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MFA NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENTS OF IRAN, CHINA MEET;
**RAISI: IMPLEMENTATION OF IRAN-CHINA
COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC
PARTNERSHIP DOCUMENT KEY STEP TO
STABILISE STABILITY IN REGION/
DECLARING IRAN'S**



In his meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi emphasised the need to develop the relations between the two countries in various economic, commercial, scientific, technological and cultural fields, and the implementation of the comprehensive strategic partnership document between Iran and China is an important step to establish peace and stability in the region.

The President described the trip of the economic and political delegations of the two countries to each other's capitals and the negotiations between the parties as important and effective in developing relations and added, "Despite the opposition of the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran and China to the consolidation and development of the relations between the two countries, these relations have taken great steps with the favourable management of the two sides".

In this meeting, Chinese President Xi Jinping, referring to the development of China-Iran relations, described the implementation of the

comprehensive document of strategic partnership between the two countries very effective in deepening relations between the two countries and said, "China firmly believes in the development relations with Iran".

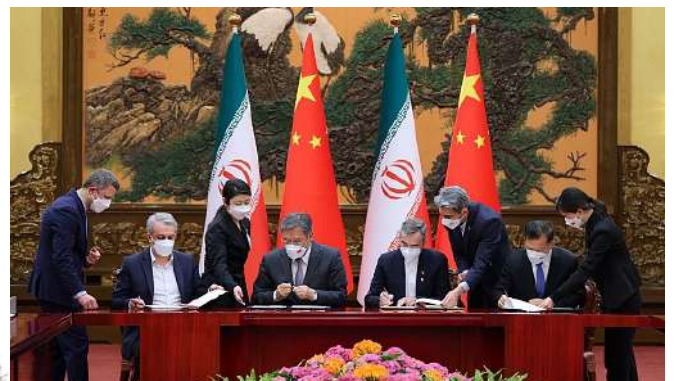
The President of China went on to criticise the unilateralism and tyrannical behaviour of the Western countries in the international stage and added, "Unfortunately, these countries still insist on the wrong approach of the Cold War era, and this has caused damage to international norms and global peace and security".

**IN THE PRESENCE OF DR RAISI AND XI JINPING;
IRAN, CHINA INK 20 PACTS**

20 cooperation documents were signed between high-ranking officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran and China in the presence of the Presidents of the two countries.

The signing ceremony of 20 cooperation documents and memoranda of understanding between Iran and China was held by high-ranking officials of the two countries in the presence of Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi and Xi Jinping.

Cooperation understandings in the field of crisis management, tourism, communication and information technology, environment, international trade, intellectual property, agriculture, export, healthcare, media, sports and cultural heritage are among the documents signed between the authorities of Iran and China.





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DR RAISI MEETING WITH CHINESE PM: COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENT OF IRAN-CHINA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP A SYMBOL OF THE TWO COUNTRIES' WILL TO DEVELOP TIES



Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, who has travelled to China at the official invitation of the President of China at the head of a high-level economic and political delegation, had a meeting with Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang, and described the comprehensive strategic partnership document between the Islamic Republic of Iran and China as a symbol of the will of the two countries for the development of relations and emphasised the necessity of the two countries' efforts for its full implementation.

Referring to the background of historical and valuable cooperation between the two great civilisations of Iran and China, as well as the important agreements between the two countries in various economic and commercial fields, the President emphasised on developing Iran-China relations as much as possible.

In this meeting, Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang referred to the long history of relations and close opinions of the two countries in the approach of multilateralism in the world, saying, "Constructive negotiations between the two countries are underway to develop relations on various issues". The Chinese Prime Minister also described the comprehensive document of strategic partnership between the two countries, including the achievements of the agreements between the two countries, and emphasised Beijing's desire to fully implement it, as well as strengthen cooperation

and coordination with Tehran in line with the continuation of the development of relations between the two countries.

IRAN, CHINA FRIENDS IN DIFFICULT TIMES/ THANKING CONSTRUCTIVE SUPPORT OF NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS OF CHINA IN ADVANCING STRATEGIC TIES

Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, who has visited the country at the official invitation of the President of China, met and talked with Li Zhanshu, the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, as part of his three-day trip to China.

In this meeting, the President emphasised the importance of the role of parliamentary cooperation on the development process of bilateral cooperation, and appreciated the constructive support of the Chinese National People's Congress in advancing the strategic relations between Iran and China.

Raisi referred to Iran and China as friends in difficult times, referring to the appropriate level of friendly relations and historical closeness of the two countries, and emphasised on the continuation and strengthening of the comprehensive strategic partnership between Iran and China.

In this meeting, the need to use the capacity of regional and extra-regional mechanisms was emphasised. Further, referring to the achievements of the Chinese National People's Congress in preparing and approving China's development plans and programmes, the exchange of experience in this field was emphasised.





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RAISI IN A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF DOZENS OF
LARGE CHINESE COMPANIES:

**AGREEMENTS REACHED DURING TRIP TO
CHINA CREATED SUITABLE CAPACITY FOR
DEVELOPING IRAN-CHINA COOPERATION**



Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi had a meeting with a group of representatives of dozens of large economic companies of the country, and said, "With the good agreements reached during this trip, the economic companies of the two countries can take great steps to develop cooperation in various fields".

The President described taking great steps in interactions, including his agreements with the President of China, and added, "There are many untapped capacities in both countries, and both Presidents emphasised on using these capacities to further promote cooperation".

The President further announced the agreement with the President of China regarding joint efforts of the two countries to deal with unilateralism, and referring to the economic, social and cultural capacities of the two great civilisations of Iran and China, and stated, "Iran considers China a reliable business partner and believes that the capacity of cooperation between the two countries can be used in the development of Iran".

Referring to Iran's unique economic and geostrategic capacities and the very important role that Iran plays in trade in goods with Central Asia, the Caucasus and Europe, Ayatollah Raisi added, "Chinese companies can take advantage of these capacities for exchanging goods, as well as investing".

**INTELLECTUALS IN INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES
SHOULD PROTECT CIVILISATIONAL IDENTITY
OF THEIR COUNTRY AS A SHARP WATCH
AGAINST INVASIONS OF THE DOMINATION
SYSTEM**

Dr Raisi had a meeting with the top thinkers and intellectuals of China, and emphasized the importance of the role of research and research centers in examining the current state of the world and its pathology, as well as providing a future-oriented solution to improve the political, economic, cultural, and social state of societies".

The President stated, "Today, the situation in the world is developing in such a way that by denying unilateralism, actions such as those used by America and its allies in the region and the world to dominate the nations are rejected and condemned in the public opinion of the world".

Dr Raisi named cultural and economic domination as one of the new methods of the domination system to dominate the nations and added, "Today, researchers and thinkers in independent countries are expected to act as a sharp observer of the culture and civilisational identities of their country to protect them from invasions of the domination system".

The President stated, "What brings the two countries Iran and China together is the history of civilisation, common positions in opposition to unilateralism, independence and negation of domination and subjugation".

He stated, "Iran has huge economic, cultural and geographical capacities, the actualisation of which can be very effective in the growth and promotion of countries in the region and even the continent of Asia and shape the future in the name of Asia".





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IRANIAN AND CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN BEIJING

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian has met and held talks with his Chinese counterpart Qin Gang on the sidelines of the Iranian president's visit to China.



In the meeting, the Iranian foreign minister expressed pleasure with fruitful talks and agreements between the presidents of the two countries. Amirabdollahian also underlined the need for continued coordination between the Foreign Ministries of Iran and China in order to follow up the implementation of agreements reached by Tehran and Beijing as part of their 25-year strategic partnership deal.

The foreign ministers of Iran and China further held consultations about the latest state of the sanctions removal talks, developments in the West and East Asian regions and regional issues of mutual interest. At the start of the meeting, top Chinese diplomat Qin Gang congratulated Amirabdollahian on the 44th anniversary of the victory of Iran's Islamic revolution. Qin also noted that the trip of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi to Beijing and extensive agreements between him and the Chinese president indicate the firm resolve of the leaders of the two nations to deepen their strategic partnership regardless of international developments.

IRAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF CHINA'S COMMUNIST PARTY

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian held a meeting with Minister of the International Department of the Communist Party of China (CPCID) Liu Jianchao, on the sidelines of President Ebrahim Raisi's visit to Beijing.

The talks focused on exploring ways to benefit from the capacities of political institutions in both countries to enable the realization of the goals of strategic bilateral relations.

During the session, Amirabdollahian said fruitful consultations between the presidents of Iran and China and the agreements reached between the two sides in Beijing open a new horizon in bilateral relations.

He emphasized the necessity to double the use of the capacities of political institutions in both countries — such as the Communist Party, the Expediency Discernment Council and the Strategic Council of Foreign Relations — in order to promote mutual understanding and trust.

The Iranian Foreign Minister highlighted the vast capacities of cultural cooperation and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries, and considered the cultural richness and international prestige of the Iranian cinema to be a unique opportunity in this context. He expressed hope that Iranian movies will enter the Chinese market soon.

For his part, the Chinese minister underscored the significance of President Raisi's visit to Beijing and offered congratulations on the 44th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution.





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RAISI IN A MEETING WITH FOLLOWERS OF MONOTHEISTIC
RELIGIONS:

ISLAMIC REVOLUTION, ITS ACHIEVEMENTS BELONG TO ALL PEOPLE OF IRAN, ALL ETHNICITIES, RELIGIONS



Stating that our honourable Imam Khomeini raised a flag called the administration of justice 44 years ago in order to build a society that would cultivate justice-seeking people who would be the first implementers of justice, the President said, "Iran's Islamic revolution seeks to build a society where people believe in God and are free from oppression".

Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi attended a meeting with the followers of monotheistic religions held on the occasion of commemorating the 44th anniversary of the victory of the glorious Islamic Revolution, and stated that the days of Fajr Celebration are a reminder for all of us of the great victories of the Iranian nation".

The President stated that the successes and great achievements made by the Iranian nation in various fields after the victory of the Islamic Revolution also belong to the great nation of Iran, and added, "The Sacred Defence is one of the beautiful and glorious manifestations of the Iranian nation's steadfastness and vision, which

all Iranian tribes and religions have played a role in by presenting martyrs and have a share in this honour".

Emphasising that today more than ever, we need national unity and cohesion, Dr Raisi said, "Cohesion and unity is the most important and most suitable platform for development in the country. Of course, unity and cohesion does not mean the negation of dialogue, but it is a platform for the gathering of thinkers and the exchange of their views and opinions with each other in line with the approximation of views".

The President clarified, "Today, the enemies of the Islamic Revolution seek to create hopelessness and despair in the society to stop the Iranian nation from moving forward, producing, trying to promote science and technology, creativity, studying science and business".

The President added, "The common point of all Abrahamic religions is to pay attention to God, pay attention to oneself and self-improvement, and take care of others. All Abrahamic religions condemn self-conceit and arrogance and condemn oppression and corruption".

Dr Raisi added, "Human society should know that leaving God out of political equations will not bring prosperity, but oppression and loss of human rights to human society".

The President stated that the Iranian nation can achieve independence in various fields by relying on its various capacities and talents, and said, "Islamic Iran can reach the heights of greatness by using the many talents it has".





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VARIOUS MUTUAL CAPACITIES HAVE ENABLED PROMOTION OF COOPERATION TO HIGHER LEVELS



Speaking at the ceremony of receiving the letter of credence of Beraldo Roque Nicola Flaniguen, the new ambassador of Uruguay to Tehran, Dr Raisi said that the existence of various mutual capacities allows the two countries to raise their cooperation to higher levels.

Pointing out that the Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to develop cooperation with Latin American countries, including Uruguay, the President added, "There are suitable fields for the actualisation of mutual capacities, the realisation of which requires the double efforts of the officials of the two countries".

Beraldo Roque Nicola Flaniguen, the new ambassador of Uruguay, also described the relations between the two countries as friendly and close, and said, "I am happy to be present in the ancient land of Iran and I assure you that I will do my best to improve the level of cooperation and increase exchanges and the interactions between the two countries, especially in the economic and commercial fields".

EUROPEANS' MISCALCULATIONS ABOUT IRAN CAUSED BY DEPENDENCE ON HOSTILE INFORMATION SOURCES

Expressing regret for the miscalculations of some European countries regarding Iran's internal environment, the President considered it to be the result of the lack of understanding of Iranian nation's greatness and dependence on hostile information sources, and advised the new French ambassador to consider conveying the facts of Iran's society correctly to the ruling body of France as his main duty.

Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi warned about the prevalence of extremism in France and support for anti-Islamism at the ceremony of receiving the letter of credence of the new French ambassador Nicolas Roche.

The new French ambassador Nicolas Roche also expressed hope for the improvement of cooperation between the two countries in this ceremony and stated, "On behalf of the French President, I have a mission to try to resolve the misunderstandings in the relations and develop the cooperation between the two countries".





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IRAN-ZIMBABWE TIES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FRIENDLY, DEEPENING AFTER ISLAMIC REVOLUTION



Speaking at the ceremony of receiving the letter of credence of Bright Kupemba, the new ambassador of Zimbabwe to Tehran, Dr Raisi pointed out that the relations between the two countries have been friendly and expanding after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, and said, "Iran and Zimbabwe have great capacities that can be used in the promotion and development of relations and cooperation between the two countries".

Referring to the exchange of numerous diplomatic delegations between the two countries and the signing of various cooperation documents in the economic and commercial fields, the President added, "Following up on the implementation of these documents can be one of the work priorities of the new Zimbabwean ambassador in Tehran".

Bright Kupemba, the new ambassador of Zimbabwe, expressed his sympathy over the earthquake in Khoy, and described the progress of the Islamic Republic of Iran to be very significant despite the imposition of extensive sanctions, and said that during his mission in Tehran, he would try, in addition to taking advantage of these developments, to provide new opportunities and fields for cooperation between the two countries.

IRAN,GREECE HAVE PLAYED PROUD ROLE IN EMERGENCE, EVOLUTION OF CIVILIZATION

Speaking at the ceremony of receiving the letter of credence of Stylianos Gavril, the new ambassador of Greece to Tehran, Dr Raisi emphasised the role of the ancient and deep-rooted civilisations of the two countries in the emergence and evolution of civilisation, and expressed hope that the close and friendly relations between Iran and Greece is a suitable platform for developing cooperation in various economic, political and cultural fields.

Pointing out that the cruel sanctions could not stop the Islamic Republic of Iran from growth and development, the President added, "The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes the development of relations with Greece and we believe that this goal can be achieved".

In this ceremony, the new ambassador of Greece to Tehran Stylianos Gavril also stated that the Greek view Iranians as a great and proud nation in the world, and today the Islamic Republic is an important and influential country not only in the region, but also in the world, adding, "Iran and Greece have historical commonalities and cooperation with each other, and based on the principle of mutual respect in its foreign policy, Greece seeks to deepen relations with Iran in areas of mutual interest".





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IRAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH VENEZUELA'S PRESIDENT



Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian held a meeting with Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro for talks on topics of mutual interest.

During the session, Iran's chief diplomat said Maduro's trip to Tehran and the signing of a comprehensive cooperation document between the two states were a turning point in bilateral relations.

He said a swift implementation of the agreements reached between the two sides is an important factor in boosting mutual cooperation.

For his part, the Venezuelan president highlighted the two countries' experience in facing common challenges, stressing the need to promote and consolidate bilateral cooperation.

The two sides further exchanged views on the process of bilateral cooperation, emphasizing the necessity to promote and supervise joint projects and accelerate their implementation and to stay vigilant in defending the two countries' national interests in the face of foreign pressure.

IRAN VENEZUELA FMS HOLD TALKS IN CARACAS

Iranian FM, who has traveled to Venezuela, met with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Yvan Gil Pinto in Caracas and discussed and exchanged views on the issues of interests to both countries.

During the meeting, the Iranian foreign minister once more congratulated the Venezuelan foreign minister on his appointment and reiterated Iran's determination to strengthen its relations with Venezuela on all fronts and without any limitation.



IRAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH VENEZUELA'S OIL MINISTER

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian held a meeting with Tareck El Aissami, Venezuela's oil minister and advisor to the president in economic affairs, for talks on issues of mutual interest.





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IRAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH CUBA'S PRESIDENT



Iranian FM sat down with Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel for talks on issues of mutual interest and international topics.

During the talks, Amirabdollahian pointed to the friendly and historical relations between Iran and Cuba and said the Islamic Republic is determined to promote and expand bilateral cooperation.

For his part, the Cuban president praised Iran's history and culture as well as the country's progress and scientific and technological achievements despite the sanctions in place against the Islamic Republic. He expressed willingness for increasing contacts and exchanges between the two countries.

The Cuban president said the developments in the Latin American region provide new opportunities for promoting multilateralism and said Cuba is determined to cooperate with friendly countries and remove the relevant obstacles despite all the sanctions.

IRAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH CUBA'S DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

As part of his visit to Havana, Iranian FM held talks with Cuban Deputy Prime Minister Ricardo Cabrisas on the latest developments in bilateral ties, especially in the field of economy.

The Iranian foreign minister pointed to the approach of the Islamic Republic's top authorities on the expansion of bilateral relations with Cuba in order to promote the level of economic relations to that of political ties.



IRAN'S FM HOLDS TALKS WITH CUBAN COUNTERPART

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian held a meeting with his Cuban counterpart, Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, for talks over the latest developments in bilateral ties in the fields of economy and politics.





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IRANIAN FM MEETS NICARAGUAN PRESIDENT IN MANAGUA



While expressing pleasure with his visit to Nicaragua in a meeting with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, Iranian FM Amirabdollahian said these days Iran is holding festivities to commemorate the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution's victory.

Amirabdollahian noted that the Islamic revolution and Nicaragua's Sandinista Revolution happened in the same year and "we are proud that Nicaragua has fought against imperialism and colonialist pressure over the last decades. Iran has also resisted and stood up against the US's excessive demands and pressures from US officials and it has made progress over the past 4 decades."

Daniel Ortega for his part pointed to the history of the US aggression against Latin America and other countries across the world, saying the resistance against the US pressures and excessive demands in Iran, Nicaragua and other countries would be the key to success in gaining independence and rejecting domination.

IRAN NICARAGUA FMS HOLD TALKS IN MANAGUA

Iranian FM Amirabdollahian who, at the head of a political delegation, has travelled to Managua for talks with Nicaraguan officials, met with the country's top diplomat Denis Moncada.

In the meeting that was attended by Larorano Ortegam a chief advisor to the Nicaraguan president for investment, trade and international cooperation affairs, the two foreign ministers described ties between Tehran and Managua as positive. They also underlined the need for boosting cooperation in different spheres, especially in economic and scientific-technological fields.

Amirabdollahian said the comprehensive partnership deal signed during the last visit of the Nicaraguan foreign minister to Tehran is the new and strategic roadmap for the expansion of bilateral relations.

For his part, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Denis Moncada at the meeting referred to friendly and brotherly ties between his country and Iran and said he is pleased with cooperation and solidarity with the Islamic Republic at international organizations in the face of unilateralism.





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IRANIAN FM MEETS MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT IN NOUAKCHOTT

Iranian FM Amirabdollahian has met with the country's President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani.



In the meeting, Amirabdollahian exchanged views with Mauritania's president over expanding bilateral relations between Tehran and Nouakchott in different fields particularly technology, culture, economy and trade. They also discussed regional and international developments.

Other issues Amirabdollahian and the Mauritanian president discussed were the need for supporting the Palestinian people and cause and the expansion of ties between Muslim countries as well as the holding of a meeting between their foreign ministers in Nouakchott in March of 2023. Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani for his part gave his own regards to Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi. Ghazouani described ties between Iran and Mauritania as historical and strong.

Ghazouani then pointed to the role of the Islamic Republic of Iran in fighting terrorism and put emphasis on the country's industrial, scientific and technological achievements.

IRAN, MAURITANIA FMS HOLD TALKS IN NOUAKCHOTT

Iranian FM Amirabdollahian, who was in Mauritania for talks with the country's president and foreign minister, met with the top Mauritanian diplomat Mohamed Salem Ould Marzoug.

The two foreign ministers discussed issues of mutual interest. Amirabdollahian and spoke about different aspects of bilateral ties in various fields including political, cultural, technological, economic and trade spheres.

The Iranian foreign minister also reaffirmed Iran's support for Mauritania's actions to establish peace and security in the Sahara region.

Mauritanian Foreign Minister Mohamed Salem Ould Marzoug for his part described ties between the two countries as important. He stressed the need for expanding interactions between Iran and Mauritania.

Amirabdollahian and Marzoug also held talks over a range of other matters including the need to support the Palestinian people and their cause, ways of expanding cooperation between Muslim countries and issues related to the holding of the upcoming session of the foreign ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Nouakchott.





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Iran’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Sri Lanka (February 4)

Iran’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Grenada (February 7)



Iran’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Serbia (February 15)



Top Things Iran Is Famous For

RICE



Persian rice plays an undeniable role in Iranian cuisine. The variety of rice types and also the Persian style rice cooking methods in Iran seems absolutely wonderful.

Rice plays an undeniable role in Persian cuisine. Although it was traditionally the major staple item in northern Iran and bread was considered the dominant staple in other parts, nowadays a rice-based diet is widely used throughout the whole country.



RICE HISTORY IN IRAN

There is no exact information about the precise era in which rice was introduced along the Caspian shore and the Iranian cuisine, but we know that it was not widely grown in the country before the Islamic period. One evidence comes from the fact that there is no word for rice in Avesta. The farming of rice reached Iran from southeast Asia and India.



It was a specialty of the Safavid empire's royal household cuisine at first and became a major part of Iranian cookery by the end of the 16th century. Before that, during the 7th-13th centuries, rice was cultivated in Azerbaijan, Fars, Khuzestan and most importantly, the Caspian provinces, the very regions that are still the main areas of rice production.



RICE PADDIES OF IRAN

As mentioned above, rice is mainly produced in the northern part of Iran, where the fields are located near the Caspian Sea. Gilan is the most important province in this regard, considering the fact that 52% of farmlands in this province are paddy fields. This number is about 16% in Mazandaran province, 3% in Fars province and less than 1% in the rest of the country.



Top Things Iran Is Famous For

Gilan yields about 50% of the national harvest and the process of cultivating rice in this province commences in late March. The peak period of the job is around April and May. The tough and exhausting labor of rice cultivation is mainly done by women in this region and you'll see them working hard in the paddy fields wearing their colorful traditional clothes.

RICE VARIETIES IN IRAN

Iranian rice is among the best in the world. Among the most widely used rice brands in Iran are Tarem and Hashemi, both famous in this country.



TAROM

Tarom rice is the most well-known and widely used rice brand in Iran. This Iranian rice was initially planted and cultivated in Tarom, in the province of Zanjan, and then cultivated in the northern regions of the provinces of Mazandaran and Gilan. It's now available in 13 distinct varieties on the market; the most notable of them are Tarom Mahali rice and Tarom Hashemi rice.



SADRI

Sadri rice, grown in Gilan province, is one of the most fabulous Persian rice varieties. This rice has a pleasant scent and delicious flavor. Aside from that, the quantity of protein contained in each grain of this rice is relatively high, and the raw grain length of this rice is more than 7 mm, with a cooked grain length of 13 mm. Black tail rice, yellow tail rice, and red tail rice are the three types of Sadri rice available.

RICE EXPORT

In 2020, Iran exported \$2.72M in Rice, making it the 67th largest exporter of Rice in the world. At the same year, Rice was the 181st most exported product in Iran. The main destination of Rice exports from Iran are: Turkey, Canada (\$638k), Germany, United Arab Emirates, and Australia.

The fastest growing export markets for Rice of Iran between 2019 and 2020 were Turkey, Germany, and United Arab Emirates.





MFA NEWSLETTER

BOOSTING TIES WITH FRIENDLY COUNTRIES; ON IRAN'S GOVERNMENT AGENDA



The Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Iran, in a meeting with the Minister of Culture, Tourism, and Handicrafts of Guinea, emphasized that the development of cultural relations with friendly countries is one of the main approaches of Iran's 13th government.

According to Iran Press, in a meeting with Alpha Soma, the Minister of Culture, Tourism, and Handicrafts of Guinea, Mohammed Mehdi Esmaili referred to the previous memorandums of understanding between Iran and Guinea and said that we welcome the signing of a new cultural and artistic memorandum between the two countries.

In this meeting, the Minister of Culture, Tourism and handicrafts of Guinea considered the relationship between Iran and Guinea as a friendly one and said: "Since the independence of Guinea, we have had a friendly and constructive relationship with the Iranian authorities and we hope that cultural relations with Iran will develop more than before."

41ST INTL. FAJR FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCED

The 41st edition of the Fajr Film Festival, the most prestigious cinematic event in Iran, announced its candidates for its top award or the Crystal Simorgh.

Here is the list of the nominees for the top award Crystal Simorgh in six different sections based on their stories.

"In Embrace of Tree," "Smart Kid," "Cinema Metropolis," "Muddy Room," "Number 10," "Leather Coat," and "Memorial of the South" are the films nominated for the Crystal Simorgh award.

The Cinema of Salvation, Resistance, Muhammad Amin, and Eastern Vista are to most competitive sections with all eyeing to know which movies will take home the Crystal Simorgh.

The 41st Fajr international film festival was scheduled from February 1 to 11, 2023, in Tehran in two competitive and non-competitive sections.





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22 BAHMAN RALLY HELD IN KARGIL, INDIA

The people of the Kargil region in Indian-controlled Kashmir celebrated the 44th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, despite the snowfall and cold weather.

44 years ago, on the 12th of Bahman 1357 in Persian Calender (February 1, 1979), Imam Khomeini (RA), the great founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, after fifteen years of exile and distance from his homeland, stepped into the soil of Islamic Iran amid the enthusiastic welcome of the people.

Ten days after his arrival in Iran, on the 22nd of Bahman 1357 (February 11, 1979), the glorious Islamic Revolution of Iran won.



Mosama Bedemjan (Eggplant and Chicken Stew)



Mosama Bedemjan (Eggplant and Chicken Stew)

Apart from beautiful nature and mesmerizing view, north of Iran also have a lot of delicious food to offer, such as “Mirza Ghasemi”, “Malabij”, “Baghali Ghatogh“, and many more. The art of cooking in this part is colorful with fresh fruits, herbs, and vegetable.

As a traditional and delicious meal from northern region of Iran, “Mosama Bademjan” is the perfect mix of fried chicken meat and eggplants flavored with sour grapes; it is not something that you can resist.

This dish is sometimes mistaken with the “Khoresh Bademjan” or “Gheymeh Bademjan”; while in the first dish’s ingredients are red meat and eggplants, and the second one has fried eggplants instead of fried potatoes.

The original Mosama Bademjan has chicken meat, and its vegetables are eggplants and tomatoes. And just like other Persian cuisines, this dish also has some tricks.

Ingredients: Chicken Meat, Eggplants (with medium sizes), Tomatoes (with medium sizes), Onion (with a medium size), cup Sour Grapes, Salt, Turmeric, Saffron, tbsp Oil.



Society & Culture

TEHRAN INT'L EXPO OF TOURISM, HOTEL INDUSTRIES WRAPPED UP

The fourth edition of the international exhibition of hotel services comes to end in Tehran's permanent fairground with the presence of hotel industry curators.

This exhibition was held with the aim of identifying and introducing service companies and equipment needed by hotels and Ecolodge in Iran for four days, from February 7th to 10th, 2023 in Ten Days Fajr ceremonies.

These companies exhibited the latest services and achievements with the aim of attracting travelers and tourists. One of the main goals of the exhibition was to develop the hotel industry in Iran and support tourism.





Society & Culture

IRANIAN CULTURAL DAYS OPEN IN TURKMENISTAN



The Iranian Cultural Days opened in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, to celebrate the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution.

Groups of Iranian artists and artisans attended the cultural festival to showcase their latest works in numerous exhibitions.

In addition, several Iranian bands are also in Turkmenistan performing concerts of traditional music.

Several acclaimed Iranian movies have been selected to be screened during the cultural festival, which ends with a special ceremony at the Palace of Mukams.

As part of the cultural festival, several exhibitions were inaugurated by Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Mohammad-Mehdi Esmaeili, and his Turkmen counterpart at the Museum of Fine Arts in Ashgabat.

IRAN SET TO DROP TOURIST VISA FOR 50 COUNTRIES

The Iranian Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts said the country would set drop the tourist visa requirement for 50

countries.

Ezzatollah Zarghami told IranPress: "visa waiver has a relative advantage for us to attract tourists, so the visas of about fifty countries in five groups are supposed to be canceled even unilaterally."

Zarghami said: "Some people think that dropping visa requirement, even unilaterally, is not true in terms of diplomatic protocols at the political level, yet as the one in charge of the country's tourism, I do not consider it wrong."

He exemplified the countries with a good record in the field of tourism, which unilaterally dropped visa requirements, such as the UAE which canceled visas for more than 130 countries, and Turkey which did it for more than 80 countries.

Referring to the problems due to the lowering of internet speed during the recent unrest in Iran because of espionage probabilities, the minister said that the issuance of collective visas was proposed.

Zarghami added: The visa waivers are allowed for the Islamic, neighboring countries, and those countries which are growing economically.





Trade & Economy

BEAUTY OF IRAN MANIFESTED IN TEHRAN TOURISM EXHIBITION

The 16th International Tourism Exhibition and the 36th National Handicrafts Exhibition are underway at the Tehran International permanent Fairground.

This important cultural event, with the aim of introducing Iran's tourism and artistic capacities, will host people, artists, and tourists from Iran and other countries until February 10, 2023.

Foreign participants participating in the Tehran International Tourism Exhibition have a strong presence in the form of exhibitors and visitors. The countries of Qatar, Iraq, Japan, Indonesia, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Russia, and Venezuela have booths at Tehran International Tourism Exhibition.

Oman, Russia, Tajikistan, UAE, Syria, Turkey, Azerbaijan Republic of Armenia, Lebanon, Libya, Algeria, China, Iraq, and Georgia are also present at Tehran International Tourism Exhibition.





Trade & Economy

TEHRAN; 1ST INT'L RAIL TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE KICKS OFF



The first international conference on Iran's rail transport capacities kicked off in Tehran with the participation of Uzbekistan, Belarus, Russia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Kyrgyzstan.

Participating in the one-day meeting, some Iranian international rail transport companies present their services and capabilities for international transport and transit from Iran to the countries taking part in the event.

Iran is one of the shortest, safest, and most cost-effective routes for rail transit from East to West, especially for transporting cargo from landlocked countries in Central Asia to Europe, and India.

Iran enjoys important international north-to-south and east-to-west rail corridors that pass through the country and also connect the railway network to open waters.

IRAN TO EXPAND ECONOMIC TIES WITH ZIMBABWE

Iran's Minister of Cooperatives, Labour, and Social Welfare believes the current level of commercial and economic relations with Zimbabwe is not satisfactory, and the two countries should use all means at their disposal to increase the level of trade volumes to at least 500 million dollars per year.

At the closing ceremony of the Ninth Meeting of the Joint Economic Cooperation Committee of Iran and Zimbabwe in Tehran, Solat Mortazavi said: "The meeting will provide a platform for developing economic cooperation and improving the level of trade exchanges between the two countries."

Also, Zimbabwe's Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava emphasized Zimbabwe counts on mutual ties with Iran, stressing the country will definitely enjoy deepening bilateral friendly ties with Iran.

It is worth mentioning that the 9th meeting of the Joint Economic Cooperation Commission of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Zimbabwe, hosted by the Iranian Ministry of Cooperation, Labor, and Social Welfare, was kicked off on February 2, 2023, in Tehran.





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IRAN, NICARAGUA TO ESTABLISH JOINT SCIENCE - TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE



The Ambassador of Nicaragua to Iran, while attending the Tehran University Science and Technology Park, met with the head of the park and visited several knowledge-based companies in order to establish a joint science and technology committee between the two countries.

Ali Asadi, head of the Tehran University Science & Technology Park, in the meeting with Isaac Lenin Bravo, Ambassador of Nicaragua to Tehran said: "Tehran University Science & Technology Park has the capacity to expand its activities to develop a wide range of scientific and specialized fields with the universities and government of Nicaragua."

Asadi assessed the history of solidarity and companionship between the two nations over the years and the relations between Iran and Nicaragua as capital and a great opportunity for the owners of knowledge-based companies and businesses of the two countries to be present in each other's markets and added that the development of relations between Iran and Nicaragua in the field of science and technology can help deepen the relationship between the two countries.

Isaac Lenin Bravo in his part emphasized strengthening the relations between the two countries and said: "The relations between Iran and Latin American countries, especially Nicaragua, have become stronger in recent years."

IRANIAN RESEARCHERS ACHIEVE TECHNOLOGY OF LIGHTEST MATERIAL

The Iranian expert at Amir-Kabir Technical University managed to achieve the technology of producing the world's lightest material, Aerographene.

The leader of the project Arash Ghazitabar said that the material could be used in various industries and was of paramount importance to the world's industrial companies.

All the equipment involved in the production of the material is domestic, and the production of it is feasible on a large scale.

Ghazitabar says Aerographene increases batteries and supercapacitors' capacity, prolongs their lifespan up to 5 times, reduces environmental risks, and decreases the weight of the device made of it.

Aerographene also increases corrosion resistance, improves absorption of electromagnetic waves, and protects devices and equipment against these waves, he added.





SPORTS

IRANIAN FEMALE ATHLETE CROWNED AT 10TH ASIAN INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS



Iranian athlete won the gold medal in women's 60m at the 10th Asian Indoor Athletics Championships in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Farzaneh Fasihi clocked 7.28 seconds to finish first among Hamideh Esmailnezhad, another representative from Iran, as well as competitors from Kazakhstan, Indonesia, India, Kuwait, and Turkmenistan.

Esmailnezhad clocked 7.48 seconds and finished seventh.

IRANIAN MEN'S INDOOR HOCKEY TEAM STANDS 3RD IN WORLD

Iran's hockey team defeated the US in the 2023 Men's Indoor Hockey World Cup and stood 3rd in the world.

In the hockey competition 2023 World Cup hosted by Pretoria, South Africa, the US and Iran's teams faced each other in a game that led to a 4-4 result.

Iran then managed to win over the US 3-2 in the penalty shots.



IRAN GRECO-ROMAN TEAM CROWNED CHAMPIONS OF 2023 ZAGREB OPEN

Iran Greco-Roman wrestling team won the title of the 2023 Zagreb Open Ranking Series event.

The Iranian wrestlers claimed four gold, four silver and five bronze medals in the competition held in Zagreb, Croatia. Iran won the team title with 195 points, followed by Hungary and Azerbaijan with 80 points.



IRANIAN MEN BAG 4 MEDALS IN TURKISH PRESIDENT CUP

The Iranian male para-athletes succeeded to win 4 medals in the 2023 Turkey WT President's Cup on Monday, the last day of the event.

108 athletes participated in the 2023 Turkey WT President's Cup in Istanbul.

Alireza Bakht managed to defeat his Mexican rival in -80 kg in the finals and snatched the gold medal. Hamed Haghshenas overcame his rival from Turkey in +80 kg and won the silver medal. Saeed Sadeghianpour in -63 kg won the silver medal and Amir-Mohammad Haghshenas snatched the bronze.





FOREIGN MISSIONS IN IRAN

India FM message of congratulation on national day of The Islamic Republic of Iran

India in Iran @India_in_Iran

سلام به وزیر امور خارجه امیرعبداللهیان و دولت و مردم ایران در روز ملی آنها.
ارتباطات معنوی و همکاری نزدیک ما همچنان مردم دو کشور را بهره‌مند خواهد کرد.

Translate Tweet

Dr. S. Jaishankar @DrSJaishankar - Feb 11

India government official

Greetings to FM @Amirabdollahian and the Government and the people of Iran on their National Day.

Our civilisational connect and close partnership will continue to benefit our two peoples.



Indonesia, Iran strengthen ties through 8th policy planning dialog

Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Tehran @indonesiatehnan

Badan Strategi Kebijakan Luar Negeri (BSKLN) dan Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) Kementerian Luar Negeri Iran menyelenggarakan Policy Planning Dialogue (PPD) ke-8 RI- Iran secara luring di Tehran pada tanggal 12 Februari 2023.

Translate Tweet



Grateful to the government and people of Iran For expression of their solidarity against the terrorist attack on Karachi

Rehim Hayat Qureshi @rahimhayat

Grateful to the govt & ppl of #Iran for their expressions of solidarity in this moment of grief

#terrorism is a scourge that is a menace to all and must be jointly tackled in all its forms and manifestations @rasmou @MFAIRAN @HossainiSma @ForeignOfficePk @PakinIran

Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran @Iran_GOV - Feb 17

#Iran FM Spox slams terror attack on #Karachi police station irangov.ir/detail/406565



Sending humanitarian aid from Japan to the earthquake victims of Khoi city

Embassy of Japan in Iran @japaniniran

وسایل امداد اضطراری جایکا (برای محافظت در برابر سرما برای 5500 نفر) جهت کمک به زلزله زدگان شهرستان خوی در استان آذربایجان غربی وارد فرودگاه امام خمینی شد.
ما صمیمانه امیدواریم که تجهیزات امدادی ژاپن به مردم آسیب دیده از این فاجعه کمک کند.

Translate Tweet

5:23 PM · Feb 18, 2023 · 19.3K Views

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DISCOVER IRAN IN PICTURES

VISIT HISTORICAL BATH OF MIRZA RASUL IN NW IRAN

Located in Mahabad city in northwestern Iran, the historical bath of Mirza Rasul, it's one of the historical and tourist attractions of the city. It probably dates back to the Qajar dynasty.

