



Islamic Republic of Iran  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

# MFA DIGEST

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY



Issue #50, January 1 – 15, 2022

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## MFA NEWSLETTER

RAISI IN A MEETING WITH SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE PRESIDENT OF TURKMENISTAN:

### DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC, TRADE, TRANSIT COOPERATION ON THE AGENDA OF TEHRAN, ASHGABAT / IRAN CONSIDERS CLOSE TIES WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES IMPORTANT



Speaking in a meeting with the Special Envoy of the President of Turkmenistan and the Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan Raşit Meredow, Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi stated that Tehran-Ashgabat relations are on the path to development, adding, "We are determined to take effective and useful steps in political, economic, cultural and social relations for the benefit of our nations".

Dr Raisi called the bilateral meeting with the President of Turkmenistan in Ashgabat and the telephone calls between the two sides the beginning of a new chapter in the development of relations between the two countries and said, "In these talks, proper decisions were made to remove the existing obstacles on the path of the development of cooperation, including in the field of transportation and energy, and the ground for expanding and

deepening relations between the two countries has been facilitated".

Raisi pointed out, "Tehran welcomes the proposals of the other side in the field of strengthening and promoting cooperation in various sectors, especially in the field of energy, trade and commerce, and there are no obstacles and restrictions in this regard".

Expressing that Tehran attaches special importance to the development of relations with neighbouring countries, the President said, "Iran and Turkmenistan are not just two neighbouring countries, but also have kinship relations with each other and the two nations have deep-rooted and deep cultural and historical ties".

In this meeting, the Special Envoy of the President of Turkmenistan presented the written message from Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow and appreciated the Iranian government's efforts to expand and strengthen relations with Turkmenistan over the past few months, saying, "We are determined to increase the level of our relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran in various fields, especially in the field of gas, transportation, economy, trade and culture".

"Turkmenistan seeks to open a new historical page in relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, and numerous proposals have been prepared to expand comprehensive cooperation, especially to increase and facilitate trade and transit at border terminals," said Sardar Berdimuhamedow.



## MFA NEWSLETTER

### IRAN FM MEETS TURKMENISTAN VICE PRESIDENT AND ACCOMPANYING DELEGATION



The Vice President of Turkmenistan, Serdar Berdimuhamedov, who had traveled to Tehran as a special envoy heading a preparatory delegation ahead of the upcoming visit of the Turkmen president, met and held talks this evening with Iran's Foreign Minister, Hossein AmirAbdollahian.

During the meeting, the two officials discussed joint cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, energy, transportation and transit. Also, given the imminent visit of the president of Turkmenistan to the Islamic Republic of Iran, during this meeting, AmirAbdollahian and Berdimuhamedov exchanged views over the documents to be signed during the Turkmen president's visit.

Regional issues and the situation in Afghanistan were other topics discussed by the

Iranian foreign minister and the Turkmen vice president. The two sides underlined the need for the formation of an inclusive government in Afghanistan.

During the meeting, the vice president of Turkmenistan underscored the importance of bilateral relations with Iran and the role of the Joint Economic Commission in the development of relations between the two countries.

He also stressed that there are very good capacities for cooperation between the two countries in the fields of transportation, technical and engineering services, electricity, oil and gas.

Given the many historical and cultural commonalities between Iran and Turkmenistan, the two sides stressed the importance of developing economic and cultural relations and described cooperation between the provinces of the two countries as important in this regard.

It should be noted that Turkmen Foreign Minister Rashid Meredov also attended the meeting and outlined bilateral cooperation and joint projects and programs.





## MFA NEWSLETTER

### IRANIAN AND CHINESE FMS HOLD EXTENSIVE TALKS



Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian who was in China at the head of a high-ranking delegation had met and held talks with Chinese Foreign Minister and member of the country's state council Wang Yi.

In the meeting AmirAbdollahian congratulated the New Chinese Year and conveyed warm greetings of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi to his Chinese President Xi Jinping. The Iranian foreign minister also submitted Raisi's message in writing to President Xi. AmirAbdollahian described the letter as an important message at the beginning of the 13th government's tenure.

He referred to plans to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Iran, appreciating China for supplying Iran with 110 million doses of Covid Vaccine.

AmirAbdollahian also spoke of the Iranian government's agreement to let China inaugurate a consulate in the southern city of Bandar Abbas. He expressed hope that this will facilitate popular and trade relations between the two countries.

The Chinese foreign minister also approved of his Iranian counterpart's views expounded in his op-ed published by the Chinese press. Wang said the Iranian foreign minister's views show the high horizon of bilateral ties between Tehran and Beijing. The top Chinese diplomat underlined his country's readiness to expand cooperation with Iran in the financing, energy, banking and cultural sectors despite the illegal sanctions against the Iranian nation.

Wang announced China's full support for Iran's logical stance on the bullying policies of the United States regarding the Iran's nuclear deal, JCPOA. He said Beijing's principled policy is to continue supporting Iran's position during the JCPOA talks and underscored that the US must redress its mistake of leaving the deal.

The Chinese foreign minister also described the 25-year strategic cooperation deal between Iran and China as highly important and said Tehran and Beijing's agreement to start executing the deal is a significant development that paves the way to fundamentally transform bilateral ties.





## MFA NEWSLETTER

### IRANIAN FM HOLDS TALKS WITH OMANI SULTAN'S DEPUTY



Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian and Deputy Sultan of Oman Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said discussed the latest developments in relations between the two countries, as well as important issues in the region.

AmirAbdollahian referred to the historical, continuous and strategic relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Sultanate of Oman. He mentioned the important role of Sultan Qaboos, the late sultan of Oman in the formation of relations between the two countries and emphasized the continuation of relations between Tehran and Muscat under Sultan Haitham bin Tarik.

The top Iranian diplomat also conveyed the greetings of the Iranian president to Sultan Haitham, and appreciated the presence of the Omani delegation at the inauguration of the 13th president of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Explaining the policy of the 13th Iranian administration of prioritizing cooperation with regional countries, AmirAbdollahian called Oman one of the main priorities for cooperation in the region and emphasized the comprehensive expansion of cooperation between the two countries in different political, economic and cultural fields.

On economic cooperation, the Iranian foreign minister emphasized the readiness of the Islamic Republic to cooperate in the fields of freight and passenger transportation, energy, tourism, airlines and other areas.

AmirAbdollahian also explained Iran's view on cooperation with the countries of the Persian Gulf region and within the framework of the neighborliness policy. He stressed that there are no restrictions or exceptions in establishing good relations with the regional countries.

Regarding the Yemen crisis, the top Iranian diplomat referred to the principled view of the Islamic Republic of Iran from the beginning of the crisis, based on a political and dialogue-based solution, while emphasizing the need to follow a political path and dialogue to solve the problems of the Yemeni people. AmirAbdollahian praised Oman's wise stance in this regard, as well as the valuable efforts of the Omani government in transferring Iran's martyred ambassador to Yemen to Tehran for treatment.

AmirAbdollahian also explained the latest developments related to the Vienna talks. He emphasized our country's view that the parties to this dialogue should have constructive initiatives in practice, and stressed the goodwill and seriousness of our country in reaching a good agreement.

Deputy Sultan of Oman Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said also referred to the close and brotherly relations between the two countries, stressing the expansion of mutual cooperation and Oman's interest in playing a role in the convergence of regional countries.

Referring to the rich history and culture of Iran, he highlighted the constructive role of Iran in regional developments.





### IRAN FM MEETS OMANI COUNTERPART IN MUSCAT



Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, who was in Muscat for talks with Omani officials, met with the Sultanate of Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Al-Busaidi. The two top diplomats discussed issues of mutual interest between Iran and Oman.

In the meeting, Iran's foreign minister expressed pleasure with the expanding relations with Oman and underlined the need to continue meetings between officials of the two countries for talks over various political, economic and cultural issues, and also stressed the need to launch specialized committees, including the Joint Economic Cooperation Commission.

While congratulating the 50th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral relations between the two countries, Amir-Abdollahian emphasized that

the popular and cultural ties between Iran and Oman are rooted in history and the two countries have been able to forge deep-rooted and strong cooperation.

The Iranian foreign minister appreciated Oman's attitude toward regional issues based on dialogue and cooperation and described it as the only way to solve problems of the region.

Amir-Abdollahian further expressed satisfaction with the expansion of trade cooperation between Iran and Oman, including increased trade. He further expressed hope that economic cooperation between the countries of the region will serve as a model for maintaining peace and security in the region.

Omani Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Al-Busaidi also referred to Iran's economic capabilities and its human resources, stressing the importance of promoting bilateral cooperation and utilizing the economic potential of the region.

The two foreign ministers underlined the need for continuing negotiations over key regional issues.



## MFA NEWSLETTER

### IRAN FM MEETS QATAR EMIR IN DOHA



Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian who was visiting Doha for talks with Qatari officials held talks with Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani.

During the meeting, Amir Abdollahian extended the Iranian president's greetings to the Qatari emir.

He examined the latest developments in bilateral ties in political, security, trade and economic areas. Amir Abdollahian referred to the existing capacities for expanding economic relations between Iran and Qatar, underlining the need for forging cooperation in economic areas given the existing advantages of Iran in this regard. The Iranian

foreign minister further outlined the 13th administration's approach to relations with neighboring countries and emphasized the exchange of delegations at high levels of the two countries for consultations between Iran and Qatar.

Amir Abdollahian also underscored the regional views of Iran and declared Tehran's readiness to develop interaction with regional nations in bilateral and multilateral ways.

The top Iranian diplomat then spoke about the Vienna talks over removing the oppressive sanctions against Iran as well as the issues related to Afghanistan and Yemen. The Qatari emir also outlined his views regarding these matters.

Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani further stressed the importance of ties between Iran and Qatar and their cooperation in regional issues. He underlined that Qatar is interested in expanding cooperation with Iran.





## MFA NEWSLETTER

### AMIRABDOLLAHIAN HOLDS TALKS WITH QATARI FM IN DOHA



Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian who was visiting Doha, after meeting with Qatar's emir, held two rounds of talks with Qatari Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad bin Abdul Rahman Al Thani. The two foreign ministers discussed issues of mutual interest in the meeting.

AmirAbdollahian referred to ties between Tehran and Doha based on bilateral and regional cooperation and underlined the need to expand cooperation, particularly in trade, economic and investment areas given Iran's capacities and advantages, and to coordinate exchange of high-ranking delegations.

AmirAbdollahian stressed the priority of neighbors in the foreign policy of the 13th government, saying Iran welcomes expanding ties with regional countries and holding regional dialog to establish stability and considers them important.

Qatar's foreign minister also outlined the

Qatari leadership's view regarding the boosting and expanding of relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. He underlined that Doha is interested in expanding cooperation with Tehran especially in economic activities.

The two top diplomats further discussed, among others, regional and international issues, particularly the developments in Afghanistan and Yemen.

### IRAN FM MEETS HAMAS LEADER ISMAIL HANIYEH IN DOHA



Ismail Haniyeh, head of the political bureau of Palestinian resistance movement Hamas, met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian at Iran's embassy in Qatar's capital Doha.

In the meeting, AmirAbdollahian outlined the Islamic Republic's principled policy toward the issue of Palestine as a plight in the heart of the Islamic ummah created by the child-killing Zionist regime which enjoys support from the West.

He also condemned the brutal crimes of the Zionist occupiers against al-Quds, al-Aqsa Mosque, Gaza and occupied Palestinian territories as well as the regime's aggression and atrocities against the Palestinian people and sanctities.





## MFA NEWSLETTER

### AMIRABDOLLAHIAN MEETS WITH AFGHANISTAN'S ACTING FM



Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian met and held talks with Afghanistan's acting Foreign Minister Molawi Amir Khan Motaqi in Tehran.

In the meeting, AmirAbdollahian emphasized history has proven that the bond between the people of Iran and Afghanistan is of kinship type. He also said that the endeavors by the zealous people of Afghanistan showed that no foreign power can occupy and rule their country. The Iranian foreign minister referred to the positive words of the Taliban leaders regarding the formation of an inclusive government, stressing the need to provide acceptable indicators in this regard.

AmirAbdollahian also spoke of the humanitarian aid sent by the Islamic Republic of Iran to the suffering people of Afghanistan. He said Tehran will continue giving aid to Afghanistan and will also use regional capacities for more humanitarian assistance to alleviate the problems of the Afghan people.

The Iranian foreign minister also condemned the wrong

policies of the United States and its allies in Afghanistan over the past 20 years and said sowing discord between Afghanistan and neighboring countries has been a pillar of US policy in the region.

AmirAbdollahian stressed that Afghanistan's asset frozen by the US should be released and given to the country for humanitarian considerations and to help improve the economic situation of the Afghan people. The Iranian foreign minister also commemorated the diplomats of the Islamic Republic of Iran martyred in Mazar-e-Sharif and reiterated the responsibility of Afghanistan's governing body to protect the diplomatic missions.

The acting foreign minister of Afghanistan thanked the hospitality of the Islamic Republic of Iran toward Afghan refugees over the past 43 years. Amir Khan Motaqi referred to the commonalities of the two nations, stressing that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always stood by Afghanistan and the new Afghan government also emphasizes that it is not hostile to any neighboring country.

At the meeting, the two sides also discussed Iran's right to water of the Helmand River. The Afghan delegation underlined its respect for international treaties, including the 1972 Helmand Agreement, saying the technical delegations (water commissioners) of the two countries will meet soon and will resolve related issues.





## MFA NEWSLETTER

### IRAN FM HOSTS IRAQI COUNTERPART IN TEHRAN



Hossein AmirAbdollahian, Iran's Foreign Minister, met with the leaders of monotheistic religions and denominations, as well as the representatives of religious minorities in Parliament.

In this meeting, AmirAbdollahian congratulated the attendees on the New Year, describing the exemplary coexistence of monotheistic religions throughout history in Iran as a unique example and model of inclusive Iranian culture and as an integral part of the identity of the people of this land.

AmirAbdollahian also spoke of the rules and regulations of the Islamic Republic of Iran that support and protect the divine religions and the dignity and rights of their followers. The Iranian foreign minister emphasized that religious minorities inside and outside the country have a great potential.

AmirAbdollahian noted that facilitating the movement of Iranians abroad to their homeland is one of the priorities of the 13th government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this regard, the top Iranian diplomat underlined the need for

all compatriots outside Iran to have smooth interactions with their motherland, regardless of their religions.

AmirAbdollahian said interaction with religious leaders and lawmakers representing minorities in Parliament is one of the programs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also asked the representatives of different religions to help the Ministry of Foreign Affairs carry out its duties and missions and protect the interests of Iran and its great people.

During the meeting, the religious leaders and lawmakers attending the meeting appreciated the initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to hold this joint meeting, and called this action as promising an interactive approach on the part of the 13th government.

The religious leaders present at the meeting emphasized the Iranian identity of followers of all monotheistic religions in the country and described love of Iran as well as the national interests, history and culture of the country as a common factor of all Iranians.

Lawmakers representing the minorities in Parliament also praised the government's prudent and graceful policies in the Vienna talks and voiced their full support for the government's interactive approach in various areas.





## MFA NEWSLETTER

### ALGERIA ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS COPY TO IRAN FM



Algerian's new ambassador to Tehran Ali Arouj has submitted a copy of his credentials to Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian after visiting the Foreign Ministry at the beginning of his diplomatic mission in the Islamic Republic.

### PALESTINE AMBASSADOR MEETS IRAN FM

Palestine's Ambassador to Tehran Salah al-Zawawi has met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein AmirAbdollahian to say goodbye to him at the end of his mission in the Islamic Republic.





### Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Haiti (January 1)

### Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Cuba (January 1)





# TWIPLOMACY

## Iran leader's twitter account highlights the second anniversary of Martyr General Haj Qasem #Soleimani



Due to the blessing of our dear General #Soleimani's blood, the #Resistance movement is now more thriving and hopeful than two years ago. #Hero



Blessing of Gen. Soleimani's blood

Due to the blessing of our dear General Soleimani's blood, the Resistance movement is now more thriving and hopeful than two years ago.

Imam Khamenei | Jan. 1, 2022

## Imam Khamenei's message on the occasion of the burial ceremony for unknown #martyrs



"Peace be upon the unknown martyrs"

Imam Khamenei's message on the occasion of the burial ceremony for unknown #martyrs coinciding with the anniversary of the martyrdom of Lady #FatimaZahra (pbuh):

[english.khamenei.ir/news/8811](https://english.khamenei.ir/news/8811)



## Iran FM determines: "Talks in Vienna are proceeding in the right direction".



H. Amirabdollahian | امیر عبداللہیان  
@Amirabdollahian

Talks in Vienna are proceeding in the right direction. Iran's initiatives brought the talks back on track in a constructive atmosphere.

It is now up to the Western side to show good faith and commitment for a good deal.

9:12 PM · Jan 6, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

## Iran spokesperson of FMA highlights the second anniversary of Martyr General Haj Qasem #Soleimani



Saeed Khatibzadeh | سعید خطیبزاده  
@SKhatibzadeh

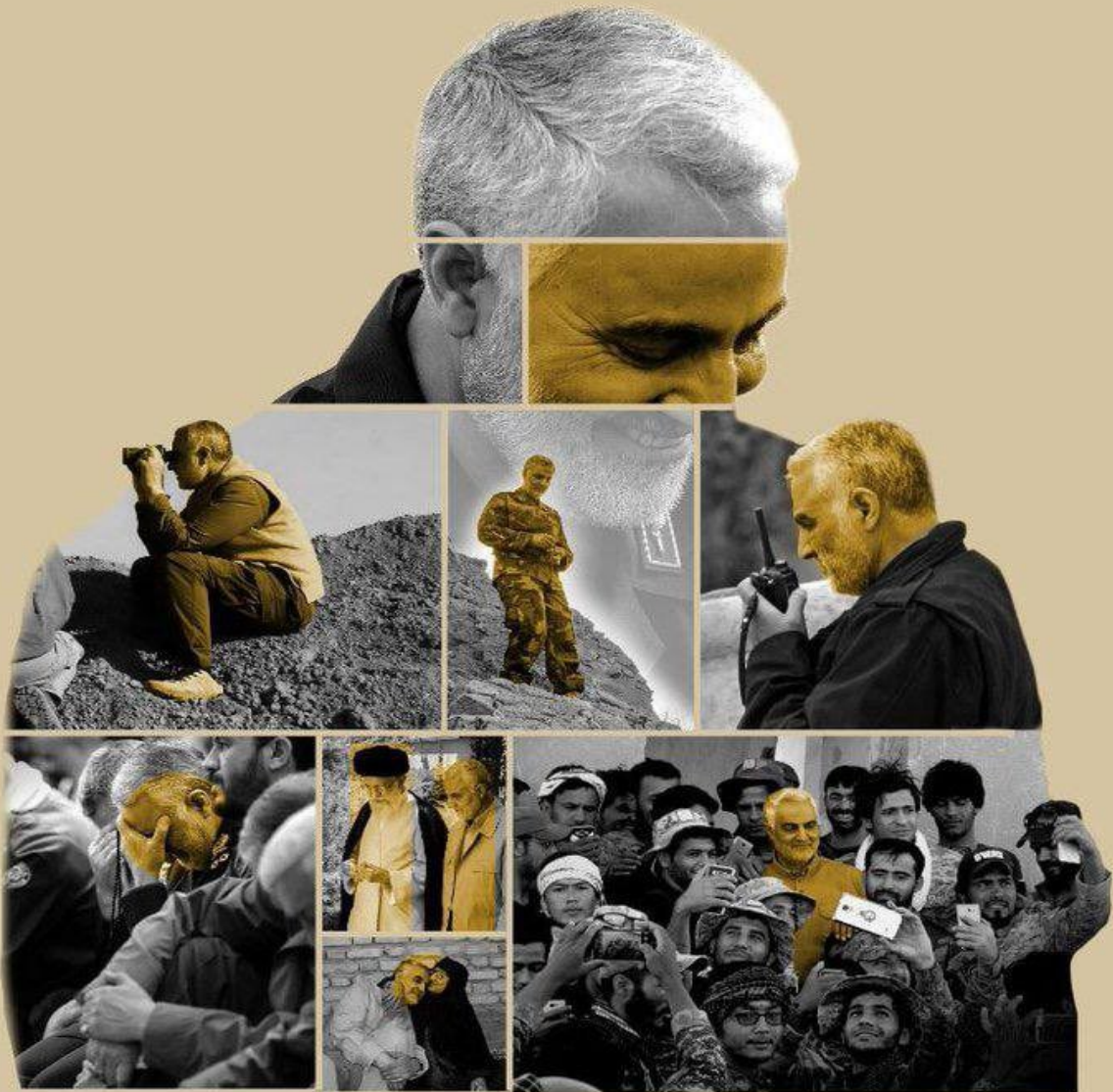
The US cowardly assassinated Gen Soleimani, but his name shines brighter than ever as eternal #Hero inspiring generations to come.

Iran won't rest until culprits are brought to justice.

And his mission to end nefarious US presence continues as our region's more awake than ever.



# Qasem soleimani #Hero



# HERO

## QASEM SOLEIMANI

N A F A H A T \_ G R A P H I C





## Society & Culture

### CHINESE ENVOY, ICRO CEO MEET



Chinese ambassador to Tehran Chang Hua and director of Iran's Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO) Hojjatolislam Mohammad-Mehdi Imanipur had met to discuss expansion of cultural relations.

“China and Iran have many things new to present to the world. We should give a proper image of the two countries and present their views in form of documentary films,” Imanipur said.

He also announced ICRO's readiness to boost cooperation on cultural studies, exhibitions and meetings, and added that the organization welcomes an agreement on the translation of Persian and Chinese books in both countries.

“Universities of the two countries have great potentials to play a key role in the expansion of cultural relations, and I hope we can exploit those potentials,” said Imanipur, which took the helm at the ICRO in November.

He also proposed that the two countries should employ their cultural and academic elites in a joint effort to organize meetings to refute Iranophobia

and anti-Chinese sentiment.

For his part, Chang who was accompanied by Chinese cultural attaché Zhozy Haw, pointed to the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations with Iran, and said 2022 is a special year, during which the two countries should initiate many programs for the expansion of cultural relations.

He proposed that both countries resume sessions of the Iran-China Cultural Commission, whose first meeting was held with the ICRO director's visit to China in 2012.

He asked ICRO's collaboration to establish a joint study center in the capitals of Iran and China to pursue the expansion of cultural cooperation between the two countries.

### IRANIAN LADY WINS INTERNATIONAL HANDICRAFT AWARD 2021



The Iranian handicraft artist was selected to win the 5th International Handicraft Award 2021 in New Delhi.

Shahrbanoo Arabian, an Iranian artist in the field of metal and enameling, was selected as a craftsman in 2021 in the field of manufacturing and production handicrafts.

The 5th International Handicrafts Award 2021 was held in New Delhi during Indian Handicrafts Week in honor of the late Ghada Hajavi, President of the World Asia-Pacific Handicrafts Council.



## Society & Culture

### IRAN NEGOTIATING TO EXCHANGE DRIVING LICENSES WITH 70 COUNTRIES



Negotiations are underway with 70 countries to exchange driving licenses, Traffic Police chief Seyed Kamal Hadianfar has announced.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, drivers will be able to exchange their driving licenses for a license issued in the country of residency, he said, YJC reported.

“Currently, 70 countries are on the police's agenda, he said, expressing hope to start the plan with Spain.

We have considered an exchange system for the authenticity of Spanish certificates in Iran and Iranian ones in Spain,” Hadianfar explained.

We can issue one-year certificates to Afghan nationals who reside in our country and have legal residence, but there are some foreign businessmen who have the conditions to invest in the country, who received a 3-year certificate, he stated.

### FIFTH IRANIAN INNOVATION CENTER TO BE LAUNCHED IN TURKEY

Iran will soon inaugurate its fifth innovation center in Turkey aiming to find new markets for domestically-made high-tech products.

The inauguration will be concurrent with the second meeting of Iran and Turkey on commerce and technology which will be held in the city of Istanbul from February 27-March 2.

Iran has already established innovation centers in Russia, Syria, China, and Kenya.

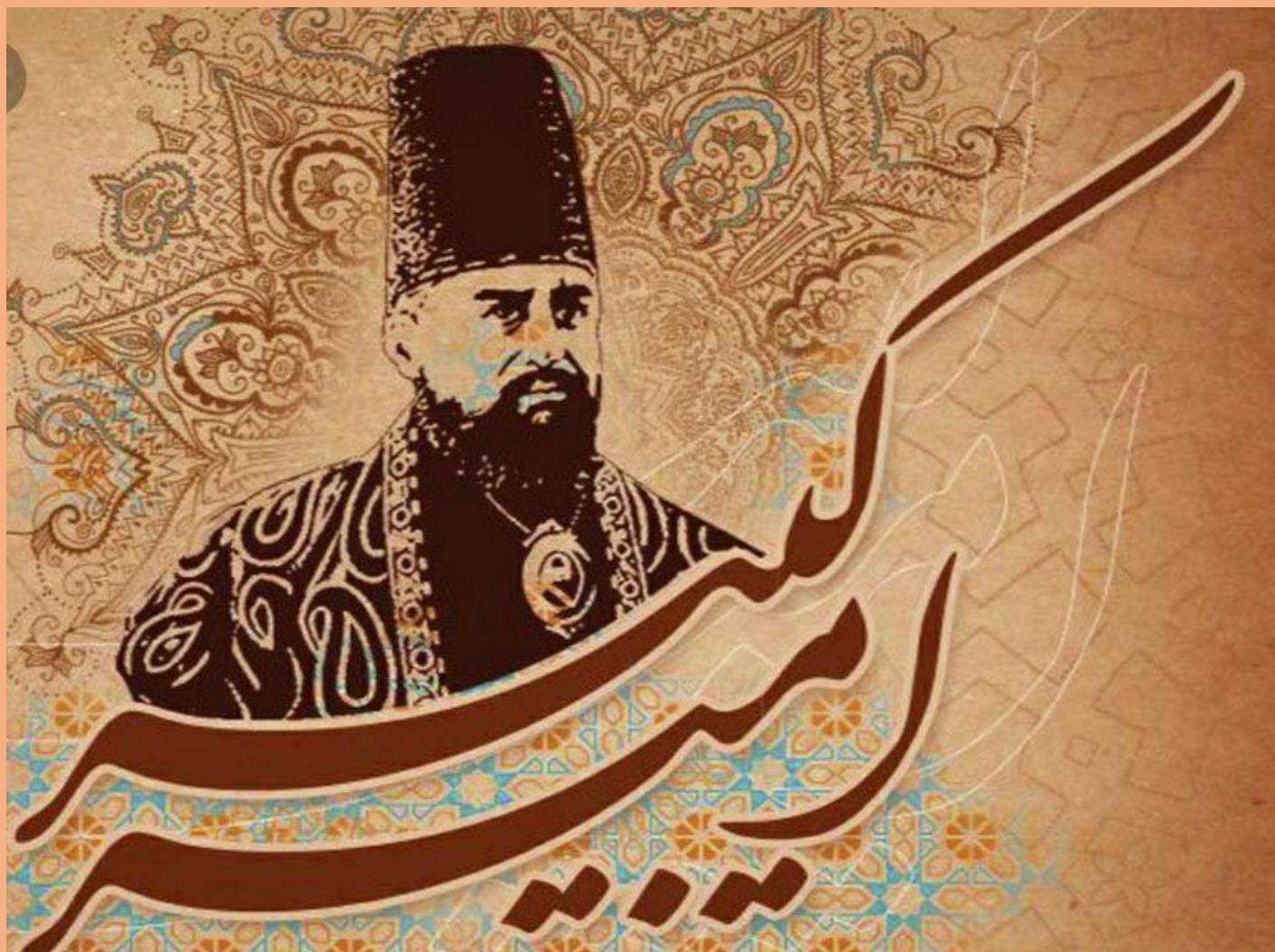
In December 2021, Marzieh Shaverdi, the manager of the Innovation and Prosperity Fund, said Iran will launch production lines of knowledge-based products in seven countries, namely Turkey, Armenia, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Syria, Iraq, and Kenya.

Exporting technological products of Iranian knowledge-based companies is one of the important and key programs of the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology, and in this regard, three houses of innovation and technology were inaugurated in Kenya, China and Syria.





## Amir Kabir; great reformer in Iran's history



January 10, 2022 which corresponds to Dey 20, 1400 on the Persian calendar is recorded in the Islamic Republic of Iran as the day of the martyrdom of Mirza Taghikhan Amir Kabir.

The establishment of the Dar al-Fonun school to teach new science and technology in Tehran, the publication of Vaqaye Etefaqiyah Newspaper as the first official newspaper in Iran, the review of the tax situation and the reorganization of the army, and the strengthening of military might were among some of important measures Amir Kabir has taken.

Mirza Mohammad Taghikhan, known as Amir Kabir, also established a social order approved by the people, and the oppressors could no longer dominate the deprived and the poor as in the past.

The enmity of people like Aga Khan Nouri with Amir Kabir and finally Nasser al-Din Shah joining them, caused Amir Kabir to be removed from the presidency and then he was exiled to Kashan.

The enemies of Amir Kabir, however, did not deny his existence, and finally Amir Kabir was assassinated by Ali Khan Maraghei in the Finn bath of Kashan on the order of Naser al-Din Shah on Dey 20, 1230.

The birthplace and historical home of Mirzataghi Khan Amirkabir, a great and famous figure in the history of Iran, is located in Hazaveh village of Arak city in Markazi province.

## FOOD DIPLOMACY

### Try delicious Iranian foods: Khoresh Gheymeh



Khoresh Gheymeh, also called Gheymeh Polo (polo means rice) is a Beef and Split Pea Stew which is a very traditional and popular Iranian stew with saffron potatoes that is served over either white rice or aromatic rice.

Yellow split peas, saffron, tomato paste, diced meat, and sun-dried lime (Limo Amani) are the main ingredients of this delicious stew. However, it's not as easy as it looks. Like many meals, you will need to fry onions as the first step and then add the meat to it. Then you'll need to add tomato paste, salt, pepper, and turmeric. While the meat is cooking with the spices, cook the split peas until the yellow split peas are al dente, softened with a bite. In the end, add 3 cups of water, cover them and bring to boil for 2-3 hours.

When Khoresh Gheymeh is ready, you can serve it fried potatoes or eggplants. Make sure to have rice to put this heavenly Persian stew on it.



## TRADE AND ECONOMY

### IRAN-MALAYSIA TRADE INCREASES BY 70%



The Iranian ambassador to Kuala Lumpur announced an increase of more than 70% in the trade volume between Iran and Malaysia.

Ali-Asghar Mohammadi, Iran's ambassador to Kuala Lumpur, in a meeting with Malaysian Minister of Industry and Trade Azmin Ali, added: "The volume of Iran-Malaysia trade in 2021 has reached \$550 million with a growth of more than 70%."

In a conversation with the Iranian ambassador, the Malaysian Minister of Industry and Trade welcomed the expansion of trade relations between the two countries, presenting the latest state of trade relations between the two countries.

Referring to the various capacities available, Azmin Ali announced Malaysia's determination to strengthen economic relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and expressed: "With the establishment of Iran-Malaysia Joint Economic Commission, the ground for a leap in trade relations between the two Islamic countries will be provided soon."

### CONTRACTS TO BE FINALIZED BASED ON IRAN-CHINA 25-YEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT: MINISTER

Iran's minister of economic affairs and finance says specific contracts within the framework of the Iran-China 25-year cooperation agreement will be finalized soon.

Ehsan Khandouzi made the remarks on the sidelines of the ceremony of signing an agreement to construct a new pipeline for transferring petroproducts, saying that the Iran-China 25-year cooperation agreement must reach specific contracts in each area that various ministries have been involved in recent months and are now being finalized.

"In the coming months, we will take step to conclude contracts in different sectors," Khandouzi concluded.

The remarks came as the Chinese and Iranian foreign ministers Wang Yi and Hossein Amir-Abdollahian announced the launch of a 25-year cooperation agreement aimed at strengthening economic and political ties.

Iran and China signed the landmark agreement in March last year in defiance of the US unilateral sanctions to strengthen the long-standing economic and political alliance.

Khandouzi added that financing oil projects that were short of foreign sources is still possible from domestic sources and will be done more quickly.

Iran's minister of economic affairs and finance stated that the project will mitigate the traffic of 1000 tankers and fuel smuggling will be reduced by regulating the transfer of products.





## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### IRAN JOINS COUNTRIES PRODUCING KITS FOR OMICRON DIAGNOSTIC TESTS



The CEO of Barekat Electronic Health Knowledge-based Foundation said that Iran is one of the few countries that succeeded in producing the Omicron rapid diagnostic tests kit and joined the group of three countries with the technology.

Sajjad Morraveji added: "Currently, these kits are designed to identify new variants of coronavirus and in the future can detect others."

He added that identifying new variants of coronavirus in 15 minutes with the help of these kits is possible. After the test, all information is digitally registered then, the people associated with the infected person are smartly tracked.

Morraveji stated: "The kit has 92% accuracy and 98% sensitivity, and its daily production capacity is about 200,000 kits and can be increased if needed."

### IRANIAN STUDENT STANDS FIRST PLACE IN A NEUROSCIENCE COMPETITION

Fatemeh Tirgar, a Ph.D. student in Neuroscience, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, School of Advanced Technologies in Medicine, won first place in the American Society for Neuroscience Congress competition.

The American Society for Neuroscience Congress Competition is the largest and most important international congress in neuroscience held annually by the American Neuroscience Society.

One of the most important parts of the congress is the scientific competition in various fields of neuroscience, in which Fatemeh Tirgar was able to win first place.

### IRANIAN ANTIVENOM PRODUCED IN IRAQ

Iranian scientists have developed specific serums for envenoming by snakebites in Iraq, according to Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute.

The antivenom for scorpion and snakes' bites is the first biological product registered in Iraq, Fakhreddin Rahmani, Razi Institute chairman of the board, said.

Due to the success of the registration process, our long-term plan is to establish a filling site in Iraq and Baghdad, to maintain the export market forever, he added, Mehr reported on Saturday. Stating that no country has succeeded in registering its biological products in Iraq, he said that we currently have no competitors in the field of snake and scorpion antidotes in Iraq, and this is a success for both countries.





## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### IRAN LEADS THE WORLD IN PRIORITY GIVEN TO NANO-SCIENCES



The ratio of nano-articles to the total number of articles published in Iran is the highest in the world, highlighting the amount of attention and priority given to nano-sciences in the country.

According to StatNano, in 2021, nearly 202,000 nano-articles were issued in JCR- (Journal Citation Reports) indexed journals, accounting for approximately 8.2 percent of the total articles indexed in WoS (Web of Science). Alternatively stated, about 8 percent of all scientific publications across the globe are in the field of nanotechnology.

In terms of the ratio of nano-articles to the total number of articles, Iran still possesses the highest share in this index with 18.7 percent of the total articles falling in the category of nanotechnology.

The country published a total of 11,196 nano-articles in 2021, according to the database.

Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and China followed Iran with 17.4 percent, 16 percent, and 14.1 percent shares of nano-articles to the total number of articles, respectively.

More than 42 percent of the world's nanotechnology publications by 2021 have been written and published by Chinese researchers. The United States, India, and Iran come next with 11.5 percent, 9.4 percent, and 5.5 percent, respectively.

Iran ranked 43rd among the 100 most vibrant clusters of science and technology (S&T) worldwide for the third consecutive year, according to the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2020 report.

### IRAN'S INTL. LABORATORY NETWORK COOPERATING WITH 7 COUNTRIES

The international laboratory network of Iran is cooperating with 7 countries and 21 laboratories across the world, according to the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology.

Turkey, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mozambique are the countries collaborating with Iran in the network.

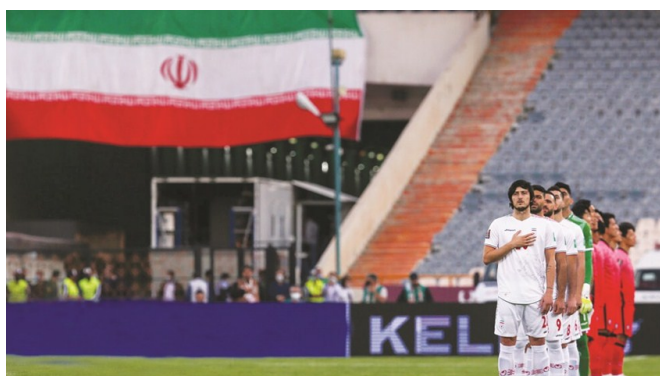
The international laboratory network has been established with the aim of presenting laboratory services to the university and industrial researchers around the world.





## SPORTS

### IRAN AMONG INVINCIBLE TRIO OF FOOTBALL TEAMS IN 2021



Iran national football team was one of the three teams in 2021 that went a whole calendar year unbeaten.

With the end of 2021 right around the corner, Team Melli will look back on the year as one of enormous progress and full of joy and, most notably, relief.

Alongside Argentina and Algeria, the Asian football team was part of the trio that went a whole calendar year unbeaten.

Between March and November, Iran rounded off a perfect campaign, winning 8-in-9 games.

When the year began, the prospect of an early exit of the 2022 World Cup Asian qualifiers was looming large for the Iranians. Still, twenty months forward, Dragan Skocic's men are on the verge of securing a place in next year's showdown in Qatar.

### TAREMI CROWNED TOP LEGIONNAIRE OF ASIA

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) website announced the results of the poll for the best Asian legionnaire of 2021 and the Iranian striker stood in the first.

The website announced that the player who appeared the most consistently in our polls this year was FC Porto's Iranian forward Mehdi Taremi, who was among Asia's top 10 performers a staggering 20 times throughout the year.

According to the AFC website, Taremi began 2021 in blistering touch, scoring six times in January and earning nominations for seven weeks in a row from January 9 to February 24, helping him feature our weekly list no less than 13 times before the end of May. His 27 goals in the calendar year included strikes against Juventus, Liverpool, and Chelsea, the latter being voted the UEFA Champions League Goal of the Season, and the 29-year-old now sits comfortably among Asia's very finest players.

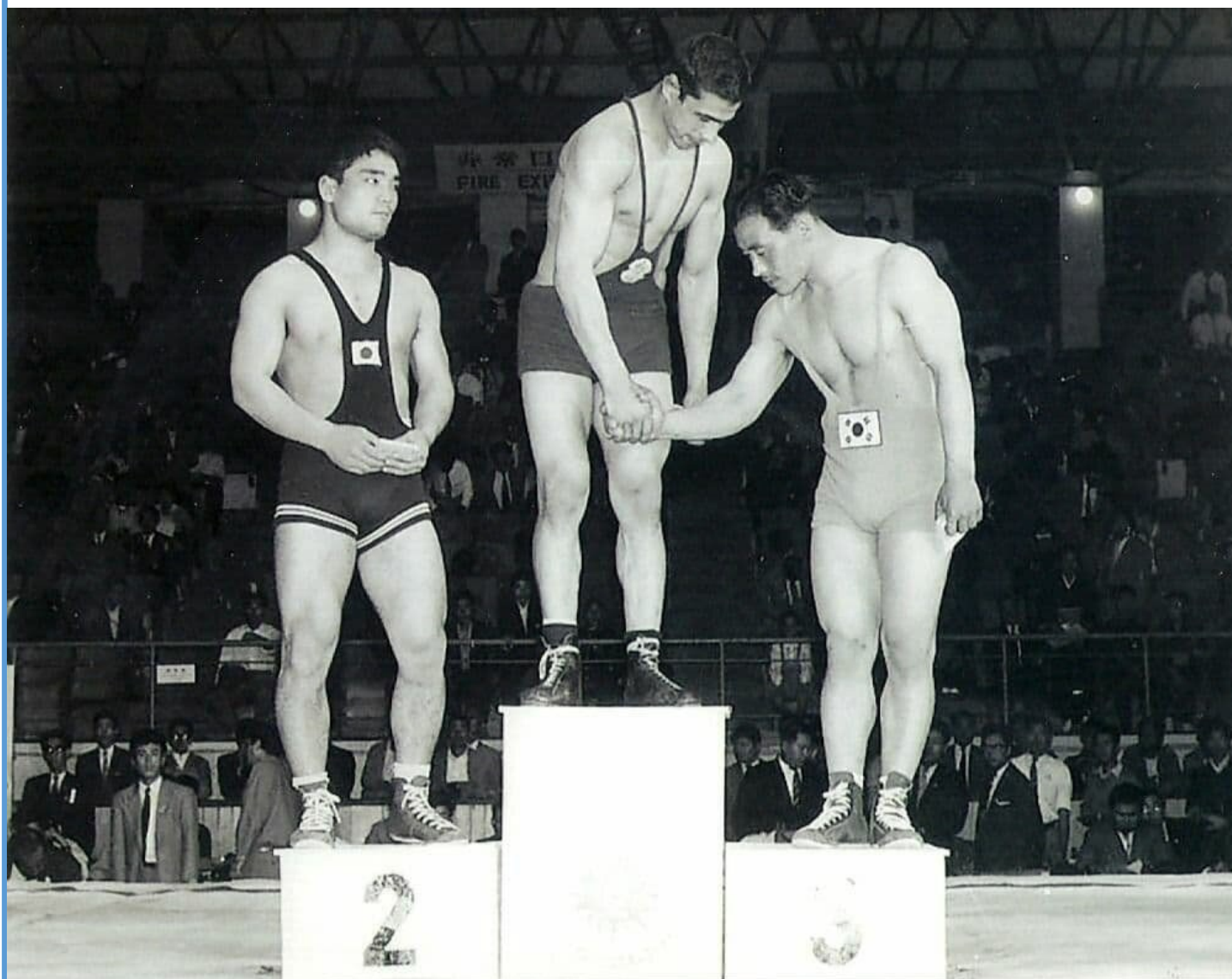
In 2022, Taremi can likely look forward to a FIFA World Cup, which may yet be the crowning moment of what has become a superb career.





## SPORTS

### IRAN MARKS 54TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF GHOLAMREZA TAKHTI



The 54th death anniversary of Iranian legendary wrestler Gholamreza Takhti was held. The memorial was held at Ibn-e Babouyeh Cemetery in southern Tehran, near Shahr-e Ray, where he is commemorated every year by the Iranians. Takhti was born in Tehran on August 27, 1930 and was found dead in a hotel room on January 7, 1968. He won the gold medal in the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne, defeating Boris Kulayev from Soviet Union in the final match.

Takhti also claimed two Olympics silver medals in 1952 Helsinki and 1960 Rome. He won two World Championships gold medals in 1959 Tehran and 1961 Yokohama. The freestyle wrestler also seized a gold medal in the 1958 Asian Games held in Tokyo, Japan. Takhti is the most famous wrestler in Iranian history. The legend was known for his chivalry and sportsmanship and continues to symbolize the essence of sports to the Iranian people.



# Qasem soleimani #Hero

## The assassination of General Soleimani; A violation of international law

The assassination of General Soleimani and his companions was a terrorist attack which was orchestrated and carried out at the direct order of the then US President Trump

The US president officially claimed responsibility for the crime and the US government is held internationally accountable for the assassination.

The US committed a serious and severe violation of right to life and a breach of the ban on use of force.

All the orchestrators and perpetrators of thcrime have criminal responsibility. The orchestrators and perpetrators of the crime must be held accountable out of necessity to counter impunity.

The US crime was a violation of international law and human rights and was also an act of aggression against the Iraqi government.

Many international jurists and thinkers at numerous international bodies have condemned the US government.

Launching a terrorist attack against someone who is at the frontline of the fight against terror amounts to double standard and a big lie on the part of the self-proclaimed fighters against terrorism.

The terrorist and anti-human rights act of the United States provides the grounds for sanctioning the US officials who orchestrated and carried out the assassination of General Soleimani.

**anti-terrorism hero**



Center for Public Diplomacy, MFA, Iran

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Iranians and Iraqis commemorated the second anniversary of the martyrdom of anti-terror Commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani.

General Soleimani, his Iraqi trenchmate Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the second-in-command of Iraq's PMU, and ten of their deputies were martyred by an armed drone strike as their convoy left Baghdad International Airport on January 3, 2020. The attack was ordered by then US President Donald Trump.





# FOREIGN MISSIONS IN IRAN

**#China and #Iran announces the launch of the implementation of a comprehensive cooperation plan**



**Indian embassy in Tehran Underlines India's continued commitment to develop & promote ChabaharPort**



**The ambassador of Slovenia highlights his country's supporting joint efforts to strengthen #EU - #Iran relations and its continuation in the future**



**Swiss embassy introduces two delish marine meals from Switzerland and Iran**





## DISCOVER IRAN IN PICTURES

### GREAT SALT DESERT IN IRAN

Dasht-e Kavir, also known the Great Salt Desert, is a large desert lying in the middle of the Iranian Plateau. It is about 800-kilometre-long (500 mi) by 320-kilometre-wide (200 mi) with a total surface area of about 77,600 km<sup>2</sup> (30,000 sq mi), making it the world's 24th largest desert. The area of this desert stretches from the Alborz mountain range in the northwest to the Dasht-e Lut in the southeast. It is partitioned among the Iranian provinces of Khorasan, Semnan, Tehran, Isfahan and Yazd.

Dasht-e Kavir's climate is arid; it receives little rain or snow. However, the mountains that surround it provide plenty of runoff—enough to create vast seasonal lakes, marshlands and playas. Temperatures can reach 50 °C (122 °F) in summer, and the average temperature in January is 22 °C (72 °F). Daytime and nighttime temperatures can vary by as much as 70 °C (130 °F) over the course of a year. Rain usually falls in winter.

