

Let us not neglect strengthening our relations

For whatever the reason, it is obvious to all that Iran is currently going through an unprecedented rough patch in all aspects of daily life especially in its economy. But we must bear in mind that this period will definitely pass hopefully sooner than later.

Iran is a large country with vast potentialities and any number of natural advantages that logically cannot do other than to positively affect both its domestic and international realities sooner or later.

Fear mongering pessimists must not be allowed to frighten us. Colonialization and conquest are things of the past. We are in the era of comprehensive global economic development. So today, while waiting for the better days to come and despite the all the existing inadequacies, developing and maintaining strong mutual relations must not be neglected but should be the priority and responsibility of our joint chambers.

Dr. Amir Houshang Amini

Iran's foreign trade during the First month of year 1398

(20 March 2019 to 20 April 2019)

According to the statistics of the I.R of Iran's Customs Department, the Iran's foreign trades volume during the First month

of the year 1398 are as indicated in the following tables:

Primary import/export statistics of non-oil goods with the calculation of gas's Liquidities during the first month of 1398

Activity	First month of the year 1398		first month of the year 1397		Percent of changes	
	Weight (Thousand tons)	Value (Million Dollar)	Weight (Thousand tons)	Value (Million Dollar)	Weight	Value
Import	2.083	2.334	1.933	2.528	7.75	-7.65
Export	8.527	2.547	7.921	3.115	7.66	-18.25

Exports:

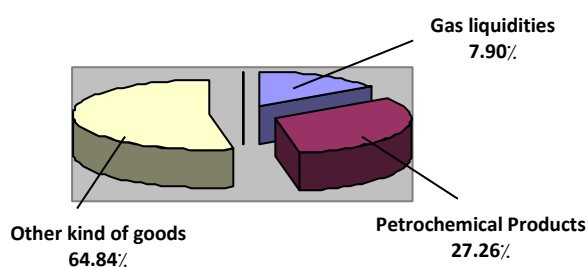
During the first month of 1398, a compound of exported goods with the separation of gas liquidities, petrochemical products and other kinds of goods

such as industrial, agricultural, mineral, carpet and handicrafts are as follows:

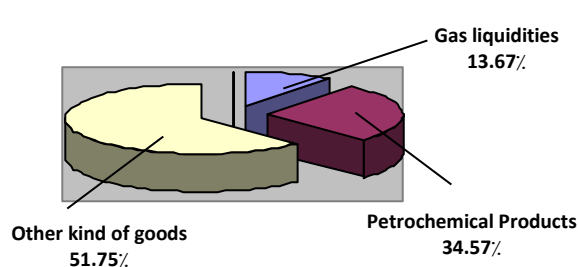
**Export statistics of goods separating of gas liquidities, petrochemical products
And other kinds of goods during the first month of the years 1397-98**

Sort of exported goods	First month of the year 1398		First month of the year 1397		Share of Total	
	Weight (Thousand Tons)	value (Million Dollar)	Weight (Thousand Tons)	value (Million Dollar)	Weight	Dollar
Petrochemical products	2.324	881	1.964	1.038	18.36	-15.19
Gas liquidities	674	348	860	447	-21.65	-22.21
Other kind of goods	5.529	1.318	5.097	1.630	8.48	-19.11
Total	8.527	2.547	7.921	3.115	7.66	-18.25

**Percent of Weight of Exported goods
During
The first month of the year 1398**

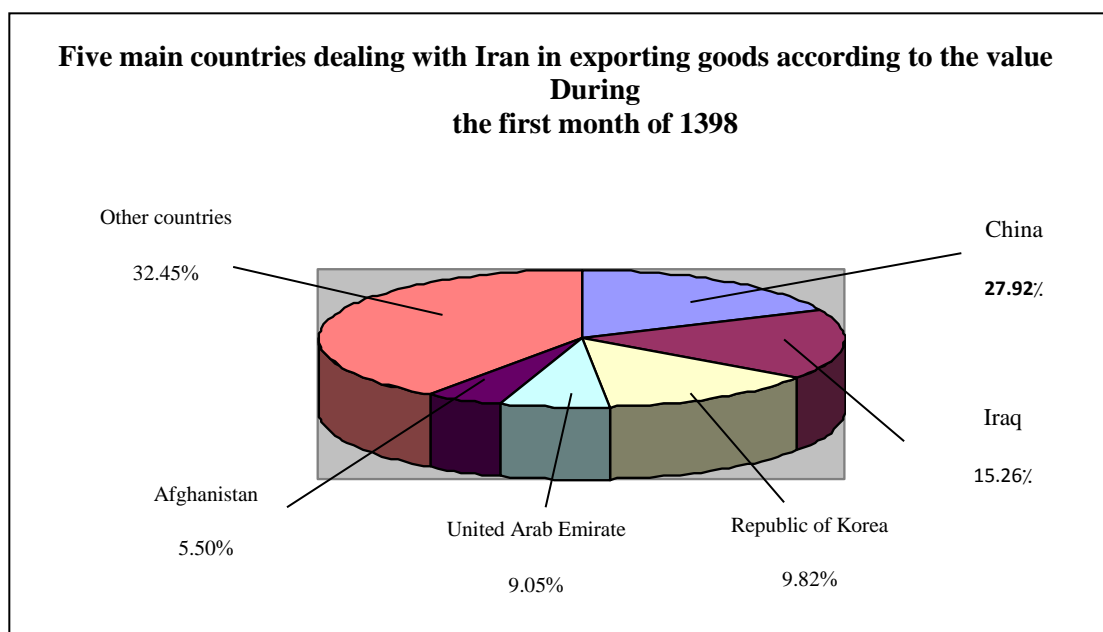


**Percent of Value of Exported goods
During
The first month of the year 1398**



The most important exports during the first month of 1398, have been done with countries, as follows: 1) "China" with 2.935 thousand tons and 711 million Dollars and 34.42 percent of weight and 27.92 percent of value, 2) "Iraq" with 940 thousand Tons and 389 million Dollars and 11.02 percent of weight and 15.26 percent of value, 3) "Republic of Korea"

with 485 thousand tons and 250 million Dollars and 5.68 percent of weight and 9.82 percent of value, 4) "United Arab Emirate" with 737 thousand tons and 231 million Dollars and 8.64 percent of weight and 9.05 percent of value and 5) "Afghanistan" with 421 thousand tons and 140 million Dollars and 4.94 percent of weight and 5.50 percent of value.

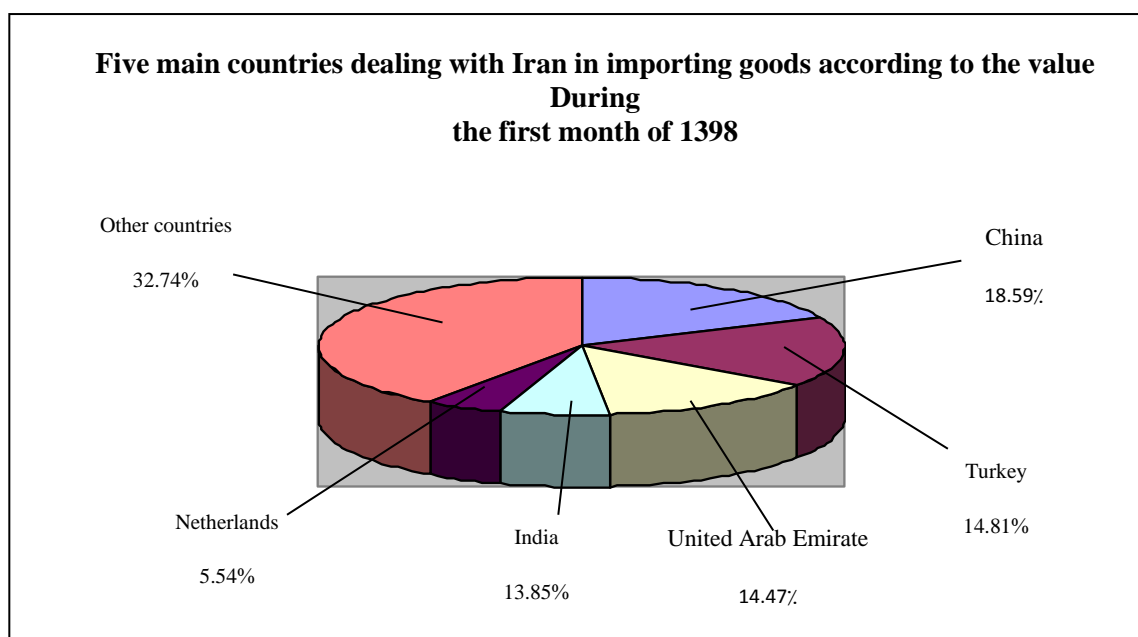


Average price of each ton of exported goods has been 299 Dollars, decreasing 24.06 percent in value compared with the similar period last year.

Imports:

The most important imports during the first month of 1398, have been done with countries, as follows: 1) "China" with 178 thousand tons and 434 million Dollars and 8.00 percent of weight and 14.47 percent of value, 2) "Turkey" with 233 thousand Tons and 346 million Dollars and 11.21 percent of weight and 14.81 percent of value, 3) "United Arab Emirate"

with 167 thousand tons and 338 million Dollars and 8.00 percent of weight and 14.47 percent of value, 4) "India" with 350 thousand tons and 323 million Dollars and 16.82 percent of weight and 13.85 percent of value and 5) "Netherlands" with 326 thousand tons and 129 million Dollars and 15.66 percent of weight and 5.54 percent of value.



Average price of each ton of imported goods has been 1.121 Dollars, decreasing 14.29 percent in value compared with the similar period last year.

Employment Potentials of Tourism Industry

A Solution for Unemployment

By Dr. Amir Houshang Amini

Confronting the scourge of unemployment and the necessity of creating new jobs are two main issues, which are gradually turning into an albatross round the government's neck. There is no doubt that the resolution of these problems requires a rational and practical approach. One of the radical moves to contain unemployment is to create new jobs through the expansion of domestic and foreign tourism industry, the most important and effective means of jobs creation in the commercial services sector.

Providing the ripe conditions, tourism will have a high impact on the creation of jobs, balanced economic development, distribution of wealth, etc. as compared with other economic, social and cultural activities. It is only in this field of business where the wealth of affluent nations fills the pockets of the poor nations.

The revenue from the export of tourism services, dubbed "invisible exports", are constantly in circulation, leading to the balanced distribution of incomes, formation of capital and deposit, and creation of new jobs.

Economists tracing tourism activities cite the multiplier effect of investments of the tourism industry in Iran at 7-10 per cent, a thumping figure, which can have the most effect in non-oil job creation, and have a determining role in national output and balanced regional development.

Taking into account the significant role of tourism in social, economic and cultural development and its effect of the adjustment of economic growth, earning income and spurring investments in complementary sectors, the following points should be mentioned:

- in addition to a strategic geographical location, Iran boasts a variety of natural attractions, each of which can lead any country to the international tourism current. The average stay of domestic and foreign tourists in Iran-as a key factor for the development of tourism-stands at a high level, mainly due to the expanse of land, diversity of climate, abundant ancient, pilgrimage and historical sites, etc. In 1976, the period of foreign tourist stay in

Iran stood by average at 18.5 nights, far above other countries.

As was mentioned earlier, the development of tourism, especially foreign tourism, hinges on several conditions and facilities. One of the prerequisites of the expansion of national tourism in an all-sided manner matching tourism expansion plans is to prioritize domestic sightseeing.

- Tourism planning should not be implemented at national level, except in specific cases such as national policymaking, propaganda and coordination which should be administered by the government in a centralized manner. The reason is that according to policymakers-especially the authorities of regional tourism development-tourism would yield favorable results only at the regional level.

- Due to its direct relationship with other activities, tourism development is an extraordinary complicated activity, of which implementation requires the attention of knowledgeable, experienced and seasoned tourism experts.

Evolution of Tourism

Since ancient times, three main incentives have prompted humans to change their residence and make short of long-and often dangerous-journeys. They include religious motives, recreation and interest (political and commercial), and curiosity.

It can be claimed that the primitive incentive of people for journey has been religious sentiments for which they embarked on long pilgrimage journeys. The same motive encouraged the Buddhist Chinese to travel thousands of leagues to reach India. The ancient Greeks and Romans also traveled in numerous batches to the Delphi temple to listen to the forecasts of Oracles. Another major incentive for journeys has been curiosity, prompting adventurers to make long expeditions to learn of the traditions and rites of other tribes and nations. The travel stories written by famous tourists such as Herodotus are in some cases the only proof of the existence of the great civilizations which have now disappeared and only archeological excavations have found remnants of their existence in the past. For over 1200 years, from 776 BC to 393 AD,

the Olympic Games attracted not only Greeks but also Romans from across the Roman Empire territories. In ancient times, Romans and Greeks were attracted to the mineral water springs for their healing effects. The Persian and Roman Empires had appeals for tourists such as smooth roads, security of journey and regular chariot and coach services. Roman holiday makers traveled to different parts of the world. These recreational trips gradually gained a high standing.

In the Middle Ages, travel and tourism, especially for pilgrimage, earned significant, mainly because the spread of Christianity encouraged converts to launch journeys to conduct their rituals. In the Far East, Buddhists were continuing their pilgrimage journeys. In the 8th century AD, Mecca turned into a major rendezvous for pilgrims of Islamic countries.

In ancient times, the necessity for peaceful coexistence among neighboring tribes and government led to several shuttle trips of government envoys across the near and far territories. Additionally, the lures of earning wealth through the business of rare commodities prompted merchants to travel to far away territories.

For instance, the Greeks created colonies from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean and Marseille to expand their business with the settlers of colonies. Meanwhile, the Roman traders traveled to the Baltic coasts to find amber, toured vistula for steel and penetrated the British isle for zinc. At any rate, trade transactions developed in all dimensions.

The downfall for the Roman Empire in the Middle Ages and the ensuing chaos, which led to the invasion of the Arabs, Ottoman Turks and Hungarians, restricted commercial trips across Europe. However, the journeys of political representatives continued among the world nations. Thousands of merchants traveled to St. Champagne, and Aachen fairs for business. Elsewhere, the European, Persian, Armenian, Bulgarian, Egyptian, Russian and Arab merchants traveled to Constantinople for enterprise. The outstanding point about the trips is that the travelers were not only merchants, rather they included such intellectuals as the Venetian merchant Marco Polo of the Arab merchant and writer Ibrahim Yaghub who authored the famous Yaghubi History. Also students traveled to such great cities as Rome, Paris, Najaf and Cairo for erudition in the Middle Ages. In the Middle Ages, traveling was released from the monopoly of aristocrats and no-

bles, and thanks to prevailing security, ordinary people, too, got the chance to travel. These trips were predominantly made of foot or on animal back including donkey, horse, or camel. Chariots were also sometimes used.

The 16th century-which marked the beginning of the new age-coincided with ground-breaking discoveries, which led to the collapse of the commercial republic of the Mediterranean and emergence of new empires. The discoveries triggered structural changes in travel, sending the old commercial routes into oblivion. With the emergence of Renaissance in Europe, a new generation of travelers with different motives came into existence. The big Europe cities such as Paris, Rome and Vienna attracted the tourists and holiday makers of other nations.

With the invention of railway in the early 19th century, the tourism industry was revolutionized. The steam century was characterized by speed, increased transport capacity and reduced travel expenses, an issue which encouraged people to make trips easily. Yet, tourism did not confessedly achieve its appropriate standing, because the development of tourism has two main preconditions including capital and leisure time which were not available with many social classes such as employees, workers and hired laborers.

With the imposition of new social laws in the 20th century, tourism engulfed the developed and civilized countries.

Tourism in the Contemporary Era

The expansion of tourism over the past 70 years hinges on multiple reasons including: increase of the level of income, increased leisure time, development of transport means, major geographical excavations and prolonged stay in the host nations.

The congregation of these factors led to the development of tourism so that the United Nations Economic Commission provided a definition of tourism for the first time in 1937.

In 1950, the International Union of Official Travel Agencies offered a new definition of tourism. However, the existing definition which is agreed by the United Nations members was raised in 1954: "A tourist is an individual who, based on legal reasons-except immigration-enters a country and stays there from 24 hours to a maximum of one year." The definition holds good even for internal tourism in every country. In discussions on tourism, a tourism trip is one which is first temporary, second

voluntary and third not for earning wages. Paul Bernecker, an economist and a member of the Tourism Research Institute of Vienna, describes tourism and tourism activities as follows:

“Tourism activities start when a group of people of a country leave their normal residence and travel to another destination temporarily to spend their leisure time and holidays, visit ancient and historical sites, participate in competitions and social trip, visit their friends and relatives, or for any other purpose.” Considering the national economies of countries, we always come across a kind of activity, which is termed “national tourism”. It applies to domestic trips for tourism purposes plus the country’s share of international tourism. In other words, national tourism includes tourists or travelers who enter a country as well as trips made abroad by the people of a country for tourism purposes.

As the trips of one country’s nationals overseas and the related expenditures can be effective and discussed in national audits, the national tourism industry translates into the congregation of journeys conducted within the country. Iran’s tourism consists of the trip conducted within the country by Iranian nationals or foreign nationals based in Iran with tourism incentives as well as the trips of foreign passengers to the country.

Pillars of Tourism

Iran’s tourism industry centers on two main pillars namely tourism subject. As the centerpiece of the tourism industry, subject is used to refer to an individual of individuals that embark on tourism. Therefore, the tourism subject is man, whose needs, imaginations and expectations illustrate social, economic and cultural events triggered by tourism. The tourism subject-who is considered as the demand-fully depends of this factor because it falls into local, regional internal and international categories. The tourism subject of every country consists of two groups: internal and external subjects or demands, which have to be addressed tourism development plans.

Tourism object means the country hosting the tourists of any other attraction, which can create an incentive for the people to temporarily change their permanent and usual residence. Whereas the tourism subject is the market demand, the tourism object means the market supply. The tourism object has different shapes, which can be analyzed individually or collectively such as tourist attractions, transport means, tourist services and tourist roads. The main point in tourism discussion

is the capital national tourism, which translates into its tourist appeals. Tourist attractions include:

- Cultural attractions: interesting archeological cites and resorts, historical monuments, museums, manifestations or modern culture, political and cultural institutions, religious sites, etc.
- Traditions: national festivals, arts, handicrafts, music, folklore, traditions, and native customs, etc.
- Natural scenery: landscaper, perspectives, picturesque scenes, national parks, wildlife, animals, birds, sea coasts, mountains, etc.
- Treatment and recreation: participation in or watching athletic activities, recreational parks, zoos, aquariums, cinemas, theaters, night life, cuisine, residence, amenities, etc.
- Other attractions: climate, medical centers such as mineral water springs, shopping, etc.

These attractions are either provided or have to be provided, an issue, which requires investments. Based on its geographical, political, social and cultural and economic situation, every country can use its tourist attractions in the fields of national tourism.

Roundup

Internal tourism is virtually the most effective element in the absorption and movement of internal capital especially dead money invested in non-manufacturing and detrimental sectors. It clears the way for complementary investments in other sectors including agriculture, sports, and rural, mountainous and intercity housing. Thus, it creates jobs and moderates incomes.

A review of tourism in Iran indicates that the tourism development plans gained momentum since the start of the Third Five year Economic Development Plans with the formation of the Tourist attraction Organization. The measures conducted by the organization include construction of guest houses in underdeveloped towns, construction of tourist camps, and offering tourist services. In addition to the comprehensive tourism plans, there is a variety of other tourism schemes, which should be followed up. They include the development plan of the Caspian Sea shores, expansion of health centers (such as the mineral water springs of Abask in Larijan, Sarein in Ardebil, and Mahallat), and the development of recreational resorts such as Kelar Dasht, Dasht Nazir, Kerend and mountainous and coastline resorts. It is only in this field of business where the wealth of affluent nations fills the pockets of the poor nations. Economists tracing tourism activities cite the multiplier effect of investment in the tourism industry of Iran at 7-10 per cent.

Short Economic News

Iran Short Economic News:

INSTEX Chairman in Tehran for trade negotiations

Tehran, Sept 16, IRNA - New INSTEX chairman Michael Bock is currently on a visit to Tehran to meet with central bank officials and the corresponding Iranian company, SATMA.

Former German diplomat, Michael Bock, on the first day of his visit to Tehran, attended a meeting of the German-Iranian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and met with representatives of Iranian and German companies. During his visit to the Iran-Germany Chamber of Commerce and Industry, he met with representatives of Iranian and German companies and dis-



cussed various trade issues between the two countries. During the meeting, problems such as barriers to financial transactions were discussed.

On September 6, Former German diplomat Michael Bock was appointed as the new chairman of EU trade mechanism with Iran dubbed "INSTEX".

Following talks between the German Foreign Ministry and other European partners, the former 66-year-old German ambassador to Colombia, Egypt and Sweden was elected as the new head of the INSTEX.

Renaming supertanker not aimed to bypass U.S. sanctions: envoy

TEHRAN – Iranian Ambassador to London Hamid Baeidinejad has said the renaming of the Iranian oil tanker, Grace 1, has no relations with circumventing the U.S. sanctions.

"The renaming of the oil tanker carrying Iranian oil in Gibraltar sent out this false implication that this act was carried out for circumventing the sanctions," Baeidinejad tweeted on Sunday. "This is while this measure was necessitated



after Panama's objection to continuation of the oil tanker's path under that country's flag," he added.

The Iranian ambassador underscored that the tanker is under no sanctions and is carrying oil under the permission of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC). In another tweet, the envoy said the oil tank-

er was registered under its new name, Adrian Darya, on July 15, which is more than a month ago.

Britain's naval forces unlawfully seized the Grace 1 and its cargo of 2.1 million barrels of oil in the Strait of Gibraltar on July 4 on the pretext that the supertanker had been suspected of carrying crude to Syria in violation of the European Union's unilateral sanctions against the war-torn country.

Tehran, however, rejected London's claim, slamming the seizure as "maritime piracy".

On Thursday, a Gibraltar judge ordered the release of the Grace 1, six weeks after it was detained, rejecting a last-minute legal move by Washington demanding that the ship remain detained.

However, the United States on Friday issued a warrant for the seizure of the tanker. According to the warrant, the U.S. Department of Justice also ordered the seizure of \$995,000 in an account at an unnamed U.S. bank associated with Paradise Global Trading LLC, which it called a shell company associated with businesses which act for the Islam-

ic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC). There was no immediate word from Britain or Gibraltar over whether they would act on the warrant, as Iran said it was sending a new crew to pilot the tanker. "This U.S. complaint alleges that Iran has violated U.S. sanctions after the U.S. pulled out the 2015 nuclear deal last year," said Al Jazeera's John Hendren, reporting from Washington, DC. On July 4, acting Spanish Foreign Minister Joseph Borrell said the seizure had followed "a demand from the United States to the UK." On July 19, Reuters reported, "Several diplomatic sources said the United States asked the UK to seize the vessel."

Lina Khatib, head of the Middle East and North Africa program at Chatham House, said the U.S. request on the Grace 1 was based on its own imposed sanctions on Iran, and not the EU's sanctions on oil exports to Syria.

EAEU, good opportunity for Iran to expand economic coop.: Rouhani

According to MNA's report: In a meeting with his Armenian counterpart, President Hassan Rouhani said Iran's participation at the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) would be a perfect opportunity to deepen economic cooperation with member states. Speaking in a meeting with the Armenian President Armen Sarkissian late on Monday in Yere-

van, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani highlighted developing relations with neighbors, including Armenia, as a "top foreign policy principle."

Rouhani is in Yerevan to take part at a high-profile Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) summit.

"Iran and Armenia have ample potentials in different fields, including energy, transit and transportation, tourism, and industry, which can be used to the benefit of both nations' interests," Rouhani said at the meeting.

Stressing the capabilities of the private sectors of the two countries, Rouhani voiced Iran's readiness to provide Armenia with its experience in different



technical and engineering fields, dam construction and energy.

He also went on to describe cooperation under Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) as highly important, saying, "Iran's participation in Eurasian Union's economic relations can be a very good opportunity for deepening bilateral economic cooperation, as well as at the region-

al level."

The President then called for further more cooperation between the two countries' free economic zones, including Aras and Meghri.

For his part, Armenian President Armen Sarkissian stressed that his country attaches great significance to cementing ties with Iran, adding, "Armenia is seeking to develop relations with Iran in different fields, including economy, industry, energy and environment."

"The Eurasian region can extend its activities, and in this regard, we are ready to develop relations Tehran," he added.

Persian Leopard's global range

TEHRAN, Oct. 01 (MNA) –The Persian leopard is classed as “Endangered” on the Red List of the “International Union for Conservation of Nature” with an estimated population size of 871 to 1,290 individuals.

It occurs: 1) throughout Iran, 2) southern Turkmenistan, 3) parts of Afghanistan, 4) northwestern and southern Azerbaijan, 5) northeastern Iraq, 6) southwestern Dagestan in the Russian Federation, 7) southern and southwestern Armenia, 8) eastern and southeastern Turkey, 9) eastern and southeastern Georgia, 10) parts of Pakistan, 11) small parts of Tajikistan, and 12) probably small parts of Uzbekistan.

1) Iran: after the extinction of the Persian lion and Caspian tiger from Iran's fauna, the leopard is now the largest member of eight felid species surviving today in Iran with between 550 and 850 individuals.

2) Turkmenistan: the mountainous southern edge of Turkmenistan holds an estimated 78 to 90 Persian leopards.

3) Afghanistan: it is believed that Persian leopard occurs in the central highland regions of Afghanistan, such as the Hindu Kush and the Wakhan Corridor, but at very low numbers.

4) Azerbaijan: approximately 15 Persian leopards occur in the Hyrcan National Park in the Talysh Mountains and the Zangezur National Park in the Nakhchivan/Azerbaijan-Southern Armenia sector.

5) Iraq: there may be as many as 10 Persian leopards in the mountainous areas of northeastern



Iraq's Kurdistan region along the border with Iran and Turkey.

6) The Russian Federation: totally, no more than 10 Persian leopards inhabit four places in Russian Federation: a) Assa River Valley in Ingushetia, b) Armkhi River Valley in Ossetia, c) Andiskoye Koyusu and Avarskoye Koyusu

headwaters in Dagestan, and d) Sharoargun and Argun river valleys in Chechnya.

7) Armenia: fewer than 10 individual leopards are restricted to the Zangezur Mountains that defines the border between Armenia's southern province of Syunik and Azerbaijan's Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic.

8) Turkey: there may be fewer than 5 Persian leopards in Turkey. The leopard lives in the southeastern frontier region of Anatolia in areas close to the eastern or northeastern Turkish border.

9) Georgia: there are very few Persian leopards (i.e., fewer than 5 individuals) left in the wild in this country.

10) Pakistan: the regions located to the west of the Indus River in Swat, Dir, Indus Kohistan, and Baluchistan are believed to hold an unknown number of Persian leopards in Pakistan.

11) Tajikistan and Uzbekistan: if the leopard is present in Uzbekistan, there could be as many as 10 individuals in the Babatag Mountains and the Kugitang Mountains in the far southeastern region of Uzbekistan bordering Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.

Caspian Sea should be sea of peace, friendship for littoral states

TEHRAN, Oct. 01 (MNA) – Iranian President and his Kazakh counterpart discussed the ways of developing bilateral relations and the most important regional and international developments, emphasizing the need to further strengthening of the two countries' cooperation. Hassan Rouhani, President of Iran met and held talks with Kassym-Jomart

Tokayev, President of Kazakhstan in Yerevan on the sidelines of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) Summit on Tuesday.

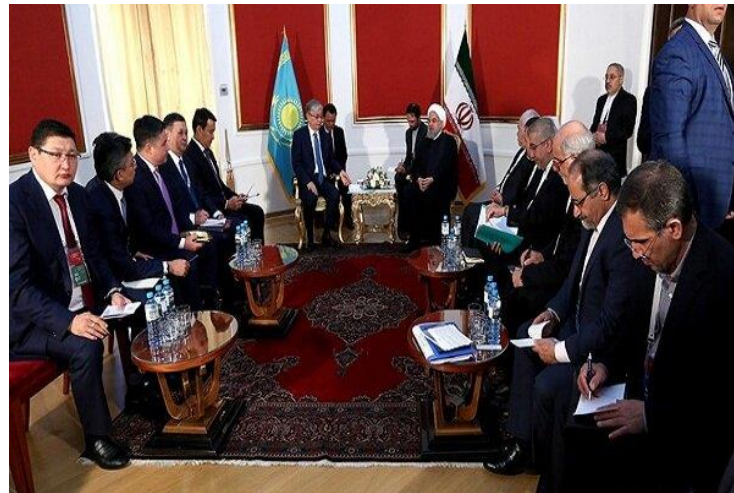
During the meeting with his Kazakh counterpart, Rouhani emphasized that Tehran welcomes comprehensive development of relations with Nursultan in various political, economic, scientific and

cultural fields, adding, "Iran's cooperation with the Eurasian Economic Union is a very good groundwork for the union members' economic relations with each other, especially between Kazakhstan and Iran." According to the Iranian President's office, Rouhani said that Iran and Kazakhstan have always had very friendly and sincere relations, adding, "The two countries have great potentials in different economic fields to increase the level of bilateral relations and cooperation."

Iranian president emphasized the importance of the Aktau Agreement on the Caspian Sea Legal Regime and said, "The agreement should be implemented and operationalized to serve the interest of Caspian Sea littoral states."

"The Islamic Republic of Iran is fully prepared to cooperate in environmental issues of the Caspian Sea and the littoral states' benefits from its tourist and economic attractions and potentials," he said.

"The Caspian Sea should be the sea of peace and friendship for its littoral states without the presence of any foreign force," Rouhani mentioned. He also touched upon the importance of Iran-Kazakhstan cooperation in the South-North Corridor, saying, "The rail link between the two countries through



Incheh Borun was a great step, and today there are active railway lines from the Persian Gulf to China and soon the railway will be connected to Anzali Port, which could also be a new transit opportunity between the two countries." Emphasizing Tehran's readiness to cooperate with Ka-

zakhstan in the fight against terrorism, drugs and creating lasting security in the region, Rouhani added, "The Islamic Republic of Iran calls for security and stability in the Persian Gulf and the Middle East." "Iran has offered Hormuz Peace Endeavour (HOPE) initiative to ensure lasting security in the region with the participation of all Persian Gulf states and the United Nations," he said.

Iranian president reiterated, "Iran wants full security in waterways and free navigation in the Persian Gulf, Oman Sea and the Strait of Hormuz".

Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, for his part, emphasized that Iran is a very good and reliable neighbor to his country, adding, "Kazakhstan wants comprehensive and high-level cooperation with Iran." "Kazakhstan welcomes Iran's presence as a new economic partner to the Eurasian Economic Union," he said.

Envoy hails compensating Iran Bank Mellat by UK govt. as achievement

TEHRAN, Oct. 04 (MNA) – Iranian ambassador to London, Hamid Baeidinejad has hailed compensating Iran Bank Mellat by the United Kingdom as an achievement for Iran. In messages on his Twitter account, Hamid Baeidinejad said that Iran Bank Mellat has been compensated by the UK government.

He added the British government's action was based on a ruling by a UK court four months ago. The Iranian diplomat added that the UK Supreme Court ruled four months ago that the sanctions by the UK Treasury against Bank Mellat were illegal. Bank Mellat has confirmed it had received the compensation from the UK Treasury.



Britain used a third country to avoid US sanctions as it paid an Iranian bank a settlement in a £1.25 billion damages case, *The Times* has reported. Bank Mellat, in which the Iranian government owns a 17 per cent stake, sued the UK government over sanctions imposed in 2009

that prevented it from doing business with the UK's financial sector. The Supreme Court ruled that the sanctions were illegal and a five-week hearing of the bank's claim for damages covering its loss of business had been scheduled for June.

Bank Mellat had sought £3.2 billion but this fell to £1.25 billion with interest, according to *The Times*.

914 million in foreign investment approved in 11 months

Tehran, May 22, IRNA - Statistics by the Ministry of Industry, Mining and Trade indicate that from March 21, 2018 until the end of February 2019, \$914.455 million of investment for 65 industrial, mineral and commercial plans were approved. In the same period of 2017, 62 projects worth \$2.801 billion were approved by the Foreign Investment Board, which represents a 67.4% drop in terms of value. Creating chain stores, producing car ventilators, producing baby diapers, increasing investment in cars, manu-



facturing construction products, providing urban transportation services, producing composite aluminum sheets, producing brake linings for cars, producing iron and steel, the production of single crystal panels and photovoltaic solar cells, the manufacture of passenger food unit, the production of iron concentrate, the production of copper powder and the production of cosmetics, were among the projects that their foreign investments were approved.

Iran's year-on-year inflation rate at 34.2%

Tehran, May 22, IRNA - Iran's inflation rate in the 12 months ending in the Iranian calendar month of Ordibehesht (May 21) was announced at 34.2%, according to the latest statistics released same commodities and ser-



by Statistical Center of Iran. The statistics suggested that the Iranian households in this month of Ordibehesht on average paid some 52.1 percent more than the same month in the preceding year for the vices.

Italy eyes investing in Chabahar port

TEHRAN, Oct. 01 (MNA)- The Director General of Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) for Market Development and Agreements Affairs Mohammad Saeed Asl Saeedipour said on Tuesday that Italian firms keen on investing in Chabahar port. He revealed the conclusion of agreement between concerned officials of the two countries for launching Chabahar-Venice shipping line. Training seafarers, providing relevant equipment and providing port tariffs and services were discussed between Iranian and Italian officials. In this meeting, Italian maritime transport com-



panies voiced their readiness to take advantage of potentials of Chabahar port and investment in this port, Saeedipour stated. The distance of Chabahar port from the Persian Gulf, cheap tariffs and investment costs in this port as compared with other ports in Dubai as well as ports of foreign countries prompted Italian companies to make huge investment in Chabahar port, he stressed. All investment contracts inked in ports are based on BOT (Build-Operate-Transfer) and no parcel of land is ceded to any applicant, Saeedipour added.

Dispatching a business delegation to London

In a cooperation ensured between Irano-British Chamber of Commerce, Industries & Mines, British Iranian Chamber of Commerce, and DIT of British Embassy in Tehran, a delegation consisting of 26 members will set out to London on 23 Mehr, and will stay there till 28 Mehr, and will meet and talk to their British counterparts. Upon the invitation of British Iranian Chamber of Commerce, on Thursday night, the delegation

members will attend the BICC Annual Dinner Reception that is going to be held in the House of Commons. It is said that the delegation will visit a few economic centres during their stay in London. On Friday, the delegation members along with their British Counterparts as well as DIT members will attend a meeting that is going to be held by order of The Ambassador of Iran in the Embassy of Iran in London.

World Short Economic News:

German envoy finds unexpected answers for tourist destinations in Iran

28 (MNA) – German Ambassador to Iran Michael Klor-Berchtold has asked where he could visit in Iran on the occasion of World Tourism Day, but Iranian netizens went to surprise him.

“Today is #World Tourism Day. What insider tips do you have for a foreign Ambassador living in #Iran?” he asked on Friday in his Twitter account, while also posting several photos of some tourists destinations in Iran. He probably expected to see recommendations on best tourist resorts in the country but netizens largely invited him to pay a visit to areas in Iran which were hit by German-made chemical bombs of Saddam’s regime back in Iran-Iraq war.

“Oh, a lovely destination would be house of an Iranian war veteran and a victim of German chemical agents who is still gasping for air when he’s walking. You remember selling chemical weapons to Saddam around 1980s...?” wrote a netizen.

“Although you are a cool ambassador and we like you, pay a short visit to those cities and villages which were attacked by German chemical bombs,” wrote another user.

One other user answered that the envoy should visit “Sardasht and Shalamchek and other villages chemically attacked by Saddam and also the victims. By the way, Mr. ambassador, do you know



which European country sold Saddam mustard gas?”

Also a group of users invited Klor-Berchtold to make a visit to cancer hospitals in Tehran where patients have a hard time finding their required medicine due to sanctions. Saddam, sapped from winning the war against

Iran, launched several chemical attacks on Iranian cities, targeting civilians. Victims of such attacks are still suffering years later after the aggression. One of the major attacks hit Sardasht, northwest of Iran, where it killed 100 civilians, injuring 8000 others and leaving some of them permanently disabled. Overall, Iraq is known to have launched over 350 large-scale gas attacks along the Iran-Iraq border between 1980 and 1988 on combatants and non-combatants, leaving behind over 107,000 victims. As many as 2,600 of that total died at the time, and over 45,000 others were left in permanent need of relief aid provided by Iran's Veterans and War Victims Foundation.

Germany, Italy, the UK, the US, the Netherlands and several other countries provided the Iraqi dictator with the equipment and material to build chemical weapons apparently because they didn't want Iran to be the winner of the eight-year war.

Will ‘O’Brien’ continue to serve as Trump’s National Security Advisor?

TEHRAN, Sep. 29 (MNA) – Following Bolton’s dismissal, Donald Trump appointed Robert O’Brien as the new White House National Security Adviser out of five proposed options. Donald Trump’s former National Security Adviser, John Bolton, was dismissed while he was Trump’s third national security adviser in a short time.

John Bolton was elected as the US President’s National Security Adviser after General McMaster; it was evident for all that has anti-Iranian positions. From the first day, Bolton, according to forecasts, took strong stance against Iran and spoke in numerous speeches of his desire to overthrow the Iranian government. John Bolton, who did not believe in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, was always trying to plan more aggressive sanctions to potentially break the agreement completely.

On September 10, Donald Trump ousted Bolton while now the United States is in a precarious position in relation to Iran’s position and the US senior officials are still confused about the issue that with what solutions can make Iran give up against their desires. Bolton has always had harsh policies against Iran, believing that sanctions should be increased against Iran and believed that sanctions should be increased so that the bones of Iran could be crushed.

Even on several occasions Bolton insisted on a military strike against Iran and Trump and the Pentagon representatives opposed. In all of his speeches, he spoke against the Islamic Republic of Iran; it seemed that he had a great grudge against the Islamic Republic. Last year, on such days, he had stated that the Islamic Republic would not see its fortieth celebration.

What happened, dismissal or resignation, indicate that the disagreements had reached an irreconcilable stage. Generally experts predict two types of disagreement for Bolton’s ouster; it has been said that Bolton and Donald Trump on the one hand,



and Bolton and Mike Pompeo and some other members of the government on the other hand had disagreement among themselves.

What is certain is that Bolton’s consultations with the US president did not work, and in many cases Trump did not see John Bolton’s consultation according

to his goals and wishes; hence he has failed to make good decisions in American politics internationally, especially in the Middle East region. This made Donald Trump announce that Bolton is no longer needed at the White House. Although Bolton has claimed that he had submitted his resignation for the first time, experts say that Donald Trump was tired of John Bolton’s interference in decisions about Iran, North Korea and Venezuela. Now the question is whether “Robert O’Brien” succeeds as Trump’s fourth National Security Adviser, or does he eventually become like the three former advisers?

A few days after the ouster of Bolton, O’Brien was introduced as Donald Trump’s fourth new National Security Adviser; meanwhile Bolton’s ouster has created a lot of dispute in the world, and everyone believes that if O’Brien does not continue Bolton’s affairs, he will succeed in this position. But like Bolton, O’Brien has taken strong stance against Iran and was one of Barack Obama’s obstinate critics at the time of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action agreement. He described Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action as the most important weakness of the Barack Obama’s government, and described the signing of the agreement as silly, because he believed it paved the way for the nuclear Iran. Furthermore, O’Brien describes Iran as the world’s biggest supporter of terrorism and believes that Iran should change its behavior.

What was O’Brien’s distinguishing characteristic in relation to four other options that Trump preferred over them and replaced him with Bolton.

White paper expounds on China's roles

Tehran, Sept 29, IRNA/Global Times-China's central government published a white paper policy document outlining China's meteoric economic development in the past 70 years, its growing contributions to world peace and growth, and the country's significant role in an evolving world where opportunities and challenges loom large.

Chinese and foreign scholars believe that the white paper, titled "China and the World in the New Era," could help the rest of the world build a comprehensive understanding of China's development and position, including how the nation has been growing under the leadership of Communist Party of China (CPC), how it shares its development results and experiences with the world.

The experts said China will continue to uphold multilateralism and join hands with other countries to tackle future challenges, such as improving multilateralism, poverty reduction, and global peace.

The white paper, released by the State Council Information Office on Friday, states that the country has undergone numerous great changes in the last 70 years under the leadership of CPC and managed to create an unprecedented development miracle in human history. The publication was released a few days ahead of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. "China has an impact on the world that is even more comprehensive, profound and long-lasting, and the world is paying even greater attention to China," it said. China has managed to achieve something that developed nations took several hundred years to achieve, the white paper noted.

The nation's GDP has grown from 67.9 billion yuan (\$9.5 billion) in 1952 to 90 trillion yuan in 2018. China is now the world's second-largest economy, provides the material needs of its nearly 1.4 billion people, and achieves moderate all-round prosperity. Over the past 70 years, China's success boils down to the leadership of the CPC, the white paper pointed out. Without centralized, unified and firm leadership, China would have tended towards



division and disintegration and caused widespread chaos beyond its own borders, it noted. China's astonishing development in the past 70 years, the white paper emphasized, has gained wide international recognition.

Strong leadership

Jean-Pierre Raffarin, former French prime

minister, described China's changes in the past several decades as "incredible and impressive" in an interview with the Global Times on Friday. "In the last 70 years, China has emerged as a successful nation in overcoming so many challenges, obstacles and difficulties to pull a country with more than 1.3 billion people from a relatively backward economy into a track of rapid development and modernization," Muhammad Zamir

Assadi, a journalist from Independent News Pakistan, told the Global Times on Saturday. Assadi attributed the remarkable development to the "vision of CPC," whose leadership has maintained a balance between reform and stability in the process of getting prosperity for its citizens, which also led a successful campaign to eradicate poverty and corruption.

The white paper was issued at a time when the global society is closely watching and adjusting their views on how China's relations with the world have evolved along with its rise.

The country's development is an opportunity for the world rather than a threat or challenge, the paper stressed. It reiterated that China will not follow the path of "power leading to hegemony," while vowing that the nation will "always be the builder of world peace, a contributor to global development and defender of global peace."

Li Haidong, a professor at the Institute of International Relations at China Foreign Affairs University, said that the white paper, which explains China's relationship with a changing world, will help China make more friends.

"For nations which have friendly relations with China, the paper will reaffirm that China has made a significant contribution to the world. This will

boost their confidence and make them more resolute in developing ever closer ties with China," Li noted. Fabio Massimo Parenti, a professor at the International Institute Lorenzo de' Medici, Florence, said that a major takeaway from China's rise lies in its "peaceful development" and "defending a higher level of independence." China will never "trade away" its core interests and not allow its security and sovereignty to be compromised, the white paper said. It also noted that the US is unable to halt China's development and maintain its strength by attempting to contain and suppress other countries.

An opportunity for the world

China has become the major stabilizer and driving force of world economic growth, the paper said. With the nation's firm commitment to reform and opening-up, China is sharing "Chinese dividends" with the world and creating more opportunities. "In the past, China was focused on trade ties with developed nations and manufacturing the goods for them.

As the economy transitions to services and a consumer driven market, stronger ties are being forged with developing nations and neighboring countries as China's wealth and prosperity create economic opportunities in these markets," James Macdonald,

Senior Director and Head of Savills China Research, told the Global Times.

What's more important is a unique development path with Chinese characteristics that aims at win-win cooperation, which is different from the paths that many Western economies have adopted.

Michele Geraci, the undersecretary in the Italian economic development ministry, said the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) enables Chinese and Italian companies to form partnerships not only in Italy but also in third markets along the BRI routes.

Assadi said China's formula for success in these 70 years has emerged as a doable practice for other developing countries, including Pakistan.

"Developing countries may take reference of how China utilized its resources and potential of people, which have really changed people's lives," he said. As the world confronts new challenges, such as rising protectionism and power politics that threaten global stability, observers believe that China, as a responsible economic power, could play a bigger role in uniting other nations to reshape the world order and defend the system of multilateralism.

"The world needs an open China that participates in the global balance of this planet [China and France] are obliged to work together," Raffarin said.

Brexit group apologises for casting Germany's Merkel as a 'kraut'

German Chancellor Angela Merkel holds a joint news conference with Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte (not pictured) at the Chancellery in Berlin, Germany, October 2, 2019. REUTERS/Michele

Tantussi

LONDON (Reuters) - A Brexit campaign group apologised on Wednesday

for describing German Chancellor Angela Merkel as a "kraut" who was bossing Britain about in negotiations over its exit from the European Union.

The Leave.EU campaign group tweeted an image showing Merkel holding up her right hand beside



the words: "We didn't win two world wars to be pushed around by a kraut."

The move followed remarks by a Downing Street source who said a Brexit deal was essentially impossible because Merkel had made unacceptable demands on a call with Prime Minister Boris Johnson, including

that Northern Ireland stay within the EU's customs union.

"We went too far on this one and apologise unreservedly," Leave.EU spokesman Andy Wigmore said by telephone.

message of Oliver Todd

DIIT Iran's Director for International Trade British Embassy in Tehran



I am delighted to have arrived in Tehran to serve as the Department for International Trade's Director for Iran. With thousands of years of history, a unique geography stretching from the Caspian Sea to the Persian Gulf and a famously hospitable welcome, Iran plays a crucial role in the region as a lynchpin economy and cultural power.

As members of this Chamber, you certainly do not need me to tell you of the longstanding relationship between the UK and Iran, not least in trade and industry. However, our ties go far beyond economics with a sizable Iranian community in the UK and in turn, Iran continues to attract considerable interest within the UK from academics, artists and ordinary citizens. I certainly hope that these ties will develop

and flourish in the future (especially if it expands the range of Persian restaurants available in London!)

The UK government has repeatedly reaffirmed our position of supporting trade under the nuclear accord and our ongoing commitment to that deal. Along with our partners, France and Germany, we remain fully committed to the delivery of the INSTEX payment mechanism so that Iran can profit from the economic benefits of the deal. I will of course keep the Chamber updated of any developments.

The role of my team and I here in Tehran is to facilitate as much trade as possible between the UK and Iran to this end. We aim to achieve this through partnerships, such as our relationship with the Chamber, organising delegations to the UK and from the UK to Iran and by providing advice on doing business in both countries.

As ever with business, there is no time to wait. As the UK leaves the European Union, our focus on trade will only grow and we will be focusing on developing our trading relationships with emerging markets like Iran. The UK has so much to offer from innovative technology in A.I., financial services, to world class creative and retail sectors. Currently the team here in Iran specialise on a number of priority sectors, including; healthcare, agritech, food, retail, safety and securities, aviation and airports infrastructure, water, and education.

Between our headquarters in London and our team here in Iran, we are here to help, no matter your business. If you are looking for UK suppliers or want to invest in the UK I urge you to get in touch, we are always more than happy to help! I look forward to working with you to identify and develop these opportunities during my stay in Iran.

Saveh



View of Alghadir Dam in Saveh

Saveh, which literally means 'gold dust', is one of the ancient cities of Iran. It dates back to Median era (748/550BC). It has always been a major center of civilization. In the 12th century AD, Mongols plundered the city. Its great library with its astrological instruments was ruined into dust.

Saveh with its ancient and historical heritage as well as industries, such as Kaveh Industrial Zone, the first and one of the largest industrial zones of Iran, handicrafts, different agricultural products like famous pomegranate of Saveh and plenty of other tourist attractions has the most ability to play an important Role in economic development of the Country.

Geographic features:

Saveh, as an ancient city and capital of Saveh County, is located in the Markazi Province of Iran, about 100 km southwest of Tehran in the northern part of Markazi Province at the height of 995 meters above sea level. The climate of this city is warm and semi-arid in the east by vicinity to desert, and cold in the mountainous region of the west. Saveh covers an area of 4,612 sq km, and according to the national census of solar year 1395 (2016), has a population of

259,030. Saveh in the 7th century BC was a stronghold of the Medes. During the Parthian rule of Persia, it was called Saavakineh, and was one of the main hubs of the empire. Saveh County consists of two parts, naming "Markazi" and "Nobaran", and three cities and 7 rural districts. Saveh is a large city in Markazi province. Even lands and plains have constituted the vast parts of this city. These plains begin from the south of Sash and continue to big desert of Saveh, having the fertile soil with many



gardens so that the agricultural products are highly popular here based on its climatic diversity and the presence of **Ghare Chay River** and **Alghadir Dam**.

The people of Saveh speak in Farsi with a Savehi and Turkish dialect. Shahsavan tribe is the only tribe in Saveh who speak in Turkish. This city is one of the important regions in Iran remains from Sasanian age.

Economic features:

The foundation of Saveh economy is constituted by industries and mines, animal husbandry, agricultural products such as pomegranate, dried fig and melon. There are handicrafts, including earthenware jug, carpets, monuments and numerous tourist and pilgrimage attractions related to various historical eras in this region.



Caravanserai of Sheikh's Garden in Saveh

Kaveh Industrial City, the largest industrial city in Iran, is located in Saveh. This industrial city was built in 1352 and has 500 industries.

Handicraft:

The most important handicrafts of Saveh include hand-woven fabrics mainly carpets and gilims, embroidery, woodwork, pottery and metal engraving.

Saveh has been an important city, because it is located along the Silk Road and main ancient roads. Many bridges and Caravanserais in the region are signs of this importance. Marco Polo (1254-1324), Venetian traveler, spoke well of Saveh. Masjed-e Jame' has been built on the ruins of



Esmailieh Castle

Pre-Islamic structures. It was restored in Seljuq and Safavid periods. The mosque was accompanied by a series of buildings such as a public bath, water reservoir, caravanserai, and bazaar that has now succumbed to ravages of time. The mosque was equal to mosques of Susa and Yazd in importance.

Historical, cultural and religious attractions:

There is a village in the middle of Saveh-Qom road called **Āveh village** and is a tourist center. The climate in this village is warm and dry. It is believed that the village has been built by Ardashir Babakan (226-241 BC). Its fertile soil



Imamzadeh Soltan Seyed Eshaq Mausoleum

has made it a historical habitat. Its archeological site is the biggest in the Markazi province. Emamzadeh Fazl Shrine built in Seljuq period and a caravanserai built in Safavid era are next to the city. The people speak in Turkish.

Aghdash cave:

This cave is located in a village with the same name and has inscriptions and paintings of ancient times.

ALGHADIR DAM LAKE:

The Alghadir Dam and power plant is 25 kilometers to the southwest of Saveh. In addition to irrigation, this dam provides drinking water for the lower regions. This lake and the surrounding lands are one of the regions of tourism during summer and spring. The Bank of this Dam is a pleasant Sight to see.

Red Mosque of Saveh:

This Mosque of Saveh also known as Enqelab Mosque, dating back to the Seljuq era, has a brickwork dome, an 11th-century minaret, three porticoes, and internally houses an altar with plasterwork and inscriptions.

Imamzadeh Soltan Seyed Eshaq:

This structure is near the Saveh Jame' Mosque, and comprises of a courtyard, porch and mausoleum. This mausoleum resembles a tower and is a remnant of the 7th century AH.

In later centuries, some sections have been added to it. Octagonal shaped tiles of turquoise color, and narrow bricks, also of the same shade and an inscription that can be noted, are the artistic works of this structure. The inscription denotes a holy verse in the embossed Tholth script dating to the year 676 AH.

To an elevation of 4.5 m of the mausoleum, is a plaster work inscription with the Nasta'liq script carved on floral background. This comprises of twelve poetic verses and dates back to 1023 AH. At the apex of the dome is the name of The Almighty with a floral design surrounding it.

There is a tile-worked tablet on the tomb with an azure background on which is the Tholth script, the name of the person laid to rest within the tomb has been noted. This person is a relative of Imam Moosa Kazem.

The Minaret of Meydan Mosque:

This minaret dates back to the 5th lunar century, and is located in the Enqelab sq. in Saveh.

Sorkhdeh Historical Bridge:

This bridge is located to the south of Saveh, at a distance of 13 km from the Pol Abad Road to Qezel Alqaleh to the south west of the Sorkhdeh Village. It is constructed of brick and mortar.

Esmailieh Castle:

This Castle related to Saveh city is near the village of Qez Alqaleh, on a rocky mass in the Qarah Daq Mountains, 35 km southwest of Saveh.

All around this castle, with full skill and expertise, some tunnels have been constructed, each of which served as defense trenches.

Near the castle, and within the rock, a water reser-



Red Mosque of Saveh



Sorkheh Historical Bridge

voir can be seen. The main structure of the castle is on a terrace overlooking the Saveh plain. The symmetrical layout in the construction of the building has been strictly considered and observed.

On each side, there is a corridor and three chambers which are connected to a porch. Near the entrance of the main building, there is another structure which was an area for worshipping, and its altar can still be noted in the southwestern sector. To the north of the castle are the remnants of a village and hillock, where earthenware of the 5th and 4th millennium BC have been discovered.

Jame' Mosque:

Jame' Mosque of Saveh, is among the first mosques built in Iran. It was built by the Seljuqs during the 11th century. It includes a courtyard, porch, a 14-meter tall minaret,

nocturnal areas, a tiled dome and two altars with inscription in Kufic.

Aqdash Cave:

This cave is located in the mountains to the north of the Aqdash Village, in the Nobaran district of Saveh. In this cave, there are drawings showing human beings hunting animals. In this respect, this cave bears archaeological importance.

Ardemin Castle:

This Castle is located at a distance of 56 km from Saveh-Hamadan Road, and on the southern skirts of the Rahman Mountains, is the verdant village of Ardemin. Amidst the village, and within the residential network and gardens, is a magnificent structure. It comprises of various sections. From within the courtyard the struc-



Jameh Mosque

ture is enclosed in a rectangular brick and gypsum framework.

The sash windows of the towers, its adornments and colored panes, wooden railings, adorned entrance doors with its metal knockers are worth mentioning. This structure along with the rustic surroundings and natural beauties hold its own in this vicinity.

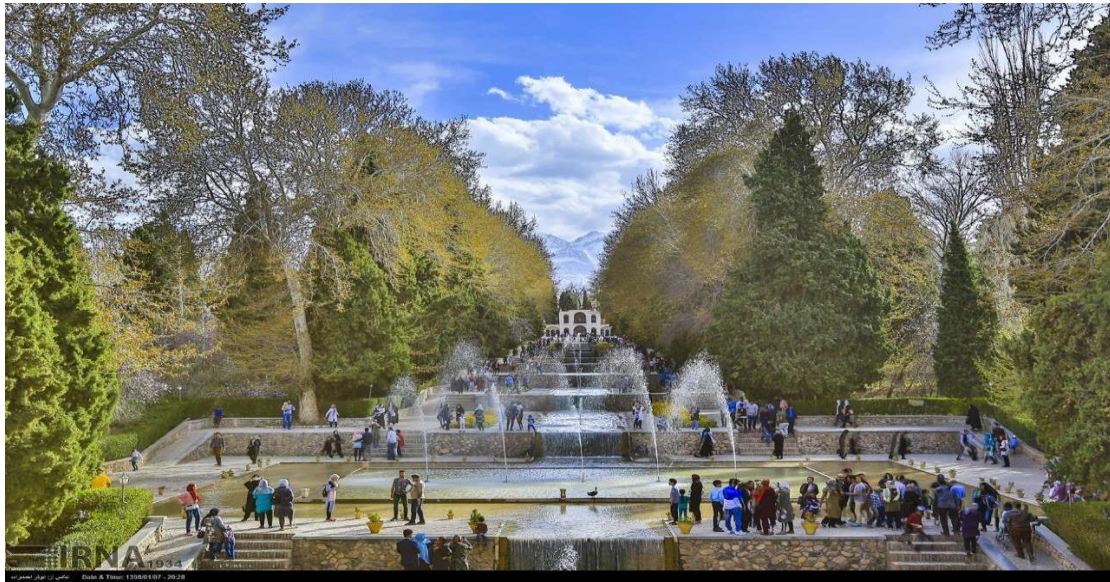
Imamzadeh Soltan Seyed Es-haq:

This structure is near the Saveh Jame' Mosque, and comprises of a courtyard, porch and mausoleum. This mausoleum resembles a tower and is a remnant of 56 km from Saveh.



Hotels in Saveh

Kerman: Miniature of Iran's tourism



kerman beauties

According to the Kerman, IRNA – Kerman province with its rich and ancient civilization and climate has four seasons and a treasures of natural, historical and cultural heritage and attractions that can rightly be called a miniature of Iran's tourism.

The presence of seven world heritage monuments, three national heritage monuments and thousands of natural and historical attractions have made the Kerman province one of the most important tourist destinations of the country for domestic and foreign tourists.

Kerman province's cultural heritage, handicrafts, and tourism have many capacities, each of which is a precious and precious work that has been passed down through generations and generations and

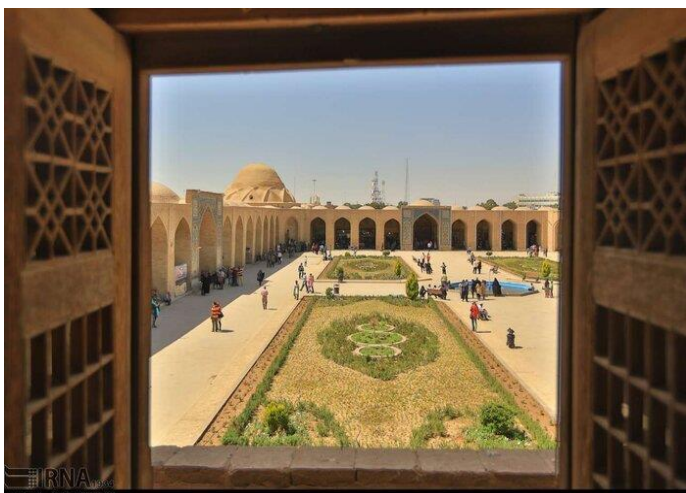
should strive to preserve it.

The most beautiful places to visit in Kerman are: **Arge Bam, Shazdeh Garden, Rayen Castle, Shah Nematollah Vali Shrine, Ganjali Khan Complex, Jabalieh, Plays Park, Golshan Inn, Amusement Park, Shahid Rashidi Park, Ostandari Park, Harandi Musuem Garden, Ebrahim khan Zahirodoleh School, Ebrahim Khan Zahirodoleh Complex, Carting Piste, Kid Playground, Bam playground, Zarand playground, and the Health Center Park.**

Cultural Heritage

There are numerous historical and cultural sites and tourist destinations, monuments and cultural and natural attractions throughout Kerman province, some of which have a global and national reputation.

The registration of "Ganjali Khan Historical Collection, Arg-e Bam (the largest adobe building in the world), Shazdeh Mahan Garden, Historical Village of Meymand, Lut Desert, and Goharriz Qanat of Joopar in Mahan, Qasem Abad and Akbar Abad Bam World Heritage List has provided this prestigious site with a unique status. The cultural heritage of Kerman has flourished in recent years with the participation of the private sector in the aftermath of the recession and valuable monuments such as the Citadel of Bam, the Fath Abad Garden, the



Kerman Lawyer's Caravansary and the Haj Agha Ali Kerman House have been repaired.

Arge Bam

Arg-e Bam was the largest adobe building in the world located near Bam, a city in Kerman Province southeast of Iran. On December 26, 2003, a devastating earthquake struck Bam City and its suburbs. Consequently, Arg-e Bam was entirely demolished.

"Bam and its Cultural Landscape" has been registered in the list of UNESCO World Heritage. This enormous citadel, located along the Silk Road, was constructed in century 5 BC and was still in use until 1850 AD. It is not exactly clear why it was not used anymore thereafter.

The whole monument is a huge fortress in the center of which the citadel (Arg) is located. However, due to the glorious appearance of the Arg which is



of an entrance structure and gate at the lower end and a two-floor seasonal residential structure at the upper end.

Goharriz Qanat of Joopar in Mahan

Although human being is always trying to improve and each generation is enjoying more advance technology than the previous one, the genius of our ancestors in some fields were considerably more improved than what we are witnessing today.

One of the examples for this saying is the famous Persian Qanat which was registered by UNESCO as the world heritage site.

The complex includes 11 Qanats in different cities of Iran. Goharriz Qanat of Joopar in Mahan, Kerman is one of these wonders. The Qanat is as long as 3500 meters and waters about 300 hectares on its way.

It is interesting to mention that Goharriz Qanat of Joopar in Mahan provides its water from a fault and the water current moves on the scale of 60 liters per second. Some famous adventurers have visited this Qanat and suggest others to visit it too in their travel stories and memos; so make sure not to miss it when you travel to Iran.



also the highest part of the complex, the entire fortress building is known as "Arg-e Bam".

Shazdeh Garden

The Shazdeh Garden is a historical Persian garden located on the outskirts of Mahan in Kerman province and was constructed under the orders of the governor of Kerman, Abdolhamid Mirza Naserodoleh, during the late Qajar period.

Built in the traditional style in the late 1900s, the Garden consists of pools in a terraced fashion. The construction was left unfinished, due to the death of Abdolhamid Mirza in the early 1890s.

It is rumored that upon hearing the news of the Governor's death, the masons immediately abandoned their work and as a result the main entrance still shows some unfinished areas. Its location was selected strategically as it was placed on the way between the Bam Citadel and Kerman.

The Garden is approximately 407 meters long and 122 meters wide in a rectangular shape with a wall around it and surrounded by desert land. It consists



Shazdeh Garden

World Ozone Day

Iran well rid of ozone-depleting emissions



TEHRAN, Sep. 17(MNA) – Iran has reduced 9,800 tons of ozone-destroying emissions over the past 26 years as part of its commitment to the Montreal Protocol, phasing out the chemical substances responsible for ozone layer depletion while making efforts to cut another 2,000 tons.

Observed on September 16, the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer is celebrated every year across the globe since December 2000. This year was held with the theme of “32 years and healing”; showing over three decades of international cooperation.

32 years ago, use of harmful man-made chemicals began eating away at the ozone, the hole over Antarctica was first discovered by the British Antarctic Survey in 1985. Therefore, 197 countries signed “the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the ozone layer” to cut short of the substances that deplete the ozone layer; the United Nations (UN)

enforced it in 1989, which is now considered the most successful international environmental treaty. The ozone hole which was once the major environmental concern turned to the least important concern today; as the concentration of harmful emissions have considerably reduced by 14 percent since 2000. The hole has been shrinking by 1-3 percent a decade. However, the upper ozone layer above the Northern Hemisphere is said to be completely repaired in the 2030s, the gaping Antarctic ozone hole should disappear in the 2060s, according to a scientific assessment released in 2018 at a conference in Quito, Ecuador. According to the UN, efforts to protect the ozone layer have also helped to tackle climate change by preventing the release of about 135 billion tons of carbon dioxide since 2010.

By the end of the century, eradicating Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) emissions not only can



lead to the ozone layer repair but to reduce the temperature raise up to 0.4°C.

What caused the ozone layer to shrink and deplete? The ozone layer is a part of the atmosphere that has high concentrations of ozone (a gas made of three oxygen atoms O₃), compared to oxygen molecules that exist in nature as a pair of oxygen atoms. It exists 10km to 40km above the surface of the earth in a region called the stratosphere and contains 90 percent of all the ozone in the atmosphere.

Some harmful gasses including HCFC and Chloro-fluorocarbons (CFCs) can interfere with the formation of ozone; mostly causing gaps or holes in the layer, as well as passing UV radiation from the sun to the atmosphere.

CFCs are referred to compounds of carbon, hydrogen, chlorine, and fluorine typically gases used in refrigerants and aerosol propellants.

They are harmful to the ozone layer in the earth's atmosphere owing to the release of chlorine atoms on exposure to ultraviolet radiation.

HCFCs are also man-made compounds containing hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine and carbon and do not occur naturally anywhere. These compounds are used in refrigeration, aerosol propellants, foam manufacture and air conditioning.

HCFCs are less dangerous causing a smaller risk to the ozone layer; while being very powerful green-

house gases, which are nearly 2,000 times more potent than carbon dioxide in adding to global warming.

How Iran confronted chemicals jeopardizing the ozone layer?

Iran also joined the international cooperation protecting the fragile layer of ozone in 1989 and contributed significantly to global efforts in order to address climate change while protecting human health and ecosystems.

In 1992, the Department of Environment in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program approved a plan to establish an ozone layer conservation office in the Montreal Protocol executive committee; and the office started working a year later.

Maryam Hasani, an official with the ozone layer conservation office, told IRNA that activities of the ozone conservation office are summarized in five fields of changing production process,

controlling and monitoring, raising public awareness, regional and international cooperation.

"Through the first phase of the plan, we succeeded in omitting 9,800 tons of ozone-destroying gasses changing the manufacturing processes of 1,378 factories, and it is scheduled to eradicate some 2,000 tons through the second phase," she explained.

Holding various workshops, enforcing a set of laws and regulations, and strengthening supervision in the manufacturing units are also part of the project's second phase, which will be achieved by 2030s, she added.

She went on to say that the process is slow but effective. According to the Montreal Protocol, advanced countries must assist developing countries such as Iran; developed countries are committed to begin their elimination activities 10 years earlier, on the other hand, she said.

Also, funding raised by different countries should be provided to developing countries as part of an ozone-compatible equipment donation, she highlighted, adding, UN will ask the countries to report on where the fund has been spent, ensuring the countries' compliance with the protocol.

By: Faranak Bakhtiari

IBCCIM's New Members

Member Companies:

Sea of Happiness Shipping Agency Co.: Shipping and international transport agency, M.D.: Mehdi Falahati, Address: Postal code: 1967916114, Flat No. 10 & 11, forth floor, No. 67, Esfandiyar Boulevard, Vali-e-Asr St., Tehran, Tel: +98 (21) 22030370-80, Fax: +98 (21) 26232015, Email: info@seaofhappinessco.com.

Artificial Casing Technical Co.: Producing sanitary films and artificial paper, M.D.: Karim Attarian, Address: Postal Code: 1418763953, No. 7, Khosro Deadend, upper than Keshavarz Boulevard, North Jamalzadeh, Tehran, Tel: +98 (21) 66946055, Fax: +98 (21) 66946052, Email: info@actmco.com.

Goodar Yasouj Company Building Organizm Co.: Technical and engineering services, M.D.: Jabbar Keyanipour, Address: postal code 7591981331, Flat No. 3, third floor, Sepehr Building, Alizadeh St., Sattarkhan St., Rahnamaei, Yasouj, Tel: +98 (743) 3229957, Fax: +98 (743) 3229957, Email: yasoujccim@yahoo.com.

Green Coke Calcination Co.: Calcination of petroleum coke, M.D.: Mostafa Kalantary, Address: Postalcode 1917643915, Flat No. 3, No. 16, Anahita Alley, Upper than Mirdamad Bridge, Jordan, Tehran, Tel: +98 (21) 88790492, Fax: +98 (21) 88781325, Email: info@gccco.net.

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Iran's Economy at a Glance

	1396	1397Q1	1397Q2	1397Q3	1397Q4	1397	1398Q1
Labor Force Participation & Unemployment Rates (percent)							
Participation (10 Years and Over)	40.3	41.1	40.9	40.5	39.5	40.5	-
Unemployment (10 Years and Over)	12.1	12.1	12.2	11.7	12.1	12.0	-
Unemployment (Youth Aged 15-24)	28.4	28.3	27.2	27.0	28.1	27.7	-
Real Growth Rates of GDP and Its Subsectors at Constant 1390 Prices (percent)							
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	3.9	1.6	-1.0	-11.4	-8.4	-4.9	-
Manufacturing and Mining	2.0	0.5	-2.7	-21.1	-15.0	-9.6	-
Agriculture	1.0	-0.4	-3.4	-1.8	1.4	-1.5	-
Services	6.8	2.8	1.3	-1.8	-2.1	0.0	-
Non-Oil GDP	4.6	1.8	-1.5	-5.4	-4.1	-2.4	-
Gross Fixed Capital Formation (at market prices)	3.4	0.3	-5.6	-6.3	-10.7	-5.6	-
Oil (daily average - thousand barrels)							
Production*	3,815	3,813	3,603	2,993	2,725	3,283	-
Export	2,324	2,390	-	-	-	-	-
Point-to-Point Inflation Rates (percent)							
Growth Rate of Consumer Price Index (1395=100)	9.6	10.5	24.5	35.0***	43.1***	26.8***	51.1***
Growth Rate of Producer Price Index (1395=100)	10.0	14.6	35.4	58.7	66.3***	-	-
Balance of Payments (USD millions)							
Oil Exports	65,818	20,980	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Oil Exports	32,324	8,356	-	-	-	-	-
Import of Goods	75,546	16,353	-	-	-	-	-
Goods Account (Net)	22,596	12,983	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Oil Goods Account (Net)	-40,458	-7,330	-	-	-	-	-
Current Account	15,816	11,061	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Account	-19,321	-5,263	-	-	-	-	-
Change in Foreign Reserves	-8,140	3,933	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Exchange Rates (USD/IRR daily average)							
In Free Market****	40,552	60,365	103,434	132,748	118,786	106,229	136,762
Official Rate	34,276	41,392	42,646	42,000	42,000	42,056	42,000
Monetary and Credit Aggregates (end of period - IRR trillions)							
Monetary Base (M0)	2,139.8	2,186.6	2,365.5	2,436.0	-	-	-
Central Bank Claims on Banks	1,320.3	1,397.1	1,506.5	1,497.9	-	-	-
Central Bank Claims on Public Sector (Net)	55.1	82.8	82.4	132.7	-	-	-
Liquidity (M2)	15,299.8	15,827.5	16,723.7	17,645.8	-	-	-
Money (M1)	1,946.7	2,059.5	2,436.7	2,446.2	-	-	-
Sight Deposits	1,504.0	1,635.5	1,991.7	1,991.2	-	-	-
Non-Sight Deposits (Quasi-Money)	13,353.1	13,768.0	14,287.0	15,199.6	-	-	-
Government Budget and Fiscal Position (IRR trillions)							
Total Revenues	2,598.5	590.6	676.1	639.4	-	-	-
Tax Revenues	1,158.4	225.9	277.5	267.8	-	-	-
Oil Revenues	919.2	326.0	304.6	263.6	-	-	-
Other Revenues	520.9	38.7	94.0	108.0	-	-	-
Total Expenditures*****	2,868.6	880.7	758.3	718.2	-	-	-
Current Expenditures	2,429.4	588.1	721.8	629.9	-	-	-
Development Expenditures	439.2	226.7	39.7	54.6	-	-	-
Budget Balance	-270.1	-290.1	-82.2	-78.8	-	-	-
Tehran Stock Exchange (end of period)							
Overall Index (TEDPIX)	96,290	108,873	160,538	156,083	178,659	178,659	234,879
Financial Index	119,176	120,837	165,359	172,718	205,266	205,266	295,179
Industrial Index	86,082	98,476	146,264	141,206	161,031	161,031	209,497
Market Capitalization (IRR trillions)	3,847	4,213	6,124	5,924	6,830	6,830	8,933

Source: Middle East Bank