



Mogherini: Nuclear deal belongs to whole world

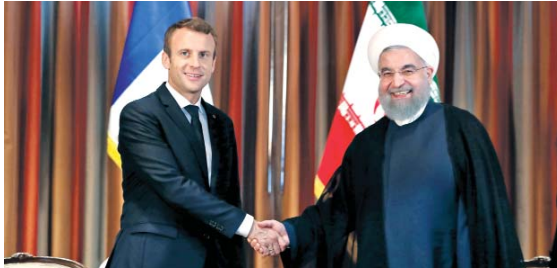
IRAN DAILY



Trump: US prepared to combat global instability through military might

Number 5735 • Wednesday September 20, 2017 • Shahrivar 29, 1396 • Zihijjah 29, 1438 • Price 5,000 Rials • 12 Pages • www.irandailyonline.ir

UN chief, world leaders defend Iran nuclear deal



President Macron defends Iran deal at UN



UN chief urges correct implementation of JCPOA



Rouhani calls for increased EU efforts to maintain deal



Swedish PM: Iran deal should not be undermined

France undertook a robust push at the on-going United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) meeting to make a case for why the United States should stay in a landmark, multilateral nuclear deal with Iran. French President Emmanuel Macron said on Monday that Paris was committed to and supported the nuclear accord, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). Macron made the remark in a meeting with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani on the sidelines of the 72nd session of the UNGA in New York, where world leaders have gathered, Press-TV reported.

The French president called for the full implementation of the JCPOA, adding that any renegotiation of the agreement would be "meaningless." The JCPOA was reached between Iran and six other countries — France, Russia, China, Britain, Germany, and the US — in July 2015 and took effect in January 2016. Under the deal, Iran undertook to apply certain limits to its nuclear program in exchange for the termination of all nuclear-related sanctions against Tehran.

But since rising to the presidency in the US a year after the implementation of the Iran deal had begun, Donald Trump has been actively seeking a pretext to initiate an American withdrawal. All the other parties to the deal have in contrast stressed that the agreement must be sustained. During the meeting with Macron, Rouhani said that the Trump administration's behavior toward the JCPOA was "worrisome" for the international community. "The JCPOA conveyed this message that complicated international issues could be resolved through dialogue and in a win-win framework, and any damage to it could transmit this dangerous message to the world that diplomacy cannot settle problems," the Iranian president said.

Macron has said previously that France saw no alternative to the JCPOA. Earlier on Monday, French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian had said that Paris would use meetings at the UN this week to persuade the US not to abandon the multilateral nuclear agreement with Iran. "It's essential to maintain (the deal) to prevent a spiral of proliferation" in the region, Le Drian warned ahead of a meeting between Trump and Macron. "France will try to persuade President Trump of the importance of this choice," he said, adding, however, that "work" may be necessary about the Iranian nuclear program after 2025, when Western countries believe certain provisions of the JCPOA will expire. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has repeatedly verified Iran's adherence to the terms of the JCPOA. Nevertheless, Trump has called the agreement "the worst deal ever" and threatened that he would not certify Iranian compliance at a future deadline under American law in mid-October. This is while the IAEA and a Joint Commission are the sole official parties in charge of monitoring Iranian compliance.

French diplomacy

Correct JCPOA implementation

More EU efforts on JCPOA

Separately, on Monday, the Iranian chief executive held a meeting with his Austrian counterpart, Alexander Van der Bellen.

Iran's petchem revenues up \$900m

Domestic Economy Desk

Iran's revenues from petrochemical exports increased \$900 million in the five months to mid-August 2017. The main reasons for the growth in Iran's petrochemical revenues were the stabilization of and later, rise in global oil prices, currently standing at around \$50 per barrel, which took place in the beginning of 2017, particularly after the consensus reached by OPEC members and nonmember states on managing and reducing oil production, IRNA reported.

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Amnesty: Myanmar's Suu Kyi, gov't 'burying their heads in the sand'

Aung San Suu Kyi and her government are "burying their heads in the sand" over the violence in Rakhine state, Amnesty International said on Tuesday, criticizing Myanmar's de facto leader for failing to condemn the army's abuses in a televised speech. The United Nations, rights groups, and a tide of Rohingya refugees pouring into Bangladesh have blasted Myanmar's military for using bullets and arson to wage an "ethnic cleansing campaign" against the Muslim minority, AFP reported.

Also UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Tuesday urged Myanmar to halt its military campaign against Rohingya Muslims, just hours after Suu Kyi failed to quell an international outcry in a much-anticipated address.

Addressing the opening of the UN General Assembly, Guterres said he "took note" of Suu Kyi's pledge to abide by the recommendations of a report by former UN chief Kofi Annan that has advocated citizenship for the Rohingya.

"But let me be clear," Guterres said. "The authorities in Myanmar must end the military operations, and allow unhindered humanitarian access." In her speech on Tuesday, Suu Kyi expressed sympathy for the "suffering of all people" swept up in the violence but did not address allegations of ethnic cleansing.

"Aung San Suu Kyi on Tuesday demonstrated that she and her government are still burying their heads in the sand over the horrors unfolding in Rakhine state. At times, her speech amounted to little more than a mix of untruths and victim blaming," Amnesty said.

The rights group lambasted Suu Kyi for remaining "silent about the role of the security forces", whom they have accused of being "engaged in a campaign of ethnic cleansing."

The watchdog also criticized Suu Kyi's call for international observers to visit Myanmar to assess its troubles for themselves, citing her government's blocking of a UN fact-finding mission to probe alleged army atrocities in Rakhine.

"Aung San Suu Kyi's claims that her government 'does not fear international scrutiny' ring hollow... if Myanmar has nothing to hide, it should allow UN investigators into the country, including Rakhine state," Amnesty said.

'Full, unfettered' access

UN human rights investigators on Tuesday said they needed "full and unfettered" access to Myanmar to probe the grave and ongoing crisis, but the government renewed its rejection of the investigation. "It is important for us to see with our own eyes the sites of these alleged violations", the head of the UN-backed fact-finding mission, Marzuki Darsman, told the Human Rights Council, AFP reported.

"There is a grave humanitarian crisis underway that requires urgent attention," he added, asking for "full and unfettered access to the country."

The council set up the mission in March to investigate possible violations across Myanmar, with a particular focus on alleged crimes committed against Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine state. But hours later Myanmar's UN Ambassador Htin Lynn reassessed his government's "position of disassociating itself from the resolution" that set up the fact-finding mission.

Darsman had earlier urged the pressure on Myanmar to grant access, arguing it was "in the government's interest and in the interest of the people of Myanmar to communicate their views and evidence directly to the [UN] mission."

Syria fends off massive attack near Hama city

The Syrian Army and its allies repelled a large-scale attack spearheaded by the notorious Nusra Front terrorist group on the northwestern Syrian city of Hama.

The army and its allies repulsed the attack by an alliance of terrorists led by Nusra on the north of the city on Tuesday, a Syrian military source cited by state media said.

"The clashes are continuing and the air force and artillery are targeting the headquarters and movements of the terrorist convoys in the area," said the source, Reuters reported.

It said the attack by the terrorists was launched on several fronts and that the terrorists suffered losses.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the offensive against government-held areas near Hama was their biggest attack in the area since March. The war monitor added that the attack triggered heavy airstrikes on terrorist-held areas.

The attack near Hama revived hostilities in the northwestern region near the Turkish border that has been relatively calm in recent months as Russian-led diplomacy seeks to shore up cease-fires in western Syria.

The observatory said the terrorists had captured two villages. Those taking part in the assault included the terrorist Turkistan Islamic Party and terrorists fighting under the banner of the so-called Free Syrian Army.

A media outlet run by the Damascus-allied Lebanese resistance group Hezbollah said Syrian Army airstrikes were targeting terrorists in the northern Hama and southern Idlib area.

Terrorists advanced to within a few kilometers of the government-held city of Hama earlier this year, before the Syrian Army and its allies retook the territory in April.

Cease-fires in western Syria — for years the main theater of the country's war — have helped the Syrian Army and its allies advance against Daesh in the east, where government forces are battling the terror group at Deir ez-Zor.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
Greenfield Ahwaz Airport Development Project
Planning, Design, Finance, and Construction Services
on Build-Lease-Transfer (BLT) Basis

Iran Airport and Air Navigation Company is seeking to identify Respondents interested in responding to a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to provide planning, design, finance and construction services for the Greenfield Ahwaz Airport Development Project on BLT basis.

Respondents interested in performing the above mentioned services are encouraged to complete a Statement of Qualification (SOQ) in response to the RFQ #1396 AAD available on the Authority's website at www.tenders.airport.ir. The completed SOQs will be used to prequalify Respondents for receipt of Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the performance of the subject services. If you have any technical problems accessing the RFQ documents online, email us at tenders@airport.ir or call (+98 21) 63148566 for assistance. Your email should include the RFQ#1396AAD, your firm name, email address, contact person, mailing address and telephone number.

SOQs are due by 1:00 p.m. local time on December 23, 2017. Submissions must have the RFQ number and full Respondent name clearly indicated on the outside package.

Send your SOQ to: Iran Airport and Air Navigation Company, Airport Operation Department, Meraj Street, Mehrabad International Airport, Tehran, Iran

CONDOLENCES
Mosayyeb Naemi,
Managing Director of Al-Vefaq

Iran Daily offers its deepest condolences to you on the passing away of your beloved mother.
May her soul rest in eternal peace.

Iran Daily Staff and Management

Mogherini: Nuclear deal belongs to whole world

The European Union foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said that the agreement on the Iranian nuclear program belongs to the international community and is working fine.

"I have said many times that the agreement is working fine, the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] confirmed several times that Iran is fulfilling its obligations," said Mogherini on Monday.

Commenting on the possible withdrawal of the US from the deal, Mogherini stressed that these agreements were not signed with one country. "This deal belongs to the international community," she said. As the EU high representative stated, she sees her task and the task of the European Union to "make sure of the full implementation of the transaction by all its participants," eurasiantimes.com reported.



Mogherini noted that the ministerial meeting of the Russia, Britain, China, the US, France and Germany and Iran on the implementation of the nuclear deal will take place today. She added that this is a "good sign", as usually such regular meetings are held at the level of deputy foreign ministers.

Also on Monday, 76 Europeans in a statement called on the US president to preserve Iran nuclear deal.

The statement's signatories, who include George Robertson, former British defense secretary and former NATO secretary general, Wolfgang Ischinger, chair of the Munich Security Conference, Javier Solana, former EU high representative and NATO secretary general, and Igor Ivanov, former Russian foreign minister, argue that not certifying Iran's compliance on spurious grounds would damage not only US interests but also US international standing.

They express their support for the nuclear deal arguing that it has improved global and European security and losing it would be particularly damaging the Europe.

Iran and the six world powers reached an agreement on the settlement of the Iranian nuclear issue in 2015.

US President Donald Trump, who had made no secret of opposing the nuclear agreement in his election campaign, has threatened to "tear up" the agreement, calling it "the worst deal ever negotiated."

Rouhani: US will pay a high cost if Trump scraps nuclear deal

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Monday that America will pay a "high cost" if US President Donald Trump makes good on his threats to scrap the Iran nuclear deal.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with CNN in New York, Rouhani said: "Exiting such an agreement would carry a high cost for the United States of America, and I do not believe Americans would be willing to pay such a high cost for something that will be useless for them."

Rouhani said such an action by the Trump administration "will yield no results for the United States but at the same time it will generally decrease and cut away and chip away at international trust placed in the United States of America."

The US extended sanctions relief for Iran last week as part of the 2015 nuclear agreement, which Trump has described as "the worst deal ever."

It was mainly a procedural move, but it was significant, as re-imposing nuclear-related sanctions could lead to Iran ending its compliance with the deal and reverting back to rapid uranium enrichment – something Iran has threatened to do if the US reneges on its end of this bargain.

The next major deadline comes in October, when Trump will decide whether to certify that Iran is complying with the agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). If he does not, Congress has 60 days to decide whether to re-impose sanctions waived under the deal.

Rouhani said Iran was ready to respond to the possibility of Trump walking away from the agreement.

"Given that Mr. Trump's actions and reactions and policies are somewhat unpredictable, we have thought long and hard about our reactions," he said.

He said any riposte from Iran would come "quite swiftly" and "probably within a week," adding that "if the US wants to increase the tensions it will see the reaction from Iran."

Rouhani, who was reelected by a popular vote to a second presidential term earlier this year, was a key architect of the 2015 nuclear agreement with the United States, the European Union and other partners.

The deal led to the lifting of most international sanctions against Iran in return for curbs on its nuclear program.

The agreement is expected to feature high on the agenda at this week's UN



General Assembly in New York, which both Rouhani and Trump are attending.

On Thursday, Trump again attacked the agreement, calling it "one of the worst deals I have ever seen."

"You'll see what I'm going to be doing very shortly in October," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One. "But I will say this, the Iran deal is one of the worst deals I've ever seen, certainly at a minimum the spirit of the deal is just atrociously kept. But the Iran deal is not a fair deal to this country. It's a deal that should have never ever been made. And you'll see what we're doing in a couple of weeks."

Trump promised the US is "not going to stand for what they (Iran) are doing," arguing Iran has "violated so many different elements" of the deal.

He promised his upcoming action on the deal in October would be "very evident."

In the meantime, the International

Atomic Energy Agency, the UN's nuclear watchdog, says Iran is complying with its commitments under the deal, including inspections.

Rouhani warned of the diplomatic precedent that would be set by pulling out of the Iran agreement, especially with regard to North Korea.

"I think what the Iranian experience shows is a good experience that can be replicated elsewhere and executed elsewhere," he said.

"But keep in mind please that if the United States wishes to withdraw from the JCPOA, why would the North Koreans waste their time in order to sit around the table of dialogue with the United States, because they would think perhaps after years of talks and a potential agreement the next US administration could step over or pull out of the agreement."

On the war in Syria, the Iranian president said, "Our actions were successful and today we are witnessing the final

stages of the defeat of ISIS [Daesh]" he said, before calling for eventual elections in Syria.

"The future of Syria will be determined by talks and, ultimately, the opposition must reach an agreement with the government, and the will of people would be the ballot box, which should ultimately determine what happens," Rouhani told CNN.

CNN also asked Rouhani about Iran's position regarding the current crisis in Myanmar, where the government has been accused by the UN of ethnically cleansing Rohingya Muslims. The Myanmar government has denied this, claiming security forces are carrying out counter attacks against "brutal acts of terrorism."

Rouhani said that Myanmar should be condemned and that aid should be forwarded to Bangladesh, where hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees have fled in recent weeks.



Iran, Britain FMs discuss ties, regional issues

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif discussed issues of mutual interest with Britain's Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Zarif and Johnson stressed the need to improve bilateral ties between Tehran and London.



The two sides also discussed bilateral banking and consular relations, Tasnim News Agency reported.

The UK foreign secretary declared London's strong support for the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) reached between Iran and P5+1 – the US, Britain, Russia, China, France plus Germany – in 2015.

Johnson underlined the necessity for preservation and execution of the nuclear deal.

Zarif and Johnson also discussed latest regional developments in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Bahrain and Afghanistan and underlined the necessity for stop of violence and use of dialogue for resolution of tensions.

Zarif is in New York to take part in the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

UN chief, world leaders defend...

From Page 1

Rouhani stressed that the full implementation of the JCPOA benefited the European Union and the region, underlining the need for the bloc to increase its efforts to sustain the deal.

He said Iran welcomes boosting ties with the EU member states in all areas including science, new technologies and trade.

Rouhani said Iran has ample opportunities for investment in energy, road, railroad, banking and tourism where Austrian firms can have a share. The Austrian president urged the reinforcement of Tehran-Vienna cooperation in all fields.

Van der Bellen also expressed Vienna's willingness for direct investment in Iran.

Nuclear deal should not be undermined

Rouhani also sat down with Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven in New York.

The Iranian president appreciated the EU's solid support for the JCPOA and warned that the Trump administration's stance was inappropriate.

The JCPOA, Rouhani said, is an international agreement conducive to regional and global security and stability.

The Swedish premier said that the JCPOA should not be undermined and underscored the need for its full implementation and the removal of restrictions on business with Iran.

He further expressed satisfaction with the IAEA reports confirming Iran's compliance with the JCPOA, saying that all parties to the accord should live up to their obligations.

US committed to no international obligation

Earlier in the day, Rouhani met his Bolivian counterpart, Evo Morales, in New York. He said the United States has failed to remain committed to any of its international obligations, stressing that Washington is not a reliable government.

"Today, you can see that the US is trampling on its agreements with Cuba and other countries, one after another," Rouhani said.

Rouhani pointed to the White House's intention to undermine the historic nuclear deal and said, "On the nuclear agreement, the Americans are looking for excuses, and the world can see what Iran has repeatedly announced is true: The US is not reliable."

Elsewhere in his remarks, Rouhani said Iran and Bolivia had a common stance against hegemonic powers.

"The US is drawing up new plans and plots against developing countries on a daily basis, but it has always faced defeat," Rouhani added.

He noted that the US has been seeking to use terrorism as a means in the Middle East, but regional nations, particularly the Iraqi and Syrian people, are defeating the vicious scourge, emphasizing that terrorism is on the verge of full elimination in the region.

The Bolivian president said the US had always pursued hostile policies in the world, particularly toward the Latin American countries, adding that the hegemonic powers sought to divide allied nations.

Morales urged independent countries to boost their relations and act in union.

UK weapons companies earn over £6bn from Yemen war

British arms companies have earned more than £6 billion from their trade with Saudi Arabia during the ongoing war in Yemen, new research has found.

War Child UK claimed the true revenue from dealings with the Persian Gulf state are almost double previous estimates, despite only around £30 million going to the public through corporation tax receipts, The Independent reported.

The charity accused private manufacturers including BAE Systems and Raytheon of "profiteering from the deaths of innocent children" by selling missiles and equipment to the Saudi-led coalition.

It stands accused of committing war crimes and killing thousands of civilians with its bombing campaign against Yemen.

Rocco Blume, a conflict and humanitarian advisor at War Child, said Britain is not only selling arms to Saudi forces but maintaining them as well.

The estimated revenue from ongoing support pushed the estimated revenue far above the £3.6 billion figure announced by the Campaign Against the Arms Trade last week.

"We all want to see productive international trade, but this is damaging," Blume said.

"The revenue has to be seen in the context of all the other costs incurred in this trade, especially to our international reputation, particularly on human rights."

Blume said there was a "lack of transparency" on the extent of British firms' involvement amid a global weakening of protections for children in conflicts including Yemen, Syria and Iraq.

He also raised concern that the UK was becoming "less fussy" about international trading partners as Brexit approaches.

BAE Systems and Raytheon were among the exhibitors at an arms fair held in London last week, which was supported by government ministers and senior military commanders.

Saudi Arabia was blacklisted by the United Nations for committing grave violations against children last year but later removed from the list after protests from the country's government.

MPs and humanitarian organizations have called on the British government to end arms sales to Riyadh, but it won a legal challenge mounted by the Campaign Against the Arms Trade in July.

The High Court ruled that the trade did not break the law because there was no evidence of the Saudi-led coalition deliberately targeting civilians, while it investigates alleged civilian casualties.

Saudi Arabia launched its military campaign in Yemen in March of 2015. The aggression has killed over 12,000 Yemenis, many of them women and children.



People stand in front of houses destroyed by Saudi-led airstrikes in the Yemeni city of Sa'ada.

REUTERS

Trump: US prepared to combat global instability through military might

President Donald Trump, in his first address to the UN General Assembly on Tuesday, stated bluntly that certain parts of the world are "going to hell," suggesting it was within the UN's power to reverse course.

"Major portions of the world are in conflict and some in fact are going to hell," Trump said.

"The powerful people in this room, under the guidance and auspices of the United Nations can solve many of these vicious and complex problems," Trump said.

He said the United States was prepared to combat global instability through military might, CNN reported.

"Our military will soon be the strongest it's ever been," he said.

Trump told world leaders that he



AFP

would not seek to insist their countries adopt US values. "In America, we do not seek to impose our way of life on anyone, but rather to let it shine as an example for everyone to watch," Trump said.

He said he would continue to place America's interests ahead of other countries', suggesting his counterparts do the

same with their own populations.

"As president of the United States, I will always put America first," he said. "All responsible leaders have an obligation to serve their own nations."

Trump has offered a wide range of views on the UN in the past, most recently determining the body is underperforming and inefficient.

"In recent years, the United Nations has not reached its full potential because of bureaucracy and mismanagement," Trump said Monday during a meeting about reforming the UN, his first remarks during a hurried week of diplomacy here. "We are not seeing the results in line with this investment."

OPINION

Germany's federal elections influenced by powerful parties

By Hossein Ziaei*

Many experts believe that Germany's political and economic might stems from having genuine and powerful parties.

In other words, Germany's power is rooted in establishing democratic parties instead of relying on its strong economic foundations. Leading up to the German federal elections scheduled for September 24, six main parties are making all-out efforts to influence the electorates to win more seats.

Presently, the labor market, immigration and taxes are three main issues discussed by the Social Democratic Party (SPD), the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), the Green Party, the Liberal Democratic Party and the right wing, Alternative for Germany, as well as the Left Party.

Nowadays, the two big parties—the Social Democratic Party and the Christian Democratic Union—which have formed a coalition, have arrived at a consensus on plans to reduce the unemployment rate to below three percent. They, however, have differences on how to implement these plans.

Such differences pertain to issues such as setting wages and working hours as well as generating new jobs.

However, other parties such as the Left and the Green Party have stressed that minimum wages must increase and work conditions must improve.

The major parties, excluding Alternative for Germany, have convergent views on taking in refugees. Nonetheless, there are huge gaps between them over how to classify and integrate such refugees into the Germany society.

With regard to the taxing system, the Social Democratic Party and the Christian Democratic Union offered modest tax cuts and extra money for young families. However, other parties want to impose higher taxes on the rich.

Presently, all eyes are on the electoral atmosphere in Germany, which is not tainted by scandals and controversies that are common in today's world politics. Such an atmosphere manifests a disciplined and professional competition among efficient parties which act responsibly and seek to preserve Germany's national interests.

*Hossein Ziaei is an Iranian journalist.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Aung San Suu Kyi, the ignoble laureate

By Gavin Jacobson

During her fifteen years under house arrest, Aung San Suu Kyi—now the de-facto leader of Myanmar—found solace in the poetry and novels of authors such as George Eliot, Victor Hugo, John le Carré, and Anna Akhmatova. Another favorite, she has said, was Rebecca West's "Black Lamb and Grey Falcon," an epic travelogue about Yugoslavia written on the eve of the Second World War. West described a country that Aung San Suu Kyi would have recognized as being much like her own: a fragile mosaic of ethnicities, languages, historical backgrounds, and cultural traditions.

In a short essay called "Let's Visit Burma," published in 1985, Aung San Suu Kyi described the "colorful and diverse origins and customs" of her compatriots. Rakhine state, in the west of Myanmar, was something of a "mystery" in this respect, she wrote. Its population had originated from "Mongolian and Aryan peoples who had come over from India." Owing to its geographical position, Bengal had also "played a major part" in its history and culture. Among the state's numerous ethnic groups—Arakanese, Thek, Dainet, Myo, Mramagyi, and Kaman—others displayed "the influence of Bengali." But she assured readers that while there are "more people of the Islamic faith to be found in [Rakhine] than anywhere else in Burma," it had been "predominately Buddhist" for centuries.

By groups that "displayed the influence of Bengali", Aung San Suu Kyi certainly meant the Rohingya, a stateless minority in northern Rakhine that most Myanmar people consider to be Bangladeshi immigrants. Since August 25th, when militants from the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army attacked police posts and an Army base, as many as a thousand Rohingya have been killed and over three hundred and seventy thousand (more than third of the Rohingya population) have been forced into neighboring Bangladesh, human-rights groups estimate. Aung San Suu Kyi's champions are now contemplating her fall from grace, appalled that the Nobel Peace Prize winner remains silent about and unmoved by a crisis described this week by the UN's human-rights chief as "a textbook example of ethnic cleansing." There have been widespread calls for the Nobel Committee to strip her of the prize. But there is no statutory procedure for doing so, nor is it clear how this would end the murder, rape, and mass exodus of the Rohingya at the

hands of Myanmar's Army.

The most urgent and powerful appeals to Aung San Suu Kyi have come from her fellow Nobel laureates. The Pakistani activist Malala Yousafzai, who won the prize for her advocacy of girls' education, condemned the "tragic and shameful treatment" of the Rohingya. "I am still waiting for my fellow Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi to do the same." Addressing a letter to his "dear sister," the anti-apartheid activist Desmond Tutu wrote of his "profound sadness" and called on Aung San Suu Kyi to end the military-led operations. "If the political price of your ascension to the highest office in Myanmar is your silence, the price is surely too steep," he wrote. The Dalai Lama subsequently urged her to find a peaceful solution to the humanitarian crisis, saying that Buddha would have "definitely helped those poor Muslims."

This is not the first time that laureates have spoken of their displeasure with Aung San Suu Kyi. In December last year, when the military conducted another brutal offensive against the Rohingya, thirteen Nobel winners, including Muhammad Yunus, and Leymah Gbowee, signed an open letter deploring the Army's use of helicopter gunships, arbitrary arrests, and the rape of women. "Despite repeated appeals to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi," they concluded, using her honorific, "we are frustrated that she has not taken any initiative to ensure full and equal citizenship rights of the Rohingya. Daw Suu Kyi is the leader and is the one with primary responsibility to lead, and lead with courage, humanity and compassion."

When Aung San Suu Kyi accepted her own prize, in Oslo, in June, 2012, she said that, under house arrest, "it felt as though I were no longer a part of the real world... What the Nobel Peace Prize did was to draw me once again into the world of other human beings outside the isolated area in which I lived, to restore a sense of reality to me... I began to understand the significance of the Nobel Prize." Since becoming State Counsellor, in 2016, however, she has retreated into the solitude of her former life. Her husband, Michael Aris, died, of cancer, in 1999—she was prevented by the military regime from saying goodbye to him—and she rarely sees her sons. People close to her describe a life of morbid isolation, living alone in the administrative capital, Naypyidaw—arguably the dreariest city on earth—pouring over state documents late into the night. She rarely gives interviews, and is reluctant to delegate responsibilities (there is no obvious successor to lead her party when she's gone).

There's no evidence that the laureates' chorus of indignation has any bearing on Aung San Suu Kyi, or whether their declarations can break the spell of isolation and bring her back to the outside world. The only response she has made to the present crisis in Rakhine was a Facebook post, detailing a phone conversation she had with Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. In it, she criticized the "huge iceberg of mis-

information calculated to create a lot of problems between different communities and with the aim of promoting the interest of the terrorists." While Aung San Suu Kyi has remained silent, the offices and ministries under her charge have not, describing the Rohingya as Bengalis and publicly advocating the use of force in certain situations. "If they are going to harm you, you can shoot them," Aung San Suu Kyi's spokesman, U Zaw Htay, said. The most egregious case of the recklessness of Aung San Suu Kyi's government came last month, when it accused international aid workers of supporting terrorists, prompting fears for the safety of thousands of people in Myanmar employed by charities and NGOs. There have been demands that the US government stop using the name "Rohingya," and when a Rohingya woman gave details of an alleged gang rape, Aung San Suu Kyi's office dismissed it as "fake rape."

Aung San Suu Kyi's biographer, Peter Popham, writes in "The Lady and the Generals: Aung San Suu Kyi and Burma's Struggle for Democracy" that she "has become an object lesson in the slipperiness of the concept of heroism, and the folly of hero-worship." Indeed, the tenor of the denunciations suggests that Aung San Suu Kyi's critics are angered as much by a sense of personal betrayal as they are by her silence. She has exposed the artlessness with which many in the West reduced a complex personality into a Rapunzel of the East, emptied of her more illiberal traits, such as an authoritarian leadership style, and some potentially unsavory views on Muslims. The BBC correspondent, Fergal Keane, who probably knows Aung San Suu Kyi better than any other foreign journalist, has admitted that "we knew too little of Myanmar and its complex narratives of ethnic rivalries... And we knew too little of Aung San Suu Kyi herself." In a rare interview with Keane in April, she denied ethnic cleansing was taking place in Rakhine, and resisted the cruder perceptions of her persona: "I am just a politician. I am not quite like Margaret Thatcher, no. But on the other hand, I am no Mother Teresa, either."

Unlike Thatcher, a consummate political operator, many have commented upon Aung San Suu Kyi's weakness as a politician. Her failure to act against the military operation in Rakhine, so the argument goes, is not a result of her bigotry but because she is unable to outmaneuver the generals in Myanmar's very own game of thrones.

Few can blame Aung San Suu Kyi for her political impotence. The constitutional arrangements of Myanmar would foil the shrewdest operative. Designed by the military, in 2008, the constitution gives the armed forces control of three ministries—the interior, borders, and defense—that are beyond the oversight of the civilian government. It bars Aung San Suu Kyi from becoming President, and allows the Army to veto any attempt at constitutional reform. The irony, then, is that if Aung San Suu Kyi once represented the power of the

powerless, she is now powerless in power, taking the flak for the Army's unrelenting inhumanity in its fight against ethnic rebels on the borderlands, and the Rohingya.

Aung San Suu Kyi's powerlessness hardly matters on this issue, anyway, hatred of the Rohingya is one thing that unites Myanmar. Despite their political differences, Aung San Suu Kyi's party, the National League for Democracy, and the military are in lockstep when it comes to the problem of northern Rakhine. Years of xenophobic, anti-Rohingya propaganda, pushed from the late nineteen-seventies by the military government, endures in the nation's collective memory, and is stoked by the hate sermons of Buddhist monks like Ashin Wirathu. By speaking up for the Rohingya, Aung San Suu Kyi imperils her standing in the eyes of her fellow-citizens.

When she was thrust into the public eye, in 1988, it was her lineage, rather than her politics, that was the driving force. As the daughter of General Aung San, the nationally revered founder of modern Burma, Aung San Suu Kyi was at the mercy of activists who recognized the dynastic force that her name, and looks (she is the spitting image of her father), lent to their struggle against the generals. Responsible for negotiating Burma's independence from the British Empire, Aung San was assassinated by paramilitary forces of the former Prime Minister U Saw, in 1947, six months before its official declaration. Aung San Suu Kyi was just two years old at the time, but there's no doubting her love and admiration for him. In a 2013 radio interview with the BBC, she described her father as "my first love and my best love." This filial piety is perhaps the key to understanding Aung San Suu Kyi as saint and sinner.

Her father was an extraordinarily tenacious, even ruthless, man who navigated between the British and Japanese empires in order to achieve his objective—a unified, independent Burma. He was also a Burmese nationalist who cared little for the nation's ethnic minorities. Today, he is universally venerated in Myanmar, while few outside the country know who he is. This has almost certainly influenced Aung San Suu Kyi, who mimics his leadership style, moral code, and political priorities. The Rohingya are a distraction from her overriding ambition: to complete her father's dream of unifying the country and ending a civil war that has raged between ethnic rebel forces and the Myanmar government since 1948. As Rebecca West wrote in "Black Lamb and Grey Falcon," in a passage that Aung San Suu Kyi likely associated with her father when reading the book under house arrest, "it is the habit of the people, whenever an old man mismanages his business so that it falls to pieces as soon as he dies, to say, 'Ah, So-and-so was a marvel! He kept things together so long as he was alive, and look what happens now he has gone!'"

The above article was taken from The New Yorker.

Trade between Iran and France, currently at an annual \$2.4 billion, is expected to reach \$4.8 billion in 2018, said the head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture, Gholamhossein Shafei.

SPECIAL NEWS

Domestic Economy Desk

For Iranian farmers, 'red gold' barely worth a copper

Iran's position as the lead supplier of the world's most expensive spice is being undercut by fraudulent business under which genuine saffron from the country is adulterated and re-sold to the high-end global market.

The UAE and Spain are the prime suspects, reportedly importing what is globally known as "red gold" from Iran and rebranding it for exports at much higher prices, Press TV reported.

"The UAE imports 50 tons of Iranian saffron annually, but it is interesting that export statistics show 100 tons of saffron leaving the country a year," observed Farhad Saharkhiz, a member of the presiding board of Iran's Saffron Exports Development Fund.



pressstv.com

"Spain also imports 70 tons of saffron from Iran, but figures for its exports are quoted at 130 tons. This means they are selling something like a mixture of edible colors and saffron roots to the world in the name of the Iranian saffron," he added.

Traditional cultivation and harvest methods, as well as bulk sales, stand out as the drawbacks of the sector but middlemen and speculators are an additional burden.

Each gram of premium Iranian saffron can retail for \$65. By comparison, a gram of gold at current rates is no more than \$42. However, for Iranian producers, it barely pays for the labor.

Saffron cultivation and harvest is a painstaking process which requires 200,000 strands of crimson crocus blooms to be gingerly picked in the morning to make one kilo for sale.

Iran produces over 90 percent of the world's saffron, with the northeastern provinces of Khorasan Razavi and South Khorasan being the main cultivation areas of the spice. However, the country's share of the \$1.5 billion business is less than \$250 million.

Much of the crop produced by villagers are bought at knockdown prices by local arbiters who themselves sell it to foreign buyers in large stocks. This means the bulk of the added-value accrues to foreign intermediaries, while the genuine produce barely reaches the end consumer.

CEO: BMI Hong Kong branch resumes activities

Hong Kong branch of Melli Bank Plc, a subsidiary of Bank Mellan Iran (BMI), has restarted its activities, said the BMI managing director.

Mohammadreza Hosseinzadeh added that among the measures needed to be taken by BMI to remove the obstacles to reopening its Hong Kong branch was choosing and introducing a valid and independent institution to render a report about the readiness of this branch for restarting its activities, BMI reported.

He added that Ernst & Young consultant company, headquartered in London, was selected under special regulations and then introduced to Hong Kong Monetary Authority.



eghtesadonline.com

Hosseinzadeh said, "Among the other moves to reopen the Hong Kong branch of Melli Bank Plc was to comply with the precautionary regulations imposed by the selected firm, which was done in accordance with international standards, and then, obtaining the approval of the company on the validity of the taken measures to hand the report over to Hong Kong's supervisory authorities."

He added that Hong Kong Monetary Authority confirmed the final report provided by Ernst & Young firm and agreed on the reopening of the Hong Kong branch of the Melli Bank Plc.

BMI chief said, "On September 15, London's Melli Bank Plc also released news of the reopening of the Hong Kong branch on its website and announced the branch's readiness to provide customers with a wide range of banking services."

He underlined that in some cases including obtaining the banking license, it was required to resolve lots of various and complex issues to gain satisfaction and confirmation of supervisory authorities, expressing gratitude towards his colleagues for their efforts.

Hosseinzadeh said, "Meanwhile, our representatives from Melli Bank PLC met Iran's consul general in Hong Kong and Macau, Mehdi Fakheri to express gratitude for their assistance."

BMI is the major shareholder of Melli Bank Plc.

Iran, Russia sign MoU on energy, mining collaboration

Domestic Economy Desk

Iran and Russia signed an MoU to expand cooperation in the field of steel production as well as mining and oil and gas sectors in Tehran on Tuesday.

The memo was signed in a ceremony attended by Mansour Moazzemi, the head of the Board of Directors of the Industrial Development and Renovation Organization (IDRO) of Iran, Director of IDRO's Public Relations Affairs Ahmad Araqchi, Russian Ambassador to Iran Levan Dzhangaryan and the deputy head of the Russian Trade and Economic Development Council (RTEDC), IRNA reported.

RTEDC is a non-profit NGO with more than 10,000 important Russian economic companies as subsidiaries.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Moazzemi said relations between Iran and Russia are long-term and strategic.

He added Iran's policy and priority is to strengthen relations with those countries which did not sever economic and trade ties with the Middle Eastern state at the height of the Western sanctions.

Turning to the memo signed be-



FARAJ SAMADIPURNA

tween the two countries, IDRO chief said it is good to sign such agreements, but it would be better to implement them.

"We are required to use the favorable opportunities Russia has provided Iranian companies with."

He added the Russian delegation

is the 100th foreign team to visit Iran since the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) signed between Iran and P5+1 went into force.

Iran expands overseas farming amid lingering drought

Iran is exploring overseas resources to ensure stable supplies of agricultural products for a rapidly urbanizing population in the face of constraints arising from worsening land and water resources.

The semi-arid state has been investing in large areas of farmland overseas, where contracts for cultivation on nearly 800,000 to one million hectares in a number of countries have been signed and approved by the government, according to Agriculture Minister Mahmoud Hoojati, Press TV reported.

"Due to the paucity of water resources, the government is seriously pursuing an overseas farming plan for some commodities, including grain corn and oilseeds," the minister has said.

Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Brazil and Ghana have been cited in the media to be among the places which Iran was pushing for long-term leasing or ownership of farmlands with higher agribusiness potentials.

Iran had started cultivation of grain corn on 250 hectares, which was successful.

There are now plans for this year to carry out the project on a larger scale in partnership with Azerbaijani companies, he said.

Under the contract, the Azerbaijani side will provide land and supply water and Iranian companies will contribute technical knowledge and management.

"We are following two goals: Bringing in foreign exchange to the country through supply of products to the Azerbaijani market and producing certain commodities for domestic use such as barley and alfalfa," Motaharnejad told IRNA.

His company is also pursuing agricultural projects in Ukraine which has plenty of water and very fertile land, "but we need the support of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran", he added. Iran relies on imports for 90 percent of its requirements for water-intensive products such as wheat and oilseeds. Other water-

Other clients of Iran's hydrating treat were ironically the countries with more abundant water resources such as Sweden, Poland, Hungary, Belarus, Germany, Albania, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan.

For years, Iran has been trying to modernize its farming sector and rebalance output toward dry farming and value-added crops which are increasing in demand among its population of over 80 million.

Current farming methods include open-land agriculture and greenhouse production but more modern practices such as hydroponics, a soil-less culture technology which uses less water and land, have yet to be introduced.

Iran exported its first consignment of wheat after many years this year, with state officials cheering it as a sign that the country's plans to attain self-sufficiency in production of the strategic staple had materialized.

Results from state purchases from Iranian wheat growers so



Corn plantation in Azadshahr in Iran's northern Golestan Province

pressstv.com

On Saturday, Brazil's deputy Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply Aomar Roberto Novak told IRNA that Iranian farming was possible in his country and that companies from the two sides had to negotiate and reach a conclusion.

Across the border, Azerbaijan is the latest country where Iran has been conducting agricultural projects in more temperate climates.

Rahim Motaharnejad, managing director of Hami holding, a non-governmental support group,

guzzling crops such as watermelons have a steady army of critics in a country where aquifers are critically overdrilled.

On Monday, Tasnim News Agency cited state statistics indicating that Iran had exported 500,000 tons of watermelons, worth \$100 million, in the five months since March. Iraq, the UAE, Turkey, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Qatar and Oman were the biggest recipients of Iran's watermelon shipments — a summer-time staple to quench thirst in sizzling temperatures.

buy this year are also robust, and buys of 8.8 million tons have already been secured, according to officials. Food security is a key policy area for global state planners, and for Iran, it is additionally crucial in the face of a protracted drought where falling water tables are adversely affecting harvests and the basket of agricultural products is narrowing.

Food prices were a key driver of Iran's double-digit inflation which shot over 40 percent under former president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Iran eager to work with German entrepreneurs

An Iranian minister expressed the country's willingness to develop close partnership with German entrepreneurs and industry leaders.

In a meeting with a group of German business people in Tehran on Monday, Iranian Minister of Cooperative, Labor and Welfare Ali Rabiei said Iran is ready to begin trade interactions with German entrepreneurs and industry owners, Tasnim News Agency reported.



tasnimnews.com

Expanding on Iran ensuring sustainable security for foreign investors in its territory, the minister said foreign funders can use the country's market to access the region's 300-million strong market.

Diplomatic and trade relations between Iran and European countries, Germany in particular, have improved considerably since the signing of the nuclear deal, also known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), between Tehran and P5+1, in 2015 and its implementation in January 2016.

In June, Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif visited Berlin for talks with senior German officials on fostering bilateral relations as well as regional and international developments.

Earlier this month, Iranian automaker Iran Khodro Company (IKCO) and the German giant Mercedes-Benz signed a contract to launch a joint venture.

Iran's petchem revenues...

From Page 1

The other factor contributing to the rise in Iran's earnings from petrochemical exports was the completion of new projects in the sector.

During the five-month period, Iran sold 9.19 million tons of petrochemicals in global markets, up by 470,000 tons compared to the figure for the corresponding period last year.

In the same duration, the value of petrochemical exports stood at \$4.59 billion, indicating a \$900-million growth year-on-year.

During March 21-August 22, Iranian plants produced 22.6 million tons of petrochemicals. The figure is expected to reach a record high of 58 million tons by March 21, 2018.

Iran's annual petrochemical exports are also set to amount to over 23 million tons. In case the target is achieved, the overseas sales of these products will earn the country \$12 billion.

Currently, Iran's annual petrochemical production capacity stands at 62 million tons. Once the ongoing projects in the sector are completed, the figure would witness a 10-million-ton increase by mid-March 2018.

Saudi Arabia is considering a plan to phase out subsidies for gasoline and jet fuel in November at the latest, as the world's biggest oil exporter pushes a program to curtail spending after a global slump in prices.

ITUC: The global economic model has failed



netdna-cdn.com

General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) Sharan Burrow has just returned from a long weekend in Latin America. In Panama she met with laborers. Out in the real world. That is where she is most at home. Where working conditions are poor. Conditions that she has spent her life trying to change.

It's Monday at ITUC's office in Brussels. A first hectic week after the summer is underway. This autumn's agenda is, as always, the obvious areas of concern for the organization: equality, migration, climate and the eradication of slave labor, according to IPS.

ITUC has launched a campaign that they call 'war on climate change'.

• When you consider the losses of life due to weather change and season shifts, it's already a reality. People are being displaced.

Burrow scorns the criticism that the ITUC shouldn't be spending time and money on the climate.

• If you don't have jobs — you can't fight for wages and conditions. So if jobs are at risk in the context of climate destruction then it's our core business.

Among ITUC plans, is to put pressure on the giant pension funds to make sure they make climate smart investments. But pressure and demands are also put on

governments, corporations and investors. ITUC is a confederation of confederations for the world's trade unions. Burrow has been Secretary General since 2010 and both represents and is responsible to 176-million members.

• Of all the international bodies that have an influence in the world of work, we are represented there.

The relative importance of organs like the Davos World Economic Forum or the G20 summit for the global labor markets has been downplayed by some critics. But Burrow doesn't pay heed to that view.

• People say the G20 is not effective and we could join that critique if solely in terms of implementation, but in terms of establishing an agenda the last G20 reached two very important pieces policies for us.

The labor ministers decided that violations of labor rights and human rights could no longer be part of the competition. And they decided that minimum wages had to be based on dignity. That set a framework for fair competition in a global economy that has lost its way.

About 94 percent of the global supply chains are reliant on a hidden workforce. If you take Latin America, 25 of the largest companies employ 70 million people but only four million are employed directly. The rest are

a hidden workforce and they are subject to abused fundamental rights and nobody takes responsibility for this

• She is both visibly and audibly incensed. • The global economic model has failed. People are horrified that inequality is growing at such a high rate, well for us it's not a shock, it is built into the model.

• She is referring to studies that show that about 94 percent of the global supply chains are reliant on a hidden workforce.

• If you take Latin America, 25 of the largest companies employ 70 million people but only four million are employed directly. The rest are a hidden workforce and they are subject to abused fundamental rights and nobody takes responsibility for this.

ITUC's position is that the importance of a social dialogue is pivotal, and they support the Global Deal initiative launched by Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven.

• Collective bargaining is under attack, minimum wages are low and social protection isn't expanding.

At the moment sixteen countries, seventeen unions and seven corporations are in the Global Deal partnership. Several Swedish large companies that Arbetet Global has spoken to question the initiative, while employer organizations claim the initiative may undermine the efforts of International Labor Organization.

Main Indices of TSE

Index	Value	Change	Percent
Total Index	85287.7	2522.5	3.11
Industry Index	74261.2	2306.2	3.29
Free Float Index	92011.2	3826	4.27
First Market Index	59450.7	2388.7	4.21
Second Market Index	187744.3	2030.5	1.14

Overall Index details on 20170919

First	84414.5	Change end of year(%)	919.04%
High	85287.7	Historical highest	89500.6 (20140105)
Low	84455.2	Historical lowest	100 (1369/1/6)
Close	85287.7	Base Value	100 (1369/1/6)
Change	2522.5		

Industry Index details on 20170919

First	73442.4	Change end of year(%)	1034.32%
Max Value	74187.2	Historical highest	75181.9 (20140105)
Max Value	72675.1	Historical lowest	1226.8 (1377/8/25)
Closing	74261.2	Base Value	
Closing	2306.2		

Free Float Index details on 20170919

First	91443.0	Change end of year(%)	
Max Value	89665	Historical highest	105040 (20140105)
Max Value	89154.9	Historical lowest	
Closing	92011.2	Base Value	
Closing	3826		

Main Board Index details on 20170919

First	58673.3	Change end of year(%)	787.77%
Max Value	59422.4	Historical highest	67441.4 (20140105)
Max Value	56380.7	Historical lowest	
Closing	59450.7	Base Value	4740.4 (1381/6/2)
Closing	2388.7		

Secondary Index details on 20170919

First	186571.7	Change end of year(%)	1317.58%
Max Value	187738.4	Historical highest	181353 (20170522)
Max Value	177894	Historical lowest	
Closing	187744.3	Base Value	4740.4 (1381/6/2)
Closing	2235.2		

BoE: Brexit to bring weaker economy, higher inflation

The governor of the Bank of England (BoE) has warned that the major economic impact of Brexit has yet to be felt, but it was likely to spell a weaker economy, higher inflation and higher interest rates in the coming years.

In his latest attack on Brexit, Mark Carney said that it should be seen as a prime example of 'de-globalization', adding that it was likely to dampen UK growth, and that any fall in migration numbers could also push up inflation and force the bank to raise borrowing costs, Sky News wrote.

However, in a speech at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, the governor surprised those expecting more detail on when and by how much the bank was likely to raise interest rates, and instead focused on the economic fallout of Britain's departure from the EU.

Carney said Brexit was "an example of de-globalization not globalization".

He added: "It will proceed rapidly not slowly. Its effects will not build by stealth



wikimedia.org

but can be anticipated."

The governor said any fall in migration following Britain's departure could push

up prices in the UK, saying: "Abrupt decreases in migration could result in shortages in some sectors that have become

reliant on migrant labor, and contribute more materially to inflationary pressures."

Carney also said that while economic growth remained relatively resilient so far, it could take many years for the full impact of the transition to be felt by the UK economy, pointing out that any fall in the value of the currency could take as long as four years to feed into domestic prices.

However, he said that there was only so much the Bank could do with interest rates: "It is critical to recognize that Brexit represents a real shock about which monetary policy can do little.

"Monetary policy cannot prevent the weaker real incomes likely to accompany the move to new trading arrangements with the EU, but it can influence how this hit to incomes is distributed between job losses and price rises.

"And it can support UK households and businesses as they adjust to such profound change."

Singapore to set aside \$1.1m to promote ASEAN cybersecurity capacity

Singapore will set aside 1.5 million Singapore dollars (about \$1.1 million) out of its 10-million-Singapore-dollar ASEAN Cyber Capacity Building Program (ACCP) for the next three years to boost ASEAN's technical capacity against cyber risks, the government said.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the second ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Cybersecurity, Singapore's Minister for Communications and Information Yaacob Ibrahim said that the fund will be used to build technical capability among incident responders and operators in the ASEAN region, Xinhua reported.

The ACCP was announced by the minister at the opening ceremony of the first ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Cybersecurity last year. It is aimed at developing technical, policy and strategy-building capabilities within ASEAN member states through workshops, seminars and conferences organized, in collaboration with partners such as government agencies, industry players and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Ibrahim said at this year's event that Singapore will be partnering the industry to run an

ASEAN Cybersecurity Industrial Attachment Program, which will offer training opportunity in Singapore for up to 18 candidates from ASEAN member states.

The minister suggested three ways to ensure a secure and resilient cyberspace in the ASEAN region.

First, the ASEAN countries need to achieve good cybersecurity domestically so as to better contribute to the regional effort.



inc42.com

Second, the countries can work together within and beyond ASEAN to minimize cyber risks by raising the level of regional capacity and cooperation in cybersecurity.

Third, the countries need to go beyond themselves and the region, and strengthen international partnerships, because a coherent and coordinated global effort is key to a trusted and resilient cyber environment.

"Hopefully we will succeed, and look back in 2067 to this day when our collective efforts to tackle cybersecurity paved the way for a sustained 50 years of growth and development," he said.

The ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Cybersecurity is part of the inaugural Singapore International Cyber Week (SICW), which will have an opening plenary on Tuesday morning.

The SICW is the region's most established cybersecurity event and is organized by Singapore's Cyber Security Agency. It is expected to attract over 6,000 international and regional policy makers, thought leaders, industry experts and visitors.

Major Currencies

Currency	To USD	Currency	To USD
Turkish Lira	0.2861	Chinese Yuan	0.1518
Euro	1.1992	UAE Dirham	0.2722
British Pound	1.3535	Kuwaiti Dinar	3.3135
Australian Dollar	0.7985	Iraqi Dinar	0.0008
Japanese 100 Yen	0.0089	Saudi Riyal	0.2666

Major Commodities

Crude Oil	\$50.20	Silver	\$17.21
Gold	\$1311.80	Platinum	\$961.00
Copper	\$2.96	Wheat	\$446.75

Size matters when it comes to extinction risk

The biggest and the smallest of the world's animals are most at risk of dying out, according to a new analysis.

Size matters when it comes to extinction risk, with vertebrates in the so-called "Goldilocks zone" — not too big and not too small — winning out, said scientists, BBC reported.



GETTY IMAGES

Action is needed to protect animals at both ends of the scale, they said.

Heavyweights are threatened mainly by hunting, while featherweights are losing out to pollution and logging.

"The largest vertebrates are mostly threatened by direct killing by humans," said a team led by Prof. Bill Ripple of Oregon State University in Corvallis, US.

"Whereas the smallest species are more likely to have restricted geographic ranges — an important predictor of extinction risk — and be threatened by habitat degradation."

The research adds to evidence that animals are dying out on such a scale that a sixth extinction is considered under way.

This has prompted efforts to determine the key drivers of extinction risk.

One clue is body size. Research on birds and mammals has shown that those with larger bodies are more likely to go extinct.

Yet, when the researchers made a data base of thousands of birds, mammals, fish, amphibians and reptiles at risk of extinction, they found disproportionate losses at the large and small ends of the scale.

"Surprisingly, we found that not only the largest of all vertebrate animal species are most threatened, but the very tiniest ones are also highly threatened with extinction," Ripple told BBC News.

Carbon 'budget' may be bigger than thought: Study

A new analysis estimated that the world's remaining carbon budget to be nearly four times bigger than previously thought.

An ambitious goal to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius is still within reach, said researchers who calculated humanity may have a larger allowable 'budget' for burning carbon than previously thought, phys.org wrote.

While this amounted to rare 'good news' in the generally doom-and-gloom domain of climate science, it was no cause for complacency, said the authors of a study in the journal Nature Geoscience.

Instead, it should revitalize efforts towards a target many had already abandoned as too onerous.

"All large emitters without exception will have to step up their efforts," coauthor Joeri Rogelj of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Austria, told AFP.

Countries agreed in the Paris Agreement, adopted in 2015 after years of bickering, to limit average global warming to "well below" two degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) over pre-industrial levels.

They also committed to "pursuing efforts" for a more difficult 1.5°C target, for a better chance of avoiding global warming's worst effects.

In a 2014 report, the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate



straitstimes.com

Change (IPCC), said the carbon concentration in the atmosphere should not exceed 450 parts per million (ppm) of CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e) by 2100 for a 'likely', 66-percent, chance of 2°C.

According to the IPCC report, the concentration in 2011 was already 430 ppm CO₂e.

On the basis of the IPCC figures, a budget of 400 billion tons was

calculated as the maximum amount of CO₂ humanity can emit into the atmosphere from 2011 and still keep the 1.5°C goal in sight.

For 2015, that number dropped to about 245 billion tons.

The new analysis, however, estimates the remaining budget from 2015 to be closer to 880 billion tons of CO₂ — nearly four times bigger than the UN estimate, the research

team said.

Pressure 'not off'

"This is good news but the pressure is not off," said Rogelj.

The findings, he added, "revised the objective of keeping maximum warming to 1.5°C — back from being a geophysical and socio-economic implausibility to it being

possible, yet still very challenging."

The team said they used the same 'Earth System' simulation models employed by the IPCC for its projections, but also other modelling tools that enabled them to explore a greater variety of possible scenarios.

"Our study is based on a wider range of evidence than available at the time of the IPCC report," said Rogelj.

The results showed that reaching 'carbon neutrality' by mid-century would offer "a fair chance to keep global warming to a maximum 1.5°C," he added.

Carbon neutrality means removing as much carbon from the atmosphere as you put into it, in order to achieve a zero carbon footprint, or even a negative one.

"The literature shows that achieving carbon neutrality is technologically and economically possible, if we start with ambitious actions today," said Rogelj.

But it was clear that national carbon-cutting pledges submitted under the Paris Agreement, dubbed NDCs, "do not represent the kind of ambitious actions that are implied here," the researcher added.

Keeping within the budget would require a phase-out of traditional coal power in the next two decades, and investing in trees and technology that suck CO₂ from the atmosphere.

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مالکین محترم ویلای شما را جهت اجاره به منزل سفیر و مدیران شرکت های بین المللی در مناطق شمالی تهران نیازمندیم

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

مالکین محترم ساختمان دربیست در مناطق شمال تهران جهت اجاره به یک سفارتخانه و کمپانی های خارجی نیازمندیم



Alzheimer's can be prevented simply by being physically active

Alzheimer's can be prevented simply by switching off the TV and going for a brisk walk or jog and lowering your blood pressure, according to new research.

A study of more than 1,700 people who lived into their 90s found the most resilient to the debilitating disease were also the most physically active, *express.co.uk* wrote.

Professor Claudia Kawas, a neurologist at California University, said, "Post mortems showed one-in-two dementia-free participants had Alzheimer's-style brain plaques when they died."

"Interestingly enough, autopsies revealed about half of the 'oldest-old' without dementia have a high-degree of Alzheimer's neuropathology in their brains — although they were mentally fit while alive."

"On the other hand half of the dementia patients did develop symptoms of cognitive decline without these changes in the brain."

"The reasons for this 'cognitive resilience' — having Alzheimer pathology while not showing symptoms — could be down to lifestyle."

"Those that showed most resilience got more exercise and watched less

TV."

The findings presented at the World Congress for Neurology in Kyoto, Japan, shed light on why some people get dementia and others do not — even if they reach a highly advanced age.

They follow Cambridge University research three years ago which found just one hour's exercise a week — such as jogging, football or walking — cuts the chance of Alzheimer's by almost half.

"The '90+ Study' is the largest of its kind and has visited participants in Orange County since 2003.

Neurological and neuropsychological tests are carried out every six months.

Earlier, this year research suggested more than a third of dementia cases might be avoided by tackling aspects of lifestyle including education, exercise, blood pressure and hearing.

Kawas said, "It's important to study the oldest-old. We can learn a lot from this fastest growing age group."

According to life expectancy projections most babies born since 2000 in countries with long life expectancies — such as the UK — will celebrate their 100th birthdays.

She said, "In view of the demographic developments delay of cognitive decline is crucial."

"We have calculated if interventions could delay the onset of Alzheimer's disease in those afflicted by two years there would be — in the US alone — nearly two million fewer cases than projected by 2050."

It turned out 40 percent of the participants had dementia diseases — with women being more heavily affected than men.

Education was particularly protective in individuals who were shown in PET (positron emission tomography) scans to have brain plaques — abnormal clusters of beta amyloid proteins — typical of Alzheimer's."

Kawas said, "People with a low level of education had a four times higher statistical risk of contracting dementia than those with a higher level of education."

"But among those without the plaques the educational difference was irrelevant."

"Multiple brain pathologies are at the root of dementias at all ages."

"In the oldest-old the presence of multiple pathologies is associated with increased likelihood of

dementia.

"The number of pathologies also seems to be relevant for the severity of the cognitive decline."

"We will therefore need to target multiple pathologies to reduce the burden of dementia. Major uncertainties continue to persist when it comes to the question of how dementias can be stopped or their progress delayed at all ages."

"An ongoing US study entitled 'Preventing Cognitive Decline and Dementia' failed to identify specific interventions."

"However, the overarching message we can derive from the findings so far is — keep your body and brain working in order to protect cognition."

Physical activity — or the lack thereof — was identified as one of the risk factors open to influence that has the greatest effect on cognitive disorders and dementia.

The study showed exercise can play a part in postponing or slowing down age-related cognitive decline.

Getting high blood pressure under control appears to be important for mental health as well — especially in mid-life between 35 and 65.

Antibiotic for treating superbug bacteria may lead to other infection

Mankind faces the risk of attack from superbug bacteria consisting of more than one kind of bacteria, and trying different antibiotics to control one such "superbug" may only encourage others lurking nearby, new findings of a study of the University of Michigan (UM) showed.

UM researchers used detailed data from a long-term study of nursing home patients, according to *news.xinhuanet.com*.

Nearly two-thirds of the patients studied were treated with one or more of 50 different antibiotics during the study period.

All the patients in the study used a urinary catheter to empty their bladders for at least three days during the study period, allowing researchers to look at patterns of urinary tract infections, which in nursing home and hospital patients often arise from bacteria entering the bladder along a catheter.

The findings showed that colonization of such patients' skin, noses and throats with common MDROs was not random.

Lead author Joyce Wang, a postdoctoral fellow at UM Medical School Department of Microbiology and Immunology, said, "We observed a complex network of interactions, with acquisition of each of six different multidrug-resistant organism (MDRO) species being influenced by different sets of antibiotics and primary MDRO colonization in turn increasing the risk of acquisition and infection by other MDROs."

Colonization with one MDRO increased the risk of acquiring other MDROs. And treatment of a patient with any given antibiotic increased their chances of being colonized with an MDRO, which in turn altered their risk of becoming colonized with another MDRO later.

To be specific, 40 percent of the 234 frail elderly patients in the study had more than one MDROs living on their bodies.



Patients who had specific pairs of MDROs were more likely to develop a urinary tract infection involving an MDRO.

UM researchers have focused on two of the most dangerous MDROs, vancomycin resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE) and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), as well as four Gram-negative bacteria that have evolved resistance to two powerful antibiotics.

Systems biologist Evan Snitkin at UM Medical School Department of Microbiology and Immunology, said, "We need to understand what clinical practices drive the spread of MDROs in health care facilities, and counterintuitively, it appears that a key factor is the use of certain antibiotics against an individual organism that may impact other circulating organisms."

The researchers have created a map of interactions among bacteria and classes of antibiotics, which could help health care providers in choosing to treat a patient with a specific antibiotic.

But that will take time, and need more research in the laboratory and in health-care facilities.

UM researchers hope that their findings will give healthcare providers and patients more reason to avoid using antibiotics in the first place unless they are truly necessary.

The findings have been published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

For better gut bacteria, eat more oily fish

Having lots of different types of bacteria in your gut may have many health benefits, including a lower risk of diabetes, obesity and inflammatory bowel disease.

So finding ways to increase the number and diversity of good bacteria in your gut is important, *independent.co.uk* reported.

Up until now, the focus has mainly been on increasing fiber intake, as gut bacteria are known to thrive in people who have high-fiber diets.

But we have found another way to boost your gut bacteria: Eat more fish or take omega-3 supplements.

We know that omega-3 fatty acids are good for our health and omega-3 supplements are often used to help people with conditions such as arthritis, heart disease and skin problems.

We wondered if omega-3 might also be beneficial for the good bacteria that live in our gut, as some studies in mice have already suggested.

To test this idea, we asked 876 middle-aged women in the UK about their diet and the supplements they took regularly. From this information we computed how much omega-3 they were taking.

We also took a blood sample and measured how much omega-3 they actually had in their blood. This is more accurate than just asking them how much fish they eat and about supplements.

The participants also provided us with

a stool sample. This allowed us to measure the types of bacteria and biochemical compounds in their guts.

Anti-inflammatory substances

We found that people with higher levels of omega-3 in their blood, regardless of whether they ate fiber or not, had a greater variety of bacteria in their gut.



This in itself indicates a healthier gut. Not only that, these people also carried more 'good' bacteria in the gut.

These are types of bacteria that have already been found by other scientists to relate to lower inflammation and lower risk of gut diseases, such as colitis.

Those bacteria are known to produce substances that prevent inflammation in the colon, in particular a substance called butyrate.

So, could it be that omega-3 makes bacteria in the gut produce other substances that are particularly good for us? To test this idea, we looked at the

biochemical compounds present in the stool samples.

We found three compounds that tracked the omega-3 in the participants' blood or their diet.

These three chemical compounds were (not surprisingly) omega-3 itself, a compound derived from fish flesh and a compound called n-carbamyl glutamate (NCG).

NCG was also higher in people with more of the good anti-inflammatory bacteria.

In other scientific studies, feeding NCG to pigs or rats resulted in them having healthier guts, with lower inflammation and lower damage due to free radicals.

What we think is happening is that when people eat fish oil (either because they eat fish or because they take supplements) the omega-3 gives a fillip to the anti-inflammatory bacteria that produce butyrate.

But also omega-3 helps bacteria produce NCG, which in turn has other benefits in the gut that have been seen in animals.

Because we want to know exactly how much omega-3 is necessary to improve the gut bacteria and how this compares to the benefit of fiber, we are starting a new investigation giving specific doses of omega-3 or fiber to healthy volunteers, which is all part of improving our health through what we eat.

'Kinder treatments in pipeline' for child brain cancer

Researchers have found there are seven types of the most common malignant child brain cancer — paving the way for more precise, 'kinder' treatments.

Medulloblastoma affects about 70 to 80 children a year in the UK and requires intensive treatment including surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy, BBC reported.

That can leave children with life-altering injuries.

But the breakthrough means targeted treatments could be developed and some of the side effects avoided.

The finding, reported in *Lancet Oncology*, has been welcomed by families affected by the condition, which is responsible for a fifth of all child brain cancers.

Jessica Mitchell, whose son, Dylan, was diagnosed with the cancer when he was two and has been left with disabilities, said, "Treatment had essentially not changed much for 20 to 30 years."

"If there was a treatment out there that would have saved his life but also his quality of life — I would've been all over that at the time."

Dylan was diagnosed with brain and spinal tumors in 2014 after ending up in A&E with a rash, screaming in agony, vomiting and clutching his head.

What followed was life-altering surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

Mitchell said, "We were told he had brain tumors the size of a golf ball in his cerebellum. Surgery then confirmed their worst fears — the tumors were malignant."

"Because he was so young they suggested a chemotherapy-only option, so we consented to six months of chemo that was injected straight into his spine."

"We hoped at the end of the six months that we would go off and



live life happily ever after. Unfortunately it wasn't to be.

"A couple of months after coming off his chemo, Dylan relapsed really badly. His entire spinal column — from top to bottom — was covered in tumors and it was back in his brain as well."

"We were given an option to let him go home and die. That wasn't an option for us. So we opted to treat — but we had to treat very aggressively."

Because Dylan was so young, Jessica was told that the side effects of treatment would be

'life-limiting and life-altering'.

She added, "Ultimately it was the only decision so we signed him up there and then."

Dylan was given radiotherapy and general anesthetics five days a week.

"He was so sick and so weak that the radiotherapy team wasn't convinced he was going to make it. Dylan proved them all wrong, thankfully!"

In all, Dylan had four operations, 90 rounds of chemotherapy, 31 sessions of radiotherapy and 66 general anesthetics.

The treatment has left him with profound disabilities, including brain injury, brain damage and spinal cord injury.

Professor Steve Clifford, who is presenting the research at the Children with Cancer UK's Scientific Conference, said that in the future patients might not need to go through such aggressive treatment.

"This new discovery allows us to undertake studies to see how we could use these insights to personalize treatments according to the biological features of each patient's tumor."

Cliff O'Gorman, of Children with Cancer UK, said that investment in clinical trials was needed to build on findings like this and make cutting-edge treatment and precision medicine a reality for all young cancer patients in the UK.

3D scans of fossils suggest new fish family tree

When it comes to some oddball fish, looks can be deceiving.

Polypterus, found only in Africa, and its close kin have generally been considered some of the most primitive ray-finned fishes alive, thanks in part to skeletal features that resemble those on some ancient fish, sciencenews.org wrote.

Now a new analysis of fish fossils of an early polypterid relative called Fukangichthys unearthed in China suggested that those features aren't so old.

The finding shakes up the evolutionary tree of ray-finned fishes, making the group as a whole about 20 million to 40 million years younger than thought, researchers propose online August 30 in Nature.



Polypterus (shown) is a living member of a large group of vertebrates called ray-finned fishes. sciencenews.org

Ray-finned fishes named for the spines, or rays, that support their fins — are the largest group of vertebrates, making up about half of all backboned animals.

They include 30,000 living species, such as gars, bowfins and salmon.

Study coauthor Matt Friedman, a paleontologist at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, said, "The group was thought to originate about 385 million years ago, in the Devonian Period. But the new research, using 3D CT scans of the previously discovered fossils, shifts the fishes' apparent origin to the start of the Carboniferous Period some 360 million years ago."

One of the largest extinction events in Earth's history marks the boundary between the Devonian and Carboniferous.

Friedman added, "We know that many groups of backboned animals were hard hit by the event."

"But after the massive die-off, ray-finned fishes popped up and, according to previous fossil evidence, their diversity exploded."

"The new finding brings the origin of the modern ray-finned fish group in line with this conspicuous pattern that we see in the fossil record."

It suggests these vertebrates didn't survive the event. They came after, then flourished.

Scientists find magma source of supervolcano in Italy

Researchers have discovered the magma source, or so-called 'hot zone,' of a supervolcano in southern Italy.

Campi Flegrei has been relatively quiet for the last few decades, and hasn't erupted for centuries, UPI reported.

In the 1980s, a rush of magma into the volcano's shallow chamber triggered a few small earthquakes.

Seismographic data from those rumbles allowed scientists to pinpoint the source of the magma that flooded into Campi Flegrei's chamber and caldera — the hot zone.

Analysis of the supervolcano's hot zone suggests Campi Flegrei could be nearing an eruption.

By mapping the hot zone, scientists may be able to better predict when volcanoes are going to erupt, allowing officials to evacuate vulnerable populations.



UPI While southern Italy's Campi Flegrei hasn't made much noise over the last 30 years, it has gotten hotter.

Dr. Luca De Siena, a researcher at the University of Aberdeen, said, "One question that has puzzled scientists is where magma is located beneath the caldera, and our study provides the first evidence of a hot zone under the city of Pozzuoli that extends into the sea."

"While this is the most probable location of a small batch of magma, it could also be the heated fluid-filled top of a wider magma chamber, located even deeper."

Because Campi Flegrei hasn't made much noise over the last 30 years, scientists believe pressure could be building in the supervolcano's pipes.

De Siena said, "Whatever produced the activity under Pozzuoli in the 1980s has migrated somewhere else, so the danger doesn't just lie in the same spot, it could now be much nearer to Naples which is more densely populated."

Researchers liken the volcano's hot zone to a boiling pot of soup. Over the last several years, the volcano has gotten considerably hotter.

De Siena added, "What this means in terms of the scale of any future eruption we cannot say, but there is no doubt that the volcano is becoming more dangerous."

"The big question we have to answer now is if it is a big layer of magma that is rising to the surface, or something less worrying which could find its way to the surface out at sea."

Researchers published their analysis of Campi Flegrei in the journal Scientific Reports.

New self-powered paper patch could help diabetics measure glucose

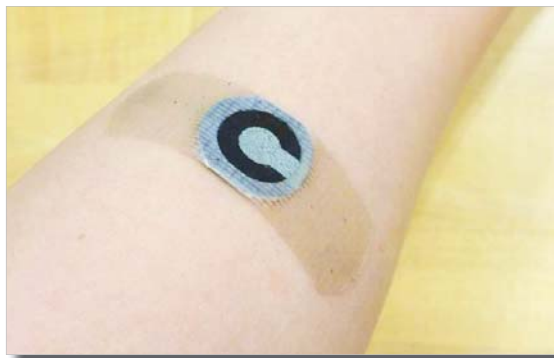
A new paper-based sensor patch developed by researchers at Binghamton University, State University of New York could allow diabetics to effectively measure glucose levels during exercise.

Today's most widespread methods for glucose self-testing involve monitoring glucose levels in blood, according to phys.org.

Binghamton University Electrical and Computer Science Assistant Professor Seokheun Choi, said, "Conventional measurements, however, are not suitable for preventing hypoglycemia during exercise."

"This is because the underlying process relies on invasive and inconvenient blood sampling, causing the possibility of sample contamination and skin irritation with sweat containing various electrolytes and proteins."

"The method also needs patients to carry many accessories during physical activity, including lancets, alcohol swabs and a relatively large



phys.org A new paper-based sensor patch developed by researchers at Binghamton University, State University of New York could allow diabetics to effectively measure glucose levels during exercise.

glucometer; and the technique requires a sophisticated electrochemical sensing technique and sufficient electrical energy, which makes the technique difficult to be fully integrated in a compact and

portable fashion."

Choi and fellow researchers have developed and demonstrated a self-powered, wearable and disposable patch that allows for non-invasive monitoring of glucose in human

sweat.

This wearable, single-use biosensor integrates a vertically stacked, paper-based glucose/oxygen enzymatic fuel cell into a standard Band-Aid adhesive patch.

Choi said, "The paper-based device attaches directly to skin, wicks sweat to a reservoir where chemical energy is converted to electrical energy and monitors glucose without external power and sophisticated readout instruments."

"Sweat-based glucose sensing is attractive for managing exercise-induced hypoglycemia because the measurement is performed during or immediately after exercise when there is enough sweat to obtain an adequate sample."

This potential alleviates shortcomings of conventional non-invasive sweat sensors, which can be hampered by the difficulty of collecting enough sweat for analysis, sample evaporation and the relatively long time required for sample collection.

The researchers said, "The sensing platform holds considerable promise for efficient diabetes management and a fully integrated system with a simple readout can be realized toward continuous non-invasive glucose monitoring."

Biochemical engineers at the Johns Hopkins University have used sequences of DNA molecules to induce shape-changing in water-based gels, demonstrating a new tactic to produce 'soft robots' and 'smart' medical devices that do not rely on cumbersome wires, batteries or tethers.

The research advance, supervised by three faculty members in the university's Whiting School of Engineering, is detailed in the journal Science, according to sciencedaily.com.

The team members reported that their process used specific DNA sequences called 'hairpins' to cause a centimeter-sized hydrogel sample to swell to 100 times its original volume.

The reaction was then halted by a different DNA sequence, dubbed a 'terminator hairpin'.

This approach could make it possible to weave moving parts into soft materials.

The researchers have suggested that their process could someday play a role in creating smart materials, metamorphic devices, complex programmed actuators and autonomous robots with potential marine and medical applications.

To control how shape-shifting occurs in different parts of the target hydrogel, the researchers took a cue from the computer industry.

They employed a photo-patterning technique similar to the one used to make tiny but intricate microchips.

Various biochemical patterns embedded in different regions of the gel were designed to respond to specific DNA instructions to cause bending, folding or

New way to make 'soft robots'



sciencedaily.com Johns Hopkins engineering faculty members, from left, David Gracias, Thao (Vicky) Nguyen and Rebecca Schulman, teamed up with their students and used DNA sequences to trigger significant shape-changing in a hydrogel sample.

other responses.

David H. Gracias, a professor in the university's Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, and one of two senior authors of the Science article, said, "DNA sequences can be thought of as an analog to computer code."

"Just as computer software can direct specific tasks, DNA sequences can cause a material to bend or expand in a certain way at a specific site."

He added that this is not an unusual occurrence in nature.

"Shape changing is very important in biology. Think about how a caterpillar turns into butterfly."

The study's other senior author, Rebecca Schulman, is an assistant professor in the same department.

Her research group designs intelligent materials and devices using techniques from DNA nanotechnology.

She said, "We've been fascinated by how living cells can use chemical signals to decide how to grow or move and use chemical energy to power themselves."

"We wanted to build machines that could act in a similar way. Our fabrication technology makes it possible to design very complicated devices in a range of sizes."

Thao (Vicky) Nguyen, a Johns Hopkins expert in the mechanics of polymers

and biomaterials, provided key contributions to the research and was a co-author of the paper.

She added, "Using computer simulations, we developed a design rule to transform the large swelling of the hydrogel into the desired shape-change response."

Nguyen is an associate professor and the Marlin U. Zimmerman Jr. Faculty Scholar in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

To confirm their ability to control which hydrogel targets were activated, the team members used DNA sequence-responsive flower-shaped hydrogels.

In each "flower," two sets of petals were fabricated, and each set was designed to respond only to one of two different DNA sequences.

When exposed to both sequences, all of the petals folded in response. But when they were exposed to just one of the sequences, only the petals matched to that sequence folded.

The team also fabricated hydrogel crab-shaped devices in which the antennae, claws and legs each curled up in response to their matching DNA sequence.

The crab devices remained in their actuated state for at least 60 days. The crab shape was selected in honor of the popular seafood served in the university's home state of Maryland.

The new technology detailed in the Science paper is protected by a provisional patent obtained through the university's Johns Hopkins Tech Ventures office.

Physicists discover super stable tri-anion particle

Researchers at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) have discovered a new tri-anion particle, a type of particle with three more electrons than protons.

The new particle is extremely stable and its discovery apply to a variety of applications in the fields of physics and chemistry, UPI wrote.

The imbalance between electrons and protons on all other tri-anions makes the particle inherently unstable.

Tri-anion particles can often disrupt chemical reactions, as they refuse to take on any more electrons.

Researchers discovered the particle through a computer

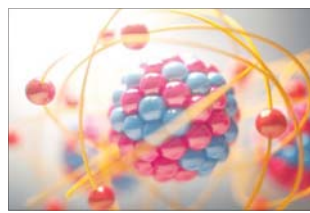
middle. Scientists built the model to prove a stable tri-anion particle was theoretical property.

Dr. Paru Jena, a physics professor at VCU, said, "This is very important in this field, nobody has ever found such a tri-anion."

"Not only can it keep three electrons but the third electron is extremely stable."

"The guiding principles we have used in this paper will help with the design of other tri-anions. The question is: What do we do with this knowledge?"

Researchers detailed their discovery in a new paper, published in the journal Angewandte Chemie.



UPI The new surprisingly stable tri-anion particle was discovered using a computer model.

Scientists think the new particle could help engineers design a better aluminum ion battery, an alternative to the lithium ion battery. Aluminum is cheaper

to source and less reactive than lithium. Inside an aluminum ion battery, tri-anion particles would promote conductivity by

moving from one electrode to the other.

Similar particles with one or two extra electrons — called mono-anions and di-anions — already have a variety of industrial applications.

Jena said, "Such particles are very important for many reasons. Number one, they make salts."

"Secondly, they are used in all kinds of chemical compounds, such as those in floor cleaners as oxidizing agents that kill bacteria."

"They are also used to purify air, which is a billion-dollar industry, and in mood enhancers, similar to what Prozac does. The potential uses are endless."

Scholars' opinion on peace concept

International Desk

On the occasion of the International Day of Peace — September 21, 2017 — two scholars Dr. Ilgar Ibrahimoglu Allahverdiyev and Dr. Hans Ucko elaborated on the concept of peace in an interview with The Islamic World Peace Forum (IWPF).

Excerpts follow:

ISLAMIC WORLD PEACE FORUM: Given the slogan of the UN General Assembly this year in line with the International Day of Peace, "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All" — with a particular focus on the plight of refugees and migrants throughout the world, what practical measures do you propose to materialize this slogan?

ILGAR IBRAHIMOGLU ALLAHVERDIYEV: Below is my humble opinion regarding the topic raised by you.

By talking about International Day of Peace, in particular, it should first be stressed what paradigm stays in the ground of this occasion.

As can be seen from this topic, the ideological slogan that offered for this date is "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All". Key factors of this paradigm are as follows:

1. Comprehensiveness of idea;
2. Respect everyone and respect for all;
3. Global security and personal safety;
4. Respect individuals' dignity, respect groups, societies, states;

5. Rapprochement of states and peoples;

6. The idea of a conscious necessity of integration approaches.

7. Identification of factors that allow us to achieve goals and the factors that put obstacles in the way of achievement.

I believe it is good to focus on No. 7 point. More than anything else, humanity needs mutual trust and equal partnership. There is a huge deformation of reliable partnership and trust issues on the global level.

Since the imperial heritage, the burden of rudimentary consequences that humanity bears, still doesn't allow us to create international system based on justice, respect and dignity.

The hegemonic forces that

are successors of global empires of the past drive the wedge in every possible way into attempts to create a situation that allows us to build the matrix of international relations more than just concept.

The world should design systems of collegial decision-making and collective security that exclude the domination of short list transnational structures over legal and legitimate communities and organizations.

HANS UCKO: The theme of the UN International Day of Peace 2017 is, "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All". It may sound like a motto, theme, slogan, mantra, mission objective or vision statement. Easy to say or proclaim, but is there anything beyond the catchphrase or does the theme of 2017 differ from the usual themes? Is it as the French saying goes: "Plus ça change, plus ça reste la même chose!" The more it changes,

nothing but a dead slogan. Peace can only be achieved through compromise and realization that we are not independent variables. We are interdependent; we, the other as well as I, arise together.

Those whom we call 'the others' are often the result of our own projections and constructions.

These constructions may be different from the way in which others represent themselves. It is important to respect the right of others to self-definition.

To affirm the full dignity of others, empathetic understanding and acceptance of their self-representations, though difficult, is necessary. Together for peace can only be a peace without victory. ... Only a peace between equals can last.

There is a daily prayer for peace in Jewish liturgy, 'Let there be peace on Earth as it is in heaven'. The rabbis asked, "How is then peace in heaven, since it is to be a model for

static concept. If it is only an ideal, there will be no peace. The Hebrew word for peace is 'shalom'. Today, it is only a concept or a word of greeting and has become the very opposite of its real meaning. As such, it doesn't serve the cause of peace. Talking about peace is not enough.

However, the root of 'shalom' has to do with 'shalem', to pay. Peace is costly. One has to make a sacrifice for peace.

There is no peace without an effort. 'Shalom' is not only an ideal to attain but the concrete enjoyment of physical, economic and social well-being. The theme has the keyword: Safety!

But the concept of safety is not enough! In theme, it stands between respect and dignity, respect, safety and dignity for all!

Life is a life and interdependence, whether we like it or not. Interdependence is more than just living next to each other, as if we all had our own little

other's words, a priori, we trust each other. It is part of being human. There is an innate respect that comes with being human together with others. Dignity matters. When we trust each other, we put our lives in the hands of the other. When trust is abused, we are devastated, mostly because we see that the other did not receive our trust. You thought you would be met, you thought that you would be respected, that your dignity would be safeguarded and you were deceived.

"Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All" is a theme that is part of the encounter among individuals, communities, countries, regions. It has a message into our time, where no one is an island. As a theme, it is something that accompanies our life together for the sake of our world.

In the light of the objectives and measures of Islamic World Peace Forum in the field of establishing just peace in the world, what measures do you propose for promoting just peace discourse in the world?

ILGAR IBRAHIMOGLU ALLAHVERDIYEV: The Islamic World Peace Forum (IWPF) has got extremely important and significant activity. Discussions, forums, initiatives of all this activity are significant assets toward creation of the new international situation. I think it will be possible for IWPF further rapprochement and coordination of structures of different confessions and ideologies.

Communication capabilities between the various centers of analysis and discussion greatly developed the globalization. This contributes the institutionalization of a just peace in the world.

HANS UCKO: IWPF should become a forum, where people of different religious traditions and convictions meet not to talk at each other but talk with each other on the common challenges they face and where they devise strategies on how to work towards a just peace that is more than words, slogans and proclamations. Through dialogue, the Islamic World Peace Forum should embark upon concrete projects and constructive programs that make obvious that religion can no longer remain a tool for conflict but needs to become an instrument for peace.



Dr. Ilgar Ibrahimoglu Allahverdiyev



Dr. Hans Ucko

the more it's the same thing! We will register the theme of this year at the same time that we admit and are resigned to the fundamental immutability of human nature and institutions.

It's all so easy to talk about peace. It's not new. It has been so throughout the time. Speaking in the name of God, Prophet Jeremiah said: "They have treated the wound of my people carelessly, saying, 'Peace, peace', when there is no peace. They acted shamefully, they committed abomination; yet they did not know how to blush."

Together for peace! Peace can only be achieved together with the other. I may have the most dazzling vision of peace but unless the other embraces it, it will fall by the wayside and be

peace on Earth" and they wanted to find out about the quality of peace in heaven.

What is the substance of the heavenly peace? They found the answer in the word for 'heaven', which in Hebrew is *shamayim*. The rabbis construed that two words were hidden in the word *shamayim*, two words which are each other's absolute opposite: *esh*, 'fire' and *mayim*, 'water'.

Peace in heaven is then the living together in unity and communion of two opposites: Fire and water. Water doesn't quench fire. Fire doesn't make the water vaporize. Fire and water are reconciled. There is no separation between fire and water. And yet there is no fusion, no blend.

Peace is not only the absence of war and it is not a

island. In the end, we cannot live in parallel societies, because we are each other's life and destiny. We hold some of another's life in our hand.

This is in the smallest of things and sometimes also in matters of life and death. Let me illustrate with an example. You meet a person on the street, who stops you and who asks you "What time is it?" This person has in and through his question handed himself to you. You have two options: Care or destruction. Care: You can look at your clock and tell him what time it is, i.e. you open yourself for him as he opened himself for you through his question.

You show your care for him. Or destruction: You just look away and move on and at worst tell him: Get your own watch!

A priori, we believe each

Conflict keeps 27m children out of school

Some 27 million children are out of school due to conflict, with girls facing a heightened risk of sexual and gender-based violence, the United Nations said in a report, calling on States and international organizations to integrate all uprooted children into the education system where they live.



un.org

According to un.org, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) stressed in the report, "Many of the 50 million uprooted children in the world are in desperate need of education — not despite being uprooted from their homes but because they are uprooted from their homes."

"For without education, how will they gain knowledge and skills to rebuild their lives? How will they be able to chart a path to a more peaceful and prosperous future for themselves, their families, their communities and the world?" queried the agency.

"Finding ways to provide education for uprooted children will require funding, creativity and commitment. Together, we can, and must, find solutions so every child can go to school and learn. Children's futures — and our own — depend on it," said UNICEF. In 2015, nearly 50 million children were uprooted, more than 28 million of them forced from their homes because of violence and insecurity, with 27 million children of primary and lower secondary school age out of school in 24 conflict-affected countries, the report noted.

According to UNICEF, refugees are five times more likely to be out of school than other children, with only 50 percent of refugee children enrolled in primary school and less than 25 percent in secondary school.

In countries affected by conflict, girls are 2.5 times more likely to be out of school than boys and are more likely to become victims of sexual and gender-based violence.

Xenophobia, exclusion and stigmatization can create inhospitable, even dangerous environments for children seeking to join a new school system, while only 10 European Union Member States recognize the right of undocumented migrant children to enter the school system and five explicitly exclude them.

In 2016, UNICEF reached 11.7 million children in emergencies, providing learning opportunities and materials, teacher training and offering life skills classes and is currently hosting the Secretariat of Education Cannot Wait, which has mobilized over \$113 million from government donors and a pledge of \$100 million in both financial and in-kind support from the private sector.

The agency called on its partners to integrate all uprooted children into the education system where they live, invest in high-quality learning opportunities, provide psychosocial counselling and language instruction, and engage with partners including the private sector to provide technical assistance, expertise and talent that can be tailored to needs of uprooted children.

23 children are shot every day in America

Carter Hill, age four, was strapped in his car seat and being driven down the highway when he was shot in the head in a road rage incident on August 6.

What is just as horrifying is that Carter was one of at least 10 children who was shot in the United States that day. Daily gun violence that maims and kills children is par for the course in this country, and that is the most terrible thing of all. washingtonpost.com wrote

The struggle to save Carter's life and the cost of his near-fatal injuries were detailed by The Post's John Woodrow Cox in the latest installment of a searing series that examines the impact of violence on children.

Shot just before midnight in a car driven by his mother, the boy was among the last victims of a stretch of gun violence that day that included a two-year-old who fatally shot himself in Missouri after he got hold of a gun, a 16-year-old girl killed in Virginia by a bullet meant for someone else and a 14-year-old boy shot to death as he stood on his porch in Chicago.

Analysis by The Post of the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the US Consumer Product Safety Commission showed that on average, 23 children were shot each day in the United States in 2015. Of the approximately 8,400 shootings, 1,458 were fatal, a death toll that exceeds the entire number of US military fatalities in Afghanistan this decade. The Post's analysis is in keeping with previous studies, including a report published in June in Pediatrics, that have established gun-related deaths as the third-leading cause of death overall among Americans ages 1 to 17.

The impact of gun violence on children — including the trauma to children who survive or witness it — represents a crisis, a serious public-health problem that demands attention.

That, as one emergency-room doctor observed, 'people just don't want to talk about it' is due in large measure to a national gun lobby that has used its clout to shut down debate and close off consideration of basic and sensible protections that enjoy widespread support.

Instead of enacting legislation to require safe storage of firearms — a move that would save countless lives lost to teen suicides and accidental shootings by toddlers — members of Congress who are compliant to the National Rifle Association push unrestricted sales of silencers because of the supposed health crisis to the hearing of hunters.

Global life expectancies rise

The average global life expectancy in 2016 was 72.5 years — 75.3 years for women and 69.8 years for men — according to the report. That's up from 65.1 years in 1990 and from 58.4 years in 1970.

Worldwide, people are living longer than they were a decade ago, in large part because deaths from infectious diseases and childbirth complications have decreased. But people across the globe are living more years in poor health, particularly in countries where access to health care is problematic, minnpost.com wrote.

And deaths from conflict and terrorism have more than doubled in the past decade.

Those are some of the key findings from the latest Global Burden of Disease report published in a series of articles in The Lancet. This marks the 20th year of the report, which is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Dr. Christopher Murray, coauthor of the report and director of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington in Seattle, said, "Death is a powerful motivator, both for individuals and for countries, to address diseases that have been killing us at high rates."

"But, we've been much less motivated to address issues leading to illnesses. A 'triad of troubles' — obesity, conflict, and mental illness, including substance use disorders —

poses a stubborn and persistent barrier to active and vigorous lifestyles."

The average global life expectancy in 2016 was 72.5 years — 75.3 years for women and 69.8 years for men — according to the report. That's up from 65.1 years in 1990 and from 58.4 years in 1970.

Japan had the highest life expectancy in 2016 (83.9



pionline.com

years), while the Central African Republic had the lowest (50.2 years).

Average life expectancy in the United States was 78.9 years in 2016 — only the 58th highest life expectancy in

the world.

The report called out five countries — Ethiopia, the Maldives, Nepal, Niger, Portugal and Peru — for having shown improvements in their life expectancies that exceeded expectations.

Peru and Niger, for example, had life expectancies about six years longer than would be expected based on their levels of economic development.

The report also notes that the life-expectancy gaps between wealthy and poor nations are shrinking. A driving factor behind rising global life expectancies is the dramatic drop in early deaths from communicable diseases and from complications related to childbirth.

Deaths from lower respiratory infections, diarrhea, HIV/AIDS, malaria and preterm birth all declined by 25 percent or more between 2006 and 2016.

A major exception to that trend, however, was dengue fever. Deaths from that mosquito-borne disease have increased by 81.8 percent since 2006, to 37,800 in 2016.

One of the most encouraging findings in the study involved young children, who often die of complications from an early birth. In 2016, fewer than 5 million children under the age of 5 died, compared to 11 million in 1990 and 16.4 million in 1970.

Fake Mars mission comes to an end

Six people including a British man helped themselves to a fresh fruit buffet after spending eight months confined in a dome simulating a mission to Mars.

The group were kept in isolation on a remote Hawaiian volcano to test how humans would react to living in confined conditions for an extended period of time, metro.co.uk wrote.

Samuel Payler, a doctoral candidate at the UK Center for Astrobiology at the University of Edinburgh, and five other researchers entered the HI-SEAS (Hawaii Space Exploration Analog and Simulation) habitat on Mauna Loa in January.

The experiment intended to help NASA determine the requirements for sending astronauts on long missions, including trips to Mars.

They emerged to cheers and applause before devouring fresh fruit and vegetables, having eaten mainly freeze-dried food since the start of the year.



AP

Payler said: "We need to send humans out because it's important for the future of the species."

"I think it's actually really important to get off Earth. If you look back at the geological record, it is just full of mass extinctions."

The 1,200 sq.ft. site included small sleeping quarters for the crew members, a kitchen,

laboratory, bathroom and simulated airlock area.

The crew's daily routine involved preparing food from shelf-stable ingredients, exercise, scientific research and tracking use of resources such as food, power and water.

Communication with support crew on the outside world was allowed but a 20-minute delay

was imposed on messages to imitate what the reception would be like between Earth and the red planet.

Four men and two women made the dome their home for most of this year.

Payler's co-residents were Ansley Barnard, an engineer from Reno, Nevada; Laura Lark, a computer scientist who spent five years as a software engineer at Google; systems engineer Joshua Ehrlich; freelance researcher James Bevington; and Brian Ramos, a Portuguese-American who has a master's degree in international space studies.

The project was run by the University of Hawaii, with Kim Binsted as its principal investigator.

She said: "The university is going to be giving NASA essential information about how you pick individual astronauts and how you put them together in a crew, but also how you support them over these long duration missions."



Steffan with his dad

SWNS

Eight-year-old boy rescues five people from the sea

An eight-year-old boy rescued five people from a rough stretch of coastline in New Quay, Wales, the UK, in the span of just 48 hours.

Steffan Williams was out kayaking when he spotted three tourists huddled on a rock. He fetched his rubber dinghy and then towed the trio back to the shore, sunnyskyz.com reported.

Just two days later, he spotted two teenagers stuck on the same



rock, frantically whistling and waving to catch his attention.

Steffan lives in an area popular with tourists. He often paddles close to the shore on his kayak

as his mom supervises from the beach. Steffan hopes to join the lifeboat crews just like his dad when he turns 17.

Proud dad Huw, said: "He's really confident on the water — he loves to go out on his kayak."

"His big ambition is to be on a lifeboat crew. The first time, with the elderly woman and the teenagers, he could've stood up in the water, it would've been up to his neck."

Wild jaguar makes rare appearance on Arizona wildlife camera

A conservation nonprofit shared wildlife camera footage of a rare wild jaguar found in the mountains of Arizona.

The Center for Biological Diversity posted a video to Facebook showing the jaguar, recently dubbed Sombra by students at Paulo Freire Freedom School — University Campus in Tucson, wandering the Chiricahua Mountains, according to UPI.

The jaguar seen in the footage, recorded by a remote-sensor camera placed by Russ McSpadden, is believed to be the same animal previously photographed by



UPI

the Bureau of Land Management in the Dos Cabezas Mountains in November 2016.

The center said the camera also recorded

footage of other animals sharing Sombra's ecosystem, including a mountain lion, bears, deer and a coati.

"Since 2015, three wild jaguars have been spotted in Arizona: El Jefe, Yo'oko and Sombra," the center said.

"Jaguars have always roamed the US Southwest but were nearly driven to extinction in the 20th century. One of the greatest single threats to jaguar recovery in the United States is the proposed expansion of the US-Mexico border wall, which would destroy the big cats' ancient migration paths."

Meet Suki, the Bengal cat who's living out her best forest dreams



SUKIICAT/INSTAGRAM

This is Suki. She's a Bengal cat from Canada who unlike most lazy felines, isn't a stranger to exploring new and exciting lands.

In fact, she's more adventurous than most humans, according to metro.co.uk.

The Instagram star, who has nearly 180,000

followers goes about the Canadian countryside with her human, exploring the mountains and streams around her wooden cabin.

Unlike many cats, Suki isn't afraid of water.

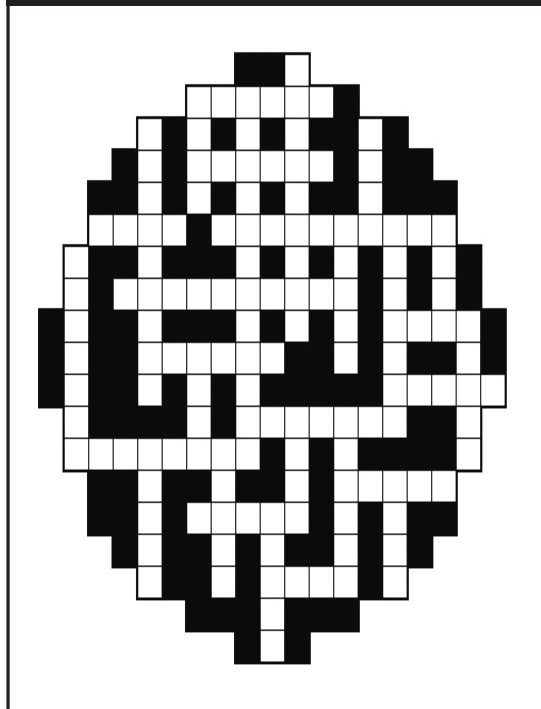
In fact, she kind of likes dipping her paws into lakes, streams and rivers.

PICTURE OF THE DAY



EDUARDO TEIXEIRA DE SOUSA, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC YOUR SHOT
A winter wave crashes against a lighthouse near Porto, Portugal.

Global Word-Fit



- 4 letters: APIA, BONN, CHAD, DOHA, IRAQ, LAOS, OHIO, ROME, SUVA

- 5 letters: CAIRO, EGYPT, GHANA, IDAHO

- INDIA, QUITO, RABAT, TOKYO

- 6 letters: AUSTIN, MONACO, RUSSIA, TAIWAN

- 7 letters: CROATIA, ST LOUIS, TUNISIA

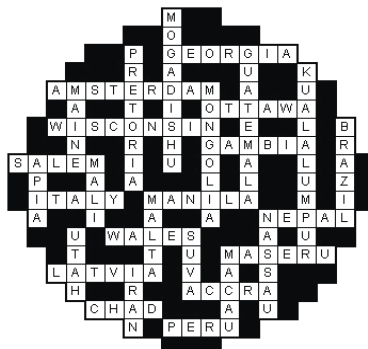
- 8 letters: SANTIAGO

- 9 letters: ISLAMABAD, WISCONSIN

- 10 letters: CARSON CITY, ORANJESTAD

- 12 letters: SAN FRANCISCO

Yesterday's solution



Sudoku

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

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

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

Former Manchester United and England center-back Rio Ferdinand is launching a new career as a professional boxer, two years after he retired from football.

Pourshabanan claims Asian junior wushu gold

Sports Desk

Iran's Nahid Pourshabanan collected a prestigious gold medal at the Asian Junior Wushu Championships in South Korea, taking the country's medals tally to 11.

On Tuesday, Pourshabanan finished first in the 15-18 age category of the girls' Nandao competitions after she notched up 9.59 points in the final contest in the South Korean city of Gumi.

The young Iranian girl had already grabbed a silver medal in the Nan-

quan form competitions of the same age division on Monday to add to her bronze medal in Changquan competitions.

Additionally, having scored 9.54 points, Mohammad-Ali Mojiri took the bronze medal of the boys' 15-18 age as the representatives from Macau and Hong Kong won the gold and silver, respectively.

Mojiri's compatriot, Niloufar Mokhtarpour also clinched a bronze medal on the third day of the competitions after she garnered 9.02 points in the Changquan



Iran's Nahid Pourshabanan (C) poses with her gold medal at the Asian Junior Wushu Championships in Gumi City, South Korea, on September 19, 2017.

form contests of the girls' 9-12 age category.

The Singaporean athlete won the gold with the Japanese collecting the bronze.

The ninth edition of the Asian Junior Wushu Championships started on September 17 and will finish on September 21.

Tavassolikhah grabs world para shooting gold



Iran's Abdolreza Tavassolikhah poses for a photo after he collected a gold medal at the World Shooting Para Sport World Cup in Lonato, Italy, on September 18, 2017.

Sports Desk

Iran's Abdolreza Tavassolikhah won a prestigious gold medal at the World Shooting Para Sport World Cup in the Italian city of Lonato.

The Iranian took part in the final showdown of the PT-1 SG-S category of the men's trap shooting competitions along with five other contestants and managed to clinch the gold after he collected a total of 40 points.

The British Matthew Goodwin tallied 34 points to settle for the silver medal with Oreste Lai from Italy taking the bronze with a 26-point asset.

Ronaldo set for La Liga return after suspension

Real Madrid star Cristiano Ronaldo is finally set to play his first La Liga game of the season against Real Betis tonight, with coach Zinedine Zidane "happy" to have him back in the side.

Ronaldo has missed Madrid's opening four La Liga games of the campaign due to a suspension imposed when he pushed the referee after being sent off in the Spanish Su-

per Cup first leg at Barcelona in August, ESPN reported.

"We are not going back over what happened, we are now happy to have him back," Zidane told a news conference. "We hope this is the last time we do not have him."

"We are happy, and most of all for him. He is very happy as he likes to play, be with his team-

mates. He is back now. We have tomorrow's game, at home, and we know that everyone likes to play in this stadium."

Since his red card, Madrid's record scorer has played and found the back of the net in the 2-1 Bernabeu Trophy friendly win over Fiorentina and 3-0 Champions League victory against Apoel Nicosia.

However, he was forced to watch home league draws against Levante and Valencia, which saw Zidane's side drop four points behind early leader Barcelona.

This could spell trouble for Betis at the Santiago Bernabeu in tonight's fixture according to their goalkeeper, Antonio Adan, who came through the ranks at Madrid and left in 2013.

"Ronaldo is the best, obviously,"

Adan told AS.

"For sure he will want to score now all the goals he couldn't before. We must work well defensively and when we have the ball, play our own style."

Zidane may also return Toni Kroos to the XI in the mid-week action as the Germany international has returned to training with the squad after missing Sunday's 3-1 win at Real Sociedad due to a muscle problem. Marcelo is also back from suspension and should start at left-back.

Mateo Kovacic, Karim Benzema and Jesus Vallejo are all still sidelined through various injury issues, with Theo Hernandez a doubt following a shoulder problem picked up when deputising for Marcelo against Sociedad.



GETTY IMAGES

Neymar tells PSG to sell Cavani after Lyon bust-up

Neymar delivered an ultimatum to Paris Saint-Germain president Nasser al-Khelaifi and instructed him to sell Edinson Cavani after the two South Americans

were involved in an on-field bust-up on Sunday, according to reports in Spain.

The pair clashed twice during the 2-0 victory, PSG's eighth in a row in all

competitions this season, following disagreements over who should take a free kick and a second half penalty which Cavani missed, Metro reported.

Neymar's compatriot Dani Alves was also involved, while reports elsewhere claimed another Brazilian, captain Thiago Silva, was forced to separate the feuding pair in the dressing room after the game which saw Unai Emery's men maintain a three-point lead at the head of Ligue 1.

Despite their success on the pitch, Catalan-based outlet Sport claims that Neymar is furious with the Uruguayan and believes he has attempted to undermine the superstar status he was guaranteed by al-Khelaifi upon completing his world record move from Barcelona.

Sport also claims the 25-year-old has the support of the Brazilian enclave at PSG, which also includes the likes of Marquinhos and Lucas Moura, and has also garnered the backing of fellow new signing Kylian Mbappe.

Mundo Deportivo claimed over the weekend that the Ligue 1 leader was planning a January fire-sale in order to meet the demands of UEFA's Financial Fair Play guidelines with the European governing body having opened an investigation following the French Side's lavish summer spending.

Cavani signed a new long-term deal in the summer following his goalscoring exploits last season and would command a considerable fee in January should PSG bow to Neymar's demands.

The former Napoli striker himself attempted to downplay the suggestion there had been any major falling out following Sunday's incidents which were strongly condemned by PSG manager Unai Emery.

"These things are created. I don't know why these stories are created. The truth is that these are normal things; things that happen in football," Cavani told Gol de Medianoche de Radio Unisversal.



CHRISTOPHE SIMON/AFP

Boxing judge stood down after Golovkin vs. Alvarez controversy

The judge at the center of the Gennady Golovkin vs. Canelo Alvarez controversy has been temporarily stood down.

Adelaide Byrd produced a scorecard of 118-110 in favor of Mexican challenger Alvarez - evoking stern criticism from many quarters, ESPN reported.

Golovkin's trainer, Abel Sanchez, said, "I think she turned in her scorecard before the fight started. I think she needs to go back to school and learn how to judge a fight."

There was even derision from Alvarez's promoter, Oscar De La Hoya, who added, "A lot of people are not understanding 118-110, just like myself. That's the bottom line."



GETTY IMAGES

Bob Bennett, the executive director of the Nevada Athletic Commission, was forced to field questions over Byrd's future in the aftermath and said, "I'm not going to put her right back in. She'll still be in the business, but she needs to catch her breath."

The result in Las Vegas brought about comparisons to a situation in 2013 when judge C.J. Ross retired after receiving barrages of criticism for her assessments of Manny Pacquiao vs. Timothy Bradley and Floyd Mayweather vs. Alvarez.

Art & Culture

Ancient Greek fortress discovered in southern Russia

Archaeologists unearthed a fortress in Russia's Krasnodar Region, which was supposedly founded by Greek colonists in the fifth century BC, said the head of the Expeditions Department at the Research Center for Cultural Heritage Preservation.

Ivan Tupalov further told TASS that the citadel had been found in the area where an energy bridge to Crimea is under construction.

"Security work was underway in connection with the construction of the energy bridge between Rostov and Taman [the part of the energy bridge that would incorporate Crimea in Russia's energy grid, ensuring uninterrupted power supply to the peninsula — TASS]," he said.

"During excavations, an ancient fortress was unearthed. Judging by its fortifications, it was a Greek citadel founded by colonists, who came to settle the Black Sea coast... Such discoveries are not made every day," Tupalov added.

According to him, the fortress is estimated to date back 2,500 years, as it is believed to have been built approximately in the fifth century BC. Its walls were made of mud bricks, which is why they did not last until today, but some traces can be seen in places where the ditch was and where towers once stood.



TASS

The citadel had an area of around eight hectares. In the seventh and eighth centuries AD, the earth ramparts left over from its walls were turned into a burial ground, while in the past decades, the area was partly occupied by fields.

Tupalov said that scientists have yet to find answers to a lot of questions. The number of the citadel's residents is still unknown (it can be estimated based on the number of the uncovered ceramic sherds). Another puzzling question is whether during ancient times, the Kuban River was connected to the sea by a firth or did the Greeks build their fortress on the seashore, or did they move deep inland, something which was uncommon for them.

The Greeks, who came to the territory of the present-day Kuban in the fourth century BC, established their colonies on the sea coast. They founded the Bosphoran Kingdom on the shores of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, spreading their civilization and peacefully coexisting with peoples living on the Taman Peninsula. In the fourth century AD, the Hun tribes drove the Greeks out of this area.

Kate Middleton introduces animated film about mental health

The Duchess of Cambridge Kate Middleton introduced an animated film created by the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families that focuses on an important issue: Mental health. Kate, who is a patron of the organization, started the introduction by greeting viewers and defining mental health, online, com reported.

"Hello, mental health is how we feel and think," she said. "Things that can't really be seen but that affect us every day, and talking about them can feel difficult."

She proceeded to talk about the benefits of talking about one's mental health with others and how people can support their friends by listening.

"It helps us all to talk about our mental health: What to say and who to talk to when we have feelings that are too big to manage on our own," she said, noting, "and how to listen and help if one of our friends is finding things difficult. Sometimes it's just a simple conversation that can make things better."

The film starred a group of young students who are depicted as fingerprints. Just as how everyone's fingerprint is different, each student experienced different emotions at different times and manages them in unique ways.

The film differentiated between 'small feelings' that people experience every day (e.g. happiness, anger) and 'big feelings' that don't go away and inhibit the way people live their daily lives.

One character in particular, Jay, struggled to manage her big feelings on her own.

"Am I in the jungle? Am I in the sea? My head is going crazy. Will you come and save me?" Jay said in the film.

"My tummy hurts. I can't get to sleep at night. I can't concentrate at school. It feels like I have a volcano inside of me getting hotter and hotter."

However, Jay struggled to find the right person to talk to and what to say. The video provided tips on how to ask for help, how to be a good listener when someone asks for help and how children can talk to adults when they need further guidance.

Jay ended up confiding in her friend Jack who talked to their swim coach about Jay's feelings. Jay started to get the help she needed and began to feel better.

Weather



IRAN DAILY

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Iran selects 'Breath' as official Academy Awards entry

Iranian drama 'Breath', directed by female filmmaker Narges Abyar, was selected as Iran's official submission to the 90th Academy Awards in the best foreign language film category.

A committee of nine cinema professionals (including four directors, an actor, a composer, a producer, a film critic, and a cinema official) was assigned by Iran's Farabi Cinema Foundation to choose the country's submission to the Oscar race, IFP wrote.

"The movie 'Breath' was selected by a majority vote," committee spokesman Amir Esfandiari said on Tuesday, adding that the Committee hopes Abyar's film would further introduce Iran's capacities to a wider range of audiences.

The film was chosen from a shortlist of four which also included 'Subdued' by Hamid Nematollah, 'Malaria' by Parviz Shahbazi, and 'Vilaeha' by Monir Qeidi.

'Breath', produced in 2015, relates the story of a little Iranian girl named Bahar who lives a life spun from folklore and stories, always with her head in a book.

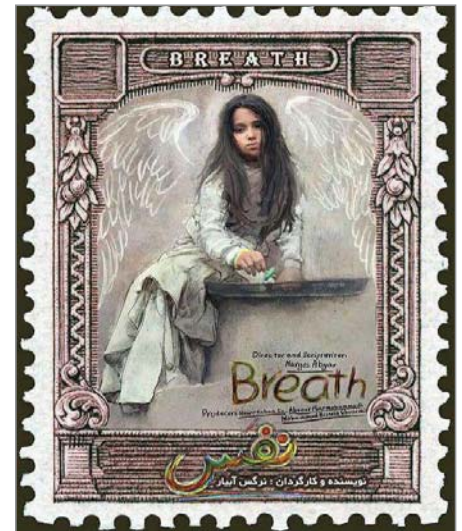
But growing up in Yazd in the 1970s and '80s, she is at the center of a country in turmoil: The Shah is overthrown, Ayatollah Khomeini rises to power, and the first shots are fired in a bitter and protracted war with Iraq. Over the span of several years, Bahar finds daydreaming in her own fantasy world is the only way she can make sense of the pain and suffering warring humans inflict on one another.

Shabnam Moqaddami received the Crystal Simorgh of Best Supporting Actress in the 34th Fajr Film Festival for her appearance in the film.

The filmmaker Abyar also received the Best Director award at 2016 Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

Earlier Iranian submissions to the Academy Awards have brought the country four nominations and two Oscars. Both awards were given to Asghar Farhadi, the acclaimed filmmaker, for his films 'A Separation' (2011) and 'The Salesman' (2016).

'Children of Heaven' by Majid Majidi was also nominated for an Academy Award in Best Foreign Language Film



IFP

category in 1998, but lost the Oscar to Italy's submission 'Life is Beautiful' by Roberto Benigni.

Farhadi's 'A Separation' was also nominated for an Oscar in Best Original Screenplay category.

The Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film is one of the Academy Awards of Merit, or Oscars, handed out annually by the US-based Academy of

Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS).

It is given to a feature-length motion picture produced outside the United States of America with a predominantly non-English dialogue track.

The Academy Awards or the Oscars is an annual American awards ceremony honoring cinematic achievements in the film industry.

'For Freedom' set for Pakistan screening

Iranian animation 'For Freedom', directed by Ahmad Khoshniat, was accepted into the screening program of the first edition of Asia Peace Film Festival (APFF) in Pakistan.

According to Mehr News Agency, the festival is held in Pakistan in cooperation with 11 Asian countries to commemorate the International Day of Peace which is observed annually on September 21.

APFF is underway from September 18 to 20.

Khoshniat's film is an artistic work which has a poetic take on the last moments in the life of Iranian poet and journalist Farokhi Yazdi. The festival's mission is to engage filmmakers, artists, performers, academics and members of creative community to unravel the delicacies of diversities and locate common grounds across cultures and societies.

The International Day of Peace also known as World Peace Day is dedicated to world peace, specifically the absence of war and violence.



MEHR NEWS AGENCY



The closing ceremony of the 11th National Festival of Youth Music was held at Tehran's Vahdat Hall.

SARA SASSANI/honaronline.ir