

Iran in a Week

Iran’s ruling establishment faces growing uncertainty amid near-daily clashes with armed groups, dismantled cells and assassinations in border provinces. Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei urged police to use artificial intelligence to improve data analysis and operational efficiency, while President Masoud Pezeshkian vowed to defeat the “enemy” in its economic war, describing it as less visible but more brutal

than military conflict. Chief Justice Gholamhossein Mohseni Eje’i acknowledged attempts to destabilize security, saying “hired fools” had conducted recent assassinations. Meanwhile, the nuclear debate intensified. Atomic Energy Organization Head Mohammad Eslami ruled out abandoning uranium enrichment or surrendering enriched uranium. Tehran’s interim Friday prayer leader

questioned Iran’s continued commitment to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), while lawmaker Ebrahim Rezaei said Parliament had drafted more than 10 bills proposing withdrawal. Former Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif challenged nuclear deterrence, asking whether Israel’s nuclear arsenal had protected it despite its devastation of Gaza.

News

Politics:



Spokesperson for the Iranian Parliament's National Security Committee Hassan Qashqavi: “The idea of revising Iran’s nuclear doctrine is gaining strength by the day, among the general public, experts, and even officials.”



Secretary-General of the Executives of Construction Party Hossein Marashi: “Any tactical retreat necessary to preserve Iran should be made.”



Former Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif: “Why are our ambassadors in the region, in Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq, representatives of the Quds Force? Because we regard these countries as threats. If we do not regard them as threats, the conditions for opportunities will emerge.”



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi: “Negotiations are ongoing, and we will respond to the United States within the next few days.”



Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran Mohammad Eslami: “We will not give up uranium enrichment, nor will we hand over enriched uranium.”



Mohammad Rashidi, member of the Iranian Parliament's Presiding Board: “A motion to question Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has been registered in the parliamentary system, but it has not yet been submitted to the Presiding Board.”

Security and Military:



Hengaw Organization for Human Rights: Iraqi national Ayoub Mohammad Nabil was executed at Rasht Central Prison in Iran on charges of spying for Saudi Arabia.



IRGC Navy: All vessels in the Strait of Hormuz that switch off their navigation and identification systems will be considered hostile and dealt with firmly and decisively.



The IRGC Aerospace Force tested more than 30 Emad and Kheibar missiles. Meanwhile, the IRGC also conducted drone tests in southern Iran.



IRGC Navy: The giant liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) carrier NV Sunshine, operated by NATWIT, came under attack while attempting to cross the illegal passage south of the Strait of Hormuz, triggering a massive fire in its engine room and propulsion system.

Society and Culture:



Ezzatollah Zarghami, former head of Iran's state broadcaster: “I sometimes listen to Friday sermons, and the things people are asked to do are astonishing. Because we fail to present religion to the public in its proper form, people end up viewing religion itself with suspicion.”



Mohammad Taghi Fazel Meybodi, member of the Association of Qom Seminary Teachers: “Sanctions and inflation have broken the people's backs. The Iranian people have never experienced days as bitter and difficult as these under the Islamic Republic.”



Mai Sato, UN special rapporteur on the human rights situation in Iran: “Families of people executed in Iran are being targeted by the regime for punishment and subjected to pressure.”

Economy:



Head of the Iranian General Practitioners Association: “Around 35% of general practitioners have stopped practicing medicine and turned to driving for ride-hailing apps to earn a living.”



Central Bank of Iran: Iran's economy contracted by 12% in the spring of this year.



MP Alireza Abbasi: “Damage to production facilities at the South Pars gas field has reduced the country's daily natural gas production capacity by 20%. Estimates indicate that restoring the damaged capacity will take between two and three years.”

The Region and the World:



UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham told the House of Commons that the plot to attack RAF Fairford was almost certainly planned on the orders of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).



The US State Department's Persian-language account on X issued an urgent security warning on Friday, stating: “Do not travel to Iran for any reason. Iranian citizens should leave Iran immediately.”



The US Treasury Department added six individuals, 27 companies and 22 vessels to its Iran-related sanctions list.

Editorials

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Jahan Sanat newspaper

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Should We Brace for Another War?
Officials of the Iranian republic have consistently waged a major media campaign around two central themes: “America's numerous and comprehensive failures in the war” and “the lack of any impact of military destruction on the country's economy or of sweeping sanctions on Iran's economy.” Anyone lacking insight or knowledge who followed the news coverage of official media outlets and those closely aligned with the ruling establishment, along with their accounts of the impact of the 15-month war on the lives and livelihoods of the Iranian people, might conclude that the coming days and months would bring devastation and ruin, and that American citizens would soon rise up against the current administration because of runaway inflation. Meanwhile, domestic news reports portray a country seemingly untouched by inflation or recession. Thus, even at a time when the people and government are enduring acute hardship, the country's leaders, whether willingly or reluctantly and based on their own calculations, see no harm in another war with the United States. The reality, however, is that the Iranian people do not want war under any circumstances.

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Arman Emrooz

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An All-out War Against Iran
Russia's decision to supply the United States with 300,000 tons of diesel amid the US-Iran war demonstrates that every country seeks to use this instrument to advance its national interests. We cannot expect other countries to work toward achieving our interests. Iran, which has generated the greatest benefits for oil exporters by driving up prices, has itself been deprived of the ability to sell its oil. The suffocating blockade of Iranian ports and waters has imposed the most extensive oil embargo on the country, preventing it from exporting oil normally. Perhaps this is only the second time since the eight-year war that Iran has found itself confronting all the major powers. Today, in the oil sector, it stands alone against the interests of numerous major powers.

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Setar-e Sobh Newspaper

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Ceding Iranian Territory to a Foreign Country
MP Mohsen Zanganeh said in an interview with Afghanistan's Sahar TV that, following negotiations with the Taliban government's minister of industry and commerce, it had been decided to allocate approximately 10 hectares of land near the waters of Chabahar Port and more than 100 hectares near the port's special economic zone in the first phase to Afghanistan. The Afghan government would invest in these plots to build the infrastructure needed to transport its goods by sea. If his statement is false, it constitutes a clear instance of violating Article 698 of Iran's Islamic Penal Code, which concerns “spreading falsehoods and disturbing public opinion.” If it is true, then a thousand times woe to us over what is being done to Iran's land and soil.

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Javan Newspaper

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The Erosion of Social Capital
Farshad Momeni, head of the Institute for Religious and Economic Studies, criticized the weak diagnostic capacity of Iran's economic decision-making apparatus, its reluctance to publish statistics and the dominance of rent-seeking networks. His warnings about the abandonment of scientific methods, researchers' limited access to data and the prioritization of certain groups' interests over public needs raise serious questions about the reasons behind the persistence of economic and social crises. If limited resources are cited to justify failing to meet people's essential needs, from food and medicine to raw materials for production, while resources continue to be allocated to lower-priority activities or those serving private interests, society has every right to demand an explanation of the criteria guiding these decisions.