "Evaluations regarding the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities in Iran remain ongoing."
Amano also said the IAEA would proceed with the implementation of the Additional Protocol in Iran, including carrying out complementary accesses to sites and other locations, as it does in other countries with additional protocols.
Most sanctions on Iran were lifted 18 months ago under the deal it reached with the United States, Britain, France, Russia, China and Germany.
Amano's statement came after the US suggested that Iran it is not adhering to the deal and said it mulls upping the pressure on the Islamic Republic.

Iran reaction

The Iranian Foreign Ministry said on Monday that the Islamic Republic will react to the violation of the nuclear deal, Press TV reported.
"In case a country for whatever reason fails to meet its commitments [under the deal], it will have to pay the heavy price of non-performance. It doesn't matter what country it is [that non-performs]," spokesman Bahram Qassemi said.
"As previously said, Iran will not initiate a violation of the JCPOA but of course will react as necessary to violations by any other country and will not tolerate the JCPOA's breach," Qassemi said.
He explained, however, that any decision on whether non-performance had occurred was to be made by the Iranian high-level Supervisory Board.
Qassemi said the IAEA would not allow third parties to determine what the agency has to do.

UAE shuts down Iranian school

UAE officials have closed down an Iranian school in the Emirates' third city of Sharjah, refusing to extend its permit over what they have called illegal construction within the facility.
Ali Hosseini, the Iranian Education Ministry's deputy for international affairs, said the facility had been leased and had not undertaken any construction activities, ISNA reported.
"Our political relations with the Emirates are not good and, therefore, pressure is being exerted on us to close down Iranian schools," he said.
Iranian schools have been operating in the UAE for over 20 years, but in recent years they have been facing a number of problems due to certain "political complications," especially those in Sharjah and Abu Dhabi.
Hosseini said Iran's Education Ministry was trying to resolve the issue in cooperation with the Foreign Ministry and to have the school's permit reinstated.
The school had 1,500 students, including 500 Afghans, who have now been transferred to Dubai-based schools, the official pointed out.

Rouhani: Iran resolved to boost ties...

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The Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to promote its economic, cultural and political relations with Pakistan, he said.
The president also underlined the necessity for closer cooperation between Iran and Pakistan in countering terrorism, and joint efforts to boost security along the two countries' borders.
"Promoting the security of the borders and turning them into economic and trade areas, and creating border markets, would be in the interest of the two nations and in line with regional stability and security," Rouhani added.
"The Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to cooperate with the regional countries, including Pakistan, in a campaign against terrorism and development of peace, stability and security in the region," he pointed out.
The president said that the problems in the region, including Afghanistan, can be solved through regional solutions and not by the trans-regional powers.
Asif praised cooperation between the two countries as positive and said his country is ready to cement ties with Iran in all areas, in line with the two sides' common interests.
He said that regional issues cannot be settled through military action. "Resolving the regional countries' problems needs regional solutions, especially with Iran's partnership, and measures by the powers outside the region is not helpful."
Asif arrived in Tehran on Monday for a one-day visit, at the head of a political and economic delegation, for talks with Iranian officials.
The Pakistani foreign minister is on a four-nation tour of China, Iran, Turkey and Russia. He has already traveled to China, and plans to visit Turkey next, before winding down his trip in Russia.

Kenyan police detained a lawmaker from the ruling party and a former opposition senator on Monday over allegations of hate speech, a spokesman for the Interior Ministry said.

Lavrov: Moscow to bring diplomatic missions in US, Washington's in Russia, to parity

Moscow will bring the terms of work of its diplomatic missions in the US and those of Washington in Russia into "full parity," Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov announced.

The statement comes after the Russian Consulate in San Francisco and two trade missions in Washington, DC, and NYC were forced to close at the end of August, RT wrote.

Russian authorities, Lavrov said, asked the Americans to make sure the overall number of their diplomatic staff working in Russia equals that of the number of Russian diplomats working in the US.

"But in doing so, we included into that overall number everyone who work at the Russian mission in the UN," Lavrov told reporters at a press conference in Amman, Jordan, on Monday.

"Understandably, this is a separate issue not relating to bilateral [US-Russia] relations. Nevertheless, in doing so we showed our good will," he continued. "The US has sort of pocketed our kind gesture and said, 'If Russians want parity, make them close one of four consulates [in the US] as we have only three consulates in Russia.'"

The US State Department insisted that the move was reciprocal to Moscow's decision to cut the number of American diplomatic staff in Russia.

Lavrov added that Moscow is now looking at conditions under which the American diplomatic missions operate



in Russia, and vice versa.

If the US makes parity a criterion, we will bring those conditions in full accordance with what is called parity," Lavrov said.

In July, following the US Congress'

approval of new sanctions against Russia, Iran and North Korea in one package, Moscow cut the staff at American missions in Russia by 755 people. This brought the number to the equivalent of Russian diplomatic staff in the US,

which is 455 people.

In August, Washington announced in response that US consulates in Russia had halted issuing all non-immigrant visas for Russian citizens until further notice.

Israel to debate expanding settlement in Beit-ul-Moqaddas

Israeli authorities in Beit-ul-Moqaddas deferred a debate on building permits that would create the largest Israeli settlement inside a Palestinian neighborhood, city councilors said.

The Planning and Construction Committee had been set to examine issuing permits for a settlement in the occupied Palestinian neighborhood of Jabel Mukaber, committee members told AFP.

"They said the matter was now on the agenda for a Wednesday meeting, without giving reasons for the postponement. Settlement watchdog Peace Now said it was because of a scheduling conflict concerning a lawyer for opponents to the scheme."

The permits, if granted, would allow for expansion of the settlement to add 176 settler units to the 91 existing units.

Plans for the new units have already been approved and issuing building permits is the last major bureaucratic step.

Most settlements, particularly in the occupied West Bank, are located outside of Palestinian residential areas.

"Within Beit-ul-Moqaddas, it's a very serious development," Peace Now spokeswoman Anat Ben Nun said.



alchetron.com

"It's indicative of a trend that we're seeing of settlement expansion inside Palestinian neighborhoods in Beit-ul-Moqaddas."

Israel occupied Beit-ul-Moqaddas in the 1967 Six-Day War and later annexed it in a move never recognized by the international community.

It sees the entire city as its undivided capital, while the Palestinians want the eastern sector as the capital of their future state.

Israel has announced several settlement expansions since US President Donald Trump took office.

Trump has been far less critical of Israeli settlement expansion than his predecessor Barack Obama.

Israeli settlements are seen as illegal under international law and major stumbling blocks to peace as they are built on land the Palestinians see as part of their future state.

Settlement watchdogs and Palestinians accuse far-right Israeli groups of pushing for settlements in Beit-ul-Moqaddas to ensure the city can never be divided.

UN: US should give 'Dreamers' durable legal status

The UN rights chief raised concern Monday about Washington's decision to end an amnesty for hundreds of thousands of people brought illegally to the country as children, saying they should be granted "durable legal status."

US President Donald Trump last week abrogated an order issued by his predecessor Barack Obama that protected around 800,000 young people by granting them temporary legal status as part of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA), AFP reported.

The move gives the so-called "Dreamers," many of them Hispanic who are now in their twenties, somewhere between six and 24 months before they become illegal and subject to potential deportation.

"I am concerned by the government's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program," UN rights chief Zeid Ra'ad al-Husseini said at the opening of the 36th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

He pointed to evidence of the program's "positive impact on the lives of hundreds of thousands of young migrants, and on the US economy and society," and said he hoped Congress



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would now act to provide former DACA beneficiaries with "durable legal status."

Trump's move fulfilled a campaign promise of zero tolerance toward illegal immigrants.

But the president insisted he was showing compassion for the Dreamers, many of whom know only the United States and speak only English, by giving Congress six months to craft a lasting legal solution.

Zeid also voiced alarm at an "increase in detentions and deportations of well-established and law-abiding immigrants" in the United States.

He said the number of deten-

tions of migrants with no criminal convictions was 155 percent higher during the first five months of this year than during the same period of 2016.

"Some migrants, including longstanding residents, are now so frightened of expedited deportation they refrain from accessing police protection and courtrooms," Zeid said.

Last month, the UN rights chief said Trump was largely to blame for the deteriorating discourse in the country, warning among other things that his relentless attacks on the media could trigger violence against journalists.

Brexit: Deportations of EU citizens soar since referendum

The number of EU citizens the government is deporting from the UK has rocketed since the Brexit vote, despite ministers' promises to guarantee residents' rights.

Analysis of official government data shows there were 26 percent more enforced removals of EU nationals in the first three months of 2017 than in the same period last year. The Independent reported.

Almost 5,000 EU citizens have now been deported from Britain

in the last 12 months; the highest since current records began and an increase of 14 percent in the last year alone.

The figures come after a leaked Home Office memo revealed comprehensive plans to significantly restrict immigration from Europe when Britain leaves the EU.

Human rights campaigners said that many of the removals are illegal, while Labour called the figures "disgraceful" and said they could

make Brexit talks more difficult. The policies causing the clampdown are currently being challenged in UK courts.

The number of EU citizens being removed from the UK has now increased fivefold since 2010. It reached 4,754 in 2016 — up from just 973 in the year the Conservatives came to power. The rapid rise followed a fall of more than 74 percent in the previous six years, down from 3,779 in 2004.

UN rights chief urges Yemen inquiry after 'minimal' effort for justice

The United Nations has verified 5,144 civilian deaths in the war in Yemen, mainly from air strikes by a Saudi-led coalition, and an international investigation is urgently needed, UN human rights chief Zeid Ra'ad al-Husseini said on Monday.

"The minimal efforts made toward accountability over the past year are insufficient to respond to the gravity of the continuing and daily violations involved in this conflict," Zeid said in a speech to the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, Reuters wrote.



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"The devastation of Yemen and the horrific suffering of its people will have immense and enduring repercussions across the region."

It is the third time that he has appealed for an international inquiry into human rights violations in Yemen since Saudi Arabia began its strikes against the country in March 2015.

Last week Zeid's office said the 47 countries on the Human Rights Council were not taking their responsibilities seriously, and urged them to probe the "entirely man-made catastrophe".

The UN says the war has created the world's biggest humanitarian crisis, with the conflict compounded by an economic collapse that has pushed millions to the brink of famine.

The crippling of the health and sanitation systems has enabled cholera to take hold with unprecedented speed, with about 650,000 people infected since late April, five times the global cholera caseload in 2016.

Sinai blast kills 18 Egyptian policemen

At least 18 Egyptian policemen were killed and three injured on Monday in an attack claimed by Daesh on a security convoy in the Sinai Peninsula, which is gripped by an insurgency.

Security and medical sources said the attack took place near Arish, the capital of North Sinai Province, and that two of those killed were officers. The injured included a brigadier general who lost a leg in the blast, according to Reuters.

Terrorists detonated an improvised explosive device and managed to destroy three armored vehicles and a signal-jamming vehicle. The attack left an ambulance worker, injuring four, and the Daesh terror group claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement posted by its news outlet Amaq.

The terrorists have killed hundreds of soldiers and police since 2013, when the military ousted Egypt's former president Mohamed Morsi after mass protests against his rule.

At least 23 Egyptian soldiers were killed when suicide car bombs tore through two military checkpoints in North Sinai in July, in one of the bloodiest assaults on security forces in years.

There was no immediate comment from the Interior Ministry on Monday's attack. State news agency MENA quoted a high-ranking ministry official confirming the attack took place. Security forces were exchanging fire with terrorists near the explosion site and managed to kill several of them, MENA said.

Eight people killed in Texas shooting

Authorities in Texas said that at least eight people are dead, including a gunman, after a shooting at a home in the city of Plano.

The shooting occurred on Sunday night during what has been reported as a party to watch a Dallas Cowboys football match in the neighborhood of the city which lies less than 20 miles north-east of Dallas, theguardian.com reported.

According to one witness interviewed by a Fox News affiliate, a man arrived at the house and had an argument with a woman outside before drawing an automatic weapon and starting to shoot.

The witness, Crystal Sugg, said: "I saw a man argue with a woman. They were standing outside and they're arguing. The woman was trying to go back in and as she was going back in the house you see the man pull out his gun and starting just releasing. He just started letting them go. It was an automatic. You could hear it go off multiple times, you could hear it just ring off."

Plano police spokesman David Tilley said police initially responded to a report of shots fired.

When the first officer arrived and went inside the home, the officer confronted the suspected shooter. Tilley said the officer opened fire, killing the suspect.

Two others were injured in the shooting. Their conditions have not been released.

The victims and suspect have not yet been identified and all of those killed and injured are believed to be adults.

Karoon Petrochemical Complex exported 320 tons of methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (MDI) to China, the company's first shipment to East Asia, Shana reported.

SPECIAL NEWS

Domestic Economy Desk

Top European banks to establish brokerage ties with Iran

Top European banks are maintaining banking relations with Iranian counterparts in the post-JCPOA era, said the managing director of Export Development Bank of Iran.

At the beginning of post-JCPOA era, only small- and medium-sized European banks established ties with Iran but now major banks are also after maintaining relations with Iranian counterparts, Ali Salehabadi was quoted as saying by IRNA.

He pointed to Belgium's KBC Bank and Austrian Oberbank as the pioneers to this effect.

Export Development Bank of Iran has so far established brokerage relations with 124 foreign banks, Salehabadi added.

Improving brokerage banking ties are one of the most important measures taken by 11th government after the signing of a nuclear deal with P5+1, also known as Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).



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One of the JCPOA achievements was the removal of all regulations that obliged non-American banks to sever brokerage ties with Iranian banks.

Bank Melli Iran, Keshavarzi Bank, Bank of Industry and Mine, Export Development Bank of Iran, Bank Mellat, Tejarat Bank and Bank Maskan have established brokerage ties with foreign banks in the post-JCPOA era.

Austrian Oberbank has announced that it will continue its professional procedures and support transactions with Iran which have helped the bank to gain an excellent reputation in both countries.

"As the first Austrian bank, we are signing a framework agreement for tied financial loans (G3) in US dollars, yen and euros. This agreement allows Oesterreichische Kontrollbank Aktiengesellschaft (OeKB) covered financing with maturities of more than two years. It also allows the financing of important projects, for example in infrastructure or health care. It is therefore urgently awaited by well-known Austrian exporters, who are also shortly before signing their export contracts. The agreement allows important Austrian exporters to start their projects in strategic Iranian sectors. Our range of services is only offered to customers from our markets," Alexander Türk, from the Austrian Oberbank, told Trend News Agency.

In the past, Oberbank already supported the granting of humanitarian supplies during the sanctions period, according to the source.

"Together with our Austrian exporters, we have built up comprehensive know-how over the years, particularly in the field of sanction regulations, and we know the regulations and the customer business very well," he said.

"We know exactly what is allowed and what is forbidden," Türk added.

"A major mistake would be to take legal obligations from national regulations as well as from EU or US law easily or even to disregard," he noted.

There are still sanctions of the European Union and the USA, which must be observed in all cases, according to the source.

"This concerns individual persons as well as certain categories of goods, which may not be exported to Iran or which can be exported only with official authorization. The US legal situation is particularly complex. We therefore pay close attention to any US customer relationship in order to not indirectly violate US legislation and also refuse to monitor US transactions. Such a US reference can be realized by means of payment processing in US dollars, but also by a US value of a product of more than 10 percent," he added.

Austria's Oberbank is expected to sign a deal with Iran on September 21 enabling it to finance new ventures there. Earlier, most banks have stayed away from Iran due to the remaining US sanctions. Oberbank is the only Austrian bank directly interacting and transacting with Iranian banks.

OeKB is Austria's main provider of financial and information services to the export industry and the capital market. True to its mandate to support the Austrian economy, OeKB has served trade and industry since the institution's founding in 1946. OeKB acts as a central hub in the markets, operating impartially and in accordance with its sustainability policy. Its shareholders are commercial banks located in Austria.

Afghanistan seeks speedy development of Chabahar

Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Salahuddin Rabbani has asked India to expedite the development of strategic port of Chabahar in Sistan-Baluchestan Province to bolster a trade route for landlocked Central Asian countries.

The port would allow India to transport goods to Afghanistan by sea. Pakistan currently does not permit India to transport through its territory to Afghanistan, AP reported.

Last year, India committed up to \$500 million for the development of Chabahar port along with associated roads and railroads.

India's External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said on Monday that India would speed up the port development and begin supplying wheat to Afghanistan within weeks.

In August, Afghan news agency Wadsam announced that the Iranian government is offering huge discounts on customs duties at Chabahar port to attract more Afghan traders.

Wadsam quoted the Economic Attaché at the Iranian Embassy in Kabul Mohamadreza Karimzadeh as saying that Iran is offering an 80-percent discount in export tariffs and a 75-percent discount on import duties to Afghan traders using Chabahar.

Tehran, New Delhi and Kabul



IRNA

signed a trilateral agreement to develop Chabahar in Tehran in May 2016, when Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani visited Iran.

The deal stipulates the development and operation of two terminals and three berths at the port with cargo handling capacities for 10 years.

Based on the agreement, Iran is to provide land in

Chabahar Special Economic Zone to Indian companies for setting up petrochemical, fertilizer and other gas-based industries.

India has also agreed to build a 500-km railroad from Chabahar to Zahedan, the provincial capital of Sistan-Baluchestan, close to the Afghan border. India's state-owned IRCON has agreed to build a rail route at a cost of \$1.6 billion

as part of the transit corridor to Afghanistan.

After connecting Chabahar to Zahedan, the railroad will be linked to Zaranj in Afghanistan. Hence, when the Afghan cargo arrives in Zahedan, it can be transported via a 1,380-km railroad to Chabahar and then shipped to India.

A review of trade between Iran and Afghanistan over the

past decade shows the neighboring country has mainly been an importer of Iranian goods.

Iran's exports to Afghanistan have been on a general uptrend since the fiscal 2005-6, topping at \$3 billion in 2012-13. Exports decreased slightly in 2013-14 and the following year, but bounced back to its peak last year (March 2016-17).

Iran's fisheries exports up 60%

Exports of fisheries products from Iran has considerably in recent months, a senior official announced.

According to Fars News Agency, Head of Iran Fisheries Organization Hassan Salehi further said that the exports of Iranian fisheries products in the past four months reached \$412 million indicating an increase of 60 percent against the figure for the same time span last year.

"We also witnessed a decline in the import of marine products by 30 percent," he added.

Iran, he noted, has about one percent of the world's population while it produces over 1.90 million tons of aquatic and fish species.

In relevant remarks in early August, Salehi announced that Iran ranked first in the world in the production of trout and sturgeon.

"In the year to March 20, Iran took a major step in the fisheries sector by achieving a production of nearly 1.1 million tons of aquatic species," he added.



IRNA

Salehi reiterated that of the overall output, 54 percent pertained to fishing in the sea, mainly free waters while the remaining 46 percent came from farming fishery products given the country the top position in this field.

He said that the country gained a good position in the industry last year exporting 120,000 tons of fishery products earning a revenue of \$412 million.

"Over 400 processing centers are

currently active in various fishery sectors such as canning, powder production and packaging giving way to creation of 220,000 direct jobs," Salehi added.

He underlined that the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) had played an important role in the Iranian fishery industry, noting, "Russia restricted imports from Europe and the US in retaliation for their sanctions creating an invaluable market for Iranian products."

The official reiterated that Iran still needs to work on establishing proper infrastructure for meeting demands of foreign buyers like Russia, and said, "Today Russians have a demand for 100,000 tons of Iranian fishery products, shrimp in particular."

The official further underlined that Iran has a low per capita consumption of about 10 kilograms while the global average stands at 20kg; "in a bid to boost people's health, the current per capita needs to rise by producing processed products".

Iran ready for free trade with regional countries: Official



IRNA

Iran is ready to establish preferential tariffs and free trade with some regional countries, particularly Afghanistan, Pakistan and Oman, said the head of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO).

Mojtaba Khosrotaj, who was addressing a meeting of a working group on the development of non-oil exports of the southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan, underlined that the province can play a key role in boosting relations with countries such as Afghanistan, Pakistan and Oman. Tasnim News Agency reported.

Turning to preferential tariffs and free trade, he said that the TPO has conducted necessary planning to this effect and is ready to establish free trade with countries having common borders with Sistan-Baluchestan.

Iran has stepped up efforts in recent years to increase non-oil exports and cut dependency on oil revenues.

In 2014, Iran's exports of commodities and natural-gas condensate reached \$50 billion, showing a 19 percent increase year-on-year.

There was also a boom in Iran's service exports in sectors such as tourism, engineering and transit.

More than four million homes and businesses have lost power in Florida, major utilities said, as Hurricane Irma pummeled the state.

UK flouting duty to protect citizens from toxic air pollution



STEFAN ROUSSEAU/PA

The UK government is 'flouting' its duty to protect the lives and health of its citizens from illegal and dangerous levels of air pollution, according to the UN's special rapporteur on human rights related to toxic waste.

Baskut Tuncak issued his warning after a fact-finding mission to the UK in January at the invitation of the government in a report that has been shared exclusively with The Guardian before it is presented to the UN human rights council this week.

"Air pollution continues to plague the UK," he said. "I am alarmed that despite repeated judicial instruction, the UK government continues to flout its duty to ensure adequate air quality and protect the rights to life and health of its citizens. It has violated its obligations."

Such harsh international criticism will be embarrassing for the government, whose air pollution plans have already been ruled illegally poor twice. The latest plan forced by the courts was released in July but condemned as "woefully inadequate" by city leaders and "inexcusable" by doctors.

Air pollution causes an estimated 40,000 early deaths every year in Britain and was declared a 'public health emergency' by MPs in 2016. Air pollution is worst overall in London, but many other places have illegal levels of nitrogen dioxide emitted by diesel vehicles, such as Leeds, Birmingham, Bournemouth and Northampton. Ipswich has higher levels of particulate matter than London.

London breached its nominal annual air pollution limits five days into 2017 at Brixton Road in south London. Other known pollution hotspots in the capital include Putney High Street in west London, Oxford Street, Kings Road in Chelsea and the Strand.

In his report for the UN, Tuncak assessed how well the UK protects human rights that are infringed by pollution, such as the rights to life, health and safe housing.

Vulnerable groups were worst affected by air pollution, he said: "Children, older persons and people with pre-existing health conditions are at grave risk of mortality, morbidity and disability, with magnified risks among the poor and minorities."



emaze.com

Stop talking about threat of climate change Hurricanes become more common

Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, flash fires, droughts: All of them tell us one thing — we need to rethink how we live without delay.

For the sake of keeping things manageable, let's confine the discussion to a single continent and a single week: North America over the last seven days, according to The Guardian.

In Houston they got down to the hard and unromantic work of recovery from what economists announced was probably the most expensive storm in US

history, and which weather analysts confirmed was certainly the greatest rainfall event ever measured in the country — across much of its spread it was a once-in-25,000-years storm, meaning 12 times past the birth of Christ; in isolated spots it was a once-in-500,000-years storm, which means back when we lived in trees.

Meanwhile, San Francisco not only beat its all-time high temperature record, it crushed it by 3°C, which should be pretty much statistically impossible in a place with 150 years (that's 55,000 days) of record-keeping.

That same hot weather broke records up and down the west coast, except in those places where a pall of smoke from immense forest fires kept the Sun shaded — after a forest fire somehow managed to jump the mighty Columbia River from Oregon into Washington, residents of the Pacific Northwest reported that the ash was falling so thickly from the skies that it reminded them of the day Mount St. Helens erupted in 1980.

That same heat, just a little farther inland, was causing a 'flash drought' across the country's wheat belt of North

Dakota and Montana — the evaporation from record temperatures had shriveled grain on the stalk to the point where some farmers weren't bothering to harvest at all. In the Atlantic, of course, Irma was barreling across the islands of the Caribbean ("It's like someone with a lawnmower from the sky has gone over the island," said one astounded resident of St. Maarten). The storm, the first Category 5 to hit Cuba in a hundred years, is currently battering the west coast of Florida after setting a record for the lowest barometric

pressure ever measured in the Keys, and could easily break the 10-day-old record for economic catastrophe set by Harvey; it has definitely changed the psychology of life in Florida for decades to come.

Oh, and while Irma spun, Hurricane Jose followed in its wake as a major hurricane, while in the Gulf of Mexico, Katia spun up into a frightening storm of her own, before crashing into the Mexican mainland almost directly across the peninsula from the spot where the strongest earthquake in 100 years had taken dozens of lives.

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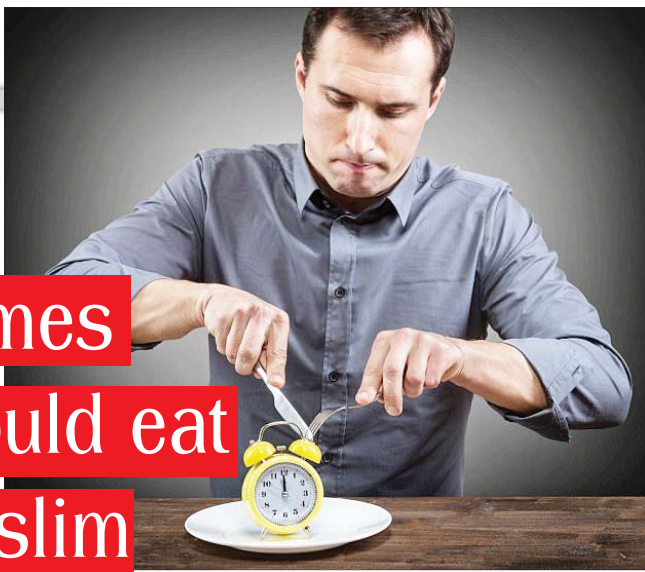
مالکین محترم
ویلائی شما را جهت اجاره به منزل سفیر
و مدیران شرکت‌های بین المللی
در مناطق شمالی تهران نیازمندیم

بهترین مشاوره، برترین سرویس، بالاترین رضایت
مالکین محترم املاک میله و غیرمیله، 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

White matter structural changes in children correspond to severity of autistic traits, a brain imaging study showed.

What times you should eat to stay slim



dailymail.co.uk

The food we eat has a huge impact on our body, and our general health.

But experts warn many of us do not think about the time we consume our meals, dailymail.co.uk reported.

While some of us may eat extremely healthily, research shows we face ruining all that progress if we eat too close to bedtime, or cram all our meals together, or wait too long between eating.

It all boils down to metabolism, giving the body enough time to digest.

However, while the Internet is full of specific plans for dieters saying what time of day to eat, none of those take into account how it could be affected by different schedules.

Our metabolism is affected by our circadian rhythm (i.e. body clock). For some, our body clock is the standard night-day.

But for others who work night shifts or burn the candles at both ends, it is not so simple.

Now, researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital have conducted

the first study showing how meal times affect your weight gain, depending on what time you rise and sleep.

Previous research has shown an unconventional body clock leads to poor metabolism and obesity — no matter what meal time schedule you follow.

Ultimately, the most important factor is waiting a few hours after your last meal before going to bed.

In the study, published in The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital examined body fat, body mass index and the timing of food consumption.

They compared these with the time of day and the person's circadian rhythm (i.e. body clock).

This is the first time that the timing of meals has been studied in real world settings, in relation to melatonin onset, which marks the onset of sleep.

Lead author Dr. Andrew W. McHill said, "We found that the timing of food intake relative to melatonin

onset, a marker of a person's biological night, is associated with higher percent body fat and BMI, and not associated with the time of day, amount or composition of food intake.

"These findings suggested that the timing of when you consume calories, relative to your own biological timing may be more important for health than the actual time of day."

McHill, a researcher with the Division of Sleep and Circadian Disorders, led a team in analyzing data collected from 110 college-age participants.

They were enrolled in a 30-day observational study to document sleep times and daily meal intake.

A mobile phone app was used to time-stamp, document and record the participants' food intake over seven consecutive days of their regular routines.

For one night during the 30-day study, participants were studied at the BWH Center for Clinical Investigation to assess the timing of their melatonin onset, marking onset of sleep

and their body composition.

Researchers found that individuals with high body fat percentages consumed most of their calories shortly before going to sleep when melatonin levels were high.

Individuals with lower percentages of body fat tended to go to bed a few hours after their last bite.

Researchers note that they were unable to detect a relationship between the clock hour of food intake, caloric amount, meal composition, activity/exercise level, or sleep duration, and either of these body composition measures.

The researchers acknowledged several limitations that need to be considered for future work, including the fact that the population of college-aged individuals may not be representative of the entire population in terms of food choice and circadian or body clock rhythm.

Researchers concluded that these results provide evidence that the consumption of food during the circadian evening plays an important role in body composition.

'Phenomenal' new treatment could help save thousands at risk of heart disease

A new daily treatment could slash the risk of heart disease patients dying from fatal attacks.

The tablet, when taken with aspirin, slashes the death rate for people with known heart conditions by 15 percent, and it stops all attacks by 42 percent, according to express.co.uk.



express.co.uk

The tests on rivaroxaban appear to show it could save nearly 25,000 lives a year in the UK alone.

The stunning findings have prompted scientists to halt tests 12 months early.

Dr. Derek Connolly, a consultant interventional cardiologist at Birmingham City Hospital, "This is a phenomenal result and this treatment could save thousands of lives.

"Cardiovascular disease is still the number one killer and reducing mortality by 15 percent means that millions of heart attacks and deaths across Europe can be avoided.

"This is a ground-breaking result."

The twice-daily pill is taken with aspirin and the combination has had such a positive impact that the trial involving 27,000 patients was stopped one year ahead of schedule because the benefits were so large.

Connolly said that the drug would help thousands of patients who suffer from coronary and peripheral artery disease.

Both conditions involve key arteries narrowing along with fatty deposits which elevates the risk of heart attack and stroke.

Aspirin is currently the most widely used treatment but it is only modestly effective.

Combining the drug with aspirin reduces the risk of potential lethal clots in blood and can be taken by people who have heart disease but have not had a recent problem.

The trial, across 33 countries, studied patients with an average age of 68 with established disease.

About 70 percent of them were on beta-blockers and blood-pressure medication as well as aspirin.

It reported that taking rivaroxaban and aspirin could prevent 13 heart attacks, strokes or deaths and seven deaths from different conditions for every 1,000 patients.

Cardiovascular disease causes 158,000 deaths a year in the UK.

The drug, which is already used for other heart problems, will now be assessed by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), the government's regulatory body, before it is available on the National Health Service (NHS).

Last night Professor Jeremy Pearson, of the British Heart Foundation, said, "This is a significant finding. However, the increased risk of internal bleeding for patients who take this medication must be considered when prescribing it.

"It's also expensive, so unlikely to be offered to a lot of people initially.

Nearby parks linked to reduced asthma symptoms in kids

Living near a park can help reduce asthma symptoms among children who live in cities, researchers said.

The new study included 196 inner-city children in Baltimore, aged three to 12 years, with persistent asthma, UPI wrote.

Some lived close to a park or other green space, while others were more than 0.9km away from one.

The farther the children lived from a park, the more asthma symptoms they had over a two-week period, the study found.

For every 1,000 feet between their home and a park, children had symptoms one extra day.

Kids who lived next to a park averaged five days with symptoms over two weeks.

A child who lived 304m from the park averaged six days with symptoms, according to the study scheduled to be presented September 11 at a European Respiratory Society meeting in Milan, Italy.

Study author Kelli DePriest said, "Living in a city environment increases the risk of childhood asthma, and factors associated with city-living — such as air pollution — are also known to contribute to high rates of poorly controlled asthma.

"Other studies have suggested that children with asthma benefit from exercise, and the presence of green spaces promotes physical activity and helps lower pollution.

"The effect appears greatest for kids who are six years and older."

DePriest said that's probably because they are freer to roam than younger kids.

The results underscore the benefits of city parks, she said, and suggested that the right building policies can benefit children's health.

DePriest is a public health nurse who did the study as part of a doctoral program at Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing and Medicine and the University of Maryland.

Research presented at meetings should be considered preliminary until published in a peer-reviewed journal.

Regularly using bleach tied to higher risk of fatal lung disease

Regular use of bleach and other common disinfectants has been linked to a higher risk of developing fatal lung disease, researchers found.

The use of disinfectants is linked to a higher risk of developing chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), according to research looking at incidence of the disease in more than 55,000 nurses in the US, theguardian.com reported.

The 30-year study by Harvard University and the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (Inserm) found that those who used the products just once a week had as high as a 32 percent increased chance of developing the condition.

COPD, which affects an estimated 1.2 million people in the UK, describes a group of lung conditions such as emphysema and chronic bronchitis that make it difficult to move air in and out of the lungs because the airways have been narrowed.

Nearly 25,000 people per year die from the disease in England, which is the third highest death rate in Europe.

Disinfectant use has previously been associated with an increased risk of respiratory

problems such as asthma.

However, the new study is thought to be the first to identify a link between COPD and specific cleaning chemicals known as quaternary ammonium compounds (quats).

Inserm researcher Orianne Dumas said, "The potential adverse effects of exposure to disinfectants on COPD have received much less attention, although two recent studies in European populations showed that working as a cleaner was associated with a higher risk of COPD.

"To the best of our knowledge, we are the first to report a

link between disinfectants and COPD among healthcare workers, and to investigate specific chemicals that may underlie this association."

The everyday use of bleach currently has no specific health guidelines, but the researchers hope this will be investigated.

Dumas said, "Some of these disinfectants, such as bleach and quats, are frequently used in ordinary households, and the potential impact of domestic use of disinfectants on COPD development is unknown.

"Earlier studies have found a link between asthma and

exposure to cleaning products and disinfectants at home, such as bleach and sprays, so it is important to investigate this further."

The researchers analyzed data from a mass study on female US nurses commenced by Harvard in 1989. In 2009, they looked at those who were still working as nurses who had no history of COPD and tracked them until May this year.

During that period, 663 were diagnosed with the condition.

The nurses' exposure to disinfectants were evaluated via a questionnaire and other factors



theguardian



UPI

The UK is becoming the 'sick man and woman of Europe' as life expectancy dwindles for Brits while increasing in other countries, a new analysis showed.



Schoolchildren play near roads with harmful pollution levels

thesun.co.uk

Thousands of children are playing in school playgrounds near roads with harmful levels of illegal air pollution, new analysis suggested.

The findings are part of a campaign by environmental lawyers that claims more than 950 schools are near roads which suffer from harmful pollution levels, itv.com wrote.

Environmental law charity ClientEarth, which is behind the 'poisoned playgrounds' campaign that seeks to protect children from dirty air, bases its findings on an analysis of the latest government data.

Billboard adverts are going up in some of the most polluted towns and cities, including Birmingham, Cardiff, Derby, Glasgow, Leeds, London, Manchester and Southampton, with details of the number of schools in the area near polluted roads.

Supporters of the campaign are being urged to put pressure on the government, via their MPs, to take action to curb air pollution, which causes problems such as heart and lung diseases and asthma and affects children's development.

Air pollution is linked to the early deaths of about 40,000 people a year in the UK.

ClientEarth air quality lawyer Alan Andrews said: "Thousands of children in this country are playing in playgrounds near illegally polluted roads."

"This is a legal and moral failing of our political leaders that puts children's health at risk at a time when they are still growing and therefore vulnerable."

"Naturally, parents want something to be done. So do we."

Football remains America's favorite professional sport, even though a majority of fans admit they're concerned about brain injuries to players, according to a new survey.

Among 1,000 Americans questioned, 77 percent of those who follow pro-football believe head injuries for players pose a major problem for the sport. Fifteen percent said it is a minor problem, while six percent don't consider it a problem, UPI reported.

In addition, the University of Massachusetts Lowell-Washington Post poll revealed that more than 80 percent believe there is either certainly or probably settled science that playing football causes brain injuries. Only one in 10 said that is either probably false or certainly false.

Long-term damage caused by repeated blows to the head has garnered much attention in recent years. A study published



Football fans still loyal despite concerns about players' brains

upi.com

in July in the Journal of the American Medical Association said chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) — a condition that can mimic Alzheimer's disease — was found in 99 percent of brains donated by 111

former NFL players.

Joshua Dyck, co-director of UMass Lowell's Center for Public Opinion, said, "There is a growing ambivalence among pro football fans that puts their love of the game in conflict

with their views on concussions and head injuries."

"The survey indicates that football fans are very concerned about the problems related to concussions, and half think the league has not done

enough to address the issue. However, there is no evidence in this survey that NFL fans have started voting with their feet and remote controls by turning away and tuning out," Dyck said in a university news release.

Despite their safety concerns, 60 percent of respondents said they are fans of professional football, and 31 percent said they are "big fans".

Yet, the poll found that 52 percent of respondents believe CTE is a serious public health issue. And another 28 percent said it likely is.

Other serious concerns that a majority of respondents expressed about football include domestic violence, and violence in general, committed by players.

After football, the second and third most popular professional sports are Major League Baseball and the National Basketball Association, the poll found.



koreabizwire.com

South Korea advised to limit smoking at public

World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended South Korea to adopt more stringent regulations to ban cigarette smoking in public places and restrict tobacco advertising and promotions.

The WHO has been issuing the outcome of the MPOWER project assessing the implementation of monitoring, protecting, offering help, warning, enforcing bans and raising taxes every other year to support an anti-tobacco campaign around the world, Yonhap wrote.

South Korea was not properly implementing policies on protecting, enforcing bans and raising taxes, according to WHO Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic 2017 released on its website.

"Subnational jurisdictions have the authority to adopt laws that ban tobacco smoking in any or all of the places mentioned above. However, no subnational laws have been reported," the report said.

It also cited a lack of 'subnational jurisdictions' that 'have the authority to adopt laws that ban some or all types of tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship mentioned above'. The WHO called on member states to ban smoking at all public places to prevent damage from second-hand smoke.

South Korea has been expanding nonsmoking zones in public places for the past few years but such measures have fallen short of legislating a far-reaching ban.

The WHO also recommends member states ban all forms of advertising, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco while South Korea has been allowing cigarette advertising, promotion and sponsorship to some extent.

South Korea, meanwhile, has been properly implementing four other areas in monitoring, offering help, warning and enforcing bans on smoking, the report said.

The government increased taxes on cigarettes by 2,000 won (\$1.70) per pack from January 1, 2015, raising the price to 4,500 won per pack, citing the need to discourage smoking.

The government mandated tobacco companies place graphic images showing the harmful effects of smoking on the upper part of cigarette packs in 2016.

It moreover came up with a new rule earlier this year to require the pictorial warnings to occupy more than 30 percent of the front and back of cigarette packaging.

The graphic warning images must be placed on packets of e-cigarettes as well as chewing tobacco.

Children living near fast food outlets more likely to gain weight

Children who live near fast food outlets are more likely to gain weight compared with those living farther away, new research suggested.

Researchers from the University of the West of England (UWE Bristol) tracked the weight of more than 1,500 state primary school pupils aged four to 11, The Guardian reported.

The study found children living closer to fast food outlets were more likely to gain a significant amount of weight between the first and last year of primary school.



theguardian.com

The study, which will be published in the Journal of Public Health, claims it is the first to show a link between accessibility to fast food outlets and weight gain over time.

The study's lead researcher, Matthew Pearce, said the findings raise important questions about the role of the local food environment and its influence on the diet of young children.

Pearce, a former UWE Bristol public health student now working for the NHS, said: "We know from national data that the number of children classified as obese doubles between the first and last year of primary school. Understanding the reasons for this is important to protect the future health of children."

"Obesity is driven by many complex factors. Our study adds to existing evidence that the neighborhood environment plays an important role in the development of obesity."

Researchers calculated a 'fast food accessibility score' for each child in the study by looking at how many fast food outlets were within about half a mile of their home.

The study also found a higher density of fast food outlets within poorer neighborhoods.

This echoes data recently released by Cambridge University's Center for Diet and Activity Research, which found that there are now 56,638 takeaways in England — more than a quarter of all the country's food outlets — with some of the heaviest concentrations of fast food found in England's poorest and most deprived neighborhoods.

Caroline Cerny, of the Obesity Health Alliance, told The Guardian when the figures were released that the environment can affect levels of obesity. She said: "Despite the health impact of the obesity epidemic being well known, it is shocking that the number of fast food takeaways is increasing."

"Whether it's the marketing of junk food on billboards and TV, or the proximity of junk food outlets to schools, we know our environment has a huge impact on levels of overweightness and obesity."

Pearce agrees and is calling for more to be done to help people lead healthier lives.

He said: "While ultimately it is down to individuals on how they choose to live, it is widely accepted that we live in environments that make managing our weight increasingly difficult."

"We therefore need national and local policymakers to take decisions that support more favorable conditions that enable people to eat healthier and become more physically active."

Over 500 dead as Congo cholera epidemic spreads

More than 500 people have died so far in a cholera epidemic that is sweeping the Democratic Republic of Congo, World Health Organization (WHO) said.

Outbreaks of the water-borne disease occur regularly in Congo, mainly due to poor sanitation and a lack of access to clean drinking water, reported Reuters.



wp.com

But this year's epidemic, which has already hit at least 10 urban areas including the capital Kinshasa, is particularly worrying as it comes as about 1.4 million people have been displaced by violence in the central Kasai region.

The WHO said at least 528 people had died and the epidemic had spread to 20 of Congo's 26 provinces.

The risk of spread remains very high toward the Grand Kasai region, where degraded sanitary and security conditions further increase vulnerability in the face of the epidemic," the WHO said in a statement.

So far, health officials have recorded more than 24,000 suspected cases of the disease across the vast nation this year, averaging more than 1,500 new cases per week since the end of July.

The WHO sent a team of experts including epidemiologists and public health specialists to Congo this month in an effort to contain the disease's spread.

People falling for lie about sharks in Hurricane Irma

Several media outlets have had to assure the American public that sharks are not in fact swirling around in Hurricane Irma.

In the US' latest bout of 'fake news', a hoax was shared on social media purporting that the now Category 4 force had "air-lifted" the predators from waters off Florida, mirror.co.uk reported.

Remarkably, it appears some Americans believed the story and were worried the sunshine state might become overrun with sharks.

Obviously, a lot of people referenced the brilliant film Sharknado, which is about a monstrous storm full of sharks that wreaks havoc on Los Ange-



mirror.co.uk

We imagine most people sharing the 'news' don't actually believe that sharks are hiding in Hurricane Irma. But there are a lot of people talking about it. After Hurricane Irma smashed

through the Caribbean as a Category 5 storm, flattening entire communities and leaving a trail of destruction, Florida Keys awaited its arrival. It struck on Saturday at around 8 a.m.

Nearly seven million people were ordered to leave their homes in the largest evacuation in US history.

The storm is packing sustained winds of 125mph (201kmh), and a surge of up to 15ft is expected to inundate neighborhoods.

Some Americans thought they might shoot at the hurricane — apparently for little other reason than the fact they have guns, and don't care for the hurricane visiting their shores.

Police in Florida were moved to urge residents not to fire guns at Hurricane Irma. The Sheriff's Office warned that bullets would not divert the path of the storm and that they could instead lead to further danger.

Frail football legend remarries his ex-wife six decades later

England football legend Jimmy Greaves has remarried his ex-wife in an emotional ceremony — 59 years after first tying the knot in 1958.

Jimmy and his wife, Irene, divorced in 1977 only to get back together later, dailymail.co.uk wrote.

The couple, who have four adult children together, finally re-tied the knot in front of family at a church ceremony near their Essex home on Thursday.

Jimmy, a 77-year-old former England and Spurs striker, said he was 'delighted' to remarry Irene.

The football legend has been wheelchair-bound since suffering a massive stroke in 2015, which initially left him unable to speak.

But Irene said that he did 'brilliantly' and was able to say 'most of what he needed to say' through the wedding ceremony last week.

"It was a lovely day, very poignant and

very emotional for the children," she told the Sunday People.

"When we turned around I said, 'Come on then, husband', and everyone roared with laughter."

Irene has been nursing Jimmy, who was part of England's 1966 World Cup-winning squad, since his release

from hospital in 2015.

The football legend, who scored 266 goals in 379 appearances for Tottenham, had previously recovered from a minor stroke in 2012 but the 2015 prognosis was far more damning.

Irene, also 77, said remarriage was something she and Jimmy never thought about, because "as we were concerned we were always married".

She joked that she'll likely keep their first wedding date as their anniversary because next year will be the diamond celebration.

Their first big day was on a Wednesday, because Jimmy was always playing football on Saturdays.

This time around they chose a Thursday and went to the local church with their family. Their two daughters served as witnesses.

The family then went to celebrate at a nearby restaurant, where they had a 'good time', Irene said.

"He wanted a cigarette but I had to remind him he couldn't smoke in a restaurant and that we'd have to go outside. It really wasn't the weather for it though."

Jimmy was just at the start of his career as a footballer when he and Irene first wed in 1958 — he signed with Chelsea the previous year.

As well as representing Tottenham and England with distinction, Greaves also played for Chelsea, AC Milan and West Ham during his time in professional football.

He's still fourth on the list of England's top scorers, behind Wayne Rooney, Sir Bobby Charlton and Gary Lineker.

After retiring from the game, Jimmy, who battled alcoholism late in his career became an award-winning journalist and broadcaster.

The former striker spoke about his illness last year. "I remain in a wheelchair and it's now likely I will stay this way for the rest of my life," he said.

Police shoot, kill tiger wandering on busy US interstate

Georgia police shot and killed a Bengal tiger after it escaped from a truck and wandered along a major interstate near Atlanta, frightening residents of a nearby subdivision.

Feld Entertainment spokesman Stephen Payne said Suzy, a six-year-old Bengal tiger that had once performed in the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus, somehow got loose when the truck hauling 14 big cats stopped south of Atlanta on its way from Florida to Tennessee, UPI reported.

"We stopped in Georgia to feed and water the cats and for a quick rest break for the driver, and that's where we believe the animal escaped and was later confronted by law enforcement," Payne said.

Suzy was headed back to its European owner, animal handler Alexander Lacey, after the circus this year ended its 146-year run, he added. "They've been raised around people their entire lives, so they're comfortable around people," he noted.

Motorists spotted the tiger along Interstate 75 in Stockbridge, southeast of Atlanta, Henry County police said. The interstate was jammed with traffic as people fled Hurricane Irma.



AP

The cat ended up in a subdivision, where it began chasing a dog, police said.

The tiger jumped on the dog — a Dachshund named Journey, its owner Britney Speck told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. The dog survived the attack and is OK, she said.

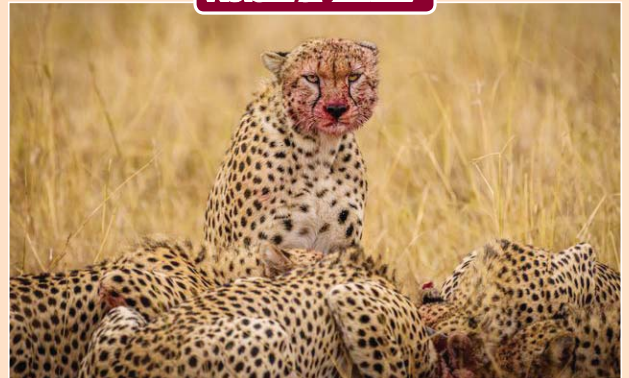
The cat was shot after it "became aggressive toward pets in the area", the Georgia Department of Natural Resources said in a statement.

Payne said he didn't know how the tiger managed to get free mid-way through the trip to Tennessee, and didn't have many details of its encounter with police.

The driver did not realize one of the animals had gotten loose during the night until the truck arrived in Tennessee, he said.

But, neither police nor anyone in the neighborhood knew where the cat had come from — or how it ended up in metropolitan Atlanta. After seeing news reports about the tiger hours after it was killed, a Feld Entertainment employee reached out to authorities in Georgia to let them know they were missing a tiger, state officials said.

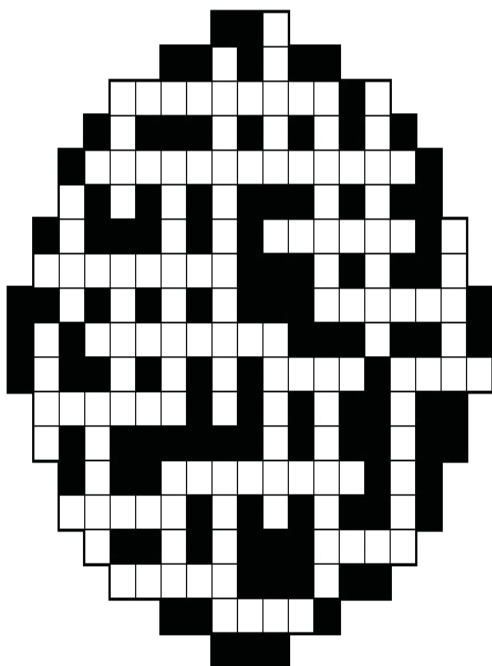
PICTURE OF THE DAY



TALAL AL RABAH, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC YOUR SHOT

A coalition of cheetahs feasts upon their prey in the Rift Valley of Kenya.

Global Word-Fit



- 4 letters: APIA, BONN, CHAD, CUBA, DOHA, PERU, SUVA, TOGO

- 5 letters: CAIRO, GHANA, RABAT, SEOUL

- TEXAS, TONGA

- 6 letters: ANKARA, BERLIN, CANADA, JUNEAU, OTTAWA

- 7 letters: ESTONIA, GRENADA

- 8 letters: BOTSWANA

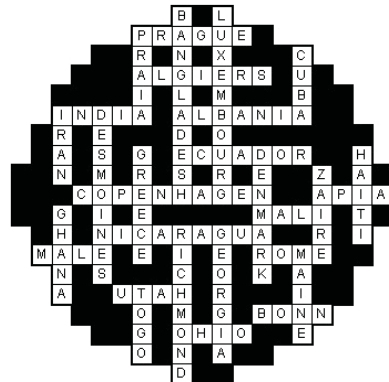
- BRUSSELS, CAMEROON, COLORADO, SRILANKA

- 9 letters: ANCHORAGE

- 11 letters: PORT OF SPAIN

- 13 letters: LIECHTENSTEIN

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.

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

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

Frank de Boer was sacked as Crystal Palace manager after only five games and 77 days in charge of the Premier League side.

FS wrestlers hand Iran 4th place at world cadet tourney

Sports Desk

Iran's freestyle wrestling team put a decent end to its campaign at the 2017 Cadet World Championships in Greece, finishing fourth at the prestigious international sporting event. Iran's Mahdi Eshqi outpointed Kanata Yamaguchi from Japan 6-0 in the men's 54kg final bout at the Ano Liosia Olympic Hall in

crowned champion followed by the US and Azerbaijan which tallied 61 and 53 points, respectively.

Earlier in the Greco-Roman competitions, Iran's team finished in the second place with a total of five medals including two golds.

Mohsen Mad-Hani demolished the Indian wrestler in the 58kg final showdown 14-3 to claim the gold, while Mehran Sa'adatfard



ALIREZA AKBARI/IRNAF

the Greek capital city of Athens to claim the gold.

Meysam Zare' (76kg) and Seyyed Mahdi Hashemi (100kg) had to settle for the bronze medals after they outpowered counterparts from Ukraine and Azerbaijan in the final repechage battles, respectively.

On Saturday, Iran's Abbas-Ali Forootan lost to his Russian opponent Alan Bagaev in the final showdown of the 85kg weight category.

Forootan's 69kg compatriot, Mohammad Nokhodi, also snatched the bronze medal after he overcame the Japanese wrestler in the third-place battle.

The Russian team collected 73 points to be

(76kg) added another gold to Iran's account after he beat his opponent from Hungary in the final.

Mostafa Kayed-Khordeh also reached the 63kg final only to suffer a defeat against the Ukrainian representative and settled for the silver medal.

Mohammad Nosrati and Seyyed Mojtaba Hosseini were Iran's bronze medalists of the Greco-Roman contests in the 85kg and 100kg, respectively.

A total of 50 points gave Iran the runner-up title in the Greco-Roman overall table with Russia stealing the show with 64 points and Ukraine standing third with a 49-point asset.



Nadal wins US Open to claim 16th Grand Slam title

GETTY IMAGES

Rafael Nadal poses with his US Open trophy after beating Kevin Anderson in the men's singles final in Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York on September 10, 2017.

Rafael Nadal put his remarkable resurgence down to his "love for the game" after claiming a 16th Grand Slam title at the US Open.

The 31-year-old Spaniard beat South Africa's Kevin Anderson 6-3, 6-3, 6-4 to win his third title in New York, BBC reported.

Following his French Open success in June, it is the first time since 2013 that Nadal has won two Slams in a year.

"I wake up every morning with the passion to go on court and to try to improve things," he said. "I still want to compete and still feel the nerves every time that I go on court. While that keeps happening, I will be here."

"When some day arrives that I don't feel the

nerves or that extra passion for the game that I feel, it will be the day to say, 'OK, I do another thing.'"

"I am 31, I'm not 25, but I still have the passion and the love for the game."

Nadal's victory took him three away from Roger Federer's all-time record of 19 Grand Slam titles, and the pair shared all four major victories between them in 2017.

"That came after both men ended their 2016 seasons early through injury, casting doubts on their ability to even challenge for the biggest titles again."

"I just can say thanks to life for that opportunity," said Nadal.

"Probably that's why I still have chances to compete in this sport and to do it well. That's all."

Had Nadal converted his lead over Federer, 36, in the final set of this year's Australian Open final in January, there would be just one major title between the pair.

"I really never thought much about that," said the Spaniard. "I just do my way. He does his way. Let's see when we finish."

"There is a big difference. I really don't think much about these kind of things."

"I'm very happy with all the things that are happening to me, to win this title again. I have this trophy with me."

Iran must invest to avoid World Cup disappointment, Quiroz says

Iran coach Carlos Quiroz urged the country's authorities to commit more funding to the preparations for next year's World Cup finals or risk elimination in the group stages yet again.

Quiroz's side became the first team from Asia to book its ticket for Russia in June and next summer's tournament will be the fifth time Iran has appeared at the World Cup finals, Reuters reported.

In 1978, 1998, 2006 and 2014, the three-times Asian champion failed to advance to the knockout phase of the competition and Quiroz fears a similar outcome next year if funding issues are not addressed immediately.

"The situation basically is the same as in the past," Quiroz told Reuters. "We have the federation trying to do their

best. But unfortunately in Iran, and I think all over the world, when you struggle with financial support it's always very difficult to implement a program.

"We qualified three months ago and at this moment there is no reason for us not to have a clear plan and a consistent budget in order to make decisions."

"If you copy the preparations of the last four World Cups, you don't go anywhere. It's a simple conclusion," he added.

Quiroz's comments echo a recent statement issued by seven Iran players on Instagram, in which they called on the authorities to emulate South Korea in mobilizing the country "from top to bottom" for the World Cup campaign.

The Portuguese coach presented his prepara-



MOHAMMAD-MAHDI MO'AZZENIR/IRNA

tion plans to the Iran's football federation soon after they qualified but only two friendlies have been arranged so far.

Iran will play Togo on September 29 before taking on World Cup host Russia six days later.

Quiroz believes it is crucial that his team plays more matches against top quality opposition ahead of the finals, something that will only happen if the purse-strings are loosened.

"Based on my personal connections I was able to bring this friendly game against Russia," said Quiroz.

"Russia are the host nation and have accepted to play against Iran and this is huge in terms of international impact and reputation, but we cannot rely on my personal contacts and relationships."

"If you want to play good friendly games, money talks in football. You cannot ignore this situation."

Quiroz has stressed the Iranians need to take a more professional approach to their preparations or risk more disappointment on

the game's biggest stage and a widening of the gap with the top footballing nations.

"My short term target is to be sure we have an outstanding, unique and challenging World Cup preparation and I will try my best to be different," said Quiroz.

"How many World Cups have Iran participated in? Four. This is the fifth World Cup. What did the four World Cups teach us?"

"If you want to be in the second stage you must be different. Different in your preparation, ambitious, creative, use your imagination to see how you can in 10 months make this team improve."

"In order to be different I need to put all of my energy into this first goal."

"How can we convince the federation and the people who have the responsibility to support us that we must be different? We cannot be like Portugal because they started 45 years ago."

"We cannot be like Germany, they started 55 years ago, France 55 years ago. How can we in 10 months reduce this gap? That's my first job."

Persepolis to take on Al Ahli in do-or-die battle

Persepolis and Al Ahli go into the second leg of their AFC Champions League quarterfinal at Mohammed Bin Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi today with the tie tantalizingly poised after the sides played out an entertaining 2-2 draw in last month's first leg.

Persepolis is enjoying its best-ever run in the competition after reaching the quarterfinals for the first time and the evidence from the first leg shows the Iranian champion is not going to let it end without a fight, the-afc.com reported.

Two goals down with 20 minutes to play, Shoja Khalilzadeh and substitute Godwin Mensha netted to force a 2-2 draw and to set up a mouthwatering return fixture in Abu Dhabi.

All eyes will be on striker Mehdi Taremi, who scored six times in Group D as Persepolis finished runner-up behind Al Hilal but ahead of Al Rayyan and Al Wahda, before Iranian side overcame Lekhwiya in the last 16.

The Iranian international forward has not found the back of the net since the



GETTY IMAGES

group stage, but the arrival of Nigerian Mensha and the presence of Ali Alipour and Vahid Amiri goes some way toward easing the burden on the prolific marks-

man. Meanwhile, after letting a two-goal lead slip in the first leg, Al Ahli will look for a positive response as the Saudi side aims to return to the semifinals for the first time since 2012, when it

eventually finished as runner-up to Korea Republic's Ulsan Hyundai.

The Jeddah-based side has been in fine form this year, advancing from a group that comprised Al Ain, Zob-

Ahan and Bunyodkor, before seeing off namesakes Al Ahli of the UAE in the Round of 16.

With striker Omar al-Somah, fresh from leading Syria to the playoff stage of the FIFA World Cup qualifiers, and the recently acquired Brazilian Leonardo both netting in the first game against Persepolis, Sergei Rebrov's team looks well equipped to challenge for the continent's top club honor once more.

Elsewhere, Claudimir is another new Brazilian signing who arrived after spending two seasons at Club Brugge in Belgium, while captain Taiseer Al Jassam should return after helping Saudi Arabia progress to a first FIFA World Cup since 2006.

'Fighting spirit'

Jalal Hosseini pinpointed Persepolis' fighting spirit and huge support as the reasons for the club's success in the AFC Champions League ahead of the Tehran-based side's quarterfinal second leg fixture.

Club captain Hosseini was suspended for the first leg last month and will

hope to recover in time from injury to lead his side in the second league fixture.

"We may not be among the richest clubs in Asia, especially compared to clubs in the Persian Gulf region, but there's no doubt we have the biggest fan base," said Hosseini.

"And Persepolis has the best support in Asian football because of this support, we fight. It gives us extra motivation and determination to make sure we can get great results."

"This is what we have always tried to do and will continue to do."

Hosseini, who has more than 100 caps for Iran and is part of the squad that has qualified for next year's FIFA World Cup, is currently in his second spell with Persepolis.

Having spent two seasons with the club between 2012 and 2014, the defender moved to another Al Ahli, in Qatar, before signing for Naft Tehran in 2015.

After just one campaign back in Iran, he returned to Persepolis, where he helped the side claim the Iranian Persian Gulf Pro League title earlier in the year.

Art & Culture

'Survival' to come alive at Moroccan filmfest

Iranian short film 'Survival', directed by Masoud Hatami, will be screened in the competition section of the Second Ouarzazate International Film Festival (OIFF) in Morocco.

The 8-minute film, based on a script written by Hatami, is set in the middle of nowhere, where two people are living on a lake and have to survive by sustaining themselves on the flesh of corpses, Mehr News Agency reported.



accinema.ir

Hatami's short film has earlier taken part in a number of international festivals including the Rural FilmFest El Eden de La Mancha in Spain, the 57th Brno 16 International Short Film Festival in the Czech Republic and the Stockholm Experimental and Animation Film Festival 2016 where it won the award for the best film.

OIFF showcases short films from emerging filmmakers from Morocco and abroad. The second edition of the festival will be held in Ouarzazate from September 18 to 23.

Iran's 'Parting' wins top prize in Sweden

Iranian film 'Parting', directed by Navid Mahmoudi and produced by Jamshid Mahmoudi, won the top prize at the 9th Afghan International Film Festival in Sweden.

The closing ceremony of festival was held last night (Sunday, September 10) during which the winners of this edition of the event were announced, Mehr News Agency reported.

'Parting' received the first prize at the Swedish festival's feature films competition section.



roozrang.com

Afghan director and Golden Globe winner, Sedigh Barmak, who headed the fest's panel of jury presented the award to Mahmoudi.

On the same day, Mahmoudi's film won an award at the 6th Persian International Film Festival held in Sydney, Australia, from September 7 to 10.

More than 20 films were screened in the 9th Afghan Film Festival. Other winners were from France, Tajikistan and Afghanistan.

In the past year, 'Parting' won a number of prizes at international festivals including the 'Special Filmmaker Award' at Busan International Film Festival, the accolade for best actress at the International Festival of Morocco and the award for best feature film in Tripoli International Festival 2017.

'Parting' is a gloomy love story of two Afghan migrants, Fereshteh and Nabi, who intend to immigrate to a European country in search of prosperity and guaranteeing a happy marriage.

A joint production of Iran and Afghanistan, 'Parting' has also been submitted as an entry for the foreign film category of Academy Awards.

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Archeologists discover skeletal remains in northern Iran

Archeologists discovered the remains of 19 human skeletons — nine of which belonged to men and 10 to women — in the ancient Liar Sang Bon complex in Amlash in the northern Iranian province of Gilan.

Based on evidence, the skeletons pertained to people who were under 40 years of age, an Iranian archeologist said in a meeting held by the Research Institute of Archeology, according to the Research Institute of Iran's Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICH-ITO).

Vali Jahani further said that the study shows that the skeletons belonged to individuals aged between 14 and 40 years.

He said only skeletons of one percent of the dead indicated violence as the cause of death.

Jahani said 25 percent of the skeletons reveal scars and bear signs of severe sickness.

The cemetery of Liar Sang Bon complex is located on the slopes of Ahin Bar Tallah Mountain.

He said excavations in this cemetery have led to the discovery of antiquities such as clay work and glassware as well as metal, stone, wooden and leather objects.

Jahani noted that potteries, ornaments, daggers and beads were the other relics excavated from the site.

Fifth Orumieh Grape Festival underway in northwestern Iran

Chi Chest coastal village, in West Azarbaijan Province in northwestern Iran, is hosting the Fifth Orumieh Grape Festival which was inaugurated on September 7 and will continue until September 15.

Commenting on the festival, Jalil Jabbari, the director general of the Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Department of West Azarbaijan, said the event is aimed at expanding the province's tourism industry, IJP News wrote.

He added that such festivals will help attract tourists and create investment opportunities for those interested in developing the province's tourism industry.

Jabbari said the festival is an outcome of collective efforts by all domestic institutions and their favorable interactions.

"As in earlier editions of the fest, a handicraft exhibition hosting 30 pavilions will present the province's tourist attractions to visitors in this year's event."

In addition, he said, this year's festival will feature a number of pavilions providing visitors with anthropological information about the province's ancient and deep-rooted traditions and customs with a focus on grape as well as the culture of people in Orumieh.

Commenting on the properties of grape and its health benefits, Jabbari noted that throughout history, people of the province have found out about the nutritional values of the fruit and have included it in their food basket.



ABDOLLAH HEDAIRI/IRNA

The 19th Grand Celebration of Iran Cinema was held at Eivan-e Shams Hall in Tehran on September 10, 2017, one day ahead of Iran's National Day of Cinema (September 11). Attended by a number of cineastes and artists, the function also served as a commemoration ceremony for Iranian composer and tar and setar instrumentalist Hossein Alizadeh (L) as well as famous director and writer Kianoush Ayari.

South Korean Embassy to exhibit marquetry works

The South Korean Embassy in Iran intends to hold an exhibition of marquetry artworks made by artists from the two Asian states in Tehran in coming days as part of the program to mark 2017 as the Cultural Exchange Year Between the Two Countries'.

The expo will be held at the residence of the South Korean Ambassador to Iran Kim Seung-Ho, according to an email sent to Iran Daily.

A South Korean artist, specializing in the Iranian art of marquetry, will display her works, along with many well-known Iranian artists involved in the same field.

In addition, on September 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., a performance featuring South Korean traditional music will be staged in the garden of the residence.

Those interested can visit the expo at the residence of H.E. Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, No. 2, Saedi St., Lavasani Ave., Tehran.

with Iranian art and continue support for Iranian artists.

The exhibition, which is scheduled for September 14 and 15, will be open to visitors from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Those interested can visit the expo at the residence of H.E. Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, No. 2, Saedi St., Lavasani Ave., Tehran.

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Weather

