

TEHRAN – The Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei will perform this week's Friday prayers. The Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei is scheduled to perform this week's Friday prayers in Tehran, according to Tehran Times post on X. In Islam, Friday prayer is a community prayer service held once a week on Fridays.

Kayhan International

British Oil Tanker Hit by Yemen's Missiles, Drones in Red Sea
SANA'A (Dispatches) – Yemen says its armed forces have targeted a British oil vessel with cruise and ballistic missiles during a series of operations in the Red Sea on Tuesday. The country's armed forces said in a statement that the oil tanker—CORDELLA MOON—was severely damaged after being struck with "eight ballistic and cruise missiles, a drone, and a drone boat." A British maritime agency also confirmed the attack on the oil tanker, saying it was hit by a sea drone, puncturing a ballast tank. Another vessel, MARATHOPOLIS, which is registered and sailing under the flag of Malta, was struck in a separate operation in the Indian Ocean with a cruise missile, Yemen said.

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Viewpoint
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IRGC Vows Support for Gaza, Lebanon

Iran Football Federation, Taremi, Ahmad Abbasi Nominated for 2023 AFC Annual Awards

Report: More Women, Children Killed in Gaza Than in Any Recent Conflict

Gallant Admits Operation Al-Aqsa Storm Zionist Army's 'Biggest Failure'

AL-QUDS (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime's war minister Yoav Gallant on Tuesday called the Oct. 7 operation by Hamas the "biggest failure" in the history of the Zionist regime's army. "This forum has experienced the greatest failure... in IDF (the Zionist regime's army) and military establishment history this year," Gallant said at a session of the army's General Staff Forum. On Oct. 7, 2023, Palestinian resistance group Hamas launched an operation, dubbed Al-Aqsa Storm, into the Israeli-occupied territories during which around 1,200 people were killed and scores were held captive. The Zionist regime's army has since launched a brutal military aggression on the Gaza Strip, killing more than 41,600 people, mostly women and children, and injuring over 96,400 others. The conflict has spread to Lebanon, with the Israeli army launching massive airstrikes against what it calls Hezbollah targets, killing more than 1,057 people and injuring over 2,950 others since Sept. 23, according to the Lebanese Health Ministry. Several Hezbollah commanders have been martyred in the assault, including its leader Hassan Nasrallah. The international community has warned that Zionist regime's attacks in Lebanon could escalate the Gaza conflict into a wider regional war. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, warned that Israel's expansion of the war into Lebanon and Yemen will

only result in more displaced people and civilians suffering. He said that more than 100,000 Lebanese and Syrians living in Lebanon have now crossed into Syria fleeing the Israeli airstrikes while over 200,000 others have been internally displaced inside Lebanon. In a post on X, Grandi added that relief operations are underway to help those in need, in coordination with the Lebanese and Syrian governments. He noted that the Israeli airstrikes have targeted homes and civilian infrastructure in Lebanon, resulting in the killing of entire families and an unprecedented mass displacement. He stressed the importance of protecting civilians and meeting their basic needs, whether they decide to flee or stay, stressing that they are not a target. For his part, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), Philippe Lazarini, said the Israeli raids on Lebanon have forced thousands of people, including Palestinian refugees, to flee their homes, noting that seven shelters have been opened to receive displaced families and which currently hosts 1,600 people, including Lebanese, Palestinians and Syrians. Lazarini stressed that many of the displaced are suffering from psychological trauma as a result of the ongoing shelling and uncertainty, warning that further expansion of the war will only lead to more suffering for civilians.

Iran's Ballistic Missiles Rain Down on Israeli-Occupied Territories



Iran launches hundreds of missiles at the Israeli-occupied lands.

TEHRAN – Iran launched hundreds of missiles at the occupied lands on Tuesday evening, confirmed by the local Israeli media. In an official statement, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) announced that it has targeted the heart of the occupied territories in response to the martyrdom of the Hamas political chief Ismail Haniyeh, Hezbollah chief Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, and top Iranian commander Brigadier General Abbas Nilfroushan.

The statement further warned that any retaliatory action by the Zionist regime will be met with a crushing response. According to the IRGC, the ongoing operations against Israel are being supported by both the Iranian Armed Forces and the Ministry of Defense. Meanwhile, the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations posted a tweet on X. The tweet read: "Iran's legal, rational, and legitimate response to the terrorist acts of the Zionist regime—which involved targeting Iranian nation-

als and interests and infringing upon the national sovereignty of the Islamic Republic of Iran—has been duly carried out. Should the Zionist regime dare to respond or commit further acts of malevolence, a subsequent and crushing response will ensue. Regional states and the Zionists' supporters are advised to part ways with the regime." The Zionist regime's military spokesman Daniel Hagari had earlier on Tuesday that intelligence information shared by the United States indicated an immi-

nent missile attack from Iran. In a news briefing, Hagari said the occupying regime was in a state of preparedness and preparing for the possible attack with the aid of American forces in the region. Other resistance factions in the region also launched heavy strikes against Israeli targets. The spokesman for the Yemeni Armed Forces says the country's aerospace units have conducted two operations against strategic positions in the Israeli-occupied territories in retaliation for the Tel Aviv regime's ongoing atrocities in the Gaza Strip and its unrelenting strikes across Lebanon. Brigadier General Yahya Saree said in a televised address on Tuesday morning that Yemeni forces struck a vital target near the coastal city of Tel Aviv, using a homegrown and long-range Yafa kamikaze drone. They also pounded military installations at the Port of Eilat in the southernmost part of the occupied lands with four domestically-developed Sammad-4 (Invincible-4) combat drones. The Yemeni spokesman said both operations successfully achieved their desired objectives. He noted that Yemeni Armed Forces salute resilient Palestinian and Lebanese resistance fighters as they are defending their nations and confronting the U.S.-backed Israeli aggression, and reaffirm their practical support for (Continued on Page 7)

Zionist Airstrikes Kill Dozens in Gaza

CAIRO (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime's airstrikes killed at least 37 people in Gaza on Tuesday, local medics said and fighting ramped up. Palestinian health officials said at least 13 people, including women and children, were killed in two Israeli strikes on two houses in Nuseirat, one of the enclave's eight historic refugee camps. There has been no immediate comment by the Israeli army on the two strikes. Another strike on a school sheltering displaced Palestinian families in the Tuffah neighbourhood of Gaza City killed at least seven people, medics added. Later on Tuesday, two separate Israeli attacks killed five Palestinians in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip and in the Zeitoun suburb of Gaza City, medics said. In Khan Younis, in the south of the enclave, six Palestinians were killed in an Israeli air strike on a tent housing displaced people, medics said. Hours later, an Israeli airstrike on a car in western Khan Younis, killed six Palestinians, medics said.

Footage circulated on social media showed a mangled, burnt-out vehicle. Oxfam said in a report on Tuesday that Israeli explosive weapons hit civilian infrastructure in Gaza - including schools, hospitals and aid distribution points - every three hours. According to Oxfam, Israeli explosive weapons hit schools and hospitals every four days on average. Meanwhile, 12 people, including children, were killed in an airstrike on a residential building, south of the Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza in the early hours of Tuesday. Also on Tuesday, Israel conducted artillery and airstrikes on Amour area in al-Fukhari Town, east of Khan Yunis City, in southern Gaza. However, there were no immediate reports of possible casualties. Shuja'iyya neighborhood, east of Gaza city, and a tent housing displaced people northeast of the southern city of Rafah were also among the targets of overnight Israeli strikes. The armed wings of Hamas, the Islamic Jihad, and other resistance

factions said in separate statements that their fighters attacked Zionist troops operating in several areas of Gaza with anti-tank rockets, mortar fire, and explosive devices. The renewed surge in the Zionist regime's aggression in Gaza comes as the regime claimed it began a ground invasion of Lebanon, saying its paratroopers and commandos were engaged in intense fighting with Hezbollah. The operation into Lebanon represents an escalation of the conflict in West Asia between the Zionist regime and resistance movements. The occupying regime launched the war on Gaza on October 7 after the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas waged the surprise Operation Al-Aqsa Storm against the occupying entity in response to the Israeli regime's decades-long campaign of bloodletting and devastation against Palestinians. The regime's bloody onslaught on Gaza has so far killed at least 41,615 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and injured 96,000 others. Thousands more are also missing and presumed dead under rubble.

U.S. Port Workers on Massive Strike

HOUSTON (Xinhua) – About 45,000 port workers across the U.S. East and Gulf Coasts went on strike Tuesday as a midnight deadline for a new labor deal over wages and automation had passed. Labor negotiations stalled between the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) and the United States Maritime Alliance (USMX), leading to the shut-down of up to 36 East and Gulf Coast ports. The two sides, which had not been in formal negotiations since June, reportedly moved off their previous wage offers on Monday, but apparently no deal had been reached as picket lines went up from Port of Philadelphia to Port Houston in Texas, with striking dockworkers carrying signs reading "No Work Without a Fair Contract." The USMX, which represents the ports, said in a statement on

Monday evening that it requested an extension of the current contract and increased its offer by raising wages by nearly 50 percent over the life of the contract. The employer alliance pledged to keep the limits on automation in place from the old contract. But the labor union wants a complete ban on automation, according to an AP report. A statement from the ILA said earlier on Monday that employers have refused to compensate workers fairly. "The ILA is fighting for respect, appreciation and fairness in a world in which corporations are dead set on replacing hard-working people with automation," the ILA statement said. "Robots do not pay taxes and they do not spend money in their communities."

Local media reported that the ILA is seeking for a 77 percent wage increase over the six-year life of the contract, for the union workers to make up for inflation and years of small raises. The ILA members make a base salary of about 81,000 dollars per year, but some can pull in more than 200,000 dollars a year with large amounts of overtime, said the report. The affected ports handle roughly half the country's cargo ships. Local experts estimate that the strike, the first of the ILA since 1977, could cost the U.S. economy up to 5 billion U.S. dollars a day, stirring inflation and supply chain concerns weeks before the presidential election. Some say it has the potential to become the most disruptive strike to the U.S. economy in decades.

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**In the Name of the Most High
Viewpoint**

With Whom is the Initiative?

By: Kayhan International

The events in Levant, where usurper Israel caught unaware by Operation Al-Aqsa Storm and unable to conquer the small Gaza Strip despite a year of razing its towns and massacring over forty thousand people, appears to outwit and outgun the far superior Hezbollah in Lebanon, makes analysts in the West call it "loss of initiative" by the Axis of Resistance.

Does it mean the constant flow of the most lethal US weapons and hundreds of billions of dollars in cash, along with CENTCOM generals in the war control room in Tel Aviv has enabled the Zionist entity to seize the initiative to unleash a holocaust on southern Lebanon and 'decapitate' Hezbollah by targeting its famed anti-terrorist leader?

This is what the devilish duo of Israeli and American terrorists like to think following the martyrdom of Seyyed Hassan Nasrallah and threats to attack the Islamic Republic of Iran, coupled with a self-delusional propaganda tirade calling on Iranian people to make common cause with the Zionist criminals against their own government.

Let us first examine what the loss or seizure of initiative means, and secondly with whom is the initiative in the current confrontation between the Axis of Resistance and the occupiers of Palestine.

'Initiative' is a term in military parlance to describe the notion to force the enemy to react instead of the other way around. In other words, 'having the initiative' in war means making the first move or the ability to launch a surprise attack to force the opponent to only react without any strategic moves of its own.

This means Israel's 'pager terrorism', its indiscriminate slaughtering of a thousand Lebanese men, women, and children in a single day, and the suffocation to death of the Secretary-General of the legendry anti-terrorist movement during a random attack on a building with a bunker-buster, neither gives any initiative to the Zionist entity, nor it makes the Axis of Resistance lose any,

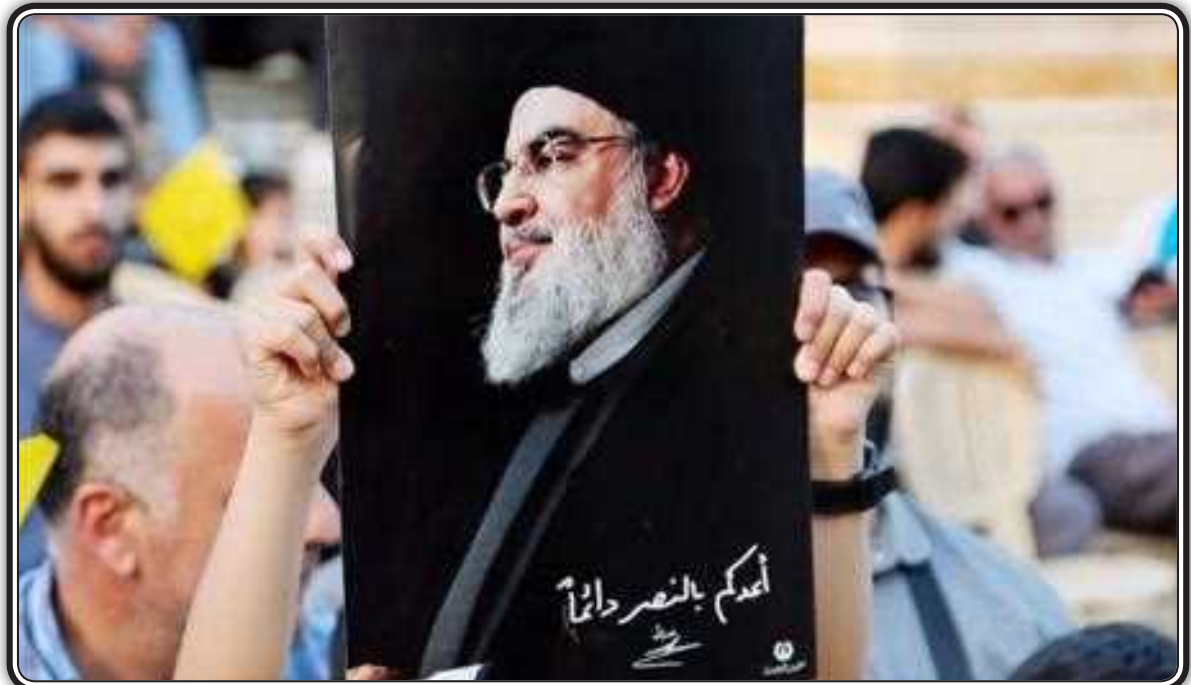
It is worth recalling that a decade ago when General Qassem Soleimani entered Syria following the US-Zionist-Arab reactionary bid to disintegrate that country, he took the initiative away from the terrorists. He numbed their capabilities, and made them merely to react to his moves, thus enabling him to make a thrust towards Qweres airbase. When the terrorists tried to move other units in the way, he pressed forward with the initiative to expand the operations in those areas completely routing the enemy.

Qassem Soleimani thus deprived the enemy of any ability and gave the initiative to the Syrian Army, which seized the opportunity to attack the confused enemy.

The Zionist entity has done nothing of this sort. It is in a confused state itself, and its savage pounding of Lebanon is nothing but a desperate move to avert its own fast approaching end.

In short, the initiative is solely with the Axis of Resistance. This was fully evident today with Lebanon's Hezbollah and Yemen's Ansarallah targeting Tel Aviv with a barrage of missiles, followed by late night's shower of vengeance by Iran to shake the Zionist entity to its very foundations, with a stern warning that any foolish move by the enemy will make Israel face the dooms day scenario.

IRGC Vows Support for Gaza, Lebanon



Hezballah's martyred leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah on posters carried by movement supporters in south Lebanon on Monday.

TEHRAN – Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Major General Hossein Salami reaffirmed Iran's unwavering support for the people of Gaza and Lebanon in the struggle against the Zionist regime.

The IRGC commander on Tuesday visited a number of people who have been hospitalized in Iran's northeastern city of Mashhad after sustaining injuries in the recent Israeli strikes on Lebanon.

During the visit, Major General Salami underlined that Islamic General will stand by the oppressed nations of Gaza and Lebanon.

He also lauded the high morale of the injured Lebanese individuals.

Almighty God always assists the sincere combatants of Hezbollah, the IRGC chief stated.

He noted that God's will has ordained that victory belongs to the front of Islam, expressing hope that the free nations of the world will

celebrate triumph in the not-too-distant future.

The injured Lebanese also praised Iran for its hospitality, expressing gratitude to the Iranian health personnel for providing treatment and supporting Hezbollah forces in difficulties.

Meanwhile, Defense Ministry Spokesman Brigadier General Reza Talainik said that Israeli assassination of Secretary General of Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah will make the Resistance Front stronger.

The criminal Zionist regime should know that martyrdom of former secretary general of Hezbollah Resistance Movement will make the Resistance Front stronger and also make their determination to destroy the child-killing Zionist regime stronger than ever.

Speaking in a local ceremony held in Robat Karim in the suburb

of Tehran, the Strategic Planning deputy Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics Support went on to say that the culture of jihad and martyrdom has currently been institutionalized in the country and this valuable culture set up School of former IRGC Quds Force Commander Lt. General Martyr Qassem Soleimani which is inspiration of the Resistance Front.

The combatants during the eight years of the Sacred Defense created the security in the country and safeguarded the independence, Talainik emphasized.

The combatants and esteemed martyrs of the Islamic Revolution during the eight years of the Sacred Defense (Iraqi imposed war against Iran in 1980-1988) managed to turn the imposed war into a Sacred Defense and defeat the enemy, the spokesman of the Ministry of Defense added.

Iran Urges Int'l Community to Stop Zionist Genocide

TEHRAN – Iran's First Vice President Mohammadreza Aref called on the international community to react to the heinous crimes committed by the Zionist regime against the innocent people of Lebanon and Palestine.

Speaking in the 3rd Forum of Prime Ministers of the Eurasian Economic Union in Yerevan on Tuesday, he pointed out that continuation of the Zionist regime's crimes against Lebanon and Gaza is unacceptable, and the international community must react to it as soon as possible.

The continuation of the Zionist regime's crimes against innocent and defenseless people and the brutal massacre of women and children in Lebanon and Gaza is strongly condemned

by the Islamic Republic of Iran, and it is necessary for the international community to react to it as soon as possible, he continued.

Aref emphasized that Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to play a more active role in the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) given its internal capacities.

With the finalization of Iran's observer membership request in the current meeting, the political and economic ties between Iran and member states of the Union will be further strengthened, Iran's first vice president highlighted.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has always shown that, as a reliable partner in the region, it seeks to strengthen

and expand political and especially economic relations at bilateral and multilateral levels, he noted.

The business dialogue event between Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union in Yerevan included round tables with topics such as the development of commercial, economic and industrial cooperation.

Iran and EAEU reached a preferential trade agreement in 2018, based on which about 862 commodity items are currently subject to preferential tariffs. The agreement came into effect on October 27, 2019.

In December last year, the two sides also signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) during the EAEU Summit in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Nasrallah Transformed Resistance Into 'Global Security-Making Phenomenon'

TEHRAN – The Secretary of Iran's Strategic Council on Foreign Relations says Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah expanded the concept of Resistance beyond Gaza and Lebanon.

"Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah elevated the Resistance to the global stage. He did not allow it to remain confined to Gaza and Lebanon, instead transforming it into a security-making phenomenon worldwide," Ali Bagheri Kani said during a Tuesday meeting at Hezbollah's office in Tehran.

"Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah was not only a religious scholar and a courageous battlefield commander but also a skilled political

player."

The meeting, attended by several Iranian officials, was held to extend condolences over the martyrdom of Nasrallah, who was assassinated in Israel's psychopathic bombardment of southern Beirut on September 27. The Israeli strikes involved 85 US-made bunker busters.

"Nasrallah fostered friendship and brotherhood among various movements in Lebanon. Under his leadership, the Lebanese resistance evolved into an outstanding and blessed phenomenon," Bagheri Kani said.

The former Iranian interim foreign minister also commented on

Nasrallah's political skills, stating that his political maneuvering in the Arab world and the broader region positioned the Resistance as a positive influential force. He institutionalized this despite Zionist efforts to portray the Resistance as a source of instability, Bagheri Kani said.

Bagheri Kani said Nasrallah's martyrdom was "a grave loss for the Arab world, the Islamic world, and the region."

"We lost a visionary thinker and a political strategist. He could reshape the political landscape."

"He always pursued the welfare of regional nations and fought

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The Holy Qur'an

So when the sacred months have passed away, then slay the idolaters wherever you find them, and take them captives and besiege them and lie in wait for them in every ambush, then if they repent and keep up prayer and pay the poor-rate, leave their way free to them; surely Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.

The Holy Qur'an (9.5)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	11:54
Evening (Maghreb)	18:04
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	06:00
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	04:37

Pezeshkian: Iran-China Ties Have Become Strategic

TEHRAN – Highlighting the "sustainable and strategic" relations between Tehran and Beijing, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said China's impressive progress has paved the way for stronger friendship with the world.

In a message for his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on Tuesday, Pezeshkian congratulated him on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The Iranian president said the Chinese nation has made magnificent headways in the past recent years under the guidance of Xi Jinping, which have prepared the ground for stronger friendship with and common welfare for the world countries.

Iran and China, by relying on their common cultural values, mutual respect, equality and altruism, have opened a new chapter in "comprehensive strategic relations" to deepen cooperation in all fields, Pezeshkian added.

"Now that the traditional friendship between the two nations has passed the test of age and has turned into deep, sustainable and strategic relations, I express my willingness for joint efforts with your excellency for the promotion of all-out relations between Iran and China," the Iranian president said in the message.

At Least 6 Killed in Two Separate Terrorist Attacks in Iran

ZAHEDAN – At least six people, including a local commander of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC), have been killed in two separate terrorist attacks in southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan.

The governor of the Iranian city of Nikshahr announced a terrorist incident in a village near the city that killed four people.

The official said that during the deadly incident, which occurred early Tuesday in the village of Bent near Nikshahr, a terrorist shot at students engaged in a religious celebration.

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Why Molana Rumi and His Works Cannot Be Divorced From Islamic Heritage



TEHRAN - For the last three years, Iraj, Sara, Shabnum, and Yasaman have found a new passion – attending lectures on Molana Rumi's Masnavi at a private center in the Iranian capital Tehran.

Thousands of miles away in New York, Mehdi is studying the Masnavi in Persian. He got the book from the Iranian holy city of Mashhad during his recent trip to Iran.

"This gives me insight into the subtle realities of life. During my PhD journey, Rumi has been a great help. I think I was in an abyss of darkness before knowing him," Mehdi tells his teacher.

In the summer capital of Indian-administered Kashmir, Sabeeha, Irfan, Ali, Rahil, and Imran meet every Sunday at a book café in Srinagar to discuss Rumi's poetry.

In London, Aarifa recently discovered an online English course on the Masnavi. A professor from Iran is teaching the course to her and many others.

"This is exactly what I need, you came as an answer to my prayers," Aarifa tells her friend Shireen, who introduced her to the course.

Millions of copies of Molana Rumi's poetry have been sold in recent years, making him the most celebrated non-Western poet in the West.

Quotes attributed to Molana Rumi have been circulated widely on social media platforms, with netizens affirming that the words provide motivation and hope amid gloom and doom all around.

Who is Molana Rumi?

Jalaluddin Mohammad Rumi came from a prominent family of Islamic scholars. He was born in 1207 A.D. in Balkh, a city in modern-day Afghanistan situated on the plain between the Hindu Kush Mountains and Amu Darya with around 2,500 years long history.

At the time of Molana Rumi's birth, the Persian Empire spanned from Pakistan in the east to Greece in the west.

At the age of 33, Molana gained prominence as an Islamic scholar. He had some 10,000 followers at the peak of his teaching career, says his son, Sultan Walad, in his Diwan.

The transformative moment in Molana Rumi's life came at the age of 37 when he met a wandering Persian mystic and poet, Shams Tabrizi.

"After years of unsuccessfully seeking a congenial soul, he at last met Rumi, whom he found to be his own potential soul," Islamic scholar and psychologist Reza Arsteh wrote about Shams in his famous book, Rumi, the Persian, the Sufi.

After three years, Shams suddenly disappeared from Molana Rumi's life. Experts on the Persian mystic say that Molana Rumi dealt with the pain of separation from him by writing poetry.

The West recognizes Molana Rumi as a mystic, spiritual master, and Sufi but rarely mentions the legendary mystic-poet's Islamic background.

Rumi experts say that he practiced Sufism to draw closer to God. His 50,000-line magnum opus, the Masnavi, illustrates his deep yearning for nearness to the Divine.

"The Masnavi is a commentary upon these mystical states and stations. It places them within the overall context of Islamic and Sufi teachings and practices," writes Islamic scholar and translator William Chittick in his book, The Sufi Path of Love.

"And it corrects the mistaken impression that one might receive by studying different poems in the Diwan in isolation and separating them from the wider context of Sufism and Islam."

Rumi and Quran

Molana Rumi's works are filled with citations from the Holy Quran. He uses Quranic stories and characters in his Masnavi that reflect his deep interest in Islam as a religion and a way of life.

"The story of Prophet Moses is mentioned in the Qur'an. Rumi uses Prophet Moses not once or twice but several times in the entire Masnavi. The story of Hazrat Adam in the Masnavi is copied from the Quran," Ghodrattollah Taheri, professor of Persian language and literature at Shaheed Beheshti University, told the Press TV website.

According to Rumi experts, the love motif that appears in Molana Rumi's poetry is also inspired by the Holy Quran.

"In the Quran, God talks about love, the love for His creation. Contrary to what people think, the Quranic relation between God and His creation is based on love and not fear. Mawlana is well aware of God's love and communicates it through his works," Taheri adds.

Dr. Sayyed Amir Akrami, assistant professor at the Iranian Institute for Humanities and Cultural Studies, told the Press TV website that the Masnavi cannot be separated from the Quran.

"According to the interpretation attributed to Sheikh Baha'i, a great Islamic scholar, poet, and philosopher, the Masnavi is the Qur'an in the Persian language."

Dr. Akrami said that the analogy used by Sheikh Baha'i reaffirms the close link between the Quran and the Masnavi.

"Molana even goes to the extent of saying that he is just acting as the narrator of the Masnavi and is not its creator. This great Persian mystic believes that the verses are just like the Quran if the mediator is removed. Revealed to the mind, heart, or soul of the narrator," he said.

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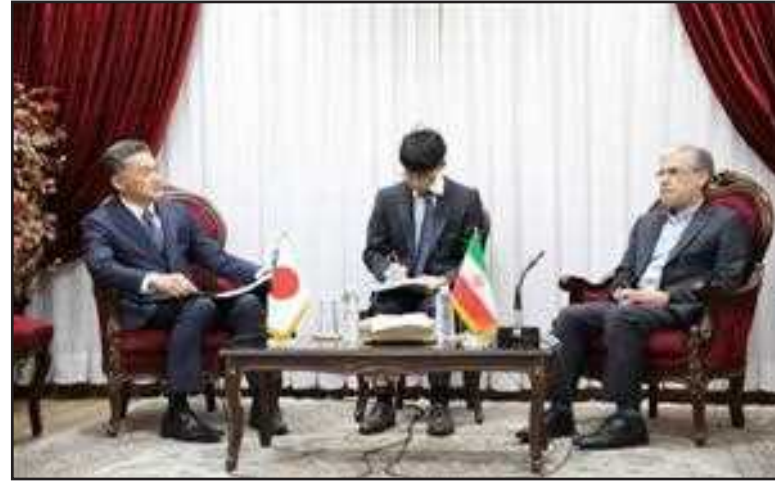
Iran, Japan Stress Need to Boost Scientific, Technological Ties

TEHRAN – Iran's Minister of Science, Research and Technology Hussein Simaei Sarraf has emphasized the need to develop and deepen the scientific and technological ties between Iran and Japan.

Simaei Sarraf was speaking during a meeting with Japanese Ambassador to Iran Tamaki Tsukada on Tuesday.

Scientific cooperation between Iran and Japan, like other ties, has been established since the past, and a number of Iranian officials and academics are Japanese graduates, and Iran is interested in continuing these ties in the future, he added.

He further said that Tehran is ready to exchange experiences with Tokyo in



the fields of humanities such as Islamic studies, Persian language and other subjects that are of interest to Japanese students.

The Japanese ambassador, for his part, said his country had some ties with Iran in the field of environment, and these ties can be developed.

Iran ranks fifth and Japan rank fourth in the world in nanotechnology research, and the two countries can expand bilateral ties in this field, Tamaki Tsukada said.

Simaei Sarraf is scheduled to partake the 21st Annual Meeting of Science and Technology in Society forum that will be held in Kyoto on October 6-8, 2024.

Exhibition 'Gaza in Blood' Opens at Imam Reza (AS) Shrine

TEHRAN – An exhibition titled "Gaza in Blood", featuring calligraphy paintings by the renowned artist Mohsen Tavassoli, has opened at the Museum of Imam Reza (AS) shrine in Mashhad.

The exhibition's opening ceremony took place on Monday, September 30, 2024, in Mashhad, to commemorate the Day of Solidarity with Palestinian Children.

Regarding the exhibition, Mohsen Tavassoli stated that since the start of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood and the continued Israeli attacks on Gaza, he felt a responsibility as an artist to create works related to Gaza using calligraphy and painting.

This year, he created 35 pieces, with 20 selected works of various sizes displayed in the gallery.

Tavassoli highlighted that the techniques used in this exhibition are

more diverse compared to his previous ones, incorporating methods such as oil paint, acrylic, and embossing.

Additionally, 30 images of martyrs and the people of Gaza are displayed alongside the calligraphy paintings, chosen to match the color and form of each artwork.

The Israeli attacks on the besieged Gaza Strip since October last year have killed more than 41,600 Palestinians, mostly women and children.

During the ceremony, Hojat-ol-Islam Seyed Jalal Hussein, head of the Libraries, Museums, and Documentation Center of Astan Quds Razavi, said that the flag of resistance against oppression and support for justice has been raised since the martyrdom of Imam Hussein (AS) and will never be extinguished.

He praised the organizers of the exhibition, emphasizing that such initia-



tives bring hope, especially when the enemy tries to spread despair among the people, particularly the youth.

The "Gaza in Blood" calligraphy painting exhibition will be open to

visitors until Saturday, October 5, 2024, from 9 am to 5 pm, at the Razavi Museum Gallery located in the Kowsar Courtyard of the Holy Shrine of Imam Reza (AS).

German Scholar Underlines Two Important Points in Qur'an Translation

TEHRAN – A translator should pay close attention to two main points when rendering the Holy Qur'an from Arabic into another language, a German scholar said.

Stefan Friedrich Schaefer, a scholar, researcher and translator from Germany and a graduate of Al-Mustafa International University, made the remark in an interview with IQNA on the occasion of the International Translation Day, marked every year on September 30.

He said one of the two points is clarifying the goal of translation based on which the meaning should be conveyed correctly and the second is who the readers of the translation are going to be.

He said translating and interpreting the Qur'an is primarily aimed at promoting the understanding of Islam and the Qur'an and in doing this, the translator's understanding of the text is influential.

Schaefer further said that in translating Islam's Holy Book, one needs to refer to Arabic lexicons and find the exact meaning of many words that are in the Qur'an but not in use in today's Arabic.

He referred to the problems in German translations of the Qur'an and said he finds them especially when teaching the Qur'an in the German language.

Asked about his Qur'anic activities, especially in the field of translation, he said that his main aim at the moment was to translate Shia works and articles to make them available to German readers.

These translated articles are available on the website Wikishia, he said, stressing that in the age of information technology, it is necessary that more and more Islamic contents are produced and be provided to readers.

He added that he plans to embark on the translation of the Qur'an into German in the future.

Schaefer, 63, was born in Germany's Offenbach and lived in his hometown until the age of 45.

International Publishers Call on Frankfurt to Cut Ties With Israel

TEHRAN - Publishers for Palestine, an international coalition of more than 500 publishers, issued an open letter on Tuesday demanding that the organizers of the Frankfurt Book Fair (FBF) cut ties with Israel.

In the letter, the coalition, which formed last November, called for Frankfurt to "publicly denounce Israel's regime of genocide and settler-colonial apartheid against the Palestinian people," among other demands.

The members press in Publishers for Palestine hail from 50 countries, including Brazil, Canada, Colombia, France, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Nigeria, the Philippines, Spain, Tanzania, Turkey, Wales,



and others, Publishers Weekly reported.

The U.S.-based member presses, which include several regular exhibitors at Frankfurt, are Haymarket Books, Interlink Publishing, Microcosm Publishing, OR Books, Other Press, Seven Stories Press, Sublunary Editions, and Verso Books.

The open letter comes shortly before this year's Frankfurt Book Fair, which is slated for October

16-20. Ahead of last year's fair, held just weeks after the October 7 attack on Israel, Frankfurt director Juergen Boos expressed support for Israel with a statement saying that the fair "stands with complete solidarity on the side of Israel" and intended to highlight Israeli voices at that year's show.

"Every year, people from more than 100 countries attend Frankfurt Buchmesse," a Frankfurt Book Fair representative said in a statement to PW. "The book fair is a platform for democratic discourse and peaceful encounters between publishers, authors, translators, illustrators, and readers from all over the world. Our program reflects this, featuring voices from every corner of the globe."

PICTURE



Iranian women gathered in solidarity with Lebanese people in Melat Park, Tehran on Oct.1, 2024.

Children's Corner

Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS)

"Live amongst people in such a manner, that if you die they weep for you, and if you are alive they crave for your company."

A Wonderful Occasion Celebrated in Iran

Salaam dear young friends. It is nice to meet you again after one week. Hopefully, you are all fine by the Grace of God and, of course, busy as usual, in your academic studies.

The harder you strive the better and brighter the prospects for you in future. So don't waste time, maintain your discipline and be punctual, whether in your online classes at schools or colleges, or whether in performing your religious obligations, especially the daily ritual prayers.

Well, for the information of our young friends abroad, every year the holy city of Qom is bedecked with flowers. Its streets presented the spectacle of a garden on the move in the early morning hours of 23rd of Rabi al-Awwal (last Friday, 27th of September) as thousands of people, mostly women and girls, holding bouquets of flowers of different colours, poured into the spacious courtyards of the sacred shrine of Hazrat Fatema al-Ma'soumah (SA).

Do you know the significance of the event? Yes, it was to mark the anniversary of the arrival of this noble young lady into the city of Qom in the year 202 AH – over a millennium and two centuries ago.

As a matter of fact, this is an annual ceremony in holy Qom. The local people, would be joined by devotees from other parts of Iran, have been observing this for centuries, with prominent men going to the outskirts of the city at the break of dawn to welcome and escort to the city centre a camel topped with a howdah covered by a green cloth, as the symbolic arrival of the sister of Imam Reza (AS).

This virtuous descendant of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), whose entourage was attacked by agents of the tyrannical Abbasid regime near the city of Saveh, did not stay long and succumbed to the wounds she has suffered and the toils of the long journey from holy Medina.

Her brief 17-day sojourn, however, transformed Qom on the edge of the Iranian desert into a centre of pilgrimage and Islamic studies for followers of the Prophet's Ahl al-Bayt from not just all over Iran, but from all over the world.

Isn't it an interesting account young friends, especially you, our dear readers of Kayhan International's weekly Children's Page, living in other countries!

As you are aware, every year many people from several countries of the world, including the Americas and Europe, on visiting the holy shrine of Hazrat Ma'soumah (SA) in Qom, embrace the truth of Islam.

Hope you have enjoyed this week's chat. Goodbye all till next week.

Types of candy

O	M	Y	O	E	P	U	C	E	S	E	E	R	J
S	A	F	S	T	C	S	D	A	E	H	R	I	A
R	R	F	U	A	A	L	A	R	I	T	C	Y	W
E	S	A	C	L	R	O	E	R	T	A	L	D	B
H	H	T	K	O	A	L	N	S	R	I	G	N	R
C	M	Y	E	C	M	L	M	S	A	K	U	A	A
N	A	F	R	O	E	I	R	R	M	S	M	C	K
A	L	F	S	H	L	P	E	O	S	B	E	N	E
R	L	A	O	C	H	O	R	C	O	A	D	O	R
Y	O	L	P	E	P	P	E	R	M	I	N	T	S
L	W	P	L	S	K	C	O	R	P	O	P	T	W
L	P	O	G	W	H	O	P	P	E	R	S	O	S
O	T	O	O	T	S	I	E	P	O	P	A	C	I
J	C	H	I	N	E	S	E	C	A	N	D	Y	S

- PEPPERMINT
- LOLLIPOP
- LAFFY TAFFY
- POP ROCKS
- CHINESE CANDY
- JAW BRAKERS
- MARSHMALLOW
- AIR HEADS
- SUCKERS
- COTTON CANDY
- CHOCOLATE
- JOLLY RANCHERS
- TOOTSIE POP
- WHOPPERS
- GUM
- SMARTIES
- CARAMEL
- REESE CUP

RIDDLES

Dear youngsters, could you answer the following questions.

1. I can never be stolen from you. I am owned by everyone. Some have more, some have less. What am I?
2. I am a mother from a family of eight. Spins around all day despite my weight. Had a ninth sibling before founding out its fake. What am I?
3. The more you have me the less you see. Shine a light on me and I flea. What am I?
4. I turn everything around, but I cannot move. When you see me you see you! What am I?
5. Tear me off and scratch my head, what once red is now black. What am I?
6. I dance on one feet and knows only one shape. Someone with same name as me is very good with directions. What am I?

Answers to the questions asked in the previous issue:

1. Kangaroo
2. Stapler
3. Traffic Light
4. Saw
5. Cold
6. Lead

JOKES

Teacher: Why Ambulance is White in Colour?
 Student: Ambulance has Oxygen cylinder.
 Oxygen is a Gas, and Gas is used 4 cooking Food.
 Food is source of Vitamins, and we get Vit-D from the Sun.
 Sun produces Light; and Light comes from bulbs. Small Bulbs are used to decorate Christmas tree...
 Christmas means Gifts, and Gifts are given by Santa.
 Santa lives in North Pole, and North Pole is the house of Polar Bears.
 Polar Bears are White... That's why Ambulance is White...

An English teacher was a perfectionist and demanded the very best of his pupils. So, it was only to be expected that he would get furious when little boy handed in a poor paper.
 "This is the worst essay I have ever had the misfortune of reading," ranted the teacher.
 "It has too many mistakes. I can't understand how one person would have made all these mistakes!"
 "One person didn't," replied the boy defensively. "My father helped me!"

Send your jokes. Heard any jokes lately? Well, try and make us laugh too!
 Don't hesitate! Mail it to us.
 Kayhan International address:
 Ferdowsi St., Shahid
 Shahcheraghi Alley, Tehran.

The Mischievous Dog

A Dog used to run up quietly to the heels of those he met, and to bite them without notice. His master sometimes suspended a bell about his neck, that he might give notice of his presence wherever he went, and sometimes he fastened a chain about his neck, to which was attached a heavy clog, so that he could not be so quick at biting people's heels. The Dog grew proud of his bell and clog, and went with them all over the market-place. An old hound said to him: "Why do you make such an exhibition of yourself? That bell and clog that you carry are not, believe me, orders of merit, but, on the contrary, marks of disgrace, a public notice to all men to avoid you as an ill-mannered dog."
 MORAL: "Those who achieve notoriety often mistake it for fame."



RIPLEY'S Believe It or Not!

ON JANUARY 13, 2024, A MANDRILL MONKEY LIVING AT THE PHOENIX ZOO CELEBRATED HER 37TH BIRTHDAY!

THE 2024 NEW ZEALAND TREE OF THE YEAR WAS A NORTHERN RATÁ NICKNAMED "THE WALKING TREE" BECAUSE IT APPEARS TO BE MID-TREDE.

WHEN MILLIPEDES FIRST HATCH, THEY HAVE ONLY THREE PAIRS OF LEGS.

Garfield is at a 'LOADING ZONE' with a plate of food. He says 'BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!' and 'SNARF'.

Official: Russia Ready for Long Confrontation With U.S.



This photo shows a Russian Su-27 approaching the back of the MQ-9 drone and beginning to release fuel as it passes, over the Black Sea.

MOSCOW (Dispatches) - Russia must prepare for a long confrontation with the United States and has sent repeated warnings to Washington over the crisis in relations, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov was quoted as saying on Tuesday.

The 2-1/2-year-old Ukraine war has triggered the gravest confrontation between Russia and the West since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis - considered to be the closest the two Cold War superpowers came to intentional nuclear war.

The conflict is entering what Russian officials say is the most dangerous phase to date. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has been urging Kyiv's allies for months to let Ukraine fire longer-range Western missiles deep into Russia to limit Moscow's ability to launch attacks.

Ryabkov, who oversees arms control and relations with Washington, said Moscow had no illusions about relations, given the "bipartisan anti-Russian consensus" in the United States.

"We must prepare for a long-term confrontation with this country. We are ready for this in every sense," Ryabkov was quoted as saying by state news agency RIA.

"We are sending all the warning signals to our opponent so that it does not underestimate our determination," Ryabkov said.

President Vladimir Putin warned the West last week that Russia could use nuclear weapons if it was struck with missiles, and that Moscow would consider any assault on it supported by a nuclear power to be a joint attack.

On Monday, Putin ordered the conscription of 133,000 new servicemen in Russia's autumn draft, according to a Kremlin decree published.

The decree, published in Russian state-run newspaper Rossiyskaya Gazeta, calls to carry out the draft of citizens "aged 18 to 30 years, who are not in the reserve and are subject to conscription in accordance with the Federal Law ... in the amount of

133,000 people."

Russia also launched several waves of drones targeting Kyiv early, with air defense units successfully defending the city during the attack which lasted over five hours, Ukraine's military said.

The Ukrainian air force said that it shot down 67 out of 73 drones and one of three missiles launched by Russia during the attack.

Governor Ruslan Kravchenko reported no damage to critical or residential infrastructure in the region surrounding the capital. He said that the attack caused fires in five districts of the region, but there were no casualties.

Mykolaiv governor Vitaliy Kim said the attack caused a fire at a critical infrastructure facility in the southern region.

Russia has launched multiple air attacks on Kyiv and Ukraine throughout September, targeting Ukraine's energy, military and transport infrastructure in attacks which have killed dozens of civilians.

FBI to Pay \$22mn to Settle Claims of Sexual Discrimination



NEW YORK (AP) - The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation has agreed to pay more than \$22 million to settle a class-action lawsuit alleging female recruits were singled out for dismissal in training and routinely harassed by instructors with sexually

charged comments about their breast size, false allegations of infidelity and the need to take contraception "to control their moods."

"The payout to 34 women dismissed from the FBI's training academy in Quantico, Virginia,

still subject to approval by a federal judge, would rank among the biggest lawsuit settlements in the history of the bureau," said the report.

"These problems are pervasive within the FBI and the attitudes that created them were learned at the academy," David J Shaffer, the lawyer for the women, was quoted as saying.

"This case will make important major changes in these attitudes." Filed in 2019, the lawsuit contends that female recruits had been subjected to a hostile working environment in which they were judged more harshly than their male peers and "excessively targeted for correction and dismissal in tactical situations for perceived lack of judgment" and subjective "suitability" criteria.

Kashmiris Vote in Final Phase of Polls to Elect Local Government

SRINAGAR, India (AP) - Voting in the final phase of the election to choose a local government in Indian-controlled Kashmir began Tuesday, the first such vote since Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government stripped the disputed region of its special status five years ago.

Over 3.9 million residents were eligible to cast ballots to choose 40 lawmakers out of 415 candidates in

the region's seven districts during the third - and last - phase of the election.

Thousands of armed government forces patrolled the voting districts and guarded over 5,000 polling stations. Lines of voters stretched across the stations. The region's chief electoral office said about 56% turnout was recorded by 1 p.m.

India's unprecedented move in

2019 downgraded and divided the former state into two centrally governed union territories, Ladakh and Jammu-Kashmir. Both are ruled directly by New Delhi through its appointed administrators along with unelected bureaucrats and security setup. The move - which largely resonated in India and among Modi supporters - was mostly opposed in Kashmir as an assault on its identity and autonomy.

New NATO Boss Pledges Support for Ukraine, Plays Down Trump Fears



Mark Rutte being unveiled as NATO's new Secretary-General

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - NATO's new chief Mark Rutte voiced strong support for Ukraine on Tuesday and said he was not worried about the upcoming U.S. election as he could work with former president Donald Trump or Vice President Kamala Harris.

Rutte, a former Dutch prime minister, took over from Jens Stoltenberg as NATO secretary general just weeks before the Nov. 5 U.S. presidential vote that pits Democrat Harris against Republican Trump, who has been highly critical of NATO.

But Rutte played down concerns within the transatlantic alliance about the vote in NATO's predominant power, telling reporters at NATO headquarters: "I'm not worried."

"I worked for four years with Donald Trump. He was the one pushing us to spend more (on defense), and he achieved - because ... we are now at a much higher spending level than we were when he took office," Rutte said.

NATO estimates that 23 of its 32 members will meet its target of spending at least 2% of GDP on defense this year, compared to just

three countries a decade ago.

On the war in Ukraine, he avoided a direct answer when asked whether Kyiv was winning. NATO members provide the vast majority of weapons and ammunition supplied to Ukraine.

Rutte said the situation on the battlefield was "difficult" and Russia had made "limited" gains this year but at a high cost.

Signalling continuity with Stoltenberg, Rutte said he had three main priorities - making sure NATO had the capabilities to protect against any threat, supporting Ukraine and addressing global challenges by working with partners "near and far".

The Kremlin said on Tuesday it did not expect any improvement in relations with NATO under Rutte.

One of Rutte's key tasks will be to persuade NATO members to come up with the extra troops, weapons and spending to fully realize the new defense plans, diplomats and analysts say.

"We have to invest more and close the capability gaps and try to achieve all the targets NATO has set here," Rutte said.

PM: France's 'Colossal' Debt 'Sword of Damocles'



France's Prime Minister Michel Barnier delivers a speech at the National Assembly, in Paris, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024.

PARIS (AP) - New French Prime Minister Michel Barnier warned Tuesday that "colossal" and spiraling debts are a "sword of Damocles" hanging over the finances of the European Union's second-largest economy and announced belt-tightening and more taxes to reverse the trend.

Tuesday's opening of parliament and Barnier's address kicked off what promised to be months of tumult in the National Assembly - which is sharply divided from surprise elections three months ago that produced no clear winner.

Barnier made a priority in his address of remedying France's indebted public finances. He made clear that he aims to curb spending, saying France has "much to do" but adding: "We must make do with little." Barnier announced an "exceptional" tax on France's wealthiest individuals - but did not specify who, exactly, falls into that tax bracket. He also said an extra contributory "effort" will be asked of large companies making big profits.

"The true sword of Damocles is our colossal debt," Barnier said. "If we are not careful, it will take our country to the edge of the precipice."

France is under pressure from the European Union's executive arm to reduce its debt.

Still, tax hikes would go against the fiscal philosophy of French President Emmanuel Macron, who consistently

cut taxes when he still had a government with a clear majority in parliament.

Barnier said his government will seek to reduce France's deficit from an estimated 6% of Gross Domestic Product now to 5% next year and under 3% by 2029.

To do so, he promised to cut state expenses, spend money more "efficiently" and fight tax evasion and other frauds.

Barnier, who had pledged a hardline stance on migration, said he wanted to "better control" the numbers of people coming to France.

He proposed to "facilitate" the detention of foreigners who are staying illegally in the country pending the implementation of deportation orders.

He said France will continue "as long as needed" to implement controls at its national borders in the passport-free area in Europe.

Barnier's wide-ranging speech covered his plans to tackle problems as diverse as mental health and aid for farmers to wind power and sexual violence.

Left-wing lawmakers kept up a steady drumbeat of shouted comments throughout but failed to throw the veteran politician off his stride. He responded to the heckling with flashes of wry humor and said he aims to listen to and respect all lawmakers "even if this respect is not always reciprocal."



SWANNANOVA, N.C. (AP) - Rescuers fanned out across the mountains of western North Carolina on Tuesday in search of anyone still unaccounted for since Hurricane Helene's remnants caused catastrophic damage to the Southeast, with a death toll nearing 140 people. Many of those who survived what was one of the deadliest storms in U.S. history were left without electricity or any way to reach out for help. Some cooked food on charcoal grills or hiked to high ground in the hopes of finding a signal to call loved ones. The devastation was especially bad in the Blue Ridge Mountains, where at least 40 people died in and around the city of Asheville, a tourism haven known for its art galleries, breweries and outdoor activities.

BANGKOK (AFP) - A bus carrying young students with their teachers caught fire in suburban Bangkok on Tuesday with 25 of those on board feared dead, according to officials and rescuers. The bus was carrying 44 passengers from central Uthai Thani province to Ayutthaya for a school trip when the fire started around noon in Pathum Thani province, a northern suburb of the capital. Transport Minister Suriya Jungrungruangkit told reporters at the scene. Interior Minister Anutin Charnvirakul said officials could not yet confirm the number of fatalities as they have not finished investigating the scene, but based on the number of survivors, he said 25 people are feared dead.

KYIV (Reuters) - Ukraine's defense minister is dismissing three of his deputies in a reshuffle as Kyiv struggles to fend off Moscow's 2 1/2-year-old invasion, he said on Tuesday. Rustem Umerov said in a social media post he had asked the government to relieve Stanislav Haider, Oleksandr Serhiy and Yuriy Dzhyyg of their duties as deputy defense ministers, and Liudmyla Darahan as ministry secretary. "I have set the task of completing the process of cleansing the system of procurement in close cooperation with law enforcement and anti-corruption authorities," Umerov said. New appointments will be announced shortly. Ukrainian officials have sought to streamline bureaucracy and crack down on corruption.

SANTAREM, Brazil (Reuters) - Fires in Brazil's Amazon rainforest region surged to the highest number for September in almost a decade and a half, preliminary government data showed on Tuesday, after reaching similar highs in the two preceding months. A prolonged drought across much of South America, linked to climate change, means the fires in Brazil's Amazon have burned more intensely this year and at times smoke has covered more than half of the continent. Satellites detected 41,463 fire hot spots in Brazil's Amazon in September, the largest number for that month since 2010, data from the National Institute for Space Research (Inpe) showed. Fires in the first nine months of the year are also the worst for that period since 2007. A Reuters reporter traveling on Monday on a flight to Santarem in the Amazonian state of Para saw hundreds of miles of haze. Para also recorded the highest number of fire hot spots for the month of September since 2007, the data showed.

ZURICH (Reuters) - Swiss glaciers melted at an above-average rate in 2024 as a blistering hot summer thawed through abundant snowfall, monitoring body GLAMOS said on Tuesday. Earlier this year, glaciologists had celebrated heavy winter and spring snow dumps in the Alps, hoping this would signal a halt to years of hefty declines or even a reversal of losses. But with average August temperatures a few degrees above freezing even at the 3,571 meter high Jungfrau station perched above the Aletsch Glacier, scientists measured record ice losses across the country that month. Overall, GLAMOS said Swiss glaciers lost 2.5% of their volume this year which was above the average of the past decade. "It is worrying to me that despite the perfect year we actually had for glaciers, with the snow-rich winter and the rather cool and rainy spring, it was still not enough," said Matthias Huss, Director of GLAMOS.

Iran Football Federation, Taremi, Ahmad Abbasi Nominated for 2023 AFC Annual Awards



TEHRAN – Iran football federation, Mehdi Taremi and Saeid Ahmad Abbasi have been nominated for the AFC Annual Awards Seoul 2023. The highly anticipated and star-studded cast of nominees was announced today, with just under a month left to the gala ceremony.

Asia's finest, headlined by the coveted AFC Player of the Year and AFC Women's Player of the Year accolades, will be crowned on

October 29 when the 28th edition of the AFC Annual Awards take place at the stunning Grand Peace Palace of the Kyung Hee University. A world-class cast is in the run-

ning for the prestigious Player of the Year awards – Yazan Al Naimat, Seol Young-woo and Akram Afif will vie for the AFC Player of the Year, while Cortnee Vine, Kiko Seike and Kim Hye-ri are up for the AFC Women's Player of the Year.

- AFC Member Association of the Year (Platinum) Football Federation Islamic Republic of Iran
- Japan Football Association
- Korea Football Association
- AFC Asian International Player of the Year (Men) Mehdi Taremi (FC Porto/Internazionale and IRN)
- Mousa Al Tamari (Montpellier HSC and JOR)
- Son Heung-min (Tottenham Hotspur and KOR)
- AFC Futsal Player of the Year Saeid Ahmad Abbasi (IRN)
- Fayzali Sardorov (TJK)
- Dilshod Rakhmatov (UZB)

Persepolis, Pakhtakor Share Spoils in AFC Champions League Elite



TEHRAN – Pakhtakor football team came from behind to force a 1-1 draw with Persepolis in their AFC Champions League Elite 2024/25 tie on Monday.

Pakhtakor's Dragan Ceran cancelled out Ali Alipour's first minute opener as the side from Uzbekistan took a well deserved point from their rivals from Iran, Tehran Times reported.

Both sides were eager to bounce after having suffered defeats in their respective openers but it was Persepolis who got off to a flying start, taking the lead inside the opening minute.

Vahid Amiri flicked Farshad Ahmadzadeh's corner into the path of the unmarked Ali Alipour who rifled home the ball past a stunned

Pakhtakor keeper Vladimir Nazarov and into the roof of the net.

In the 59th minute after Sabirkhodjaev's dummy run from the edge of the box opened up space for Ceran to tuck home a curling equaliser.

Persepolis never regained the rhythm that had seen them taking the lead as Pakhtakor continued to look more dangerous with Pulatkhuzha Kholdorkhonov almost outmuscling Alexis in the 77th minute before Umar Adhamzoda's dangerous ball across the face of goal was cleared away by Ayoub El Amloud.

Pakhtakor travel to face Iraq's Al Shorta next on October 21 while Persepolis are away to Qatar's Al Sadd SC.

Spurs Romp to 3-0 Win Over 10-Man Manchester United

MANCHESTER (Reuters) - Tottenham Hotspur's Brennan Johnson, Dejan Kulusevski and Dominic Solanke got on the scoresheet in a 3-0 victory over 10-man Manchester United in the Premier League as the visitors ran roughshod over the bedraggled Old Trafford side.



Manchester United's Casemiro, right, heads the ball during the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur at Old Trafford stadium.

Ange Postecoglou's Spurs climbed to eighth in the table on 10 points after six games, while beleaguered United, who saw captain Bruno Fernandes sent off in the 42nd minute for a high challenge on James Maddison, are 12th with seven points in a loss that will again raise questions about manager Erik

ten Hag. "I thought it was an outstanding performance," said Postecoglou. "We started the game well, scored a great goal and probably should

have had two or three. The pressure then overwhelms them and they get the red card. After that I thought we controlled the game well. "Just an outstanding effort

from all the lads."

Tottenham went ahead in the third minute when defender Micky van de Ven carried the ball over half the length of the pitch before playing a low center across the six-yard box for the wide open Johnson to tap in for his fourth goal in four games.

"Eleven v 11, or 11 v 10, we completely dominated the game," Johnson said. "We had a clear game plan and we did exactly what we wanted to do."

Spurs continued to run circles around United on a nightmare evening for Dutchman Ten Hag in rainy Manchester.

Alcaraz, Medvedev to Meet in Semifinal



Carlos Alcaraz of Spain hits a return during the men's singles quarterfinals against Karen Khachanov of Russia.

BEIJING (Reuters) - Second-seeded Carlos Alcaraz of Spain will confront Russia's Daniil Medvedev after beating another Russian player Karen Khachanov in the men's singles quarterfinals of the China Open, while Magda Linette of Poland upset the third seed Jasmine Paolini of Italy.

Alcaraz seized a 7-5, 6-2 victory over the seventh-seeded Khachanov and tended to be aggressive throughout the game. "I always try to put some pressure when they are serving just in a certain way. I was

there putting some returns in playing good points, and taking the most of the changes that he brought to me," said the 21-year-old Spaniard, who will meet the third-seeded Medvedev next.

Medvedev eased past Flavio Cobolli of Italy 6-2, 6-4 in the quarterfinals and took the match against Alcaraz as a test. "I feel like he is in the zone. I think I'm not the only one to say it. When he (Alcaraz) is in the zone, he is probably one of the best players in the world," the Russian noted.

I Don't Care About Individual Records Anymore, Ronaldo Says



RIYADH (Reuters) - Cristiano Ronaldo insists he is focused on being the perfect team member at Saudi side Al Nassr rather than collecting more individual accolades in the twilight of his career.

The 39-year-old, who has won the Ballon d'Or award five times, scored in Al Nassr's 2-1 win over Al Rayyan of Qatar in their AFC Champions League Group B match on Monday.

It was the club's fourth suc-

cessive victory in all competitions under new coach Stefano Pioli, who replaced Luis Castro last month.

"It was a strong and difficult match like all the matches in the AFC Champions League, but the most important thing is that we created many chances and defended well to prevent the opponent from creating easy chances," Ronaldo told a press conference.

"It is not important anymore whether I am the best

or not, I no longer care about that. It is good for a player to score goals, but for me it is better for the team to win.

"I am used to breaking records and I no longer look for them. The most important thing for me now is to enjoy and help Al Nassr and my teammates to win."

Ronaldo became the top scorer in a single season in the Saudi Pro League last May with 35 goals.

The Portugal captain also scored his 901st career goal in a 2-1 win over Scotland in the Nations League last month.

"My goal against Al Rayyan was different and important because my father would have been happy with it if he was alive, as today (yesterday) is his birthday," the former Real Madrid, Juventus and Manchester United forward added.

Injured Real Madrid Goalie Courtois to Miss Champions League Game

MADRID (AP) — Goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois will miss Real Madrid's match at Lille in the Champions League on Wednesday because of a muscle injury.

Following tests on Monday, Courtois was diagnosed with an abductor injury in his left leg, Madrid said.

Courtois was hurt in the 1-1 draw at Atletico Madrid in



Real Madrid's goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois

the Spanish league derby on Sunday. He played the entire match at Metropolitano Stadium.

Madrid began the defense of its Champions League title by beating Stuttgart 3-1 at home.

Included in Madrid's squad was Kylian Mbappé, who missed the derby against Atletico because of a hamstring injury.

World Diplomats Demand End to Israeli Brutal Assault

ATHENS (Dispatches) – The EU reiterated its demand Tuesday for an immediate end to the Zionist regime's aggression in Lebanon and Gaza.

"The European Union renews its call for an immediate ceasefire between Hezbollah and Israel, and for both parties to commit to the full and symmetrical implementation of the UN Security Council resolution 1701, so as to ensure the safe return of displaced populations on both sides, as part of a broader negotiated settlement," it said in a statement.

"We deplore the many civilian casualties in Lebanon, the destruction of civilian infrastructure with related long-term implications," it said.

Slovenian Foreign Minister Tanja Fajon on Tuesday called on the Zionist regime to stop its disproportionate military offensives in Gaza and Lebanon.

"Netanyahu, stop war," she said, expressing her worry over the rising civilian casualties, and growing risk of a wider regional war in the Middle East.

"What we see on the ground is more than a million of displaced persons. A land offensive ... that we are strongly calling on all sides to restrain from it, protect civilians, and not to go further in escalation of the war," Fajon told Anadolu, during her Berlin visit.



Smoke rises from the site of a Zionist airstrike in Beirut's southern suburb, Lebanon, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024.

The top Slovenian diplomat said European Union member states are extremely worried over the latest escalation, and are continuing their efforts for an immediate humanitarian cease-fire.

"We were always saying that what is happening in Gaza, with violation of international law, with killings of innocent civilians and children and women, will escalate further," she said.

"And this is what we are witnessing today. So it's an urgent call of the whole European Union, my country especially, to stop this violence on the ground, protect civilians and the

respect of international law," the minister added.

Italy's Prime Minister Georgia Meloni on Tuesday reiterated her country's commitment to a diplomatic solution to the Zionist regime's current military escalation in Lebanon.

During a phone call with her Lebanese counterpart Najib Mikati, Meloni reaffirmed Italy's closeness with Lebanon and the Lebanese people, according to a statement by the Prime Minister's Office.

Meloni also reiterated Italy's commitment to a ceasefire and a diplomatic solution to the conflict which would allow displaced persons to re-

turn to their homes, according to the statement.

"Italy, also as current G7 President, will continue to work for de-escalation at the regional level," it added.

Turkey on Tuesday said that "fundamentals" for its evacuation of citizens of other countries have been established, adding that "necessary preparations are underway" in cooperation with "about 20 countries that have requested support so far."

The situation in Lebanon may "deteriorate" with Israel's current ground invasion, said the Turkish Foreign Ministry, adding that plans have been drawn up for the evacuation of Turkish citizens.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres denounced the escalation of conflict in Lebanon as Israel has been pounding the country with airstrikes for more than one week.

"The Secretary General is extremely concerned with the escalation of the conflict in Lebanon," according to a statement by spokesperson Stephane Dujarric.

Urging for an immediate ceasefire, Guterres warned against "an all-out war" and said it must be avoided in Lebanon at all costs.

"The sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon must be respected," he added.

Footage Appears to Show Israel Using White Phosphorus in Lebanon

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – Video footage circulated online appears to show the Zionist regime's use of white phosphorus munitions in southern Lebanon.

The footage of the intensifying Israeli strikes near the Lebanese border showed what looked like phosphorus bombs, as well as heavy artillery use by the Israelis.

White phosphorus is an incendiary chemical that ignites when in contact with air and can cause severe burns in people or structures it comes into contact with.

Inhalation of white phosphorus

fumes can cause respiratory injuries and asphyxiation, and the chemical can inflict second- and third-degree burns to the skin.

The use of airburst white phosphorus in areas with a dense civilian population is prohibited under international law, as the weapon inflicts indiscriminate harm on civilians.

In June, Zionist regime troops unlawfully dropped white phosphorus munitions on densely populated areas in southern Lebanon, according to Human Rights Watch (HRW).

"Israel's widespread use of

white phosphorus in south Lebanon highlights the need for stronger international law on incendiary weapons," the HRW report said.

This followed other attacks last October, when HRW documented the use of the weapon by Zionist troops in Gaza and two rural areas along the Lebanese border.

This comes after the Israeli military claimed it had launched its ground invasions in Lebanon, claiming that "targeted" raids would be limited to southern villages along the border, although

Lebanese media said there were no confirmations yet that Israeli troops had entered the country as of Tuesday morning.

Meanwhile, a slew of Israeli strikes continued to pound densely populated areas across Lebanon, killing 95 people on Monday. Attacks targeted an ambulance centre in the Beqaa Governorate and the Ain al-Hilweh camp for Palestinian refugees.

Last week, the Zionist regime's deadly bombing campaign of southern Lebanon killed over 1,000 people.

Israel Arrests Scores of Palestinians, Including Child, in West Bank Raids

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime's troops have arrested 30 Palestinians, including a child and former detainees, during multiple raids across the occupied West Bank in the past 24 hours, Wafa news agency has reported.

In a joint statement, the Palestinian Prisoners' Society (PPS) and the Detainees' and Ex-Detainees' Affairs Commission revealed that since the escalation of the Zionist regime's aggression on 7 October, 2023, more than 11,000 Palestinians have been detained. These arrests have affected all sectors of Palestinian society, they add-

ed. Numerous Palestinian workers and thousands of Palestinians from Gaza are the victims of enforced disappearances.

Moreover, the organizations highlighted that the ongoing detention campaigns have been marked by extrajudicial killings, the use of live ammunition before arrests, severe physical abuse and aggressive field interrogations.

First-hand reports describe the use of police dogs, human shields and the taking of captives during these now daily military operations. There have also been widespread incidents of home

demolitions, property confiscation — including vehicles, money, gold and electronic devices — and the blowing up of detainees' homes.

These detentions are part of a larger military aggression against the Palestinian population. The data includes those still in custody and those who have since been released, highlighting the scale and impact of the regime's ongoing crackdown.

Tension has been running high across the occupied West Bank amid a brutal Israeli onslaught on the Gaza Strip, which has killed

nearly 41,600 people, mostly women and children, since October 7 last year. At least 719 Palestinians, including 160 children, have since been killed in the West Bank and Al-Quds, nearly 6,200 others have been wounded and 11,000 have been arrested.

The escalation follows a landmark advisory opinion in July by the International Court of Justice that declared the Zionist regime's decades-long occupation of Palestinian land to be unlawful and demanded the evacuation of all settlements in the West Bank and East Al-Quds.

Maldives Seeks to Join South African Genocide Case Against Israel

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Maldives Tuesday said it has officially filed a declaration of intervention in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to join the genocide case against the Zionist regime for committing massacres in the Gaza Strip.

"The Maldives, pursuant to the Article 63 of the CIJ_IC Statute, filed the declaration of intervention to the Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in the Gaza Strip (South Africa vs. Israel)," Maldives' President Mohamed Muizzu said in a post on X.

"Israel must be held accountable for its un-

lawful acts in Gaza. The rule of law must be upheld, and Israel must cease its genocidal acts against the Palestinian people," he added.

The Maldives, he went on to say, will always side with "humanity, peace and justice, and in doing so, we will continue to stand with the Palestinian people."

Muizzu further said that Palestine "must" be recognized and established based on the pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

South Africa filed the case at the tribunal based in The Hague in late 2023, accusing the regime, which has bombed Gaza since last

October, of failing to uphold its commitments under the 1948 Genocide Convention.

The top UN court ordered the Zionist regime in May to halt its aggression in the southern Gaza city of Rafah. It was the third time the 15-judge panel issued preliminary orders seeking to rein in the death toll and alleviate humanitarian suffering in the blockaded enclave, where casualties have surpassed 41,600.

Several countries have joined the genocide case against Israel, including Turkey, Nicaragua, Palestine, Spain, Mexico, Libya and Colombia. The court began public hearings in January.

Iran's...

(Continued From Page One)

Palestine and Lebanon until Israel is defeated and all its criminal plots and expansionist conspiracies are thwarted.

The Yemeni army calls upon all Arab and Islamic nations to break their silence and participate actively in this fateful battle, as the first anniversary of the beginning of the Gaza war is approaching, he said.

"We will continue our struggle with God's help until the promised victory is achieved," Saree concluded. Yemenis have declared their open support for Palestine's struggle against the Israeli occupation since the regime launched a devastating war on Gaza on October 7 last year, killing at least 41,615 Palestinians to date.

The Yemeni Armed Forces have said that they won't stop their attacks until Israeli ground and aerial attacks in Gaza end.

Israel launched its brutal campaign of genocide in Gaza after Palestinian resistance groups conducted a surprise Operation Al-Aqsa Storm into the occupied territories.

The regime has had in place a near-total siege on the coastal territory, which has reduced to a trickle the flow of foodstuffs, medicine, electricity, and water into the Palestinian territory.

Leader of Yemen's Ansarullah resistance movement Abdul-Malik al-Houthi has said it is "a great honor and blessing to be confronting America directly."

The Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah also targeted the Zionist regime's Gilot military base and Mossad headquarters in the outskirts of Tel Aviv with salvos of Fadi-4 rockets.

Israeli reports said several settlers were injured in the rocket barrage from Lebanon on Tel Aviv.

The reports said the rocket attack from Lebanon was "the largest" since the beginning of the war.

Hezbollah earlier said it struck gatherings of Israeli troops in artillery and rocket attacks on the northern part of the occupied Palestinian territories in retaliation for Israel's deadly strikes on Lebanon.

In separate statements released on Tuesday, the resistance movement said the gatherings of the enemy troops were hit at the Shtula, Metulla, Avivim and Rosh Pina settlements.

The resistance also targeted the Doviv barracks with a Falaq-2 rockets as well as the gathering of Israeli forces near the settlement of Rosh Pina with a rocket barrage.

The resistance group added that it had conducted the operations in support of "steadfast Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and ... their valiant and honorable resistance, and in defense of Lebanon and its people."

The attacks came amid a major escalation in Israel's acts of terror and aggression in Lebanon that saw the regime assassinating Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in an airstrike on southern Beirut.

The death toll from Israeli aerial assaults across Lebanon since early October 2023 has reached 1,745 with some 8,767 injured, according to Lebanese government data. In response, Hezbollah has fired barrages of rockets and drones towards Israeli targets.

The deadly exchange of fire was sparked by Israel's genocidal war on the Gaza Strip, which has killed 41,615 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and wounded 96,359 others over the past year.

Nasrallah...

(Continued From Page 2)

against forces of instability," Bagheri Kani said.

"With the heavy legacy left by Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, a great responsibility now rests on our shoulders and on the world of Islam."

Elsewhere in his speech, Bagheri Kani condemned Israeli atrocities in Lebanon, particularly the Tel Aviv regime's bombardment of southern Beirut, stating, "The crimes committed by the Zionist regime are a continuation of its longstanding crimes and the crimes cannot be justified under humanitarian law or any international legal framework."

Bagheri Kani also criticized U.S. and Western support for Israel, noting that "the U.S. policy of supporting the Zionists has failed to convince even the American public. People in the West are waking up and taking a stand against U.S. policies."

Bagheri Kani said "the efforts of the Islamic world on the international stage must aim to halt Israeli aggression and ensure that the Zionists are held accountable for their crimes."

At Least...

(Continued From Page 2)

The official added that another person was injured in the shooting.

In another incident, two Iranian security guards were killed after gunmen shot at a passing police car in the city of Khash.

An informed source told Fars News that the incident happened on Tuesday noon during which a terrorist gunman shot at the car carrying the law-enforcement forces in the city.

Abodfzali Jahani and Hosseilali Kikha are the two police officers killed in the Khash terrorist attack on Tuesday.

Meanwhile the Iranian interior minister Eskandar Momeni has assigned his deputy in charge of security issues to conduct a full investigation into the matter along with two other similar attacks that happened in the province over the past few days.

Also on Sunday night, an Iranian soldier was killed in armed clashes with members of a terrorist group in the village of Pashamak near the city of Rask.

Why...

(Continued From Page 3)

An internet search shows that around 6,000 verses of the Masnavi have Quranic references or are inspired by Quranic teachings.

Dr. Akrami said that this number equals around one-fourth of the Masnavi.

"This book is imbued with Quranic verses and Quranic ideas, and any attempt to sever the Masnavi from the Quran or the basic teachings of the Quran is simply a childish, futile attempt," explained Dr. Akrami, who also teaches courses on the Masnavi and Divan-e-Shams.

"Whoever reads the Masnavi will understand that this book is nothing except a mirror image of the Quran."

Molana Rumi's other major work, Divan-e-Shams, containing 2,500 odes to his master Shams Tabrizi, is also loaded with references to the Quran and the Holy Prophet (PBUH).

"As far as Divan-e-Shams is concerned, if we look at Ghazal number 1948 (the website Ganjoor's numerical order), the whole Ghazal is drawn from the Quran. Each verse ends with words from the Quran," Dr. Akrami stated.

Rumi and West

As Molana Rumi became a household name in the West, his works received significant recognition in popular Western culture.

However, many English translations divorced his poetry from his belief in God and Islam, reducing the verses to love poems.

"After starting Persian poetics, I informed my followers that most Rumi pages post poorly translated content or outright false Rumi quotes. Eventually, this grew from Instagram stories and posts to a viral Twitter thread and now a full website," a Rumi scholar Mohammad Ali Mojaradi said in a conversation with the Press TV website.

"The extent of this falsification, as well as the seeming total unawareness, was shocking to me."

Mojaradi is known on social media as Sharghzadeh. He is a US-based researcher and translator who has studied Rumi's works for years.

Mojaradi said he "seeks to rectify inaccurately translated and wrongfully attributed work" relating to the 13th-century Persian poet.

While Molana Rumi's background as a Muslim closely shapes his work, this crucial link often gets ignored by the new-age translators.

Many interpreters who claim to know Molana Rumi have never studied the Persian language and are largely unaware of the Persian poet's Islamic background and environment.

"I am lazy, as a matter of fact—it was hopeless to try to learn Farsi," Coleman Burks, the American translator who is credited with expanding Rumi's readership in the West, was quoted as saying in various media outlets.

Translations by other translators who claim to know Molana Rumi have little resemblance to the poet's original works, often presenting distorted versions of his poetry.

Rumi experts regard it as a deliberate attempt to erase the centuries-old religious and spiritual history inherited and witnessed by Muslims throughout the world.

"There is a real bias against Islam and all things Eastern, and this has surely affected the Western version of Rumi, whether subtly or explicitly," Mojaradi said when asked if erasing Rumi's Islamic background can be linked to the Western bias against Islam and Eastern cultures.

Meanwhile, in Iran, Iraq, Sara, Shabnum, and Yasaman regard Rumi as an antidote to hate and suffering.

CAIRO (Middle East Eye) – Egyptian security forces are escalating their persecution of exiled human rights defenders in an attempt to quash dissent abroad, a new report has revealed. The report, which is based on interviews with 10 human rights activists who fled Egypt between 2017 and 2020, details how Egyptian authorities have used a range of methods to intimidate and harass them, including issuing sentences in absentia, launching judicial investigations and placing them on designated terrorism lists. Those affected reported being denied consular services and even having their citizenship revoked, making their legal status precarious. According to the report, jointly published Monday by the Egyptian Human Rights Forum and the Egyptian Front for Human Rights, security services track and monitor activities of exiled activists and intimidate their families by frequently summoning them for questioning or arbitrarily detaining them.

There is no greater wealth than wisdom, no greater poverty than ignorance; no greater heritage than culture and no greater support than consultation.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Report: More Women, Children Killed in Gaza Than in Any Recent Conflict

LONDON (Dispatches) – A combined analysis by Oxfam and Action on Armed Violence (AOAV) revealed Tuesday a sharp rise in civilian deaths in Gaza over the past year, surpassing numbers from any other conflict in the last two decades.

According to the report, more than 6,000 women and 11,000 children have been killed by the Zionist regime's military aggression, setting a grim record for civilian casualties in conflict zones.

These figures eclipse previous records, including the 2,600 women killed in Iraq in 2016 and the 4,700 children killed annually during the early years of the foreign-backed war in Syria.

The data highlights the devastating toll of the Israeli military campaign in Gaza, which has continued without pause. Explosive weapons have hit civilian infrastructure at an average rate of every three hours since the conflict began.

AOAV's findings point to the widespread destruction of homes, shelters, schools, hospitals, and critical aid distribution centers. This unrelenting assault has left



Study shows over 17,000 women and children killed in Gaza, surpassing past conflict records.

thousands of families grieving and hundreds of thousands displaced, with many so-called "safe zones" becoming targets of military strikes.

Dr. Iain Overton, executive director of AOAV, described the situation as "appalling," condemning the lack of international intervention: "The scale of devastation in Gaza should be a wake-up call. The continued bombardment of homes, schools, and hospitals with such frequency shows a clear dis-

regard for human life and international law."

The ongoing conflict has sparked widespread condemnation over violations of International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Civilians have been repeatedly displaced, often to areas that were later bombed.

Oxfam's data suggests the true death toll could be much higher. According to a study published in The Lancet, unidentified victims buried beneath rubble, along with those dying from starvation or the

collapse of healthcare services, could push the death toll above 186,000.

Meanwhile, the humanitarian crisis continues to escalate. More than 25,000 children have lost a parent or become orphans, with many also suffering life-altering injuries and disabilities. Women, disproportionately affected, are now leading households in the midst of destruction, while pregnant and breastfeeding mothers struggle to survive amid a failing healthcare system.

Dr. Umayyeh Khamash, the director of Juzoor, an Oxfam partner, emphasized the immense suffering: "The trauma experienced by children—many of whom have lost limbs or are dealing with deep emotional distress—is indescribable."

Sally Abi Khalil, Oxfam's Middle East and North Africa Director, urged immediate international action: "The international community's failure to hold the Zionist regime accountable, combined with continued arms supplies, has enabled the atrocities we are witnessing. A permanent ceasefire is urgently needed."

Multiple Rockets Hit U.S. Base in Baghdad



Iraqi security sources said a series of rockets targeted a U.S. base in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, on Tuesday morning.

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – The Islamic Resistance in Iraq has launched a series of rockets targeting a U.S. base in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad.

Multiple Katyusha rockets were fired near Baghdad International Airport, two Iraqi military officials told Reuters early on Tuesday.

Three rockets were fired at a base, housing U.S. troops at Baghdad International Airport.

"In continuation of our path in resisting the occupation, in support of our people in Gaza, and in response to the massacres committed by the usurping entity against Palestinian civilians... the fighters of the Islamic Resistance in Iraq attacked targets in three areas in the heart of the entity, using a number of Al-Arqaq advanced cruise missiles," the group confirmed in a statement.

Two of the rockets were reportedly shot down by the base's special defenses, while the third fell inside the airport, causing no casualties.

"All military personnel are accounted for and military forces were not targeted as had been reported," a U.S. defense official told Reuters, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The United States has been the main supporter of Israeli genocidal attacks in Gaza and Lebanon.

Resistance forces have vowed to carry out operations against U.S. interests in the region as long as Washington backs the regime militarily.

The Islamic Resistance in Iraq said on Monday it carried out new operations against Israeli targets in the

occupied Palestinian territories in retaliation for the Tel Aviv regime's devastating war on Gaza and its bloody onslaught against Lebanon.

"In continuation of our approach to resisting the occupation, and in support of our people in Palestine and Lebanon, and in response to the massacres committed by the usurping entity against civilians, including children, women and the elderly, the fighters of the Islamic Resistance attacked the following targets in the early hours of Monday, 30-9-2024," said the umbrella group for Iraq's resistance factions.

The Islamic Resistance in Iraq has been launching attacks on Israeli targets ever since the occupying regime started the genocidal war on Gaza in early October.

The resistance has also been hitting American military bases in Iraq and neighboring Syria in retaliation for Washington's support for the Israeli genocide in Gaza.

Israel has been waging an atrocious onslaught against the Gaza Strip, targeting hospitals, residences, and houses of worship after Palestinian resistance movements launched a surprise attack, dubbed Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, on October 7.

At least 41,600 Palestinians have been killed, most of them women and children, and another 96,210 individuals have sustained injuries in Gaza so far.

Around 1.9 million people – about 9 in 10 of Gaza's population – are estimated to have been internally displaced during the war as well.

Ahead of Rainy Season

UN Asks for Unimpeded Access for Gaza Aid

NEW YORK (Dispatches) – The UN has warned that without full access to Gaza, aid organizations will be "unable to adequately prepare" for the upcoming rainy season, Anadolu Agency reports.

The UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said that "without unimpeded access to Gaza, aid organizations are unable to adequately prepare for the rainy season, during which people's needs are expected to increase further."

OCHA warned that the heavy rains and potential flooding would worsen already dire living conditions in Gaza, which it said could lead to serious health risks and displace hundreds of thousands of people.

"Many of the 215 temporary

learning spaces serving nearly 34,000 children in Gaza stand to be severely affected by flooding," it said.

OCHA also announced "a Winterisation Plan" that aims to tackle the most urgent needs of more than 2.1 million Gazans during the rainy season.

"This plan – which is part of the broader Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territory – targets more than 850,000 people across nearly 50 neighborhoods in flood-prone areas," it said.

Emphasizing that this plan cannot be implemented without the "unimpeded entry of necessary humanitarian items into Gaza," OCHA further noted the need for safe humanitarian movements between warehouses and distribution points.

UN: Two Thirds of Structures in Gaza Damaged

GAZA (Dispatches) – An analysis conducted by the United Nations Satellite Center (UNOSAT) shows that two thirds of the total structures in the Gaza Strip have sustained damage in the Zionist regime's ongoing genocidal war on the besieged territory.

Citing high-resolution satellite imagery captured on September 3 and 6, UNOSAT said 163,778 structures sustained damage in Gaza, which accounts for 66% of the total structures there.

The figure includes 52,564 structures that have been destroyed, 18,913 ones severely

ly damaged, 35,591 possibly damaged and 56,710 moderately affected.

The Gaza governorate is the most impacted region overall, with 46,370 structures affected, followed by Gaza City, with 36,611 structures destroyed.

Another report by UNOSAT, done in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), found that about 68% of the permanent crop fields in the Gaza Strip exhibited a significant decline in health and density in September this year.

The satellite imagery-based analyses conducted by UNOSAT document the widespread destruction caused by the Israeli aggression on Gaza and highlight the impacted population's need for support.

"Our objective analyses have been vital for humanitarian response efforts and improving the global community's understanding of the conflict's impact on civilian infrastructure," said Nikhil Seth, executive director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

Israel launched the war on Gaza on October 7 after the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas waged the surprise Operation Al-Aqsa Storm against the occupying entity in response to the Israeli regime's decades-long campaign of bloodletting and devastation against Palestinians.

The regime's bloody onslaught on Gaza has so far killed at least 41,615 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and injured 96,000 others. Thousands more are also missing and presumed dead under rubble.

Israel Launches Airstrikes on Syrian Capital

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime has conducted a series of deadly airstrikes on the Syrian capital of Damascus, with Syrian media reporting three rounds of strikes in the capital area in one night.

An Israeli aircraft launched several missiles from the occupied Golan Heights on Tuesday, targeting locations southwest of Damascus.

Syrian air defenses successfully intercepted many of these missiles, according to the Syrian state media.

According to the Syrian military, the Israeli aggression led to the martyrdom of three civilians, the injury of nine others, and significant damage to private property.

The Al Mayadeen news outlet reports that local journalist Safaa Ahmad was among those killed in the attack, which hit the Mezzeh neighborhood in the Syr-

ian capital. Rescue crews are dealing with fires on the ground.

Syrian television said one of its anchors was killed in the Israeli strike on Damascus on Tuesday.

State television said in a statement that it "mourns anchor Safaa Ahmad who was martyred in the Israeli aggression on the capital Damascus."

The official SANA news agency earlier said "air defense systems are intercepting hostile targets for the third time tonight in the Damascus area," using a phrase that usually refers to Israeli aggression.

Subsequently, another wave of attacks was aimed at the suburbs of Damascus which was intercepted by air defenses.

Syria has consistently called on the UN Security Council to take action against these assaults, which it views as clear violations of its sovereignty and territorial

integrity.

Israel frequently targets military positions inside Syria, especially those of the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah which has played a key role in helping the Syrian army in its fight against foreign-backed terrorists.

The Tel Aviv regime rarely comments on its attacks on Syrian territories, which many see as a knee-jerk reaction to the Syrian government's phenomenal success in confronting and decimating terrorism.

Damascus has time and again called on the UN Security Council to put an end to the regime's attacks that violate Syria's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Israeli attacks on Syria come amid the regime's ongoing genocide in the Gaza Strip which has killed more than 41,600 people, mostly women and children, over the past year.