

Iran in a Week

Iran is experiencing a complex political moment that goes far beyond a conventional protest movement, evolving into a broad test of state authority and its internal and regional balances. The current unrest is fueled by a sensitive triad: the legacy of repression following the 12-Day War and the resulting fracture in the state's image, a severe economic collapse that has devastated both middle and vulnerable classes and the political and media momentum generated by opposition groups abroad. What distinguishes this wave is its overlap with

a significant shift in US rhetoric, as Donald Trump moves from strategic pressure to openly signaling an intent to reshape Iran's internal landscape, adding an international dimension inseparable from domestic dynamics. Meanwhile, the ruling establishment faces its narrowest margins of maneuver since the founding of the Iranian republic. A shrinking network of regional allies, rising doubts about security-sector cohesion and eroding trust among traditional social bases have pushed the state toward a posture of permanent

emergency. Internet shutdowns and media blackouts have widened the gap between official narratives and street realities, deepening the crisis into one of legitimacy. Three scenarios emerge: harsh containment that prolongs the system, slow institutional change from within or limited external intervention that disrupts but does not topple the establishment. In all cases, Iran appears headed toward a prolonged phase of political reconfiguration centered on redefining statehood and legitimacy.

News

Politics:



Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei: "Trump is a pharaoh, and we will show no leniency toward the saboteurs."



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian: "We must act in a way that makes people optimistic about the revolution."




Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi: "We have documents proving US involvement in the terrorist agitation against Iran."



Secretary-General of the Executives of Construction Party Hussein Marashi: It is necessary to form a "tripartite cooperation between Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United States" to save the country.




Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Esmail Baghaei: "We are seeking ways to resolve problems related to internet access for foreign diplomatic missions in Iran."



Parliament Speaker Mohammed Bagher Ghalibaf, addressing Trump: "Come and see what will happen to American bases and US forces — and let them be burned by the fire of Iran's artillery."

Security and Military:



Hrana Human Rights Agency: Confirmation of the killing of 2,403 protesters, including 12 children and 147 members of the security forces.



Iranian Police Commander Ahmad Reza Radan, addressing protesters: "Those who surrender will be granted the mercy of the Islamic Republic."




Hal Vash Human Rights Organization: Widespread killings of protesters in Tehran and other cities amid an internet shutdown.



Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Larijani: "We have weaknesses in our country, and the protests have formed on this basis."



Tehran Governor Motamediān, addressing protesters: "The police have authorization to use weapons."




Public and Revolutionary Prosecutor of Yazd Province Hassan Pour: "Riot instigators are moharebs (those waging war against God) and will be executed."

The Region and the World:



Prince Reza Pahlavi: "Urgent US action will save thousands of Iranian lives."




Doug Madory, director of internet analysis at the network intelligence platform Kentik: The Iranian republic is waging "a form of cyber warfare to disrupt Starlink signals."



US President Donald Trump, addressing Iranian protesters: "Help is on the way."

Society and Culture:



Statement by 184 Iranian filmmakers: "Opening fire on people is a crime against the right to life."




Iran in digital darkness after 17 days of popular protests.



Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi: "The internet was cut off with God's help to sever communications between terrorists."

Editorials

1


Jahan-e Sanat Newspaper

An Economy Humiliated 130 Times:

The government granted all Iranians vouchers worth 1 million tomans (about \$7.5), usable only for basic goods. Officials have promoted this as an achievement, turning it into a propaganda tool.

2


Mardom Salari

Iran at a Crossroads

Iran has reached a "moment of decision." Accumulated crises have left three paths: street-driven upheaval, externally imposed change or gradual reform through dialogue. The hope is that the system chooses the least costly and most humane option.

3


(Arman Melli Newspaper)

Iran's Stance Toward Israel

After the 12-Day War, Tehran may not wait passively if Israeli deployments signal an attack. Israeli hesitation reflects concern over Iran's readiness and deterrence.

4


Hammihan

Protests and Statistics

Parliament claimed military deaths far exceeded protester deaths, while a "hardliner" paper denied any crisis. Denial, however, signals weakness — not strength.