

Iran in a Week

Amid the ongoing conflict involving Israel, Hamas and Hezbollah, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi visited Riyadh on October 9 as part of a regional tour. He met with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan to address crucial issues, including ways to halt the Israeli assault on Palestine and Lebanon and the provision of humanitarian aid. Araghchi's visit also signifies Tehran's

intent to strengthen ties with Saudi Arabia amid allegations of US and Israeli attempts to thwart this détente. Araghchi highlighted the positive trajectory of bilateral relations which he described as "growing and heading in a good direction." This meeting followed an earlier discussion on October 2 between Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and the Saudi foreign minister in Doha, where Pezeshkian

also expressed satisfaction with the improving relations. Saudi Arabia's diplomatic strategy is characterized by its dual approach: maintaining a strong alliance with the United States while cautiously engaging with Iran. Riyadh seeks to cultivate stable relations based on good neighborliness and non-interference, reflecting a careful calibration in light of regional volatility.

News

Politics:

MP Mohammad Reza Sabaghian: "Our request to the authorities is to change Iran's nuclear doctrine. Producing nuclear weapons is an option for Iran to establish deterrence."



Araghchi, speaking from Riyadh: "We hope that our consultations in Saudi Arabia will result in bringing peace to the region."



Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf met with Lebanon's caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati in Beirut.

Security and Military:



1 Deputy Commander of the Internal Security Forces, Brigadier General Qasem Rezaei: "The police will be equipped with electric stun guns."



2 Former Justice Minister Mostafa Pourmohammadi: "200 cases of espionage and economic sabotage were uncovered in Iran over the past year."



3 Quds Force Commander Brigadier General Esmail Qaani attended the funeral of Abbas Nilforoushan.

The Region and the World:



Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO): "Iran has not tested a nuclear bomb."



U.S. Treasury Department: "New sanctions target dozens of entities and vessels linked to Iran's oil and petrochemical industries."



European Union: "Sanctions have been imposed on Iranian airlines (Iran Air, Mahan Air, and Saha) for allegedly transporting missiles and drones to Russia."

Society and Culture:



Spokesperson for Emergency Services in Ahwaz: "An explosion at a coal mine in Haftgel has left three people injured."



Statistical Center of Iran: "Kermanshah and Isfahan top the poverty chart in Iran, with poverty indicators of 51% and 49%, respectively."



Director General of Forensic Medicine in Mazandaran Province: "25 people have died from alcohol poisoning."

Editorials



From VPNs to People's Lives: "As a result of the government's internet censorship, VPN providers are making huge profits from people who face economic hardship. This is utterly unfair. Since the formation of the new government, the prices of several essential goods have increased, placing greater pressure on the public."



Adverse Social Conditions: "The war in Gaza and Lebanon has cast its shadow over us too, as the exchange rate rises daily. Accidents occur across various industries, with hundreds of lives lost each year. The explosion at the Tabas coal mine led to around 50 deaths. Consider traffic accidents; more than 17,000 people lose their lives annually on the roads. We must admit that this system is flawed and requires reform."



When Will the War End? "The war has continued unabated for over a year, extending to Yemen, Iran, the West Bank, and Lebanon. The ultimate determinant of the war is southern Lebanon. The recent activation of the Iranian diplomatic apparatus signaled that the fate of Hezbollah is a strategic concern. Israel's focus has been on silencing Hezbollah. So far, this has resulted in Sheikh Naim Qassem accepting a ceasefire, with no mention of Gaza."