

Iran in a Week

Iran’s leadership has turned the nuclear file and its tensions with the IAEA into a political tool to manage internal crises and deflect attention from deep structural problems. By expanding enrichment, complicating inspections and accusing the IAEA of politicization, Tehran sustains a deliberate state of tension that

allows it to cast economic hardship as the result of an external existential struggle rather than decades of corruption and mismanagement. Each escalation tightens sanctions and narrows financial options, yet the government frames these costs as defending sovereignty. At the same time, Iran seeks the

benefits of the nuclear deal without meeting its obligations, undermining international trust and increasing isolation. Domestically, this approach widens social inequalities, erodes purchasing power and exposes the establishment’s inability to offer real economic solutions.

News

Politics:



Former President Mohammad Khatami: “After the 12-Day War, even if conditions have not worsened, they certainly have not improved.”



Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Saeed Khatibzadeh: “Our nuclear program has not been touched, and we will preserve it.”



Former Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi: “The current approach in foreign policy threatens Iran’s strategic isolation.”



Deputy Speaker of Parliament Ali Nikzad: “After the strikes we carried out against the Zionist entity, Israel begged for the war to stop.”

Security and Military:



Member of Parliament’s National Security and Foreign Policy Committee Ruhollah Najabat: “If the Zionist regime makes another mistake, it will not be a second war but the final war; the disappearance of the Zionists will be brought about by their own hands.”



The IRGC officially announces the seizure of the vessel Talara.



Iran’s Supreme Court upholds the execution of three political prisoners in the city of Ahwaz.




IRGC Spokesperson Brigadier General Ali Mohammad Naeini: “The Zionist regime is in no condition to wage a war.”


The Region and the World:



Former British Ambassador to Yemen Edmund Fitton-Brown, responding to the IRGC’s seizure of an oil tanker in the Arabian Gulf: “It is time to sink the Revolutionary Guard’s boats.”



Swedish Security Service (SÄPO): Iran used the Imam Ali Mosque as a platform for intelligence activities on Swedish soil.



President Donald Trump: “Iran does want to make a deal. I think they very badly want to make a deal.”

Economy:



Head of the Dairy Products Association Ali Ehsan Zafari: “The rise in raw milk prices over the past five months equals the increase seen over the last 50 years.”



Head of the National Livestock Supply Council Mansour Buryan: “People can no longer afford red meat — not even frozen Brazilian beef.”



Head of the Planning and Budget Organization Hamid Pourmohammadi: “Importing \$6 billion worth of gasoline reduces the funds available for bread, medicine and the defense sector.”

Society and Culture:



Member of Parliament’s Health Committee Ahmad Aryaei Nejad: “A segment of society has stopped going to the doctor because of the high cost of treatment and medication.”




Deputy Health Minister Shahin Akhoundzadeh: “Most of those leaving Iran are wealthy, because they believe they will not advance academically here.”




Former Deputy Minister of Higher Education Gholamreza Zarifian: “12,000 Iranian university professors have left the country over the past decade.”

Editorials

1



Etemad Newspaper



Sanctions, Corruption and the Drain of Hope: Where Is the Way Out?

Iran is experiencing one of the most perilous phases in its modern history. As economic pressures intensify, social discontent rises and environmental challenges worsen, a central question confronts both the authorities and society: what is the path to saving Iran?

2



Jahan-e Sanat Newspaper



Hear the Cries of the Suffering People

Our society is grappling with numerous problems — it is ailing. We must ask why people are this angry and distressed. Iranians, especially the youth and women, expected — and still expect — the government, Parliament and local councils they elected to deliver better environmental, economic and social conditions.

3



Setar-e Sobh Newspaper



The Roots of National Power Decline
National power emerges from processes of social participation: free elections, an open economy, adoption of modern technologies, a strong currency and the use of technocrats in governance. In Iran, these elements are either absent, marginalized or deprioritized.

4



Hammihan



The Crisis of Credible Information Iranian society is in a state of anticipation — not only the people but the authorities as well. Negative news from abroad — signaling a renewed slide toward war — is fueling the tension. Inside the country, the path appears blocked and there are no positive external signals either.