

Iran in a Week

This year's anniversary of the Iranian revolution coincided with mounting domestic and regional challenges for Tehran. Chief among them is the weakening of the "Axis of Resistance," setbacks in Iran's expansionist policies across the region, escalating Israeli threats against its nuclear sites and a worsening economic crisis. Amid these pressures, signals from Donald Trump — both before and after his election victory — about a possible

new nuclear deal sparked optimism in Iran. A fierce debate emerged between those urging negotiations to ease economic burdens and those rejecting talks, citing Trump's unpredictability and history of pressuring even US allies. However, the debate took a sharp turn when Trump reimposed his maximum pressure policy on Iran, reinforcing skepticism among Iran's "hardliners" who opposed negotiations. These factions seized the revolution's

anniversary as an opportunity to rally support for rejecting US talks. While state-organized celebrations drew large crowds, the government was caught off guard by parallel demonstrations in Tehran, Kermanshah, Mashhad and Arak where protesters chanted slogans such as "Death to Khamenei" and "Death to the Dictator," expressing frustration over Tehran's continued refusal to engage with Washington.

News

Politics:



Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei: "It is neither intelligent nor honorable to negotiate with the US government, which violated the nuclear agreement and withdrew from it. There should be no negotiations with it."



Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf: "The leader has rejected negotiations with the US, and this is the final word. My request to the president is to heed the leader's orders."



National Confidence Party spokesman Esmail Gerami-Moghaddam: "The most significant challenge facing the Islamic Republic after 46 years is the public's growing discontent and frustration."



Expediency Discernment Council member Mohsen Rezaei: "If Trump does not stay out of the Iranian people's way, he will receive a severe blow."

Security and Military:



1 Defense Minister Aziz Nasirzadeh: "We will not negotiate under sanctions and threats. No agreement can be reached with the current US government."



2 IRGC Commander-in-Chief Major General Hossein Salami: "We do not intend to wage war against any country we recognize."



3 IRGC Navy Commander Admiral Ali Tangisiri: "Trump is incapable of carrying out his threats against Iranian oil exports."

The Region and the World:




The FBI offers a reward for information on Robert Levinson and two Iranian intelligence operatives.




The United States imposes sanctions on an international network transporting Iranian oil to China.


Economy:



President Pezeshkian: "A large number of people in Iran are struggling and need financial assistance."



It is heartbreaking — the dollar surpasses 920,000 rials.



The heads of the three branches have decided to privatize Iran Khodro Automotive Company.

Society and Culture:



Videos show citizens in several Iranian cities chanting "Death to Khamenei, the murderer" during celebrations marking the Iranian revolution's anniversary.



Iran Human Rights Organization: Three prisoners were executed in Tabriz and Zanjan by judicial authorities.

Editorials



1 Tightening Their Belts: During a meeting with segments of Iran's armed forces, the supreme leader urged Iranians — especially government officials and experts — to align with the establishment's stance on US negotiations. His assessment: talks with Washington will not solve Iran's problems, effectively shutting the door on direct dialogue. Millions of Iranians already face hardship, enduring psychological and physical suffering even before new sanctions tighten export restrictions.



2 Buried Hopes: With the dollar at 92,000 tomans, housing, cars, phones, marriage and life itself are dreams Iran's youth will take to their graves. The country's political economy has worsened people's lives, while lawmakers focus on hijab, blackouts and foreign policy. The people suffer as officials hoard wealth. The poor now make up 70% of the population, turning Iran into another North Korea. The people deserve better.



3 Palestine & Trump's Plan: Trump proposed rebuilding Gaza and relocating Palestinians to Arab states — a plan met with broad Arab and European opposition. Peace requires a two-state solution, respecting the initiative of the late Saudi King Abdullah, recently reaffirmed by its leaders.