

# Iran Runner-Up at Asian Junior Kurash Championship



TEHRAN – Iran's junior Kurash team came in second place in the Asian championship held in Thailand, Head of Iran's Kurash association Kourosh Khosrowyar said.

While the Iranian boys came second in the Asian tournament, Iran's female Kurash team came in fifth place.

Uzbekistan was crowned champion in the men's and women's categories of the event.

India became third in the men's category while Chinese Taipei landed in third place in the women's category at the competition.

The latest edition of the Asian Kurash championship kicked off on September 6.

## Khachanov Stuns Kyrgios, Garcia Tops Gauff at U.S. Open

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Russia's Karen Khachanov has reached his first Grand Slam semifinal after a hard-fought win over Nick Kyrgios, edging the Australian firebrand 7-5, 4-6, 7-5, 6-7(3), 6-4 at the U.S. Open.

Wimbledon runner-up Kyrgios, who had defeated top seed Daniil Medvedev in the last round, could not maintain his mojo in an intense quarterfinal which lasted more than three and a half hours.

"It's just devastating. It's heart-breaking," said 27-year-old Kyrgios, who smashed his rackets during the match to vent his anger and frustration at some so-close-yet-so-far results.

"I feel the pain for him,"



said Khachanov. "I was prepared. I was expecting that the crowd would be more for him, that he was the favorite in their eyes."

Khachanov will face No.5 seed

Casper Ruud, as the Norwegian notched a 6-1, 6-4, 7-6 (4) victory over Italian Matteo Berrettini in the quarterfinal on Friday for a berth in the championship match.

Earlier in the day, 28-year-old Caroline Garcia of France took charge and played high-stakes tennis in the women's singles, eliminating 18-year-old American Coco Gauff 6-3, 6-4 to reach the first Grand Slam semifinal of her career.

The 17th-seeded Frenchwoman who stretched her winning streak to 13 matches will face Wimbledon runner-up Ons Jabeur.

Fifth seed Jabeur of Tunisia became the first African woman to make a US Open semifinal in the professional era. She claimed a 6-4, 7-6 (4) victory over Australia's Ajla Tomljanovic, who had ousted Serena Williams in the previous round.

## Nadal Hints at Extended Break After U.S. Open Exit



Spain's Rafael Nadal hits a return to USA's Frances Tiafoe during their 2022 U.S. Open Tennis tournament men's singles Round of 16 match against at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York, on Sept 5, 2022.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Rafa Nadal said he needed to "fix things" and was unsure about his return to competitive tennis after his bid for a men's record-extending 23rd Grand Slam title ended

in the fourth round of the U.S. Open on Monday.

American Frances Tiafoe, who had lost both previous meetings against the 36-year-old left-hander, stunned

the second seed in front of a packed Arthur Ashe Stadium.

It was Nadal's first tournament at Flushing Meadows since he lifted his fourth U.S. Open title in 2019 and he arrived for the hardcourt major without much match practice and doubts hanging over his fitness.

"I need to go back," Nadal said, crediting his 24-year-old opponent for being the better player on the day.

"I need to fix things, life, then I don't know when I (am) going to come back. I (am) going to try to be ready mentally. When I feel that I will be ready to compete again, I will be there."

Nadal, who is expecting his first child with wife Mery Perello later this year, is scheduled to turn out for Team Europe during the Sept 23-25 Laver Cup in London alongside his great rivals Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray.

## Neymar Set for Brazil Playmaker Role at World Cup

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuters) - Neymar will be deployed in an attacking playmaking role for Brazil at this year's World Cup as the five-time world champions seek to capitalize on his scintillating form for Paris Saint-Germain.

The 30-year-old has scored nine goals and provided seven assists in eight games across all competitions for PSG this season as he relishes the freedom of a No. 10 role behind Kylian Mbappe.

And while it is a position to which he has grown accustomed since his 2017 move to PSG from Barcelona, Neymar has until now continued to play as a left-sided winger for Brazil, as he did during his four seasons at the Camp Nou. "Neymar's creative capacity is impressive," Tite said in an interview broadcast on Brazilian television on Tuesday. "When he's at his best physical and technical level, he's sharp, he has very



quick perceptions and he's able to elude tackles."

Brazil have been drawn in the same group as Serbia, Switzerland and Cameroon for the World Cup, to be played in Qatar from November 20 to December 18.

Tite, who has said he will step down as manager after the tournament, denied reports that he

had promised a place in the squad to 39-year-old right-back Dani Alves.

Alves, who joined Mexico's UNAM Pumas in July after parting ways with Barcelona, has made public his desire to go to Qatar after missing the last World Cup in Russia because of a knee injury.

## Brazil Bundle Iran Out of 2022 FIVB World Championship



TEHRAN – Brazil volleyball team swept past Iran in straight sets (25-17, 25-22, 25-23) in the FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship round of 16 Tuesday night.

Leal Hidalgo Yoandy led Brazil with 20 points in Gliwice, Poland.

Milad Ebadipour, Amirhussein Esfandiari and Muhammadjavad Manavinezhad earned eight points each for Iran.

Iran showed the poor performance against Egypt, the Netherlands and Brazil in the world championship.

The team, headed by Behrouz Ataei, had previously shone in the 2022 Volleyball Nations League but failed to meet expectations in the world championship.

Brazil will play Argentina on Friday in the quarterfinals round.

## Chelsea Sack Coach Tuchel Following Champions League Defeat



Thomas Tuchel

LONDON (AFP) - Chelsea on Wednesday sacked manager Thomas Tuchel just seven games into the season following a chastening 1-0 Champions League defeat at Dinamo Zagreb.

The London club said in a statement they had "parted company" with the German, who led them to Champions League glory in 2021 and the Club World Cup crown earlier this year.

"On behalf of everyone at Chelsea FC, the club would like to place on record its gratitude to Thomas and his staff for all their efforts during their time with the club," Chelsea said in a statement.

"Thomas will rightly have a place in Chelsea's history after winning the Champions League, the Super Cup and Club World Cup in his time here."

The Stamford Bridge club, under new owners Todd Boehly and Behdad Eghbali said they had made the change at the "right time".

Chelsea are sixth in the Premier League table after three wins, one draw and two defeats in their opening six matches.

Tuchel is the second Premier League manager to be fired this season -- Bournemouth sacking Scott Parker last week.

## Reigning Champion Roglic Out of Vuelta After Crash

MADRID (AFP) - Primož Roglic's hopes of a fourth successive victory in the Vuelta are over after injuries from a fall saw him withdraw from the race prior to the 17th stage.

"Unfortunately, @rogla will not be at the start of stage 17 as a consequence of yesterday's crash," tweeted his Jumbo-Visma team on Wednesday.

"Get well soon, champion! Thank you for all the beautiful moments in this Vuelta. You had ambitious plans for the final days, but sadly it isn't meant to be."

The 32-year-old Slovenian came to grief when he launched a late attack in Tuesday's stage, hoping to pick up bonus seconds in the sprint to close the gap on Belgian race leader Remco Evenepoel.

But 100m from the finish line Roglic, the three-time reigning champion, swerved and fell hard. His



left knee and hand were covered in blood.

He still crossed the line but was clearly in pain and holding his side, before slumping to his knees after he dismounted.

Roglic, who also retired early from this year's Tour de France as a result of a fall, was 1 minute 26

seconds adrift of Evenepoel with the race due to finish on Sunday.

Evenepoel's closest rival now is Spaniard Enric Mas, who needs to make up 2min 01sec.

Wednesday's stage is a challenging 162.3 kilometres ride which finishes high up at the Tentudia Monastery.