



ISSN: 1609 - 6495

Irano-British

Irano-British Chamber of Commerce,
Industries & Mines

Publisher:

Irano-British Chamber of Commerce,
Industries & Mines

Editor-in-Chief:

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Lithography:

Norang

Printing:

Torfeh

Layout and Graphic Design:

Mozhgan Ehteshaminia

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Cover Photo: the Arg of Karimkhan

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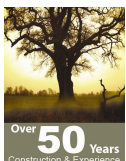
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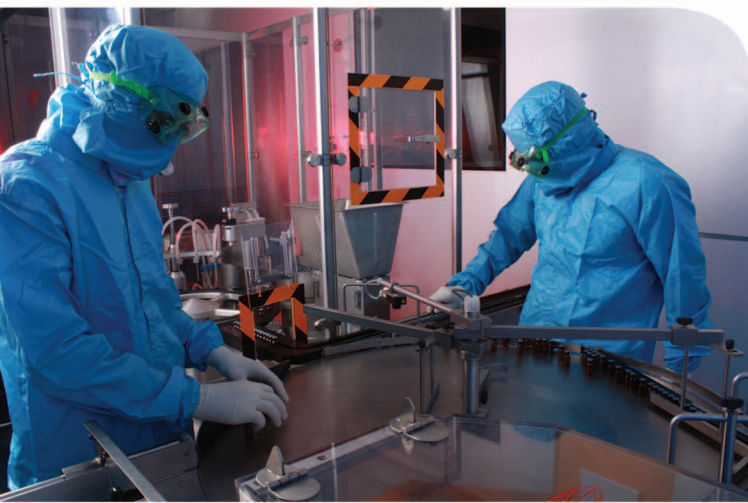
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Merry Christmas

&

Happy New Year

I, hereby would like to extend my warmest greetings for the coming of Jesus Christ's birthday and New Year, and my most sincere wishes for the resolution of inner and outer problems and mishaps.

Hope in this coming New Year, the poisoned atmosphere dominating our country, region, and the whole world will be terminated to a peaceful and long-term friendship, and we, all, seek a solution other than a mistake in response to another mistake.

This seems to be a liability to be regarded and executed at the top of the agenda of both joint chambers, IBCCIM and BICC.

Dr. Amir Houshang Amini

Iran's Foreign Trade during the Seven Months of the Year 1400

(20 March to 20 September 2021)

According to the statistics of the IR of Iran's Customs Department, the Iran's foreign trades volume during the Seven

month of the year 1400 are as indicated in the following tables:

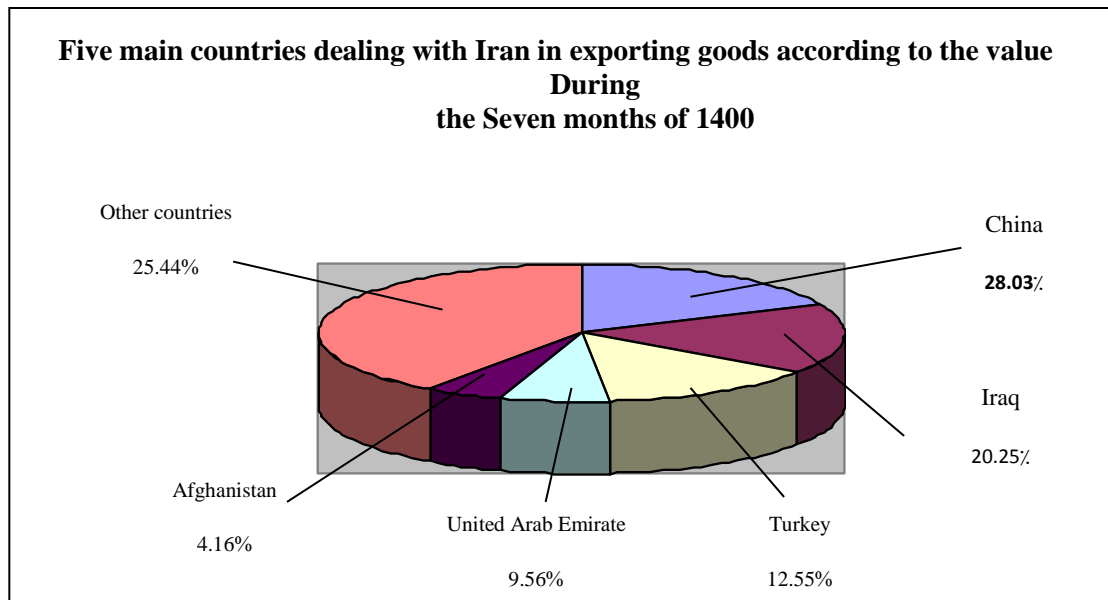
Primary import/export statistics of non-oil goods with the calculation of gas's Liquidities during the Seven month of 1400

Activity	Seven months of the year 1400		Seven months of the year 1399		Percent of changes	
	Weight (Thousand tons)	Value (Million Dollars)	Weight (Thousand tons)	Value (Million Dollars)	Weight	Value
Import	23.505	27.739	19.331	20.025	21.59	38.52
Export	75.183	27.074	65.423	18.376	14.92	47.33

Exports:

The most important exports during the Seven months of 1400, have been done with countries, as follows: 1) "China" with 7.689 million Dollars and 28.4 percent of value, 2) "Iraq" with 5.483 million Dollars and 20.25 percent of

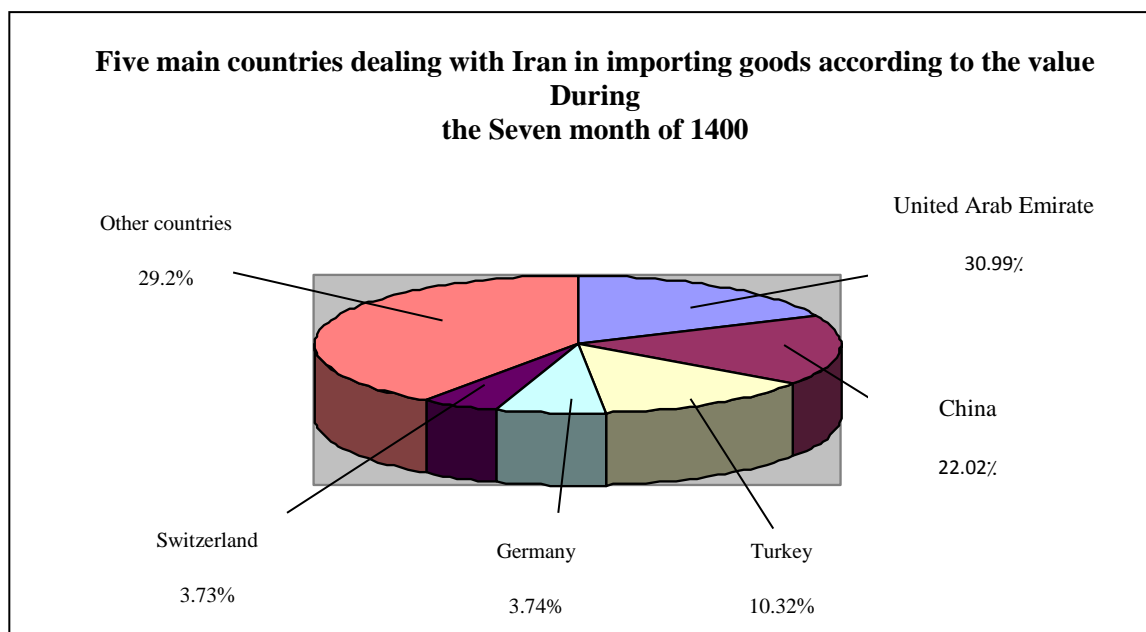
value, 3) "Turkey" with 3.397 million Dollars and 12.55 percent of value, 4) "United Arab Emirates" with 2.590 million Dollars and 9.56 percent of value and 5) "Afghanistan" with 1.126 million Dollars and 4.16 percent of value.



Imports:

The most important imports during the Seven month of 1400, have been done with countries, as follows: 1) "United Arab Emirate" with 8.596 million Dollars and 30.99 percent of value, 2) "China" with 6.107 million Dollars and 22.02 percent of value,

3) "Turkey" with 2.861 million Dollars and 10.32 percent of value, 4) "Germany" with 1.039 million Dollars and 3.74 percent of value and 5) "Switzerland" with 1.035 million Dollars and 3.73 percent of value.



Arg-e-Karim Khan Or Karim Khan Citadel



Karim Khan Citadel, which is also known as Arg-e-Karim Khan or Karim Khan Prison, is one of the most visited historical tourist attractions, not only in Shiraz, but also in the Country.

Every year many foreign and domestic tourists visit this place as it is

one of the most prominent reminiscences of the Zand Dynasty.

AS Karim Khan was influenced by the Safavid architecture, when his government was established in Shiraz, after visiting Isfahan's Naghshe Jahan Square, he decided to build a large square in the northern Shiraz, which was known as Artillery Square.

Therefore he invited the best architects and artists of the time and bought the best materials from other

cities and abroad for the construction of the castle which was quickly constructed.

It was built in the years 1696- 1697, under the command of Ruler Karim Khan Zand, less than one year as part of a complex, which is named after Karim Khan, and it was used to be the main residential palace of Karim Khan-e-Zand and his dynasty and place of receive and entertain foreign royal guests and ambassadors, surrounded by high brick walls. There are four towers, each at a corner of the complex. For thirty-five years until 1971, this place was used as a prison. Although damaged as a result of misuse, renovations are taking place.

This monument is a good representative of the architectural style which was typical of the Zand period.



The Arg of Karim Khan or Karim Khan Prison was the residence of Karim Khan and where he ruled.

After the conquest of Shiraz by Agha Mohammad Khan, he decided to demolish the buildings of Karim Khan in a hostility to Karim Khan. Following this decision, a number of Zandiyeh era buildings were demolished, including the border fence built around Shiraz by Karim Khan. Fortunately, the Arg citadel was protected from demolition and was used as an emirate court appointed by the central government to Amiri and the Fars governorate.

Prince Abdolhosein Mirza Farmanfarma, governor of Fars Province, ordered the miniatures in the castle to be renovated.

Karim Khan Citadel has had various functions in different historical eras. It was the living place of Karim Khan Zand in Zand Dynasty, the governor's seat, During the Qajar era and prison in Pahlavi Dynasty until 1971.

In 1971 it was given to Iran's Cultural Heritage Organization. The renovation of the castle started in 1977.

Today, it is a museum operated by Iran's Cultural Heritage Organization, and surrounds by a public park.

Karim Khan Citadel is located in the city center, at Karim Khan Zand Boulevard, next to Municipality (Shahrdari) Square. It has a land area of 4,000 m² and is in the center of a 12,800 m² compound

There are several other attractions in this region like Pars Museum, Vakil Bath, Vakil Bazaar, Vakil Mosque, and others.

. To the north of the Square, located Divan Karim Khan and to its east, Bazaar Vakil and several inns.

To the south of the Square, is located Hammam Vakil and Vakil Mosque. On the southwest, there was a garden, and to the west, the Arg citadel.

History of Architectural works of Karim Khan Citadel

The architectural point of view in short words: Karim Khan Citadel has 4 walls of 12-meter height that are attached to 4 circular brick towers of 14-meter height with a 90-degree angle. The dominant material used in this structure is stone and stucco.

It is constructed in a way that can have both residential and political functions. Strong and high external walls with parapets above them built for the soldiers and with the purpose of shooting.

The Citadel has a defective trapeze plan and this is due to the fact that the soil on the northwestern part was not appropriate for building such a huge tower. So, the architects changed the former plan in order to keep the tower safe.

The towers around Karim Khan Citadel have three separate floors that one can get to the upper floor using the spiral staircase.

There are two rooms on each floor, one of which was for the soldiers to relax and rest, and the other one for keeping weapons.



main entrance

The residential buildings of the citadel are located in the northern, western, and southern parts. They each have one veranda or two stone columns on their front facade.

The rooms of these buildings are decorated with Iranian artistic architecture like muqarnas and the like. One interesting point about these rooms is that

they are all interconnected. In front of each veranda, a small pond is designed which used to be fed by Rokn Abad Qanat that it is now dried out. The gate of the eastern tower which is the main gate of the citadel is decorated with a big tiling tableau. This tableau is an image of the well-known Persian myth, Shahnameh. The private bath of the king and some other welfare amenities are also there.

Karim Khan Castle is located at Shahr-dari Square. The Citadel of Karim Khan consists of four high walls connected by four 14 m round brick towers at a 90-degree angle.

Each 12 m wall is 3 meters thick at the base and 2.8 meters at the top.

The design of the citadel combines military and residential architecture, for it was the home of Karim Khan and the military center of the dynasty. James Edward Alexander in 1827 described the citadel as being surrounded by a "deep wet ditch".

Tile works depicting legendary tales were added at the entrance gate of the citadel during the Qajar Era.



The interior decoration once included marble from Yazd and Maraghe on the lower parts of the walls of the "Ayyans" and halls and Shirazi-style patterns painted in gilt and lapis lazuli on the plastered surfaces of the upper parts and the ceilings



The citadel has a tea room, itself housed within a bathhouse. Many of the rooms display photographs of Shiraz during the 19th and 20th centuries

Pars Museum

The building of Pars Museum was built in the middle of a garden and under the direct supervision of Karim Khan Zand, the famous governor of Shiraz. It has an irregular octagonal shape in two stories with the ceiling that is more than 14-meter high.

You can take a tour outside the pavilion building and see three historical objects that are in the garden. They are all stone inscriptions that date back to the Qajar era. Also, you can find trees that are labeled as ancient trees among the numerous trees that exist in this garden.

One of the most important parts of this museum is the grave of Karim Khan Zand. He was one of the most righteous governors in the history of Iran. Based on his will, he was buried inside the pavilion, on the eastern side. But it is interesting to know that this grave once became empty when then Agha Mohammad Khan, one of the Qajar Kings, decided to move the bones and place it under the staircase of Golestan Palace in Tehran based on his malice toward Karim Khan.

Vakil Bazaar or Bazaar -e-Vakil



It is known as Shiraz Pavilion and the oldest museum in Fars's province. Pars Museum or Nazar Garden is the homage of numerous valuable items and objects from different historical eras, from pre-Islamic to post-Islamic. Let's take a closer look at this exciting museum.

Vakil Bazaar or Bazaar-e-Vakil is main bazaar of Shiraz, located in the historical center of the city.

It is thought that the market originally was established by the Buyid dynasty a Iranian Shia dynasty of Daylamans (in Gilan) origin in the 11th century AD, and was completed mainly by the Atabaks of Fars, and was renamed after Karim Khan Zand only in the 18th century. The bazaar has beautiful courtyards, caravansarais, bath houses, and old shops which are deemed among the best places in Shiraz to buy Persian rugs, spices, copper handicrafts and antiques.

Like other Middle Eastern bazaars, there are a few mosques and Imamzadehs constructed beside or behind the bazaar.



Vakil Mosque



Vakil Mosque or in Farsi Masjed Vakil in Shiraz is located west of the Vakil Bazaar, locally it is known as Masjed-e -Vakil. was built between 1751-1773 during the Zand period.

Shiraz was the governing seat of the Zand dynasty and it has left everlasting effects on this city's art. Vakil Mosque covers an area of 8,660 square meters and it has two iwans built around a central courtyard

and a pool. Exterior of this mosque is adorned with the Persian tiles called haft rangi (seven coloured).

This mosque has been restored in the 19th century during the Qajar period.

Attention to details is incredible in this mosque and it is considered one of the masterpieces of the Zand period.



Nasir-ol-Molk Mosque

*Wakil Historical Bathhouse,
or
Wakil Historical Hammam*

Hamman Wakil is located in the city center of Shiraz, near other buildings from the Zand (eighteenth century) such as the bazaar and the Wakil mosque. This hammam was built at that time, on the orders of Karim Khan Zand. The small access to the hammam leads, with a slight descent, into the en-

trance vestibule which is lower than the ground level. In addition, the entrance to the changing room was built at an angle. This architectural structure prevents the cold from entering the interior and the heat comes out of the hammam.



a view of the main foyer of Wakil Bathhouse



dome is decorated according to the technique of lime painting with drawings of religious and folkloristic content.

Vakil or Wakil bath or Hammam-e- Vakil is an old public historical bathhouse in Shiraz

As it is known, it was a part of the royal district constructed during Karim Khan's reign, which includes Arg of Karim Khan, Vakil Bazaar, Vakil Mosque and many other administrative buildings. It is located on the west side of the Vakil Mosque.

This Hammam was originally intended for use by the nobility and continued to be in use up until 20th century. It has been restored and classified as a historic monument with the number 917 on the list of national works of Iran.

The hammam dressing room has the shape of a regular octagon, with eight massive stone columns supporting the domed ceiling in the central part. The floor of the calidarium (Hot Bath) is covered with some stones beneath which some narrow, narrow corridors have been built in which the hot air and the steam that warm the hammam floor circulate. The cistern is located on the southern side of the calidarium and its water is heated by two large cauldrons.

On either side of the enclosure of the calidarium two Shah-neshin were built and on the two sides of the cistern two Hakem-neshin which were the hammams reserved for the royal house and the local governors respectively. At the center of each Hakem-neshin there is a marble basin. The central



Previn E'tesami

Popular & social Iranian poet



E'TEŞĀMĪ, PARVĪN, 20th-century female poet (b. 25 Esfand 1285 Š./16 March 1907 in Tabrīz, d. 16 Farvardīn 1320 Š./5 April 1941 in Tehran; [Figure 1](#)), daughter of the journalist and man of letters Yusof E'teşāmī (q.v.). According to Dehḵodā (*Loḡat-nāma*, s.v. "Parvīn"), her given name was Raḵšanda. Early in her life the family moved to Tehran, where, in addition to formal schooling, she received solid training in Arabic and classical Persian literature from her father. She also met a number of noted poets and literati of the time who held literary meetings in E'teşāmī's house (Shahriar, pp. 708-10). After graduation in 1924 from the Iran Bethel, an American high school for girls, she taught for a while at that school. In 1926 she was invited to tutor the queen of the new Pahlavi court, but she declined (Sheean, p. 257; Mo'ayyad, 1994, pp. 5-6). She accompanied her father on several trips in Persia and one to Iraq. In 1934 she married a cousin of her father and moved to Kermānšāh. However, after only ten weeks she returned home, and the marriage was dissolved. In 1936 the Ministry of Education honored her with a third class medal but she refused to accept it, probably because it was too low to appeal to her sense of dignity (Ḳal'atbarī, in E'teşāmī, ed., p. 4). In 1938-39 she worked for several months at the li-

brary of the Teacher Training College (Dāneš-sarā-ye 'ālī). Her father's death in 1938 bereft Parvīn of his loving support and virtually severed her contact with the outside world. Her sudden death only three years after her father shocked the country and was mourned in many elegies (E'teşāmī, ed., pp. 6-8, 28-48). She was buried near her father in Qom. Parvīn was only seven or eight years old when her poetic talent revealed itself (Dehḵodā, s.v. "Parvīn"). Encouraged by her father, she rendered into verse some literary pieces that her father had translated from Western sources. Her earliest known poems, eleven compositions printed in 1921-22 issues of her father's monthly magazine, *Bahār*, display an astonishing maturity of thought and craft. The first edition of her *dīvān*, comprising 156 poems, appeared in 1314 Š./1935 with an introduction by Moḥammad-Taqī Bahār (q.v.). The second edition, edited by her brother Abu'l-Faṭḥ E'teşāmī and including Bahār's introduction, appeared shortly after her death in 1320 Š./1941. It offered 209 compositions of different lengths in *matnawī*, *qaṣīda*, *ḡazal*, *qeṭ'a*, and stanzaic forms, totalling 5,606 distiches, as well as the original introduction by Bahār (8th repr. Tehran, 1363/1984). She is said to have burned some poems which did not satisfy her taste (Dehḵodā, s.v. "Parvīn").

Parvīn's poetry follows traditional patterns in both form and substance. In the protective seclusion of her family life she remained unaffected by, or was perhaps even unaware of, the ongoing reformistic trends in Persian poetry. In the arrangement of her *dīvān* there are 42 untitled *qaṣīdas*, and *qeṭ'as*, mostly didactic and philosophical reminiscent of the austere tone of Nāṣer-e Kōsrow and Sanā'ī. There are several other *qaṣīdas* scattered throughout the collection, particularly in the description of nature, that lean heavily on Manūchehrī. Parvīn did not indulge in lyricism. Shy by nature and isolated by traditional norms of conduct, she never expressed inhibited feelings of love and longing. Her *dīvān* reserves little room for *ḡazals*. Nevertheless, several poems, including five entitled "Ārzūhā" (Longings; nos. 44-48), are perfect examples of lyrics. "Safar-e ašk" (Journey of a tear, no. 125) counts among the finest lyrics ever written in Persian.

Anecdotes and strife poems, "*monāzara*" (dialogue, debate), claim the largest portion of Parvīn's *dīvān*. It is in this genre that her genius unfolds, creating a large number of its subtlest examples in Persian poetry. She composed approximately sixty-five *monāzaras* and seventy-five anecdotes, fables, and allegories. Parvīn wrote about men and women of different social backgrounds, a wide-ranging array of animals, birds, flowers, trees, cosmic and natural elements, objects of daily life, abstract concepts, all personified and symbolizing her wealth of ideas. Through these figures she holds up a mirror to others showing them the abuses of society and their failure in moral commitment. Likewise, in these debates she eloquently expresses her basic thoughts about life and death, social justice, ethics, education, and the supreme importance of knowledge.

Parvīn is remarkably silent about major changes and events taking place in Persia during the twenty years of her creativity (1921-41), the only exception being the unveiling of women in 1935, which she commemorates approvingly (no. 118). However, her *dīvān* is a faithful mirror of her inner sadness about the plight of the masses. Lack of social justice, poverty and the sufferings of the old, the orphaned and the sick provoke some of Parvīn's moving images.

Parvīn often used the animate and inanimate creatures who crowd her parables and strife poems to voice her feelings of dissatisfaction and social protest without arousing political suspicions. She occasionally loses her calm and gentle temperament

and vents a sense of frustration in harsh tone and wrathful words (e.g., "Ay ranjbar" [O laborer], "Šā'eqa-ye mā. . ." [Thunderbolt], and "Monāzera," nos. 61, 135, 187). She does allow even kings to escape her criticism. For example, she declares that a wreath on the head of a playing child is more secure than the king's crown (no. 178, "Ganj-e ayman" [Safe treasure]); she makes an old woman watching the king's entourage say:

Mā-rā be raḡt o čūb-e šabānī farīfta 'st,

Īn gorg sālḡā 'st ka bā galla āšnā 'st.

Ān pārsā ka deh karad o melk rahzan ast,

Ān pādšā ka māl-e ra 'iyat korad gadā 'st.

Bar qaṭra-ye serešk-e yatīmān nažāra kon,

Tā bengarī ka rowšanī-e gowhar az kojā 'st

"... there goes a wolf, for years well-acquainted with the herd. . . A king who steals from his subjects is a beggar ... Look at the orphan's tear and know where the jewel's glitter comes from" (no. 57, "Ašk-e yatīm" [An orphan's tear]). This poem, bearing the obvious influence of a poem by Anwarī, was written in 1921, and thus has no direct bearing on Režā Shah, whereas, no. 196, "Naḡma-ye šobḡ" (Song of the dawn), written in the early days of Režā Shah's rise to power, does seem to relate to the reign of terror in that period. However, these atypical outbursts of reaction to the sad conditions of society form only a minimal part of Parvīn's poetic output. Her main concerns revolve around fundamental realities of existence with a depressing undertone of fatalism in human fate. Nevertheless, she remains a staunch advocate of devotion to work, which she praises as the only principle to which the entire universe is submitted (e.g., "Jūlāy-e Kōdā" [God's Weaver], Raveš-e āfarīneš" [Divided Labor]; see H. Moayyad and M. A. Madelung, pp. 63-68, 105-6).

Parvīn's knowledge of Persian poetry enriched her narrative poems with numerous borrowings from, among others, 'Onšorī, Anwarī, Nežāmī, Rūmī, and Sa'dī. She was also inspired by the fables of Aesop and La Fontaine. Her father's translations, for example from Horace Smith and Arthur Brisbane, provided her with yet another source to draw upon. However, the largest number of her anecdotes are her own creations. Even when borrowed, elements are infused with a spirit and mood completely of Parvīn's own.

Some unfounded suspicion concerning the authorship of Parvīn's poems has occasionally been voiced, lastly as the subject of a monogram by Fażl-Allāh Garakānī (see Moayyad, 1987, pp. 118-19).

Foreign Policy of 13th revolutionary government of Iran

By: Dr. Manouchehr Mohammadi



EHRAN, Oct. 27(MNA) – The 13th government has based its foreign policy on the framework of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic, with especial reliance on the principles set forth in paragraph six of the Second Step Statement of the Leader.

Forty-two years after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, during which the governments that came to power generally based their foreign policy on pro-Western principles and foundations, for the first time, a government has been elected by popular vote that has based its foreign policy on the framework of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic, with especial reliance on the principles and foundations set forth in paragraph six of the Second Step Statement of the Leader of Islamic Revolution. In explaining its foreign policy, this newly-elected government has not only presented

its strategies within the framework of the criteria set forth in the Constitution and the guidelines of the founder of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini, and the Leader, but also in view of the current global and regional situation and in a departure from the foreign policy of the former government, it has used concepts and terms that are new and innovative in international relations and foreign policy. Therefore, it is necessary to define and explain these new concepts and terms. In this article, we will try to theorize these concepts for use in diplomatic and academic communities.

1- Balanced Foreign Policy

Iran's 13th president, Ebrahim Raeisi, in his speech after taking the oath said that "a successful foreign policy is a balanced one."

In explaining what constitutes as a balanced foreign policy, two important aspects have been considered in relations with other governments and international institutions. First, there will be some kind of proportionality established in the country's foreign relations with other governments, meaning that the Islamic Republic will adjust its relations to how close or distant the other governments will choose to be to Iran. As the Leader stated in a meeting with Raeisi's Cabinet on August 28, 2021, "The nature of our relations with other governments depends on the nature of their relations with us." In other words, Iran does not tolerate and accept any kind of excessive demands from others, nor will it ask for too much itself; rather, there must be a balance between gives and takes.

And secondly, in balanced foreign relations, different aspects of relations will be taken into consideration. That is to say, the government will not restrict itself to developing merely one aspect of its relations, but will consider all aspects, including economic, cultural, political and security ones.

2- Smart Interaction

Prior to this term, what was used in the foreign relations of the Islamic Republic, especially in the 20 Year Vision document, was the "constructive interaction" and each of the former Iranian governments had different interpretations of it and determined its limits according to the nature of their relations with other countries.

For example, the former administration saw "constructive interaction" with the world in terms of developing relations with the West, especially with the hegemonic governments of the United States and the three European countries of Germany, Britain, and France; on the other hand, the ninth administration focused constructive interaction on the East. For this reason, the 13th Iranian administration has introduced a new term in its foreign relations with all actors in the field of international relations: "Smart interaction" instead of "constructive interaction". The word "smart" was first used by Joseph Nye in the context of "power". His definition of smart power includes a combination of hard and soft power strategies.

In the thirteenth government, what is meant by smart interaction is the proper understanding of the goals and motives of the other parties, and the

adoption of a prudent and vigilant approach in its interaction with them in a way that it will not be deceived and will make decisions with reflection and with Far-sightedness, and will prioritize its short-, mid-and long-term interests while signing any agreements. Regrettably, none of these were considered during the nuclear deal negotiations in the former government, which inflicted irreparable damage on the country.

3- Proactive not reactive diplomacy

In this approach, both negatively and positively, the Islamic Republic should adopt an active and effective role, as opposed to a passive one, in international diplomacy. At the same time, it should remain vigilant to provide the necessary mechanism to thwart the plans of its rivals and sometimes enemies, before they could impose a policy on the Islamic Republic that is likely to be against the country's national interests. In other words, the government should take the initiative and nip their plots in the bud before they could even take a step against the interests of the Islamic Republic.

4- Authoritative approach

The Islamic Republic, with its possession of different types of power, including material and spiritual ones, as described in the book "Components of Power in the Islamic Republic of Iran", as well as with the blessings of God, is in a position to act as a unique superpower on the international stage and in its interactions with other countries. This status allows the Iranian government to face the Arrogant powers from a position of strength rather than weakness, and not to be afraid of them, as seen in the case of fuel shipments to Venezuela or Lebanon and neutralizing the US sanctions known as Caesar Act. Unfortunately, the 11th and the 12th governments from the very beginning faced the Global Arrogance from a very weak and passive position, as seen in the instance where the then foreign minister publicly said that "the United States can destroy our defense system with the push of a button" or the then-president considered the US as "the chieftain of the world" and said that all our needs, including food, water, environment, etc., depended on the agreement with the United States. This is while an "authoritative approach" is as Imam Khomeini said: "America cannot do a damned thing" or "We will trample on America." The downing of the expensive US drone by the armed forces of the Islamic Republic, as well as the authoritative attack on the American base of Ain al-Assad, proved that the Islamic Republic is in a high and powerful position and can

bring this authority to the fore in its foreign relations.

5- United Foreign Policy

The former Iranian foreign minister falsely claimed in his audiotape that "there is a kind of dichotomy between the field and diplomacy" and in his opinion, diplomacy has always been sacrificed for the field! But the truth of the matter is that the field and diplomacy in foreign policy are like the two wings of a bird; without one and relying on the other, it will not be possible to take flight on the stage of international relations. In other words, the field and diplomacy are complementary. In particular, the field can provide the necessary leverage for the diplomatic staff to be used in advancing and achieving foreign policy goals, just like the sword of Damocles.

Field and diplomacy are correlative, and it is the harmony between diplomacy and the field that can thwart the enemy's conspiracies. As seen in recent events in the South Caucasus, the Khyber military exercise near the northern borders of Iran gave the necessary power to our diplomats to pursue their principled and logical goals in their diplomatic relations with the parties involved in the South Caucasus developments. Of course, it should be noted that the field is not only meant as a mechanism of military action but also includes economic, cultural and security factors.

6- Negotiation for getting results, not negotiation for negotiation's sake

unfortunately in the previous administration, negotiations with some other countries were held without clear goals and specific results defined within the framework of national interests. And they had expected to meet a minimum of their demands by bargaining and even pleading if it came to that; but not only did that approach not achieve any desirable results but the agreement known as the JCPOA was violated by the other parties soon after it was signed, thus wasting eight years of efforts without any profits for the Islamic Republic while shutting down the country's nuclear industry.

In holding any negotiations with imperious parties, one must always act with distrust towards them and the demands of the Islamic Republic must be clearly stated and long, tedious and fruitless negotiations must be avoided and if an agreement is reached, the necessary guarantees must be obtained for its implementation.

7- demanding not intimidated approach toward oppressive Western governments

Throughout the last century, many cruelties and acts of oppression have been committed against the Iranian nation by the arrogant and domineering Western governments. In this regard, the imperialist policy of Britain and the United States has been recorded in history before the Islamic Revolution, and after the Revolution, both these countries together with Germany and France did not refrain from unleashing any conspiracy against Iran. Especially during the Imposed War, they did everything in their power to help Saddam to overthrow the Islamic Republic. Ironically, despite everything they owe to the Islamic Republic, they still look down on the country even though they have to pay for all their cruelties.

The Islamic Republic must make it clear to these Western governments that not only are they owed anything from Iran, but rather they owe a great deal to the Iranian people and as long as they do not redeem themselves, they should not expect to establish reasonable and fair relations with the Islamic Republic; and this is the policy adopted by the 13th administration.

8- East-oriented policy

Given the hostile policies of the US-led Western front against the Islamic Republic and the imposition of sanctions, economic and political powers in Asia, such as the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China can be good partners for Iran.

These three countries have been brought closer to one another by the hostility they are subjected to from the arrogant Western powers; on the other hand, it seems that each of these three countries is only pursuing its own national interests. Thus, their foreign policy goals not only are mutually exclusive but are complementary. Therefore, they can form a strong front against the excessive demands of the Western hegemons and provide the necessary ground for the formation of a new international system. Iran's permanent membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the signing of a long-term cooperation agreement between the three countries is a good basis for the formation of this new, anti-hegemony international system.

In conclusion, the purpose of this article is to open a new chapter in the topics related to the foreign relations of the Islamic Republic for academic and theological thinkers and theorists. It is hoped that all those interested in this field will pick up the pen to write their own views and further expand on this new topic.

Cultivation of tourism in the countryside

By Afshin Majlesi



As Afshin Msjlesi, reported to the Tehran times – In recent years, an increasing number of travelers are looking for something different such as spending a day in tranquil countryside, picking fresh fruits, watching rice grow, fishing by the seaside, eating traditional dishes, or even staying with locals.

To put it in other words, many urban residents tend to choose rural tourism to enjoy a slow-paced lifestyle that resembles something like ‘the Internet + countryside’.

That is in contrast to traditional ways of travel which are made mostly through travel agencies. As tourists mature, more and more sorts of travel are welcomed by the ones who are in search of off-the-beaten routes. Having numerous pristine yet diverse natural gifts, Iran has many to offer to nature lovers.

For instance, the villages of Kharanaq, Barandaq, and Lark have been nominated for the ‘Best Tourism Villages’ label, which the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is projected to grant to a selection of rural destinations across the globe.

An interesting thing to note here is Iranian countryside areas have traditionally been a place of production, dominated by farming, but changes in farming practices, mechanization, and the influences of globalization have deeply affected the fabric of its rural communities, which have increasingly shifted from being production spaces to consumption spaces, in which tourism plays an important role.

This way, the prosperity of rural tourism and its possible failure due to overtourism are the two ends



The UN body aims to turn the spotlight on the “uniqueness” of each village to make tourism a means for further development in rural areas. “We want to recognize the uniqueness of each village and showcase the best initiatives to make tourism a means for a better future in rural areas. As we restart tourism, we work to ensure that we leave no one - and no village- behind,” ac-

of the seesaw. So, tourism resources with local characteristics should be constantly protected, explored, and developed to preserve tourist villages with their renowned characteristics.

The World Tourism Organization sees rural tourism as a type of activity in which the visitor’s experience is related to a wide range of products generally linked to nature-based activities, agriculture, rural lifestyle, culture, angling, and sightseeing. Such tourism also possesses characteristics such as low population density, a landscape dominated by agriculture and forestry, as well as traditional social structure and lifestyle.

According to UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili.

Needless to say, that the growth of the local economy is the ultimate goal of the rise and development of the rural tourism industry, but in the long run, to enable the long-term development of the rural tourism industry, the healthy maintenance and growth of environmental capacity is very important.

Consequently, rural tourism is not a magic solution to the problems faced by many rural areas, but it opens up opportunities for economic progress, social and cultural development, and enhancing people’s togetherness.



Iran's handicraft exports stand at \$120m in 11 months



TEHRAN- The value of Iran's handicrafts exports stood at \$120 million during the first eleven months of the past Iranian calendar year 1399 (March 20, 2020 February 18, 2021), Mehr news agency reported.

The country's handicrafts exports slumped during the mentioned months in comparison to the same period last year due to the damage the coronavirus pandemic has inflicted on global trade.

The Islamic Republic exported \$427 million worth of handicrafts during the first eleven months of the calendar year 1398. Of the figure, some \$190 million was earned via suitcase trade (allowed for customs-free and tax-free transfer) through 20 provinces, according to data compiled by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts.

With 14 entries, Iran ranks first globally for the number of cities and villages registered by the World Crafts Council, as China with seven entries, Chile with four, and India with three

ones come next.

In January 2020, the cities of Shiraz, Malayer, and Zanjan and the village of Qassemabad were designated by the WCC- Asia Pacific Region, putting Iran's number of world crafts cities and villages from ten to 14.

Shiraz was named a "world city of [diverse] handicrafts".

Malayer was made a global hub for woodcarving and carved-wood furniture. Zanjan gained the title of a "world city of filigree". And Qassemabad village, which is nationally known for its traditional costumes, was also promoted to a world hub of handicrafts. Chador Shab, a kind of homemade outer-garment for women, was, however, the main subject for the WCC assessment for the village.

Ceramics, pottery vessels, handwoven cloths as well as personal ornamentations with precious and semi-precious gemstones are traditionally exported to Iraq, Afghanistan, Germany, the U.S., the UK, and other countries.

Welcome



H.E. Simon Shercliff

The Irano-British Joint Chamber of Commerce, Industries & Mines takes great pleasure in welcoming the new British Ambassador, His Excellency Simon Shercliff, to Iran.

His excellency is no stranger to Iran having served his first diplomatic posting here some 20 years ago.

We are happy to note that Mr. Shercliff speaks and reads Persian fluently and is culturally aware of our nation's history and customs.

As an energetic and young representative of post-imperial Great Britain, Mr. Shercliff brings a new and refreshing outlook for the betterment of our age-old relations.

Despite the many obstacles and misunderstandings that still exist between our two countries, we are certain that Mr. Shercliff's

goodwill towards Iran and his steadfast commitment to solving issues that still divide us, will surely bear fruit.

Trade relations have always been the springboard to a better understanding between nations and, as we all are aware, Iran is located in the center of a region with a population of more than 450 million people who are in need of a variety of goods and services.

This is a golden opportunity for us to mutually expand our foreign trade and investment in this area as far as possible.

We wish Simon all success in his efforts and assure him that he has the full support of the Iran and Britain Joint Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines in his mission to Iran.

Short Economic News

Iran Short Economic News:

Leader urges Iranians to rely on their own talents



TEHRAN, Nov. 17 (MNA) – Urging the Iranian nation to rely on its own talents and capabilities, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution warned of the colonial powers' soft warfare. Speaking in a meeting with a group of young elites and top scientific talents on Wednesday morning, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei warned that colonial powers through soft warfare are after distracting the Iranian nation from its talents.

When a nation was unaware of its capabilities, it could be looted easily, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution added. He further urged the Iranian people to rely on their own talents and capabilities. The speech of Ayatollah Khamenei is as follow:

"An important part of the colonizers' soft warfare is causing nations to ignore their talents.

They keep repeating to a nation that it cannot do anything until that nation itself denies its talents. When a nation becomes negligent of its capabilities, it becomes easy to plunder that nation. There were great civilizations in Africa that were completely destroyed due to the neglect of their capabilities and due to the soft war the colonizers waged against them. In his memoirs, Nehru points to this fact and how the British destroyed the industry of self-reliant India.

The momentum of our scientific growth should be such that in 50 years' time, Iran will become a global source of science and other nations will feel the need to learn Persian to access new sciences.

This was once the case; our scientists topped in science and this can happen again. The country's scientific community should aim at solving the nation's issues. The ruling body should get help from the universities to solve the nation's issues. Artificial Intelligence will play a role in managing the future of the world. This should be seriously taken into consideration.

We should at least be among the top 10 countries of the world in this field.

Ayatollah Jannati Visited Collection Assimilate of Tissue in kish

Our mission as an organization of knowledge, a leading in branding and commercialization of biotechnology and life sciences research, ongoing value creation for stakeholders with the development of technology and the intellectual and financial capital owners. In this regard, we undertaking the use of ideas, thoughts and creative maker in the country and the world with Using talent in empathy space and respect for environmental laws and regulations, the preservation and sustainable development based on honesty, fairness and integrity.



Iran seeking full, verifiable removal of all sanctions

TEHRAN, Nov. 29 (MNA) – Iranian top negotiator in Vienna talks on the removal of illegal sanctions imposed on the country said that Iran's main goal is to secure a full and verifiable removal of all sanctions through Vienna negotiations.

Ali Bagheri Kani made the remarks in an article published by the Financial Times on Sunday in which the Iranian diplomat slammed Western countries, especially the United States, for using talks as a tool to restrict Iran's peaceful nuclear program.

"Western countries, in particular the US, work tirelessly to portray 'negotiations' as merely a process to restrict Iran's legitimate and peaceful nuclear program, which is enshrined in international treaties and watched by oversight organizations," Bagheri Kani said.

He then emphasized that Iran, however, seeks to achieve two goals through engaging in Vienna talks.

"In this vein, we have two goals: the first is to gain a full, guaranteed and verifiable removal of the sanctions that have been imposed on the Iranian people. Without this, the process will continue indefinitely," Bagheri Kani said.

Iran's senior diplomat noted that the country's second goal is "to facilitate the legal rights of the Iranian nation to benefit from peaceful nuclear knowledge, especially the all-important enrichment technology for industrial purposes, according to the terms of the international Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)."

Bagheri Kani left Tehran for Vienna on Saturday to attend the seventh round of talks that are intended to bring the US back to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), commonly known as the Iran nuclear deal. A return to the JCPOA would mean Washington needs to remove its unlawful sanctions on Tehran, three years after the US left the 2015 accord and unleashed a "maximum pressure" campaign on the Islamic Republic.

The US withdrawal came while the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had issued 15 consecutive reports certifying Iran's full compliance with its nuclear obligations under the JCPOA.

Elsewhere in his article, Bagheri Kani said all efforts made previously to build trust between Iran and other parties to Vienna talks have failed



"mainly because the West regards any agreement solely as an established platform from which to launch more pressure against Iran."

"This is the crux of the dispute that has forced us, six years after the initial agreement, to the table yet again," he noted.

"We will be starting these new discussions under circumstances influenced by the unfortunate fate of the JCPOA when US President Donald Trump unilaterally decided to abandon this deal. This was a terrible betrayal of trust for Iran and Iranians."

Bagheri Kani said based on Iran's experience, the West does not seek to implement a deal, but rather, seeks to score public perception points while stealthily "dis-implementing" the agreement in every possible way.

"From our experience, this is followed by actions to 'hijack' the JCPOA platform to force Iran to make more concessions in areas unrelated to the nuclear issue. As a result, the Iranian people trust neither the process nor its outcome," he added.

Stressing that past blunders should not be repeated during the upcoming round of talks, the Iranian diplomat said all sides have learned over the past years "what and who can be trusted."

"To ensure any forthcoming agreement is iron-clad, the West needs to pay a price for having failed to uphold its part of the bargain," he asserted, adding, "As in any business, a deal is a deal, and breaking it has consequences."

Under the administration of President Ebrahim Raeisi, Iran has stressed that the US needs to compensate for its wrongdoings by removing all of its sanctions in a verifiable manner and providing a guarantee that it will never leave the deal again.

However, the Biden administration, which had promised to return to the JCPOA and call off the so-called maximum pressure on Tehran, is calling for a “mutual return” to the deal.

Tehran has described the wording employed by Washington as a misrepresentation of what happened to the JCPOA, saying unlike the US, it never left the deal to have to return to it.

Bagheri Kani also criticized the principle of “mutual compliance” with the deal, which has been highlighted by Western parties to the JCPOA, as an inappropriate base for negotiations. “Iran remains committed to the process and we will adhere to our commitments. From our perspective, the principle of ‘mutual compliance’ cannot form a proper base for negotiations since it was the US government, which unilaterally left the deal.”

The US, Bagheri Kani continued, should therefore demonstrate that it is serious this time and that it possesses the necessary competence to fulfill its commitments.

He also called on the other parties to the JCPOA to provide Iran with a clear and transparent mechanism to ensure that the US sanctions will be removed.

“For what other conceivable reason would we compromise regarding Iran’s technological advances and nationally-precious domestic nuclear program?” he inquired.

In his article, Bagheri Kani also pointed out that Iran did not succumb to the use of either military threats, economic sanctions, or “maximum pressure” under Trump, stating that the country will not do so under President Joe Biden.

“In order to secure the rights and interests of our nation, we are ready for a fair and careful discussion, based on the principles of ‘guarantee’ and ‘verification’,” he maintained, reiterating that Iran demands compensation for the violation of the deal, which includes “the removal of all post-JCPOA sanctions.”

In return, he went on, Iran is ready to voluntarily fulfill its nuclear commitments in accordance with the agreement. “We remain prepared to react proportionately to any pressure and reciprocate any goodwill gesture,” Bagheri Kani noted.

“We have made our choice. We will now find out whether or not the West has the will to enter real negotiations,” he concluded.

Iran’s foreign trade value at \$63bn in 8 months: IRICA chief

TEHRAN, Nov. 28 (MNA) – Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance (MEAF) put the country’s foreign trade value in the first eight months of the current Iranian calendar year (from March 21 to Nov. 22) at \$63 billion.

President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) and Deputy Economy Minister Mehdi Mir-Ashrafi made the remarks on Sunday, saying that Iran’s foreign trade in this period hit \$63 billion, showing a 42 percent hike as compared to the same period of last year. In this period, Iran exchanged 110.3 million tons of goods, valued at \$63.1 billion, with its trade partners, he stated. A comparison of an eight-month trade of Iran with its trade partners indicates that country’s trade with its partners from March 21 to Nov. 22 registered a 43.5 and 40 percent hike in terms of weight and value respectively.

Of total 110.3 million tons of goods exchanged from March 21 to Nov. 22, \$83.7 million tons of which is related to Iran’s export of products, valued at \$31.1 billion, showing a 10.5 and 42 per-



cent hike in terms of weight and value respectively, Mir-Ashrafi added. Elsewhere in his remarks, the IRICA president pointed out that petrochemicals accounted for 43 percent of the country’s total exports share value in this period, adding that Iran exported 39.8 million tons of petrochemicals, valued at \$13.3 billion, from March 21 to Nov. 22. China, Iraq, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Afghanistan constituted Iran’s five export target markets in this period, Deputy Ministry of Economy added.

Post of “World’s oldest” protected area ceded to tourism ministry

TEHRAN – The ownership of 18 hectares area of the Ghamishloo National Park, which is said to be the oldest national park in the world, in the central province of Isfahan has been handed over to the tourism ministry as there is a Qajar-era (1789–1925) castle inside the park.

The tourism ministry obtained a title deed for 18 hectares of Ghamishloo National Park, of which 12 hectares are located in the protected area, while Isfahan’s department of environment has held the ownership for over 20 years, Iraj Heshmati the director of the provincial department of environment said on Tuesday.

The grandma of all national parks in the world, Ghamishloo National Park, lies near Isfahan and is about 83,000 hectares. Mostly cold-dry climate with high lands and pasture lands. Iranian gazelle and urial sheep herds could be seen in the area.



Unfortunately, the water supply is only dependent on rainfall which is not that enough that the local species can grow a lot in numbers. But they are tough enough to survive for now.

Culture minister emphasizes need to expand Tehran-Islamabad cultural ties

Tehran, IRNA – Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance here on Wednesday referring to 13th government’s policy of expansion of ties with neighboring countries, stressed the need to expand Tehran’s cultural ties with Islamabad.

Mohammad Mehdi Esmaili made the comment in a meeting with Pakistan’s ambassador to Iran, and referring to the historical, cultural and civilizational shared background of Iran and Pakistan. “The two countries have lots of commonalities in those fields, and many of our literary figures have had cultural activities in different regions of Pakistan,” he added.

Esmaili said that the Iranians have always felt that the people of Pakistan and their brothers and friends and during the past century great Pakistani personalities, such as Iqbal Lahori have been very popular in Iran and his poems are recited in Iranian schools. Pakistan’s Ambassador to Iran Rahim Hayat Qureshi, too, said that Iran and Pakistan have lots of cultural and civilizational commonalities.

“During the past 800 years our official language in South Asia has been the Persian language, and



besides the language, the architecture of the two nations are quite close to each other,” he added.

The Pakistani ambassador also probed cooperation in cinematographic, cultural and artistic fields between the two countries.

“The two countries can get engaged in a shared cinema production based on the lives of the two countries’ champions, or make TV serials based on them,” he added.

Tehran Municipality to cooperate with Tokyo Governorate

Tehran, IRNA – Tehran mayor proposed that a joint workgroup to be established between Tehran Municipality and Tokyo Governorate to upgrade the level of relations from greetings to scientific achievements.

Tehran Mayor Ali-Reza Zakani in his meeting with Japan's Ambassador to Iran Aikawa Kazutoshi, arguing said that the Iranian and Japanese nations have had 90 years of relations amid mutual respect and "I am very delighted that the ambassador of Japan in Tehran has good information about Tehran and Iran and experience of working in our country".

"We have the good experience of having fruitful cooperation between Tehran Municipality and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in the field of crisis management," said Zakani.

He expressed hope that today's meeting will lead to cooperation in such areas as transportations, environment, garbage recycling, and other issues related to security of Tehrani citizens.

"We can also use Japan's precious experience in dealing with earthquakes and the technologies to counter them," added Mayor Zakani.

Japan can share experience on traffic management, air pollution

Japan's ambassador, for his part, congratulated Zakani for being appointed as Tehran mayor, say-



ing that the metropolitan Tehran city's management is quite difficult and "I wish you succeed in your job, and appreciate your invitation for Tokyo governor, and will inform him about the matter".

"Although coronavirus has made everything difficult, I hope you, too, will visit Japan upon your first convenient opportunity," added Ambassador Aikawa Kazutoshi.

He said that a large city's management is tough and this year the Olympic Games were held in Tokyo, in which Iran, both participated and gained many gold medals, which is praiseworthy.

The ambassador also appreciated the fine and descent behavior of the Iranian athletic teams in Japan, which the Japanese nation really liked.

World Short Economic News:

NFHS:

Does India really have more women than men?

By Geeta Pandey

BBC News, Delhi

The Census has repeatedly shown that there have been more men in India than women

Does India really have more women than men now?

According to the latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS) data, released by the Indian government recently, there are now 1,020 women for every 1,000 men. Experts advise caution while interpreting the data - the survey covers only about 630,000 of India's 300 million households -

and say the real picture will emerge only once we get the census data.

"The census surveys the entire population of the country and, therefore, provides a more accurate account of the overall sex ratio," the director of the Population Fund of India, Poonam Muttreja, told the BBC.

But the **numbers** have made headlines in India, with some claiming that they point to significant societal shifts in a country where a preference for

sons has historically led to a very skewed sex ratio in favour of men.

The health ministry said this was the first time ever that the female population had surpassed the male population in India. **One official said** this was due to the "measures taken by the government for women's empowerment".

Media reports hailed it as a "massive achievement" and "a demographic shift". One journalist wrote that India had "now entered the league of developed nations".

But campaigners say the numbers just don't add up and describe the government claim as "absurd" and "next to impossible".

"Over 100 years, our census has repeatedly shown that there have been more men in India than women," researcher and activist Sabu George said.



"According to the last census in 2011, there were 940 women for every 1,000 men and the child sex ratio [which counts children from nought to six years] was really abysmal at 918 girls for 1,000 boys, so how can there be such a drastic change in just 10 years?" he asked.

Measures to prevent female foeticide have failed to show results so far.

India has long been called "a country of missing women" - a phrase first used in an essay by Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen in 1990 when the gender ratio had hit rock bottom at 927 women for every 1,000 men. He had put the number of missing women at 37 million.

India's preference for sons is rooted in a widely-held cultural belief that a male child would carry forward the family legacy and look after the parents in their old age, while daughters would cost them dowries and leave them for their matrimonial homes.

Campaigners say this anti-girl bias, coupled with the easy availability of antenatal sex screening from the 1970s, led to tens of millions of female fetuses being eliminated through sex-selective



abortions, known as female foeticide, leading to the dramatically skewed sex ratio.

In 1994, the Pre-Natal Determination Test (PNDT) Act outlawed sex-selective abortions and in 2002, it was amended to include gender selection even at the pre-conception stage. But campaigners say many sex-selective abortions are still carried out illegally.

Experts say women outlive men and that's why the total sex ratio is always higher than the sex ratio at birth. But, Mr George says, the figure of 1,020 is just not plausible.

"If over 30 to 40 years we have eliminated tens of millions of girls, our actual deficit of birth would be even larger by 2021. And if there's such a large deficit of women, how is it even possible to believe that this number is credible?"

Demographers say if there's no discrimination against girls then the ideal sex ratio at birth is expected to be 952, but the latest survey puts it at 929. Mr George says it means that "there's still a 23-point - or 2% - difference between the ideal and the reality".



"It shows we are still killing millions of girls," he said. "If there are 26 million births in India every year, they add up to 130 million births in the past five years. This means we've killed 2.6 million girls in just the past five years. This is a disgrace for the country. There's nothing to celebrate."

IBCCIM's New Members

Member Companies:

Nikan Pharmed Co.: Pharmaceuticals and food supplements, M.D.: Hamidreza Ghorbani Sini, Address: Postal Code: 1998645845, third Floor, No. 41, Nastaran Intersection, Majd St., Sarv-e-Sharghi St., Kaj Square, Saadat Abad, Tehran, Tel: +98 (21) 26740756, Fax: +98 (21) 26743882, Email: hamid.ghorbani@nikanpharmed.com.

Golestan Co.: Producing and packaging food products, M.D.: Hamid Soltani Pour Lazarjani, Address: Postal Code: 1476785474, No. 32, Mokhberi St., Ashrafi Esfahani St., Tehran, Tel: +98 (21) 48637661, Fax: +98 (21) 4410519, Email: hsoltanipour@golestan.com.

Kish Tissue Regeneration Corporation Co.: Medical equipment, M.D.: Saeed Bayanolhagh, Address: Postal Code: 1998834371, First Floor, No. 8, East 19 St., South Sarafha St., Darya Boulevard, Saadat Abad, Tehran, Tel: +98 (21) 88563470, Fax: +98 (21) 88563278, Email: info@trcir.com .

Bonyan Tejarat Safiran Co.: Gold and jewelry wholesaling , M.D.: Mehran Khosravi, Address: Postal Code: 8155811971, Flat No. 49, first Floor, Allameh Majlesi Building, in the corner of Kamal St., Ebn-e-Sina Intersection, Isfahan, Tel: +98 (31) 34476640, Fax: +98 (31) 34476630, Email: safirantco@gmail.com.

Kani Sarv Paya Co.: Trading, M.D.: Esmail Hosseiniyah, Address: Postal Code 5875177848, in the corner of Boustane-Chaharom, Emam Hossein Boulevard,

Shout City, West Azarbayjan, Tel: +98 (21) 22901466, Fax: +98 (21) 22905110, Email: kanisarvpaya@gmail.com .

Ertebatat & Toseh Rahkar Afarin Beynolmelal Co.: Information technology and business developer, M.D.: Afshin Nobakht Dastjerdi, Address: Postal Code: 575611529, No. 104, opposite Nazloo University, Sarv Road 11 Kilometer, Uroumiyeh, Tel: +98 (21) 41197, Fax: +98 (44) 32750416, Email: info@etraab.com.

Zhik System Co.: Audit and management systems evaluation training with issuing related certificates, M.D.: Yasin Ramin, Address: Postal Code 1417763384, Flat No. 7, Forth Floor, No. 220, in the corner of Ghods St., Keshavarz Boulevard, Tehran, Tel: +98 (21) 88965114, Fax: +98 (21) 88965114, Email: iran@zhikcert.com .

Dana Geophysics Kish Co.: Oil & Gas exploration, M.D.: Seyed Sadegh Shojaee, Address: Postal Code: 1919943555, Forth Floor, No. 140, Zafar St., Tehran, Tel: +98 (21) 2431995, Fax: +98 (21) 24315011, Email: shojaee.sadegh@danaenergy.com .

Mohammadreza Amini.: Investment in Energy, Oil and Petrochemicals, M.D.: Mohsen Bahrami, Address: Postal Code: 1511739741, No. 23, Del Afrooz St., Vali-e-Asr St., Tehran, Tel: +98 (21) 88557045 .

Key Economic Indicators

Population and Labor Force

Population (1400)	85.0 million
Urban	64.4 million
Rural ¹	20.6 million
Population Growth	1.1 percent
Population Density	51.6 per sq km
Active Population (1400, Q1)	26.0 million
Unemployment Rate (1400, Q1)	8.8 percent
Urban	9.6 percent
Rural	6.4 percent
Male	7.5 percent
Female	15.6 percent
18-35 years old	15.6 percent
15-24 years old	22.1 percent

Source: Statistical Center of Iran (SCI).

¹ Includes non-resident population.

Real Sector (1400, Q1)

GDP Growth (1395=100)	
Oil	6.2 percent
Non-oil	4.7 percent
Performance of 1400, Q1 (current prices; trillion Rls.)	
GDP (at basic price)	12,576
Gross Fixed Capital Formation	3,146
Private Consumption Expenditures	6,117
Public Consumption Expenditures	1,674

External Sector (million US\$) (1400, Q1)

Current Account Balance	3,534
Trade Balance (goods account)	4,260
Exports (FOB)	17,285
Imports (FOB)	13,025
Total External Debt (end of period)	8,744
Exchange Rate (US\$/IRR) Interbank Market (average)	42,000

Monetary Sector (growth rate, percent) (Khordad 1400 compared with Esfand 1399)

Broad money (M2)	6.6
Money (M1)	5.1
Quasi-money	7.0
Non-public Sector Deposits	6.8

Tehran Stock Exchange (1400, Q1)

Tehran Stock Exchange Price Index (TEPIX) (end of period)	1,168,665
Value of Shares and Rights Traded	Rls. 1,862.8 trillion
Number of Shares and Rights Traded	305.4 billion

Source: Central Bank