

Simorgh Undergoes Test Flight

TEHRAN – Iran on Tuesday successfully conducted flight test of a domestically-developed transit aircraft, the country's defense minister announced. Brigadier General Muhammad-reza Ashtiani made the announcement, addressing a gathering of Defense Ministry officials also attended by Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Major General Muhammad Bagheri. He said the Simorgh aircraft is a re-designed and developed version of the aircraft of its generation, which is fully suited to the needs of the national and military organizations. The minister said experts at the defense ministry and knowledge-based companies developed the aircraft in accordance with the country's weather conditions and international standards.

Kayhan

International

Iran FM: Saudi Rapprochement Not 'Tactical'

TEHRAN -- Iranian Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian says rapprochement between Iran and Saudi Arabia is not "a tactical agreement," stressing that relations with neighbors are among the Islamic Republic's priorities. "In the foreign policy of the current government, relations with our neighbors are a priority," he told French daily Le Figaro, adding that this is why the Islamic Republic held security negotiations for several months in Baghdad and Oman.

VOL NO: LV 11990 TEHRAN / Est.1959 **Wednesday, May 31, 2023, Khordad 10, 1402, Zil-Qa'dah 11, 1444, Price 300,000 Rials**

Viewpoint

Expectations From President Erdogan's Re-Election

President Raisi: Regional States Will Shape World's Future



Iranian Para-Shooters Grab Medals at WSPS World Cup



Zionist Killed in Resistance Forces' Operation in West Bank



Greetings O' Imam ar-Raouf

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

"It is He who sends down manifest signs to His servant (the Prophet) that He may bring you out of darkness into light, and indeed Allah is Most Kind and Merciful (Raouf ar-Raheem) to you." (Holy Qur'an 57:9)

As is obvious from the wording of the above Ayah, Almighty Allah calls Himself **"Raouf ar-Raheem"** (Most Kind and Merciful), while directing our thoughts to the manifest signs He has entrusted to His Last and Greatest Messenger, Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) for enlightening our minds, souls and hearts in order to remove the stains of darkness that gather because of ignorance and arrogance.

On eleven occasions the All-Merciful Lord has called Himself **"Raouf ar-Raheem"** in the Holy Qur'an, and in one Ayah has used this same phrase for Prophet Muhammad (SAWA):

"There has certainly come to you a Prophet from among yourselves; grievous to him is your distress; he has deep concern for you and is "raouf ar-raheem" (most kind and merciful) to the faithful." (Holy Qur'an 9:128)

Indeed Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), as the **"Mercy unto the creation"** (Holy Qur'an 21:107) entrusted with the universal message of Islam, embodied the most sublime virtues, as reflection of the attributes of the Unseen but Omnipresent Lord Who cannot be encompassed by the eyes of the creatures.

This was necessary for guidance of human societies on the path of perfection. It means that after the passing away of the Prophet there ought to be his Divinely-Designated Heirs who personify these same God-given virtues of the Messenger of Mercy, including the attribute of **"raouf ar-raheem"**, so as to serve as Barometers of Belief for Muslims. To remove any doubts in this regard and to draw a permanent line between truth and falsehood, or between the righteous Imams and the imposters, Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), towards the end of his 23-year mission, as commanded by the Lord Most High, proclaimed his dear cousin and son-in-law, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS) as his Heir, Vicegerent, and Caliph with that historical sentence:

"For whomsoever I am Master, this Ali is his Master."

Glory to the Lord Most High Who never leaves mankind without guidance. The Commander of the Faithful throughout his memorable life – during the lifetime of the Prophet, during the 25-years he patiently endured on the usurpation of his political right of leadership, and during his four-and-a-half rule as Head of the Islamic realm – gave a manifest demonstration of all his God-given virtues, including the phrase **"raouf ar-raheem"** (most kind and merciful).

The Imams of the Ahl al-Bayt after him continued the path of the Prophet as paragons-par-excellence of virtue, even under the most adverse circumstances, as Imam Husain (AS) displayed in Karbala the Godly Attribute of **"raouf ar-raheem"** vis-à-vis his unrepentant mortal enemies who heartlessly continued to martyr his friends, cousins, brothers, nephews, and sons, including the 6-month infant Ali Asghar, before his own tragic martyrdom.

Today on the blessed birthday of the Prophet's 8th Infallible Heir, Imam Reza (AS), whom millions of devotees from far and near salute as **"Ya Imam ar-Raouf"** – inside his holy mausoleum, at mosques, hussainiyyas, homes all over the world, as well as on TV and radio channels, and in newspaper columns – we become better cognizant of the Words of Allah the All-Wise in the Holy Qur'an regarding bestowal of this Divine Attribute to the Seal of Messengers.

This is ample proof of the fact that Imamate is the Divinely-decreed succession to Prophethood, and in every era the Infallible Heirs of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA) made manifest their God-given traits for the guidance of Muslims, including the epithet **"most kind and merciful"** (**raouf ar-raheem**).

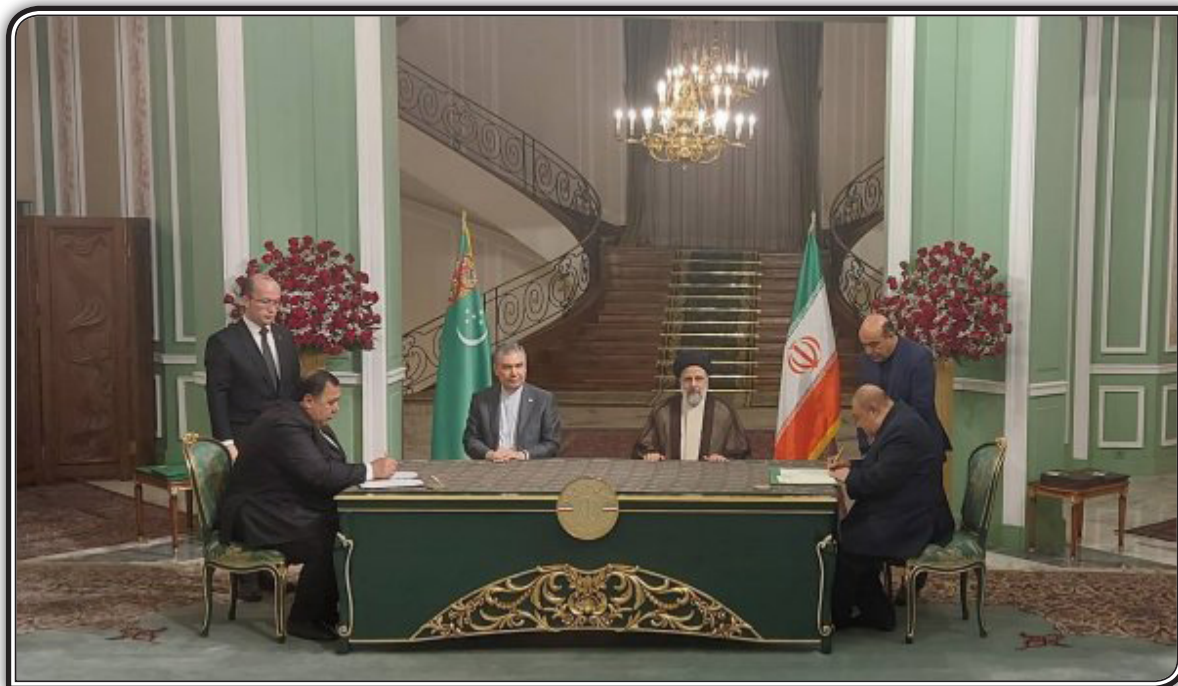
Imam Reza (AS) needs no introduction. Born in the Prophet's city Medina on the 11th of Zil-Qa'dah in 148 AH (766 AD) – some two weeks after the martyrdom of his grandfather, Imam Ja'far as-Sadeq (AS) – he was destined to find his final resting place at the age of 55 in distant Khorasan, northeastern Iran, which today wears a festive look – bedecked with flowers and colourful fluorescent lights in honour of his birthday.

He was named by his father Imam Musa Kazem (AS) as **"Ali"** in honour of his illustrious ancestor, the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS).

It was clear he was bestowed with Divine Knowledge for which he was respected. As the eldest son, he shouldered a heavy responsibility especially during the intermittent bouts of imprisonment lasting several years to which his noble father was subjected by the self-styled caliphs of the usurper Abbasid regime.

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Turkmenistan, Iran Sign Five Cooperation Documents



Chairman of the People's Council of the National Assembly of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi oversee the signing of five cooperation documents in Tehran on Tuesday.

TEHRAN – Chairman of the People's Council of the National Assembly of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi here on Tuesday oversaw the signing of five cooperation documents.

The documents involve cooperation in the fields of transit and international corridors, energy, export of agricultural products, electricity, education and investment.

Berdimuhamedov, who holds the highest authority in Turkmen-

istan, has traveled to Iran at the head of a high-ranking delegation of political and economic officials to meet President Raisi and other Iranian officials.

His son, Sardar Bardimohamedov, traveled to Tehran for the first time as the president of Turkmenistan in June.

Minister of Petroleum Javad Owji said the two sides would sign an agreement under which Iran will import 10 million cubic meters of natural gas a day from Turkmenistan.

In December 2021, President Raisi visited the Turkmen capital of Ashgabat to attend the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) summit, where he oversaw the signing of a tripartite gas swap agreement to transfer up to 2 billion cubic meters of gas a year from Turkmenistan to Azerbaijan via Iran.

Last June, President Raisi went to Ashgabat on his second visit to Turkmenistan, for a summit with the leaders of the other four countries along the Caspian Sea to

discuss regional cooperation and international issues.

The presidents of Iran and Turkmenistan reviewed agreements concluded between the two countries, emphasizing that their full implementation would open a new chapter in their cooperation and bring a leap in economic and commercial relations between Tehran and Ashgabat.

Shortly after he took the helm, President Raisi outlined two main priorities in Iranian foreign policy: improving relations with neighbors, and expanding ties with Asian powers.

He is just back from an official visit to Indonesia, his 12th foreign trip during the 21 months in office, which Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian called "a turning point" set to commence a new chapter in bilateral relations.

The swap deal signed in Ashgabat marked the first step in efforts that began 25 years ago to turn Iran into the center of gravity and a gas hub in the region.

Due to its geographical location, Iran can receive gas from producing countries and deliver it to the countries that have gas shortages on the other side of the border, turning into a major gas transmission conduit in the region.

For the Turkmen gas swap, Iran is using the pipeline which it used to import gas for consumption in its northern provinces.

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Bloody Memorial Day Weekend in U.S. 8 Killed, 70 Injured in Mass Shootings

WASHINGTON (Hill/AP) -- Eight people were killed and more than 70 others were injured in mass shootings during the long Memorial Day weekend, according to an online tracker.

Data from the Gun Violence Archive, a nonprofit organization that keeps track of every shooting in the country, show that eight people have been killed and 71 injured across 15 mass shootings in a dozen states since Saturday.

The deadliest shooting happened at a motorcycle rally in New Mexico that left three people dead and four injured Saturday. Authorities said those involved in the shooting were affiliated with biker gangs, and at least one person has been charged with murder.

A shooting near the beach in Hollywood, Fla., where nine people were wounded Monday, had the most people injured of any from the weekend. Three of those injured were children. Officials said all of them were in

stable condition. Shots were fired after a fight broke out on the Hollywood Oceanfront Broadwalk.

The archive defines a mass shooting as one in which at least four people were shot or killed, not including the shooter.

The second-largest mass shooting from the weekend happened Sunday when eight people were injured, including one in critical condition, in a parking lot outside a stadium near Philadelphia. About 100 young people had reportedly gathered in the parking lot to celebrate the end of the school year and the holiday weekend.

NBC News reported that at least 16 people and dozens were injured from shootings, including those not from mass shootings, throughout the weekend.

An organization that works to end gun violence, Brady: United Against Gun Violence, reports that 117 people are shot and killed in the United States each day on

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Report: Abadeh Case Resolved With IAEA

TEHRAN -- Iran has "resolved" one of three cases raised by the UN nuclear agency, media reports said Tuesday.

The reports came just days before the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency is due to meet to review progress in addressing the agency's remaining questions.

The IAEA had reported the discovery of alleged traces of radioactive material at three sites not declared by Iran as having hosted past nuclear activity.

"With the improvement of interactions between Iran and the IAEA... the case related to one of the agency's alleged sites -- Abadeh -- has been resolved," Iran's Fars news agency reported.

"This concludes the agency's inquiry into one of the three alleged locations raised," it added.

The Marivan site in Abadeh county in the southern province of Fars is the first of the three sites to be addressed under a work plan agreed by Iran and the

IAEA in March last year.

The other two sites are Varamin and Turqzabad.

The IAEA's questions about the sites are one of the remaining issues plaguing efforts to revive the 2015 nuclear deal, which was left in tatters by the unilateral withdrawal of the United States in 2018.

Fars also reported that Iran had addressed IAEA questions about the discovery of uranium enriched to 83.7 percent purity.

Iran said the enrichment of the sample to 83.7 percent was likely due to "unintended fluctuations" in the enrichment process as it had never set out to enrich uranium to more than 60 percent.

Iran has strongly ruled out any ambition to develop a nuclear weapons capability, insisting its activities are entirely peaceful.

Last September, the head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, Muhammad Eslami, strongly rejected all IAEA accusations,

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