

# Iran in a Week

The protests in Iranian bazaars, particularly in Tehran’s commercial center, signal more than a temporary economic downturn. They reflect a moment of acute tension, where currency crises, eroding public trust and political deadlock intersect. The bazaar, highly sensitive to economic shifts, rarely acts without weighing power and stability. Its unrest sends

dual messages: to the state about the limits of control and to society about structural crisis threatening the social contract. Rising rial instability and weakening monetary tools are driving the middle class into anxiety, turning localized protests into forums for cumulative political expression. Security measures may limit expansion but deepen

divides. The future hinges on three scenarios: temporary containment, fragile calm via repression or limited reform and dialogue. Iran now faces a critical juncture where currency stability and legitimacy, as well as market and state management, are inseparable.

## News

### Politics:



**Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf on Trump:** “All American bases in the region are a legitimate target for us.”



**Former Reformist Front President Behzad Nabavi:** “Today’s generation in Iran rejects the reformist current.”



**Member of the Expediency Discernment Council Mostafa Mirsalim:** “Trump must await retribution.”



**Vice President for Executive Affairs Jafar Qaem Banah:** “We must have missiles; we are in a wartime atmosphere.”

### Security and Military:



**HRANA (Human Rights Activist Agency in Iran):** 29 Twenty-nine protesters killed so far by the ninth day of protests, and at least 1,203 others arrested.



**Member of the Iranian Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, Alaeddin Boroujerdi:** “Iranian missile capabilities will increase in the future.”



**Iranian Judiciary Communications Center:** Execution carried out against Ali Ardestani, accused of spying for Mossad.



**Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council Ali Larijani, addressing Trump:** “Intervention in Iran equals the collapse of the entire region.”

### The Region and the World:



The Australian government calls on its citizens to leave Iran immediately.



**UN Secretary-General António Guterres, addressing Iran:** “Respect the right to peaceful protest.”



**U.S. President Donald Trump:** “If the Islamic Republic opens fire on protesters, we will come to their aid.”

### Economy:



**Government Spokeswoman Fatemeh Mohajerani:** “In the coming weeks, food prices will rise by between 20% and 30%.”



**Head of the Iranian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Majid Reza Hariri:** “The issue of instability in Venezuela has been ongoing for at least five to six months, and anyone with funds there has already withdrawn them.”



The U.S. dollar exchange rate in Iran hits a new record, reaching 147,000 toman.

### Society and Culture:



**Minister of Communications, Sattar Hashemi:** “The internet shutdown is not permanent; it depends on special circumstances while taking security considerations into account.”



**Grand Ayatollah Nouri Hamedani:** “People are fed up with high prices; the difficulty of living has broken their backs.”



**Head of the Judiciary, Chief Justice Ebrahim Raisi (Mohseni-Eje'i):** “We will show no mercy to rioters this time.”

## Editorials

1



**The Message Ffrom Merchants' Protests:** A Miscalculation in Assessing Public Opinion:  
The most important message of the recent protests is the miscalculation in diagnosing the state of public opinion and citizens’ demands, the weakness in problem-solving, the absence of an effective mechanism to hear the voices of different social groups and classes, and excessive reliance on official opinion polls. Have we not witnessed merchants’ protests in recent years over increases in value-added tax? Why, then, was the necessary lesson not learned from that experience? These protests also highlight Another important message of such incidents is our weakness in the processes of persuasion and being persuaded.

2



**Abnormal LifeSocial Dysfunction and the Emergence of “Influential Monopoly Forces:**  
The bitter reality is that Iranian society has gradually become to dyslive functional an abnormal life due to long-term structural transformationsissues. In practical terms, Iran — whatever the reasons — lacks trade with half of the world, which coincidentally needs Iranian oil and gas. This situation has opened the door for institutions, groups, and individuals to export oil and recover its revenues, a group referred to as “influential monopoly forces” entrusted with selling the Iranian people’s oil.

3



**Reading Trump’s Threat:**  
In a new interventionist move, Donald Trump stated that if protesters are killed in Iran, he would take action against it. This threat should not be dismissed as his previous ones were; rather, it must be taken very seriously, and measures should be considered to prevent fatalities during demonstrations. Trump is a non-traditional president, and whatever he says, he seeks to implement without hesitation. Therefore, there is a possibility that he could launch an attack on Iran under the pretext of suppressing supporting protesters.

4



**Tomorrow Will Be Too Late:**  
The promises made by officials regarding economic problems and resolving people’s livelihood crises are impractical, even if they appear appealing on the surface. With these promises — largely slogan-driven, even when issued with good and sincere intentions — no real path is opened to untangle the complexities of life or to resolve livelihood crises. Mafia networks within governing institutions are extremely powerful, and tolerating them is the gravest mistake.