

Editorial Dept. Tel.: 33911561, 33110251-9

Ext.: 2334, 2336, 2337

Advertising Dept.: 33110251-9 Ext. 2336

Subscription Ext.: 2322

Facsimile: 33114228 & 33111120

Website: www.kayhan.ir/en

E-mail: kayhanintl@yahoo.com

P.O. Box: 11365/9631

Address: Martyr Shah Cheraghi Street, Ferdowsi Avenue,  
Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran

In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

## New Era for Iran-India Ties

By: S. Nawabzadeh

*Inseparably joined by geography, the Iranian Plateau and the Subcontinent have shared a long history of cultural, commercial, lingual, and religious ties that have withstood the test of time, despite the ups and downs that normally occur in political relationships.*

*Since time immemorial Iranians have migrated in large numbers to the landmass in the east, enriching the culture, art, architecture, literature, poetry, technology, culinary quality, and administration of what are now India and Pakistan.*

*If these exemplary ties reached their peak during the two centuries-plus rule of the Safavid dynasty when the borders of Iran and India overlapped in present day Afghanistan, with Qandahar often being the bone of contention, this relationship has been given a further boost with the new trade routes fast emerging in the region to interconnect the countries of Asia.*

*The interests of the people of the two sides in each other's affairs run so deep that if the 19th century Lord Macaulay had banned the use of Persian language in British India out of fear of the influence of political developments in Iran on the people of British India, in the 20th century, the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei (in the pre-Islamic Revolution years) had written an excellent research book on the role of Indian Muslims in the independence struggle the British colonialists.*

*This week the bilateral ties between Iran and India were further cemented with the 3-day visit of President Hojjat al-Islam Dr. Hassan Rouhani to India, his signing of at least 15 important bilateral agreements in various fields, and his 2-day memorable stay in the city of Hyderabad where he was given a rousing reception by the local people.*

*He spoke on Islamic solidarity, Shi'a-Sunni unity, the dangers of US-created Takfirism that feeds on disunity and sectarianism, and the age-old ties between Iran and India, particularly in the Deccan or southern India, where in the not so distant past successive dynasties of Iranian origin flourished to give birth to a cosmopolitan culture that culminated in the founding of the city of Hyderabad by the Qotb-Shahis from Hamedan and their Prime Minister and Master-Architect, Mir Momin Astarabadi of what is now Gorgan in Golestan Province.*

*Rouhani had the distinction of being the first president of a country to address the Friday congregation at the famous Mecca Masjid after and the weekly Prayer attended by both Sunni and Shi'a Muslims.*

*In New Delhi, the capital of India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi accorded a very warm reception to the Iranian President, and citing the historical ties of the two lands, called for working closely together to not only make a success story of trade ties, but to safeguard the security of the region.*

*India's emphasis on forging cordial ties is commendable in view of the pressures of the US on New Delhi against getting close to Tehran and the recent feverish attempts of the Zionists to dissuade Modi from cooperating with the Islamic Republic.*

*It, however, seems that the government of India, although predominantly Hindu, has realized the importance of the role played by Islamic Iran in promoting peace and security in the whole region spreading from West, Central and South Asia, through practical measures, such as Iran's profound influence on Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, and other places, to weed out terrorists which are also a danger for the security of India.*

*Iran also plays a strategic role in Afghanistan, with which India has cordial ties, and at the same time, enjoys friendly and fraternal ties with Pakistan, insisting that the two rivals of the subcontinent bury the hatchet and work towards the peace and prosperity of the region, rather than bowing to the pressures of outsiders, like the US, which in the future will no longer be there to cast its ominous shadow, while the people of the region will always be there.*

*In short, India's role in the development of Chabahar port and the rail-road link to Afghanistan and the land locked Central Asian states for facilitating trade, is beneficial to both Tehran and New Delhi, as well as the other countries of the region.*

# Rights Panel Rejects 'Hostile' Claims on Death in Prison



Iran's High Council for Human Rights says the U.S. and certain other countries are deliberately taking advantage of environmental activists to pursue their covertly hostile and aggressive objectives.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's High Council for Human Rights has categorically dismissed "hostile and baseless" claims raised by certain foreign media about the death of an Iranian environmentalist who was in prison on charge of espionage.

"Following intense attacks by foreign media spreading baseless and hostile claims against the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to suicide committed by Kavous Seyed Emami, Iran's High Council for Human Rights has released a

statement to shed light on the truth about the case," the council said in a statement.

Judiciary officials say Seyed Emami committed suicide in jail where he was under arrest for espionage charges under the cover of environmental activities.

In its statement, the council confirmed support for environmental activities, but also warned against hostile objectives under their cover, "particularly military invasion or terrorist

activities".

"The United Nations and its related organizations are expected to strongly warn the United States and other countries which are deliberately taking advantage of environmental activists to pursue their covertly illegal, hostile and aggressive objectives," it said.

"In fact, the credibility of the UN and its family of organizations is the main victim of such abuses," it added.

The council further criticized

## Azeri Sisters Reunite in Iran After 60 Years

TEHRAN (IFP) -- An Azeri woman and her biological siblings, unknown to each other for over six decades, have met for the very first time in Iran.

After decades apart, Lyudmila, a 63-year-old geography graduate from Moscow State University, had a face-to-face reunion with Zivar and Safiyeh, his elder half-sisters, in Meshginshahr in northwest Iran Thursday.

According to a report by IRNA, the story begins in 1940s, when their father, Nowruz Barpoosh, travels to Soviet Union on a business visit.

But the unfortunate businessman gets caught in the country, as his trip coincides with an order by former Soviet premier Joseph Stalin that Iranian nationals must be deported or exiled.

Nowruz gets arrested and sent into exile in Siberia, losing connection with his wife and three daughters in Iran.

After spending several years in exile, eventually Nowruz gets free, but he cannot return to Iran due to a travel ban imposed by the Soviet Union.

Nowruz moves to Azerbaijan's

Ganja, where he remarries an Azeri woman who gives birth to two boys and one daughter.

Nowruz, his Azeri wife, and their two sons died before the collapse of the Soviet Union, leaving Lyudmila alone.

After Azerbaijan declared independence in the wake of the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991, Nowruz's Iranian children started looking for their father in Azerbaijan.

Earlier this year, decades-long search finally led one of Nowruz's grandchildren to find his grave in Ganja, which helped him track the way to Lyudmila and allow the family to get together after over 60 years.

Lyudmila said she was really glad they were together. "It appears just like a dream to find my sisters and relatives at this age," she said.

"Since early childhood, I used to see my father expressing how much he missed his children in Iran. I was quite eager to see my sisters," she told IRNA, while shedding tears.

Zivar and Safiyeh said they did lots of searching through the years when they were younger, but they failed to find a trail of their father as they had not much information to go on.

## MP: No FATF Accession If It Harms Iran's Interests

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- An Iranian lawmaker says the parliament will not approve the country's accession to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) if it proves to be against the Islamic Republic's interests.

Muhammad-Reza Pourebrahimi, the chairman of the Iranian parliament's Economic Commission, touched upon the concerns of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and the Supreme National Security Council about the FATF.

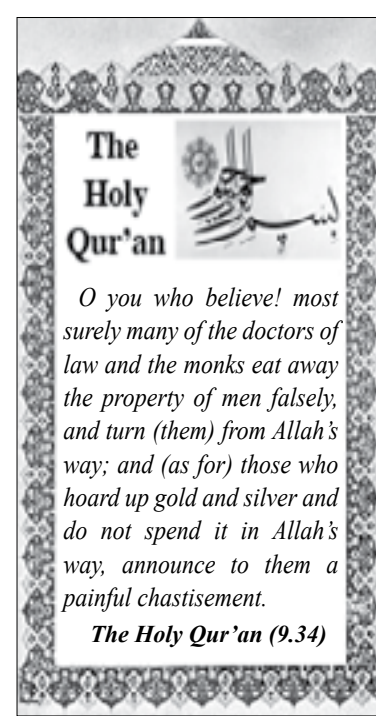
"The FATF will definitely lead to commitments for our country, and if those commitments run counter to our country's national interests, we won't accept them," he said in remarks by Mashregh News website.

The legislator stressed that laws in Iran are based on transparency.

"Before the discussions on the FATF began, the parliament had ratified laws, including one on fighting the financing of terrorism, which are in keeping with the FATF," he said.

The lawmaker was asked about the original timeline, i.e. December 2017, when the FATF was supposed to go into effect in Iran.

"Given that certain conditions need



### PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:18
Evening (Maghreb)	18:07
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:22
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:46

the UN for its "unjustifiable negligence" which is providing a cover for terrorist activities under the pretext of human rights advocates.

"The UN secretary general and his colleagues are certainly aware that in recent years, members to dangerous terrorist organizations such as MKO, PJAK, Komala, Rigi, etc. who have committed numerous crimes against innocent Iranian citizens and have blown up mosques and worshipping places filled by people, were introduced and supported in official reports by UN representatives nad human rights advocates," it said.

to be approved in order for our country to join the convention, the Islamic Republic will decide on that without setting any specific timeline and based on its national interests," he said.

"As far as the FATF is concerned, the Economic Commission will certainly take the country's national interests into account, and will present the prepared report to the Supreme National Security Council as well," he said.

The parliamentarian said the FATF report has been drawn up and is awaiting final approval.

The report was prepared after the government presented to lawmakers several bills on fighting efforts to sponsor terrorism and tackling money-laundering, which were in line with the FATF, he added.

"After the bills were presented to Parliament, the legislature's Presiding Board referred the bills to the Judicial and Legal Commission, and we are waiting for the commission to announce its final viewpoint about the bills, and if the commission's report is deemed insufficient, the Economic Commission will present its report in an open session of Parliament," said the MP.

## FM Zarif in Munich to Attend Security Conference

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif left for Germany late Saturday to attend and address a security conference in Munich.

In a statement on Saturday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi said, "Dr. Zarif will leave for Munich tonight, and according to schedule, he will deliver a

speech and elaborate on our country's viewpoints on the most important issues pertaining to regional and international security at the Munich security conference tomorrow, Sunday."

"I addition to delivering a speech at the conference, the Iranian foreign minister will meet and hold talks with some officials of foreign countries attending the conference," said the

spokesman.

Zarif accompanied Iranian President Hassan Rouhani in his first-ever official trip to India, and left New Delhi for Germany later Saturday.

The Munich Security Conference is an annual conference on international security policy that has taken place since 1963. It is the world's largest gathering of its kind.

Over the past four decades, the Munich Security Conference has become the most important independent forum for the exchange of views by international security policy decision-makers. Each year it brings together about 350 senior figures from more than 70 countries around the world to engage in an intensive debate on current and future security challenges.