

TEHRAN -- The number of deaths from the coronavirus pandemic in Iran increased to 142,861 with 55 more Iranians killed by the deadly disease over the past 24 hours, Iran's Health Ministry announced on Saturday.

The ministry detected 3,315 new cases during the period, 798 of whom were hospitalized. It said 7,161,858 patients out of a total of 7,468,894 infected people have recovered or been discharged from hospitals.

NEW DELHI (Reuters) -- The United States has expressed concern to India that it was being used to export fuel made from Russian crude, through high-seas transfers to hide its origin, to New York in violation of U.S. sanctions, a top Indian central banker said on Saturday.

The U.S. Treasury Department told India that an Indian ship picked up oil from a Russian tanker on the high seas and brought it to a port in Gujarat on the west coast, where it was refined and shipped on, said Reserve Bank of India Deputy Governor Michael Patra.

## Viewpoint

### Sentenced Apostates Die Many Times Before Their Death

## Apostate Rushdie Hospitalized With Serious Injuries

MAYVILLE, N.Y. (Dispatches) — Apostate British writer Salman Rushdie remained hospitalized Saturday after suffering serious injuries in a stabbing attack.

Rushdie, 75, suffered a damaged liver, severed nerves in an arm and an eye, and was on a ventilator, his agent Andrew Wylie said Friday evening. Rushdie was likely to lose the injured eye.

Police identified the suspect as Hadi Matar, 24. He was arrested after the attack at the Chautauqua Institution, a nonprofit education and retreat center where Rushdie was scheduled to speak.

Matar, of Fairview, New Jersey, was born in the United States to Lebanese parents who emigrated from Yaroun, a border village in southern Lebanon, Mayor Ali Tehfe told The Associated Press.

Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses", published in 1988, was viewed as blasphemous by many Muslims who saw a character as an insult to Prophet Muhammad (Peace upon Him), among other objections.

Police said the motive for the Friday attack was unclear.

Matar was born a decade after "The Satanic Verses" first was published.

An AP reporter witnessed the attacker confront Rushdie on stage and stab or punch him 10 to 15 times as the author was being introduced. Dr. Martin Haskell, a physician who was among those who rushed to help, described Rushdie's wounds as "serious but recoverable."

Matar, like other visitors, had obtained a pass to enter the Chautauqua Institution's 750-acre grounds, Michael Hill, the institution's president, said.

The suspect's attorney, public defender Nathaniel Barone, said he was still gathering information and declined to comment. Matar's home was blocked off by authorities.

Rabbi Charles Savenor was among the roughly 2,500 people in the audience for Rushdie's appearance.

The assailant ran onto the platform "and started pounding on Mr. Rushdie. At first you're like, 'What's going on?' And then it became

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### President: We Will Not Ties Iran's Progress to JCPOA



### Iran Taekwondo Team Crowned Champion in Islamic Games



### UK Defence Secretary Admits 20-Year Afghanistan Occupation Ended in 'Failure'



# U.S. Far Right Calling for Civil War



The far right is calling for civil war after the FBI raid on Trump's home.

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) — Former U.S. president Donald Trump's supporters are flooding TikTok with videos about civil war in response to numerous political issues including the FBI raid on Mar-a-Lago.

In a long thread this week, left-wing blogger and Twitter user @LivingBlueTX shared more than 40 recent examples of instances in which conservative TikTok users made references to violence.

One such video shows an individual laying weapons and ammunition on his bed while telling his viewers to prepare.

"I seen what happened to Trump," the TikToker says. "Yea, it's go time. Everyone knows exactly what I'm talking about."

"The right is prepping for civil war. I'd report them all to the @

FBI, but I literally don't have time to sit report the hundreds of videos like this I'm seeing on my alt tiktok," the user added.

Trump's Florida mansion was raided on Monday by federal agents reportedly in search of classified documents that were removed from the White House. Conservatives immediately viewed the raid as part of a ty-

rannical effort to deter Trump from running for president in 2024.

Trump responded by boldly calling on the Department of Justice to release the search warrant, which agreed to do so with the former president's permission. Yet it was learned shortly after that Trump's lawyers had been in possession of a copy of the warrant since Monday and could have released it at any time.

The situation grew more dire after reports suggested that the documents in question may have been related to nuclear weapons. In response, Trump immediately began calling the allegations a "hoax" and began to claim that the FBI may have planted evidence at his home.

Despite the fact that classified information had already been found earlier this year in 15 boxes of records taken from the White House to Mar-a-Lago, many Trump supporters have continued to respond with violent rhetoric.

The calls for violence have

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## Europe's Rivers Running Dry

PARIS (Guardian) -- In places, the Loire can now be crossed on foot; France's longest river has never flowed so slowly. The Rhine is fast becoming impassable to barge traffic. In Italy, the Po is 2 meters lower than normal, crippling crops. Serbia is dredging the Danube.

Across Europe, drought is reducing once-mighty rivers to trickles, with potentially dramatic consequences for industry, freight, energy and food production — just as supply shortages and price rises due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine bite.

Driven by climate breakdown, an unusually dry winter and spring followed by record-breaking summer temperatures and repeated heatwaves have left Europe's essential waterways under-replenished and, increasingly, overheated.

With no significant rainfall re-

corded for almost two months across western, central and southern Europe and none forecast in the near future, meteorologists say the drought could become the continent's worst in more than 500 years.

"We haven't analyzed fully this year's event because it is still ongoing," said Andrea Torreti of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. "There were no other events in the past 500 [years] similar to the drought of 2018. But this year, I think, is worse."

He said there was "a very high risk of dry conditions" continuing over the next three months, adding that without effective mitigation drought intensity and frequency would "increase dramatically over Europe, both in the north and in the south".

Germany's Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG) said the level of the Rhine, whose waters are

used for freight transport, irrigation, manufacturing, power generation and drinking, will continue dropping until at least the beginning of next week.

On Friday the water at the critical Kaub marker 50km downstream from Mainz — which measures navigability, rather than the water depth — fell below 40cm, the level at which many shipping firms consider it is no longer economical for barges to operate. It could fall to nearer 30cm over the next few days, the BfG has said.

Many barges, which carry coal for power plants and vital raw materials for industrial giants such as steelmaker Thyssen and chemical giant BASF, are already operating at about 25% capacity to reduce their draft, raising shipping costs up to fivefold.

A vital part of northwest Europe's

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## Botched U.S. Piracy: Iran's Stolen Oil Reloaded

ATHENS (Dispatches) -- An Iranian-flagged tanker is reloading oil stolen in April by the United States after Greek authorities approved the release of the cargo, Iran's embassy in Athens and sources familiar with the matter said.

"The operation to transfer Iran's stolen oil to the Lana ... is underway in Greek waters, and the ship will soon depart for our country with a full shipment of oil," Iran's embassy in Greece said on its Twitter account.

"The transfer has started," a source with knowledge of the matter told Reuters on condition of anonymity, while a second source said the process started on Friday and was expected to be completed in days.

Tehran had previously

warned of "punitive action" against Athens over the case, which has strained relations between the two countries after the United States hired a ship to steal the oil from the Lana tanker, when it was anchored off Greece.

The U.S. State Department said in July it was "respectful that this case went through the Greek judicial process".

The Lana, formerly the Pegasus, had been expected to sail to the United States before Greece's supreme court ruled the cargo should be returned to Iran.

The ship had been anchored off the Greek port of Piraeus since late July waiting to reload part of its oil consignment held on the U.S.-chartered tanker the Ice Energy.

The removal of oil from the

Lana prompted Iranian forces in May to seize two Greek tankers in the Persian Gulf.

Iran's foreign ministry also summoned Greek chargé d'affaires to Tehran and conveyed the Islamic Republic's "strong protest" to the piracy.

Later, the chargé d'affaires of Switzerland, which represents U.S. interests in the Islamic Republic, was summoned and notified of Tehran's protest at Washington's violation of free trade laws.

Last month, the Supreme Civil and Criminal Court of Greece upheld a verdict issued earlier by a court of appeal in favor of the return of the oil cargo to the Iranian vessel. Celebrating the development at the time, the Iranian Embassy called it "another fiasco for pirates!"