



Islamic Republic of Iran
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MFA DIGEST

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY



Iran, Shiraz, Tomb of Hafez (Hāfezieh)

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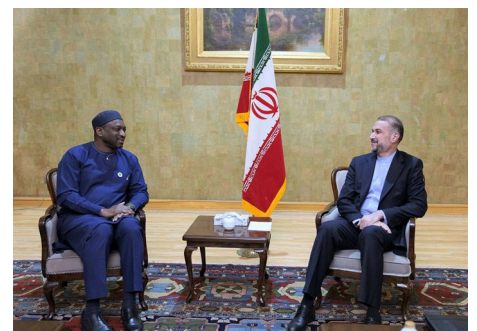
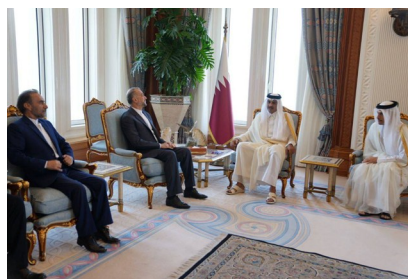
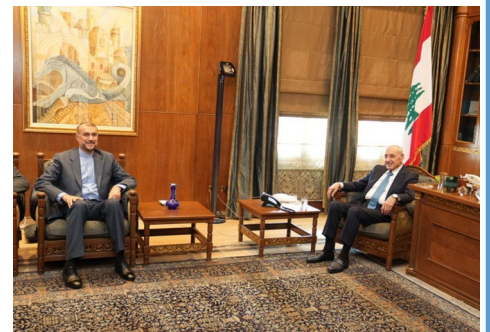
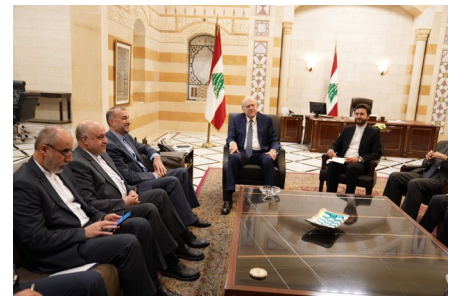
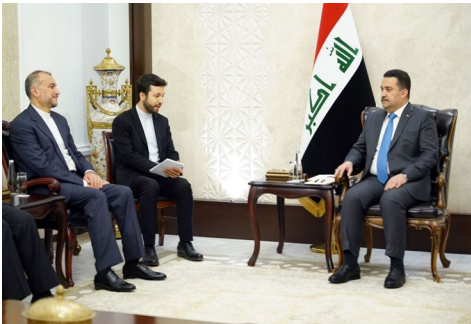
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MFA NEWSLETTER

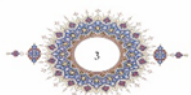
Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian held meetings with several high-ranking officials, including Iraq's Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani; Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati; his Lebanese counterpart Abdallah Bou Habib; Lebanon's Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri; Qatari Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani; Qatari Emir Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani; Qatari Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani; Mustafa Sanu, the Secretary General of the Islamic Jurisprudence Assembly of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Armen Grigoryan, the Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council of Armenia. They discussed the latest Palestinian developments and the Israeli regime's barbaric aggression against the Gaza Strip.





MFA NEWSLETTER

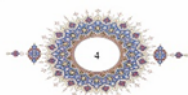
On the outskirts of the remarkable gathering of the Executive Committee of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Jeddah, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian engaged in discussions with his counterparts from Turkey, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Mauritania, Tunisia, Lebanon, Kuwait, Azerbaijan, as well as the Secretary General of this organization and the Minister of Counselor of Qatar. They also exchanged views on coordinating the efforts and actions on the part of Islamic countries to help the Palestinian people.





MFA NEWSLETTER

Hossein Amirabdollahian, the Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs, had separate phone discussions with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres; Ms. Mirjana Spoljaric Egger, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); Sameh Shoukry; the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Egypt; his Kuwaiti counterpart, Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah; Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov; the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Hissein Brahim Taha; EU foreign policy chief; Qatar's Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani; his Omani counterpart Badr al-Busaidi; Afghan caretaker foreign minister, Molavi Amir Khan Muttaqi; his Iraqi counterpart, Fuad Hussein; his Saudi counterpart Faisal bin Farhan and his Syrian counterpart, Faisal Mekdad. They discussed the latest Palestinian developments and the Israeli regime's barbaric aggression against the Gaza Strip.





Top Things Iran Is Famous For:

SHAMS TABRIZI



Shams Tabrizi or Shams al-Din Mohammad was a Persian poet, who is credited as the spiritual instructor of, also known as Jalal al-Din Muhammad Rumi, ON the 29th of September Iranians commemorate this great figure.

Shams-e Tabrizi (1185–1248) was the spiritual instructor of Mowlana Jalal al-Din Balkhi (Rumi) and is referenced with great reverence in Rumi's poetic collection, in particular, 'Diwan-e Shams-e Tabrizi' ('The Works of Shams of Tabriz'). Tradition holds that Shams taught Rumi in seclusion in Konya for a period of forty days, before fleeing for Damascus. The tomb of Shams was recently nominated to be a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Shams Tabrizi's life:

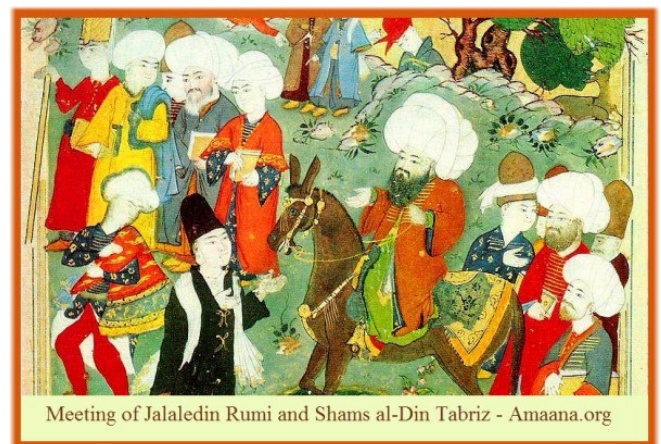
According to Sipah Salar, a devotee and intimate friend of Rumi who spent forty years with him, Shams was the son of Imam Ala al-Din. In a work entitled Manāqib al-'arifin (Eulogies of the Gnostics), Aflaki names a certain 'Ali as the father of Shams-i Tabrīzī and his grandfather

as Malikdad. Apparently basing his calculations on Hajji Bektash Wali's Maqālāt (Conversations), Aflaki suggests that Shams arrived in Konya at the age of sixty years. However, various scholars have questioned Aflaki's reliability.

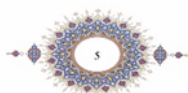
Shams Tabrizi

Shams received his education in Tabriz and was a disciple of Baba Kamal al-Din Jumdi. Before meeting Rumi, he apparently traveled from place to place weaving baskets and selling girdles for a living. Despite his occupation as a weaver, Shams received the epithet of "the embroiderer" (zarduz) in various biographical accounts including that of the Persian historian Dawlatshah.

This however, is not the occupation listed by Hajji Bektash Wali in the "Maqalat" and was rather the epithet given to the Ismaili Imam Shams al-din Muhammad, who worked as an embroider while living in anonymity in Tabriz. The transference of the epithet to the biography of Rumi's mentor suggests that this Imam's biography must have been known to Shams Tabrizi's biographers. The specificities of how this transference occurred, however, are not yet known. Shams' encounter with Rumi.



Meeting of Jalaledin Rumi and Shams al-Din Tabriz - Amaana.org





Top Things Iran Is Famous For



Shams Tabrizi died in Khoy and is buried there. His tomb has been nominated as a World Cultural Heritage Center by UNESCO. A saint by the name of Shams-i Tabrizi is also buried at Multan, Pakistan. The tombstone clearly indicates it is the same Shams-i Tabrizi, who was the spiritual mentor of Rumi. But this is wrong. Actually this tomb belongs to Hazrat Pir Shamsuddin Sabzwari Multani who is the Pir (elder) of the Ismaili spiritual and theological school.

Shams Tabrizi meeting Rumi

There are some narratives regarding the meeting of Shams Tabrizi and Rumi. On 15 November 1244, a man in a black suit from head to toe, came to the famous inn of Sugar Merchants of Konya. His name was Shams Tabrizi. He was claiming to be a traveling merchant. As it was said in Haji Bektash Veli's book, "Makalat", he was looking for something. Which he was going to find in Konya. Eventually, he found Rumi riding a horse. One day Rumi was reading next to a large stack of books. Shams Tabriz, passing by, asked him, "What are you doing?" Rumi scoffingly replied, "Something you cannot understand." On hearing this, Shams threw the stack of books into a nearby pool of water. Rumi hastily rescued the books and to his surprise, they were all dry. Rumi then asked Shams, "What is this?" To which

Shams replied, "Mowlana, this is what you cannot understand."

A second version of the tale has Shams passing by Rumi who again is reading a book. Rumi regards him as an uneducated stranger. Shams asks Rumi what he is doing, to which Rumi replies, "Something that you do not understand!" At that moment, the books suddenly catch fire and Rumi asks Shams to explain what happened. His reply was, "Something you do not understand."

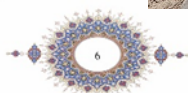
Shams Tabrizi; a significant figure in Iranian Culture

He is known for initiating Mawlana Jala ad-din Mohammad Rumi, usually known as Rumi in the West, into Islamic mysticism, and is immortalized by Rumi's poetry collection) "The Works of Shams of Tabriz" (Persian, Divane Shams-e Tabrizi).

As one of Iran's greatest poets and mystics, he was keen to travel, and it was Rumi who inspired him to study poetry and teach poetry.

Shams Tabrizi shrine is a historical and cultural place with different architectural characteristics which has an animal's horn in its structure while it was built about 400 years ago.

Shams Tabrizi was a Muslim who lived in Persia in the 12th and 13th centuries and lived by a set of rules called "40 rules of love". Although his main claim to fame now is for being the teacher of Rumi, the Persian Islamic scholar, Shams Tabrizi stands among the most brilliant figures in Persian culture.





Society & Culture

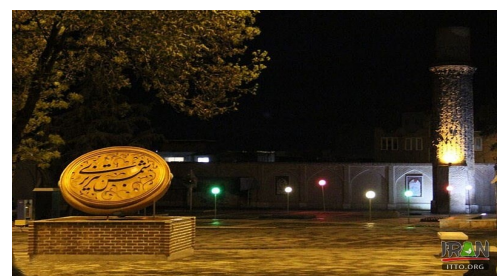
SHAMS TABRIZI MAUSOLEUM, TOURIST ATTRACTION IN IRAN



Shams Tabrizi mausoleum is one of the tourist and holy sites of West Azerbaijan province, northwest of Iran. The minaret of Shams Tabrizi mausoleum is one of the unique structures that attract tourists and has already been registered in national monuments.

The International Congress of Shams Tabrizi is held every year in the city of Khoy. In this regard, the 6th International Congress of Shams and Rumi held virtually in the mausoleum of Shams Tabrizi in Khoy for three days.

September 28 and 29 have been named "Shams Commemoration Day" and "Rumi Commemoration Day" in the Persian calendar.





Society & Culture

IRANIANS MARK HAFEZ DAY TO COMMEMORATE GREAT PERSIAN POET



The 20th of Mehr on the Iranian calendar, which falls on October 12 this year, is celebrated annually as Hafez Day.

Hafez is most famous for his *divan*, and among the many partial English translations of this work are those by Gertrude Bell and H. Wilberforce Clarke.

Built in 1935, the tomb of Hafez was designed by a well-known French architect and archeologist Andre Godard. The tomb and its surrounding gardens are one of the greatest tourist attractions in Shiraz.

Life of Hafez Shirazi

Born in (1315-1390), one of the most chaotic times in history, Khajeh Shamseddin Mohammad Hafez-e Shirazi is considered one of the greatest Iranian poets and mystics. The reason that he is called Hafez is the fact that he memorized the whole Quran. He is also entitled “Lisan Ul-Gheyb”, which means the language of the unseen.

Although Hafez is considered one of the most prominent poets in Iran and even across the world, his life is shrouded in mystery. There are various ideas and comments about his life but there is no single reliable source to rely on in this regard.

Hafez is believed to have been influenced by many authors before him like Omar Khayyam (who is also one of the most significant Iranian figures in mathematics, astronomy, and poetry). However, many critics symbolize Hafez as a bee that flies over different flowers to make the most delicious honey.

Divan-e Hafez

Hafez's famous book is *Divan* (a collection of poems). His book is very precious to Iranians so every Iranian family has it in their house. Iranian people gather to read *Divan-e Hafez* on different occasions such as Nowruz or Yalda Night.

Hafez and Goethe

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), the most renowned poet of German literature was deeply interested in Eastern literature and above all, Hafez poems which increasingly awakened his interest in Persian literature. The first impulse of Goethe in imitating Hafez was a framework to compose romantic poems but later the mystical aspects of Hafez's poems attracted him.

The influence of Hafez Ghazaliat (the collection of his poems/ghazals) on Goethe was so profound that he composed his collection of poems in order to imitate Hafez and named it the “West-Eastern Divan”.

A professor of Universität Klagenfurt, Austria, said at Shiraz University that it is not deniable that Johann Wolfgang von Goethe wouldn't have written the prestigious West-Eastern Divan without being inspired by Hafez.

Goethe could establish an image of the mystic terms and language of Hafez. His understating of Hafez made him compose 15 new pieces in a week. Goethe composed Western poetry with Eastern content, she added.

She said that he interwoven Eastern literature and the Old Testament to make it fathomable for the people of the West, though the book had an Easter theme.

Later, he got interested in other elements of Persian Literature. He even tried to copy the Perso-Arabic script from Eastern books, Professor Bosse said.





Society & Culture

ECO TO DEVELOP TOURISM WITH AVAILABLE CAPACITIES: SG



The Secretary General of the Organization of Economic Cooperation (ECO) says the development of tourism relations in accordance with the available capacities is on the agenda of the organization.

Khosro Nazeri made the remarks at the 5th meeting of the ECO member states' Ministers of Tourism held in Ardabil, northwestern Iran that the fifth meeting tries to realize the improvement of tourism ties based on the ECO capacities.

Nazeri expressed hope that the meeting would be effective in introducing the capacities of Ardabil as the tourism capital of ECO member countries as a part of its goals.

He noted: "Ardabil has a key role in the history of the region and in the culture of the member countries, and as an influential city with a rich history, it creates an opportunity for the development of regional interactions."

He referred to the corona pandemic and its regressive impact on tourism in the regional countries: "Before the corona pandemic ECO recorded significant figures in tourism such that 87 million tourists visited the countries of the region annually, but the figure decreased after the corona pandemic; in recent years, the number of tourists is growing again, and we hope that Ardabil's (meeting) statement could help to develop it as much as possible."

There is a high capacity in the fields of culture,

pilgrimage, health, and food tourism, he said and added that the role of tourism in the economy of the region can be shored up through intra-organizational interactions.

Ardabil was selected as the third tourism capital of the ECO member countries in 2023; Shusha City of the Republic of Azerbaijan will be the next city to play the role in 2024.

IRANIAN CINEMATOGRAPHERS SNATCH AWARDS IN TIRANA FILM FEST.

The Iranian cinematographers received the awards of the 21st Tirana International Film Festival in Albanian for the best film, short film, panorama section film, and screenplay.

The 21st Tirana International Film Festival was held in Tirana, the capital of Albanian, from September 23 to 29, where 'Endless Borders' by Abbas Amini won the main award for the best long film.

'Endless Borders' narrates the story of a teacher in exile who lives in a little poor village, with Balouch people, in the Iranian-Afghan borders.

He meets a family of refugees from the Hazara ethnic group, who are fleeing the immediate danger of the Taliban coming to power.

"My Name is Sky" co-produced by Ali Asgari from Iran and Gianluca Mangiasciutti from Italy won the award for the best short film.

Still, Mina Sadati's 'The Notch' won the award for the best film in the panorama section of the cinema event.

The award for the best screenplay went to 'Companion' by Mahsa Talebi and Hesam Dezfooli.



FOOD DIPLOMACY

Kotlet (Persian Meat Patties)



Kotlet is a famous Iranian dish usually prepared with minced mutton or beef. In addition, you can use chicken, fish, and vegetables such as eggplant for cooking this delicious dish. Persian meat patties are one of the foods that are served with bread. It can also be eaten as a sandwich or without rice at lunch or dinner.

Ingredients:

yellow potatoes; ground beef, lamb or turkey; onion; eggs; cloves garlic, minced or finely grated; ground cumin; ground turmeric; salt; ground cinnamon; ground black pepper; Neutral oil, such as vegetable or grapeseed, for frying; Sliced tomatoes, for serving; Sliced cucumbers, for serving; Fresh tender herbs, such as parsley and basil, for serving; Flatbread, such as lavash, for serving



TRADE & ECONOMY

IRAN'S EXPORTS TO EURASIA SHOWCASED IN ZANJAN INT'L EXHIBITION

The International Exhibition of Iran's Exports to Russia and Eurasia was held at the permanent venue of Zanjan International Exhibitions and was well received by Russian businessmen and other countries of Eurasia.

The international exhibition of Iran's exports to Russia and Eurasia was held for four days, from October 10 to 13, 2023, in the sectors of food industry, handicrafts, agricultural products, automotive and component manufacturing, and energy.

Business delegations from Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Armenia, Iraq and Pakistan visited Iran's international export exhibition to Russia and Eurasia and were acquainted with Iran's export capabilities and the quality of Iranian products.





TRADE & ECONOMY

IRAN IS DEVELOPING ITS MONETARY AND BANKING RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL AND BRICS



The governors of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) and Brazil discussed the development of monetary and banking relations between the two countries, based on the mechanisms in the BRICS group.

On the sidelines of the annual meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in Morocco, Mohammadreza Farzin, CBI governor, talked with a group of heads of the central banks of the region and the BRICS group about increasing monetary and banking cooperation.

Governor General of the Central Bank of Iran, in a meeting with Roberto de Oliveira Campos Neto, President of the Central Bank of Brazil, discussed the development of monetary, banking, and trade relations with Brazil.

Farzin said: "The trade and commercial capacities of Iran and Brazil, as well as the members of the BRICS group, show that with the increase in banking and monetary cooperation between the members, the trade between these countries will increase in the short term."

The president of the Central Bank of Brazil, for his part, said: "Considering the upcoming developments in the banking and international

arena, the capacity of the BRICS group should also be used to create new monetary and banking cooperation mechanisms."

IRAN, PAKISTAN ECONOMIC MINISTERS STRESS EXPANSION OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Economic ministers from Iran and Pakistan met during the annual meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in Morocco.

Seyyed Ehsan Khandouzi, Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance held discussions with Mrs. Shamshad Akhtar, Minister of Finance of Pakistan.

The focus of the meeting was on expediting barter trade between the two countries and exploring joint investment opportunities to present to other nations.

The ministers also discussed prospects and plans for enhancing economic relations between Iran and Pakistan.

Furthermore, both sides examined joint investment opportunities to be presented to third parties. They agreed to implement approvals and agreements made by the third joint investment committee of both countries, particularly from a technical perspective.





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IRAN RANKS FIRST IN ISLAMIC COUNTRIES FOR MOST-CITED RESEARCHERS



The Islamic Republic of Iran ranks first among Islamic countries for having the highest number of top two percent most-cited researchers, according to Ahmad Fazelzadeh, head of the Islamic World Science Citation Database (ISC).

Turkey and Saudi Arabia are in the second and third places, respectively.

The ISC is responsible for monitoring the status of science and technology in Iran and other Islamic countries based on scientometric analysis.

It analyzes and reports the latest findings from various reliable sources and authorities to raise awareness about the scientific performance of the country and its latest developments, IRNA quoted Fazelzadeh as saying.

“It also provides the necessary information to managers of science and technology in the country for planning and policy-making to encourage and reinforce strengths and provide solutions to overcome shortcomings and challenges,” he added.

One of these reports is based on the latest findings of the joint project of Elsevier (Scopus database) and a group of Stanford University researchers known as "Stanford University Scientists Rankings".

IRANIAN STUDENTS WIN MEDALS IN ITE 2023

Iranian students won eight medals in the Fifth International Invention and Trade Expo (ITE 2023) which was held in London.

Kingston University hosted the event from October 5 to 6.

ITE 2023 provides a business platform for inventors, manufacturers, and dealers to present their latest products and innovations and exchange information.

At ITE, excellence in innovation is highlighted through the Invention & Innovation Award, it brings recognition to the best inventions, innovations, and trade, adding to its merit is supported by many international delegates.

Delegations from 34 countries participated in the competition and Iranian students succeeded in winning eight medals, IRNA reported.

The students attended the competition virtually and won three gold medals, four silver medals, and a bronze medal. Amir-Hossein Manafi was granted a specific award.





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IRAN TO LAUNCH ITS FIRST HOMEGROWN SATELLITE SYSTEM



The Iranian Space Agency (ISA) is planning to launch into orbit its first homegrown satellite system within the next two years, the agency's head, Hassan Salarieh, said on Tuesday.

The satellite system is named after the late commander of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) Quds forces, Lt. Gen. Qassem Soleimani.

"In line with efforts to provide space station communications services ... The Iranian Space Agency has developed technical specifications for the first domestic narrowband telecommunications satellite, named after Martyr Qassem Soleimani ... Research companies from the space industry held a tender for the implementation of this project," Salarieh was quoted as saying.

The tender was won by an Iranian consortium that has already made agreements with the ISA on the development, construction, delivery, testing, and launch of the telecommunications satellite system, the official added. The system will be sent into orbit within the next two years as the ISA already has several domestic satellites ready to be launched, he said.





SPORTS

IRAN FINISHES 7TH PLACE AT THE 2022 ASIAN GAMES



Iranian athletes concluded their exceptional performance at the 2022 Asian Games in China's Hangzhou, securing a seventh-place finish in the sporting event with a total of 54 medals earned in a diverse array of sports. The Iranian contingent, consisting of 289 male and female athletes competing across 34 sports events, clinched an impressive 13 gold, 21 silver, and 20 bronze medals.

China, Japan, South Korea, India, Uzbekistan, and Chinese Taipei claimed the top six positions in the overall rankings. However, Iran stood ahead of numerous other nations in the highly competitive Asian Games.

Notable gold medalists from Iran included Afshin Salimi (Wushu), Yousef Sabri (Wushu), Sadegh Azarang (Kurash), Hossein Rasouli (Discus throw), Reza Alipour (Climbing), and several others who displayed their athletic prowess in various categories.

Furthermore, Iran's achievements extended to diverse sports such as chess, volleyball, taekwondo, wrestling, and gymnastics, demonstrating the country's well-rounded sporting talent.

The Asian Games, with over 12,000 competitors representing 45 nations and territories, rivaled the Olympics in scale and participation.





SPORTS

IRAN REMAIN UNCHANGED IN FIFA WORLD RANKING



Iran remained unchanged in the latest FIFA World Ranking released. Team Melli is 21st in the ranking. Japan, the continent's highest-ranked team, is 18th in the ranking.

Argentina continues to occupy the top spot in rankings, followed by France and Brazil in 2nd and 3rd.





FOREIGN MISSIONS IN IRAN

Chinese Ambassador Congratulates Ali Asghar Mohammadi on Appointment as Deputy Minister and Director General of Asia and Oceania Affairs at Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Chang Hua
@AmbChangHua

امروز خیلی خوشحالم که با جناب آقای علی اصغر محمدی ملاقات کردم و منصوب شدن به عنوان دستیار وزیر و مدیرکل آسیا و اقیانوسیه وزارت امور خارجه را به ایشان تبریک گفتم. مایلیم با تشریک مساعی روابط مشارکت راهبردی جامع دو کشور را توسعه بدهیم.

Translate post



"UNDP in Iran Empowers Rural Women as Key Drivers of Community Development and Economic Growth"

UNDP Iran
@UNDPIran

Women are the backbone of their communities and the driving force behind thriving economies.

Explore how we are supporting rural women in Iran and their remarkable impact on their communities: undp.org/iran/news/wome...

#UNDP #Iran #Women #RuralWomen



Swedish Embassy Offers Condolences for the Passing of Iranian Cinema Icon Dariush Mehrjui and His Wife

swedeniniran



French Embassy Offers Condolences for the Passing of Iranian Cinema Icon Dariush Mehrjui and His Wife

France en Iran
@FranceenIran

داریوش مهرجویی، چهره ماندگار سینمای ایران و همسرش در روز 14 اکتبر 2023 در نزدیکی کرج به قتل رسیدند. سفارت فرانسه یاد و خاطره وی و همسرش را گرامی داشته و به خانواده و نزدیکان ایشان صمیمانه تسلیت می‌گوید.

Translate post





DISCOVER IRAN IN PICTURES

FIG FESTIVAL IN NW IRAN

The traditional festival of fig harvesting was held in Jolfa, East Azarbaijan province, Iran.



