

# Yazdani, Emami, Zareh Win Gold Medals at Asian Games



TEHRAN — The Iranian free-style wrestlers managed to win the finals of their weight category and snatch three gold medals in the 2022 Asia Games underway in Hangzhou, China.

Following the free-style wrestling competitions in the last for weight categories, Iran's Younes Emami won over his Japanese rival 9-0 in the 74 kg weight category and snatched the

gold medal.

Emami reached the finals after he defeated his Kyrgyz, Chinese, and Tajik rivals, respectively 7-2, 10-2, and 9-3.

With Emami's gold, the Iranian squad's gold medals reached 10.

Another Iranian athlete, Hassan Yazdani won the gold medal in the 86 kg final match of freestyle wrestling of the competitions.

He won over his Indian rival 10-0.

Yazdani reached the gold medal without giving a single point to his rivals.

Iranian freestyle wrestler Amir Hossein Zareh claimed a gold medal by defeating his Mongolian rival 7-0 in the 125kg weight category.

Mojtabi Goleij also lost to his Russian rival 6-1 and won the silver medal.

Earlier on Friday, Iranian freestyle wrestler Rahman Amouzad took a silver medal in the 2022 Asian Games.

With more than 12,000 competitors from 45 nations and territories, the Asian Games has more participants than the Olympics.

Iran has sent 289 male and female athletes to the Games in 34 sports events.

## Iran's Kabaddi Athletes Win Silver in Asian Games



TEHRAN — Iran's men's kabaddi team claimed a silver medal after losing to India 33-29 in the final match of the 2022 Asian Games in a controversial match on Saturday.

With one minute remaining, Pawan Sehrawat from the Indian team was forced to go in for a do-or-die raid. During his raid, Pawan went out of bounds without making contact with any Iranian defenders.

In response, Amirhossein Bastami and three other Iranian defenders rushed towards Pawan in an attempt to push him out.

This led to a moment of confusion, as it was unclear whether Pawan had been successfully tackled or not. Initially, Iran was awarded a point for their efforts

to stop Pawan.

However, the Indian contingent, including players and officials, began arguing with the on-court umpire and the TV officials.

After further review and perhaps another referral, the officials decided to award three points to India. It's mentioned that the number of points could vary depending on the number of players who went out with Pawan. This decision led to protests from the Iranian team.

According to the old rule, India would get four (or possibly five) points, while the new rule would give one point to each team because one of the Iranian defenders (Bastami) went out of the line (self-out).

## Record-Breaker Biles Wins Sixth All-Around World Title

ANTWERP (Reuters) — American Simone Biles won her sixth all-around title at the Artistic Gymnastics World Championships on Friday to become the most decorated gymnast in the history of the sport.

Biles posted a total of 58.399 after a stellar performance on the vault before she kept up the pressure on the bars before excelling on the beam and despite a stumble on the floor the American nailed her tumbling routine to triumph.

Biles, who won her first all-around world title as a 16-year-old in Antwerp a decade ago, has claimed a total of 27 world medals -- including 21 golds -- having also led the U.S. women's team to a seventh consecutive title on



United States' Simone Biles

Wednesday.

She has also surpassed Belarusian Vitaly Scherbo's record of 33 medals in total at the Olympics and world championships.

"I was emotional because 10 years (ago) I won my first worlds, now we're back here.

So it was emotional," Biles said.

"It means everything to me, the fight, everything that I've put in to get back to this place to feel comfortable and confident enough to compete."

The American, who returned to international competition

after a two-year hiatus from the sport to protect her mental health, now has five skills bearing her name, two on floor exercise, two on vault and one on balance beam.

"I'm proud of the work that I've put in to get to this point. I don't think it will hit me until maybe I retire and then look back and see everything that I've done," added Biles.

Former world champion, Brazilian Rebeca Andrade, was second with a total of 56.766 after a superb floor routine. American Shilese Jones completed the podium with a score of 56.332.

Biles is set to compete in the vault and uneven bars finals on Saturday before beam and floor exercise finals on Sunday.

## Chinese Swimmers Zhang, Qin Named Asian Games MVPs



Chinese swimmer Zhang Yufei was named the Asian Games most valuable woman athlete.

HANGZHOU (AFP) — Chinese swimmers Zhang Yufei and Qin

Haiyang were named the top athletes of the Hangzhou Asian Games

on Saturday and then pledged to use their awards as inspiration for the Paris Olympics.

The multi-sports event usually names just one most valuable player, but this time there were separate men's and women's awards.

Olympic champion Zhang collected a leading six gold medals after winning the 50, 100 and 200m butterfly, 50m freestyle and two relays.

"It's a great honor," said Zhang via video-link from Berlin, where she is preparing for a World Cup meeting.

"It was a memorable experience and this is a new milestone for me

as an athlete.

"It will leave a lasting mark in my memory and boost my confidence to work harder for the Paris Olympics."

Qin, who claimed an unprecedented 50-100-200m breaststroke hat-trick at the world championships in Fukuoka in July, repeated the feat on home soil.

He also won two relay gold and a 200m medley silver.

"It wasn't in my plan before the Games to be MVP, I just wanted to make personal breakthroughs," said Qin, who is also in Germany.

"My performance was great, but I aim to hopefully reach new heights in Paris next year."

## Lecce, Sassuolo Draw 1-1 in Serie A; Empoli-Udinese Draw 0-0

ROME (AP) — Lecce and Sassuolo drew 1-1 in Serie A on Friday, with Domenico Berardi and Nikola Krstović trading goals.

Berardi converted a penalty for Sassuolo midway through the first half and Krstović equalized after the break by slotting in a loose ball inside the area following a corner.

Berardi has five goals and

Krstović has four this season.

Lecce is seventh with 12 points through eight rounds and Sassuolo is two points behind in ninth.

Empoli and Udinese drew 0-0 to leave both clubs on the edge of the relegation zone. The result could cost Udinese coach Andrea Sottil this job, with the Friuli club still winless.

