



Islamic Republic of Iran  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

# MFA DIGEST

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY



Loving Iran Forever

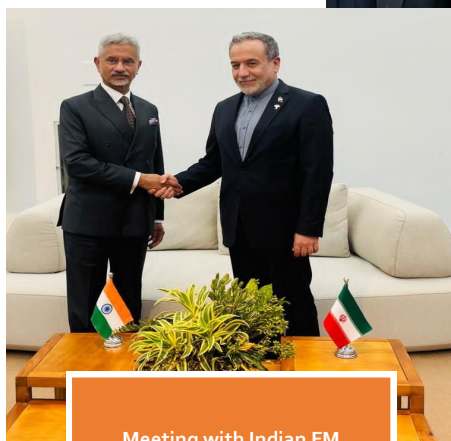
Issue #107 July 1— 15, 2025

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## MFA NEWSLETTER

### IRANIAN FM'S MEETING ON THE SIDELINES OF THE BRICS SUMMIT IN BRAZIL



Meeting with Indian FM



Meeting with Brazilian FM



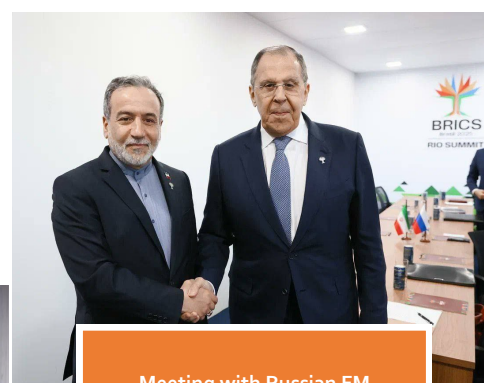
Meeting with Turkish FM



meeting with Chinese deputy FM



Meeting with Un



Meeting with Russian FM







## MFA NEWSLETTER

Iran's Foreign Minister held talks with his counterparts from Armenia, Egypt, Greece, France, the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Venezuela, South Africa and Malaysia regarding the latest regional developments following the military aggression of the Zionist regime and the United States against Iran.



**Armenian FM**



**Venezuela FM**



**Iranian FM**



**South Africa FM**



**French FM**



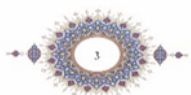
**EU High Representative**



**Greek FM**



**Malaysia FM**





## MFA NEWSLETTER

Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi met with Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman, Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan and Defense Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Prince Khalid bin Salman in Jeddah for high-level talks.



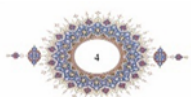
Meeting with Saudi Crown Prince  
and Prime Minister



Meeting with Saudi FM



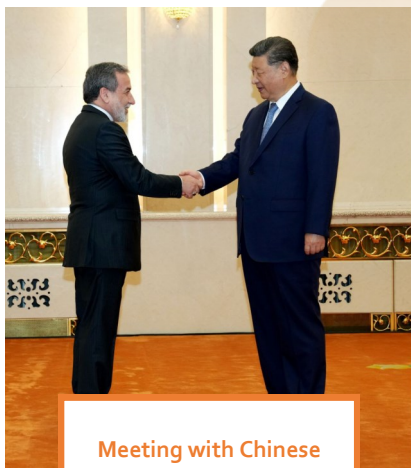
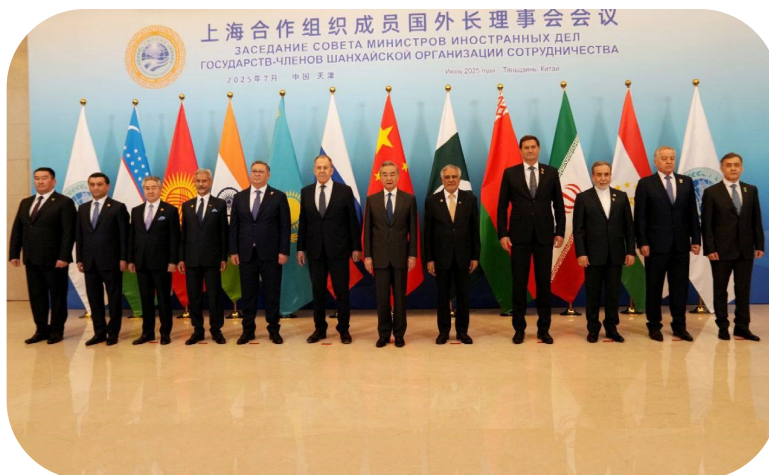
Meeting with Saudi Defense Minister





## MFA NEWSLETTER

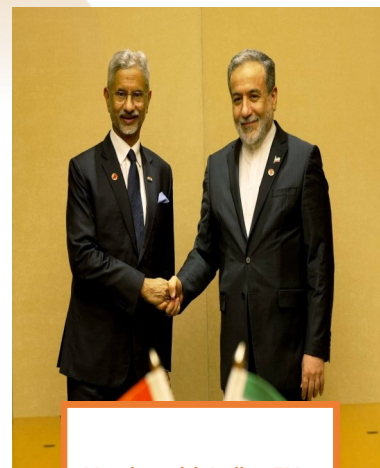
### CONSULTATIONS ON THE SIDELINES OF THE SCO COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN TIANJIN CHINA



Meeting with Chinese  
President



Meeting with Uzbek FM



Meeting with Indian FM



Meeting with Russian FM



Meeting with Kyrgyz FM



Meeting with Pakistani FM







## CULTURE & SOCIETY

### FARHADI'S "A SEPARATION" RANKED AMONG BEST MOVIES OF 21ST CENTURY



A new list titled "The 100 Best Movies of the 21st Century" was published by The New York Times this week, with the 2011 Iranian drama film "A Separation" written and directed by Asghar Farhadi among the top 50.

Farhadi's Oscar-winning movie is the only film from Iran that has found its way into the list and is ranked 33rd.

"A Separation" is placed above famous films in the list such as "Amélie" (2001) by Jean-Pierre Jeunet (at 41st place), "Inception" (2010) by Christopher Nolan (55th), "Kill Bill" (2003, 2004) by Quentin Tarantino (61st), and "The Lord of the Rings" (2001-2003) by Peter Jackson (87th).

### IRANIAN FEATURE FILM "MUDDY FOOT" WINS AT VIETNAMESE FESTIVAL

The Iranian feature film "Muddy Foot" directed by Ebrahim Azizi was honored at the closing ceremony of the Da Nang Asian Film Festival 2025 (DANAFF III) in Vietnam on July 5.

The Best Screenplay Award of the Asian Film Section was awarded to Ladan Shirmard and Ebrahim Azizi for writing the script of "Muddy Foot," ILNA reported.

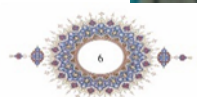
### IRANIAN SHORT ANIMATED FILM "TRAVELOUS" WINS AT SFN LOUTRAKI ANIMATION FESTIVAL

The Iranian short animation "Travelous" directed by Samira Hosseini won the top award at the 8th Short Film Night (SFN) Loutraki Animation Festival, which was held in Corinth, Greece, on July 6.

"Travelous" was announced to be the 1st among the three winners of the Audience Award as it presented a sensitive and original narrative from Iran that moved the audience. "Storytelling" from Switzerland and "In Between" from France were placed 2nd and 3rd, respectively.

### IRANIAN SHORT FILM "UNDER THE SHADY OAK" HONORED AT BULGARIAN FESTIVAL

The Iranian short film "Under the Shady Oak" written and directed by Hossein Allahyari received the special mention of the Best Fiction Film section at the 22nd In the Palace International Short Film Festival, which took place from June 28 to July 5 in the Palace of Culture Pernik in Pernik, Bulgaria.





## TRADE & ECONOMY

### EXPORTS TO AFRICA JUMP 85% IN SPRING, TRADE SURPLUS MORE THAN DOUBLES



Iran's exports to African countries rose 85 percent in the first quarter of the current Iranian year (March 21- June 21) compared to the same period last year, while its trade surplus with the continent surged by 113 percent, a senior official at Iran's Trade Promotion Organization (TPO) said on Tuesday.

Mohammad Reza Safari, acting head of TPO's Africa office, said the number of African countries importing Iranian goods increased from 27 to 32 in the three-month period.

Safari attributed the sharp increase in trade to the recent Iran-Africa Economic Cooperation Summit, adding that further implementation of decisions made by the Africa Task Force could accelerate the trend.

He also called for a shift in Iran's trade strategy toward Africa, advocating for the export of high value-added final products and offshore production investment. He said this approach—mirroring China's long-term investment model on the continent—would help Iran adapt to recent global shifts including rising energy and transport costs, reduced financial support.

### IRAN AN IMPORTANT PARTNER IN ONE BELT, ONE ROAD INITIATIVE: CHINA RAILWAY GENERAL MANAGER

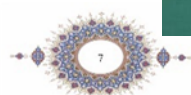
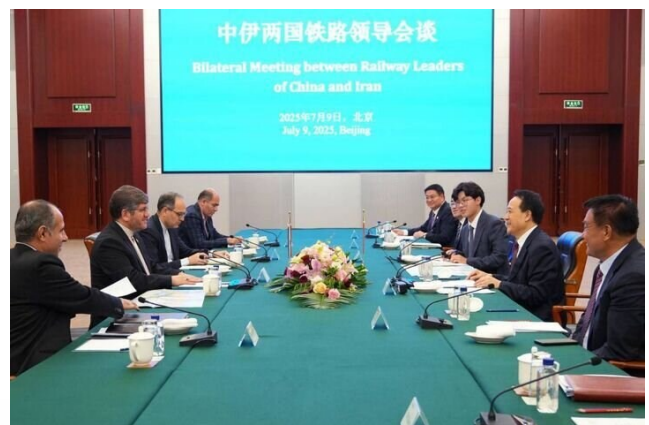
The general manager of China State Railway Group Company, known as China Railway (CR), considered Iran an important partner in the "One Belt, One Road" initiative and emphasized the need for coordination to stabilize prices and facilitate customs processes in the Southern Corridor.

Guo Zhuxue made the remarks in a meeting with Jabarali Zakeri, the head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Railways.

During the meeting, emphasis was placed on increasing the number of container trains between the two countries.

Zakeri, who is also Iran's deputy transport minister, met and talked with China Railway general manager during his trip to China to attend the 106th General Assembly of the International Union of Railways (UIC) which was held in Beijing.

In the meeting, the general manager of China Railway, referring to the deepening of cooperation between the two countries in recent years, positively assessed the resumption of container trains between China and Iran from 2024 and expressed hope that cooperation between the two railways will expand.







# Iranian Luminaries

## AL- KHARAZMI



Kharazmior Abu Ja'far Muhammad ibn Musa al-Kharazmi, was Persian polymath known for writing major works on astronomy and mathematics that introduced Hindu-Arabic numerals and the idea of algebra to world scholars. Muhammad ibn Musa Kharazmi(780c-850c) was a Muslim mathematician and astronomer, who made significant contributions within the mathematical field, through his algebraic understanding he managed to revolutionize the way the world processed equations. He was born in a Persian family, but due to the proliferation of the Arabic language, all his work was in Arabic.

### Biography

It is unclear exactly where or when Kharazmi was born. His name suggests he was born in Kharazm, in about 780. However, it was originally thought that the historian al-Tabari knew Kharazmi had a second epithet “al-Qutrubbulli”, indicating he came from Qutrubbull near Baghdad in modern day Iraq.

Kharazmi worked with a group of scholars known

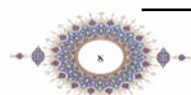
as the Banu Musa, a group of brothers who were Islamic mathematicians, at the House of Wisdom, founded by Caliph al-Ma'mun. Here, he worked for Caliph al-Ma'mun, translating Greek scientific manuscripts while studying and writing on algebra, geometry, and astronomy. His positions in the “House of Wisdom” and with the Caliph gave him support for his work.

### Scientific contribution

Kharazmi's works comprise of development of Algebra, geometric solutions, degree measurements, and trigonometric tables. The term algorithm is derived from this great mathematician's name. His works on Algebra provided strong roots to this subject. His fundamental work entitled “The Book of Summary in the Process of Calculation for Compulsion and Equation” (Al-Kitab al-Mukhtasar fi Hisab al-Jabr wa'l-Muqabala) paved the way for establishment of mathematical branch of Algebra.



Manuscript attributed to Kharazmi







## Iranian Luminaries



Al-Khwarizmi sculpture in Khiva

In this book of Kharazmi, for the first time the Arabic term of al-Jabr meaning compulsion and also restoration was used. This Arabic term al-jabr used by Kharazmi gave origin to the English/Latin word Algebra.

Apart from mathematics, al-Khwarizmi also contributed in the sciences of Geography, History, and Astronomy. “His book on geography entitled Kitâb Sûrat al-Ard (Book of the Image of the Earth) consists almost entirely of lists of longitudes as well as latitudes of localities and gives in a tabulated form the coordinates of the places such as cities, mountains, seas, rivers and islands. The book is arranged according to the Greek system of the seven climes (aqalim) giving contemporary data but the knowledge acquired by other Muslims is also incorporated into it.

### Significant legacy

George Sarton, the author of “An Introduction to the History of Science,” regards Kharazmi as “one of the founders of analysis or Algebra as distinct from Geometry.” According to George Sarton: “During the thirteenth century, trigonometrical progress was entirely due to Muslim efforts.” Al-Kharazmi extended the Indian number system and placed the zero as a placeholder in positional base notation.

The Islamic sciences developed owing to the

civilization’s open-ness to the achievements of other civilizations, especially the sciences in Persia, India, and ancient Greece. The translation movement encouraged by Muslim rulers played a significant role, and the Islamic sciences went on to influence the Renaissance.”, and this openness is very much evident in the writings of Kharazmi. As a great lover of knowledge, he acknowledges the contributions of other nations.

### Modern Day Algorithm: Computer age

For Western civilization, al-Khwarizmi’s most important book was Concerning the Hindu Art of Reckoning, which was translated into Latin three centuries after its composition. Al-Khwarizmi’s Latinized name “Algoritmi” gave rise to the word algorismus, which at first referred to the decimal number system and much later came to mean “a set of step-by-step rules for solving a problem.”

It was Enigma codebreaker Alan Turing who “worked out how, in theory, a machine could follow algorithmic instructions and solve complex mathematics. This was the birth of the computer age.” Now, much further into the computer age, algorithms “are helping us to get from A to B, driving internet searches, making recommendations of things for us to buy, watch, or share.”



Statue of Muhammad ibn Musa al-Khwarizmi in Urgench



## Iranian Rituals

### Tazieh



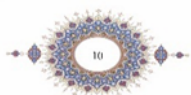
Tazieh is based on the Ashura culture and the brave war and martyrdom of Imam Hussein (AS) and his faithful companions. It is a religious play dated back to the 9th-century.

Tazieh, primarily known from the Persian tradition, is a Shia Muslim ritual that reenacts the martyrdom of Imam Hossein (AS) and his male children and companions in a brutal massacre on the plains of Karbala, Iraq in the year 680 A.D.

#### **History of Ta'zieh in Iran**

Its history dates back to the years before Ashura and the arrival of Islam in Iran which was called “Suvashoon Khani”. Siavash or Siavosh or Siavakhsh is one of the characters of Iranian legends including in Ferdowsi’s Shahnameh. The play was performed like the time Siavash went on fire which was a sign of his innocence when Siavash could manage to escape fire.

Tazieh recitation as one of the important symbols of mourning of Imam Hussain (AS) has had a very special place in Iran for a long time, and has been common since ancient times. Iranians have long been accustomed to traditional and religious plays and rituals, including the ancient ceremonies of “Mithra’s Sufferings” and “Siavash’s Mourning.”







## Iranian Rituals



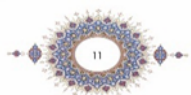
An Egyptian writer believes that Iranians with their artistic background and rituals, have been able to create religious dramas since Ashura and martyrdom of Hossein (AS). However, due to the lack of culture and performing arts among the Arabs, the Arabs were not able to take advantage of such thinking, so Iranians helped to spread the Karbala culture by holding such performances. It is a well-known Iranian festival.

### **Tazieh in Persian Culture**

In Persian culture, it refers to Condolence Theater and Naqqali which are traditional Persian theatrical genres in which the drama is conveyed wholly or predominantly through music and singing. It dates from before the Islamic era and the tragedy of Siyavosh in Shahnameh is one of the best examples.

In Persian tradition, Tazieh and Pardeh-Khani, inspired by historical and religious events, symbolize epic spirit and resistance. The common themes are heroic tales of love and sacrifice and of resistance against the evil. While in the West the two major genres of drama have been comedy and tragedy, in Persia, Ta'zieh seems to be the dominant genre. Considered as Persian opera, Ta'zieh resembles European opera in many respects.

Persian cinema and Persian symphonic music have been influenced by the long tradition of Tazieh in Iran. Many famous Iranian filmmakers have made documentary movies to explore the relationship of the audience to this theatrical form. Nasser Taghvaei also made a documentary on Tazieh titled "Tamrin e Akhar".





## Iranian Rituals

The appearance of the characteristic dramatic form of Persia known as the Tazieh Mu'izz ad-Dawla, the king of Buyid dynasty, in 963. As soon as the Safavid Dynasty was established in Persia in 1501 and the Shiism of the Twelvers adopted as the official sect, the state took interest in theater as a tool of propagating Shiism.

### Iranian music in Tazieh

Iranian music has also been very effective in making Tazieh exciting. Singers in Tazieh rituals were familiar with Iranian music. It is because the way the events were expressed in Taziye was based on singing. The connection between Tazieh and music was not only through singing, but also musical instruments were used in taziye gatherings.

Sometimes before the beginning of Tazieh rituals, the festival starts by playing some instruments such as trumpet, drum, Dohol, Korna, Sorna, and Ney, to prepare the spectators to hear and see the rituals. In Tazieh, each of the instruments usually had a special use.

**Tazieh was registered on UNESCO's List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in November 2010.**







## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### IRANIAN STUDENTS RANK 2ND IN INTL. MATHEMATICS SUMMER CAMP



An Iranian team comprising six students placed second in the 3rd International Mathematics Summer Camp (IMSC) held in Beijing, China, from June 20 to July 12, 2025.

Bardia Khosh-Eqbal grabbed a gold medal, Mehdi Aqajanloo, Parsa Tajallaei, Mohammad-Reza Attaranzadeh, and Mohammad-Sajad Memari won silver medals, and Amir-Hossein Zarei won a bronze medal.

The event served as a training ground for the upcoming International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) in Sunshine Coast, Australia.

It was a three-week training program designed to strengthen students' problem-solving skills in elementary mathematical fields, including algebra, geometry, number theory, combinatorics, and to enrich their analytic thinking, fostering a passion for math.

IMSC 2025 brought together over 300 people, including students and lecturers, from 32 countries such as Belarus, Belgium, Cameroon, Germany, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, the United States, Romania, Poland, and Uzbekistan.

It also provided students with tactics and knowledge crucial for excelling in competitions like the IMO. The camp featured lectures, problem sessions, mock tests, and evening seminars.

### IRAN GRABS SILVER MEDALS AT ICHO 2025



Iranian students won four silver medals at the 57th International Chemistry Olympiad (ICHO) held from July 5 to 14 in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates.

The event brought together 360 students from more than 90 countries to compete, collaborate, solve challenges, and explore innovation.

Each participating nation sent a team of four students and two mentors. The students competed in a rigorous five-hour laboratory practical exam and a separate five-hour theoretical exam, with the practical examination typically preceding the theoretical one.

The Iranian team, consisting of Sina Ahani, Seyyed Taha Hosseini, Seyyed Amir-Hossein Taheri Tari, and Mohammad Keifari Alamdari, succeeded in winning four silver medals.

The ICHO is designed to foster interest in chemistry by challenging students with complex and creative chemical problems. Beyond the competition, it aims to promote international collaboration, build friendships among young scientists from different countries, and facilitate the exchange of scientific and educational expertise.

Participants are ranked based on their scores rather than as teams. Gold medals are awarded to the top 12 percent of students, silver to the next 22 percent, and bronze to the following 32 percent.





## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### IRANIAN NANOTECH JOURNALS AMONG WORLD'S MOST CITED



The Journal Citation Report (JCR) Impact Factor 2024 has cited 161 Iranian journals, naming five among the world's most cited in the nanotechnology sector.

Journal of Nanostructure in Chemistry (JNSC) affiliated to Islamic Azad University with an impact factor of 7.9 is placed among the top 25 percent of journals in JCR published by Clarivate Analytics in three categories including Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, ranking 34 among 147 top journals; Chemistry, Multidisciplinary, ranking 41 among 239 journals; and Material Science, Multidisciplinary, ranking 88 among 460 top journals.

Journals of International Nano Letters affiliated to Kermanshah Islamic Azad University, Nano-medicine Journal affiliated to Mashhad medical Science University, Journal of Nanostructures affiliated to Kashan University, and International Journal of Nano Dimension affiliated to Tonekabon Islamic Azad University received an impact factor of 4.0, 1.7, 1.3, and 1.1, respectively.

### IRAN DIGITAL NATIONAL PLAN WINS WSIS CHAMPION AWARD



The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has awarded the Iran Digital National Plan project as one of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) champions 2025 in the E-Business category.

The WSIS Prizes 2025 recognizes outstanding projects that leverage information and communication technologies to advance the Sustainable Development Goals. The awards focus on projects aligned with the WSIS action lines and are presented in 18 categories, including the role of governments, infrastructure, access to information, capacity building, and more.

### IEEE IRAN SECTION GRABS OUTSTANDING SECTION AWARD

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) organization has designated the IEEE Iran section as the Outstanding Section Award 2025.

As one of the IEEE's most prestigious global honors, this award is granted to the sections that have excelled in educational, technical, research, and social fields, and played an effective role in the development of science and technology.





### IRANIAN FOOD: SHOLEH OF MASHHAD; VOTIVE FOOD IN MUHARRAM



Sholeh Mashhadi is almost the most famous dish of the northeastern Khorasan province which can hardly be found in other cities. This dish is a type of stew the main ingredients of which are meat and pulses. It is very similar to the Persian Halim. Sholeh cannot be easily ordered from any restaurant, even in Mashhad. On normal days, people do not cook that much Sholeh, but during Muharram, unlike the other days, Sholeh is prepared in great amount for mourners. People who are from Mashhad have a high level of admiration for this dish.

#### Ingredients:

meat (beef or lamb), various pulses (chickpeas, pinto beans, lentils, etc.), bulgur wheat, and rice, along with a blend of aromatic spices.

## IRAN'S YOUTH FREESTYLE WRESTLING TEAM WINS ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIP



The Iranian Youth Freestyle Wrestling Team clinched the Asian Championship title with a dominant performance, earning 4 gold medals, 2 silver medals, and 1 bronze medal, totaling 179 points.

Iran's triumph highlights the Wrestling Federation's strategic investment in youth development. These rising stars are poised to graduate to the senior ranks, bringing fresh talent and momentum to the national team.

Held on July 12–13 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, the Asian Youth Freestyle Wrestling Championship showcased fierce competition. Iran emerged victorious, collecting seven medals and securing the top spot on the podium.

## IRAN WINS ASIAN JUNIOR GRECO-ROMAN WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Iran's junior Greco-Roman wrestling team claimed the top spot at the Asian Championships in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, finishing first in the team rankings with a dominant medal haul.

Why it matters:

The victory cements Iran's position as a regional powerhouse in Greco-Roman wrestling, reinforcing its long-standing dominance in the sport across all age levels.

The big picture:

Held in Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan, the tournament brought together the continent's top junior athletes. Iran outperformed strong contenders like Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to secure the championship.







## SPORT

### IRANIAN SKATERS CLINCH GOLD AT MILANO 2025 HERO BATTLE CUP



Iranian inline freestyle skaters Romina Salek and Amirmohammad Savari triumphed at the 2025 Hero Battle Cup in Milan, Italy, winning gold medals in the Speed Senior categories.

These wins are significant achievements for Iran in an international, high-profile sporting event, emphasizing the country's rising status in the world of action sports, particularly in such fields as skating.

Victories in such diverse sports can help bridge cultural gaps, foster international sports diplomacy, and present a more dynamic image of the country to the world.

Over 800 athletes from 25 countries participated in the event, competing in multiple freestyle disciplines, including Classic, Battle, Speed Slalom, Slide, and Jump, showcasing an electrifying blend of technique, artistry, and athleticism from July 9 to 12.





## DISCOVER IRAN IN PICTURES

### ‘Nakhl Bardari’ rituals in Mehriz

Nakhl Bardari is one of the most ancient mourning ceremonies in Mehriz, Yazd province. This is a symbol of Imam Hussain (PBUH)'s sacred coffin. This unique ritual mourning belongs to Yazd. Before Ashura, people start covering the Nakhal (a wooden structure) with different things. The huge body is furnished with black fabric and sword's and mirror's and colorful silk fabric.

