

TEHRAN -- Switzerland has officially reopened its embassy in Tehran, following a brief closure prompted by regional tensions stemming from the Israeli regime's aggression against Iran. In a statement published Sunday on the Swiss government's official portal, authorities confirmed that the embassy resumed operations on July 6. Ambassador Nadine Olivieri Lozano and a small team of diplomats returned to Tehran on Saturday, having traveled overland via Azerbaijan. "The decision to reopen the embassy was taken after a comprehensive risk analysis and in consultation with Iran and the United States," the statement read. Switzerland, which represents U.S. interests in Iran as a protecting power, noted that the "current situation allows for a gradual resumption of embassy operations on site."

TEHRAN -- Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot held a phone call on Sunday to discuss the latest developments in bilateral consular relations and the escalating regional situation following recent Israeli and U.S. acts of aggression against Iran.

According to official sources, the conversation focused on the impact of recent military tensions and the status of consular cooperation between Tehran and Paris. The call took place while Araghchi was in Rio de Janeiro, participating in the 17th BRICS Summit, where regional security and multilateral diplomacy are high on the agenda.

**President:  
Iran's Decisive  
Response Thwarted  
War Spread**



**Ashura  
in the Eyes  
of Western  
Orientalists**



**Women  
Basketballers  
Win Chinese  
Guang Dong**



**Hezbollah Chief:  
Humiliation,  
Surrender Not  
an Option**



# Leader Rekindles Iran's Invincibility on Ashura Night

TEHRAN -- An Ashura night mourning ceremony took place in the Husseinieh of Imam Khomeini in Tehran Saturday, attended by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and a large gathering of people from various walks of life.

The themes of resistance and perseverance against oppression in the wake of the 12-day Israeli aggression on Iran featured in the remarks of Hojjatoleslam Masoud A'ali who addressed the event, underscoring the importance of the lessons from the martyrdom of Imam Hussein (AS).

He described the Iranian resistance as part of a broader global movement, positioning Islamic Iran as the "axis" of a global front under the guidance of Ayatollah Khamenei against the "false front" led by global Zionism.

"Drawing from the teachings of Ashura, the Iranian nation will never surrender to the false front, because it has adopted the slogan 'Never to humiliation' as its guiding principle," he said.

Ayatollah Khamenei did not deliver a speech at the event but according to the attendees, he called prominent eulogist Mahmoud Karimi over and whispered something in his ear.

As he began his eulogy, Karimi shared with the audience, "His Eminence told me to recite this: 'You will remain in my soul and heart, O homeland...'"

Attendees and officials alike praised the Leader's composed and dignified participation—characterized by unwavering courage and serenity—as heralding a powerful message of unity and resilience and a source of both tranquility and strength for the Iranian nation.

President Masoud Pezeshkian wrote on X, "The Hussainia of 'Iran' stands eternal and strong." He echoed lines from the patriotic hymn "O Iran", urging: "In every heart and soul, you live on, dear homeland. #Sing Ey\_Iran."

Vice President Muhammad-Reza Aref shared a



*This combo shows Ayatollah Khamenei leading the Ashura night mourning ceremony at the Husseinieh of Imam Khomeini in Tehran, attended by a large gathering of people from various walks of life.*

clip on Instagram showing Mahmoud Karimi leading the crowd in "O Divine Iran" beside the Leader. He wrote: "United for Iran and motherland, the people of Imam Hussein Iran will not let the dark plots of Iran's enemies come to pass."

Muhammad-Jafar Qa'emipour, Acting Head of the Presidential Office, retweeted the President's post on X, adding: "The Zionist enemy's wicked plot was dashed by the nation's extraordinary unity. National, religious, and Ashura culture are inseparable pillars of Iran's enduring strength."

Muhammad-Javad Zarif, former Foreign Minister, commented on X: "The fearless presence of the

Supreme Leader at a public mourning rally shattered the fabricated narratives circulated by paid pundits."

He added: "It's time to wake up and recognize that Iranians will never submit. Stand with the right side of history, and never threaten Iran."

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi posted from Brazil where he was attending a BRICS summit: "The most beautiful image I encountered since arriving in Brazil: 'With you, one can sail the seas.'"

Reforming politician Muhammad-Ali Abtahi wrote on X: "He came—along with Iran. Amid the peak of psychological warfare from the enemies,

this moment—his presence and visibility—was the greatest solace."

Ismail Baqaei, Foreign Ministry spokesman, noted: "Sing for Iran—historians will record that Muharram 1404 marked a beautiful devotion that reinforced a 1,400-year legacy defending the sanctity of Iran."

He added that the night of Ashura 1404 symbolized the union of Islam's Ali lineage and the Iranian nation, as Ali (AS)'s son requested from the eulogist: "Sing O Iran."

Muhammad Eslami, Head of the Atomic Energy Organization, posted on Instagram: "The echoes of 'O Iran' rose from the depths of hearts—May Iran remain untouched by hands of malice, secure under the shadow of Haider (Imam Ali)."

Ali Akbar Velayati, International Affairs Advisor to the Leader, posted poetry celebrating the spiritual revival of the nation.

Es'haq Jahangiri, former Vice President, emphasized that the Leader's entrance into the mourning ceremony, combined with a recitation for Iran, reflected bravery, wisdom, and profound love for the country.

Mohsen Rezaee, Secretary of the Economic Coordination Council, wrote: "Last night, as we saw the Leader's solid stance, we understood that the foundation of our nation stands firm—no storm can shake this tent. America cannot do anything."

Alireza Zakani, Tehran's Mayor, described the ceremony as one of the Hussainia's most historic hours: "On the unforgettable night of Ashura 1447, the Leader embodied peace, trust, courage, devotion, patriotism, and the soul of the Iranian nation."

Members of parliament, in separate statements, hailed the Leader as the "Leader of Ashura," saying his powerful presence strengthened the cause of truth and justice.

The widespread sharing of posts and videos from the event affirmed the ceremony as a defining moment of national solidarity and spiritual fortitude.

## Data Reveals Iran's Crushing Blows to Israeli Bases, Economy

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- Satellite imagery analyzed by researchers at Oregon State University has revealed that Iranian missiles struck at least five Israeli military facilities during last month's 12-day war, according to a report published by the Telegraph.

The British newspaper reported that six Iranian missiles targeted locations across northern, central, and southern Israeli-occupied territories, including an intelligence-gathering center and a logistics base. Radar satellite data confirmed blast damage consistent with missile strikes—details previously undisclosed by Israeli military authorities due to strict censorship laws.

Israeli officials have neither publicly acknowledged the strikes nor commented when approached by the Telegraph. Israel's military censorship laws restrict publication of sensitive security information, especially during ongoing conflicts.

Throughout the war, Israeli and U.S. officials claimed that around 84% of Iranian missiles were intercepted by their air defense

systems. However, data analysis suggests an increasing number of Iranian missiles successfully penetrated Israel's defenses during the initial eight days of fighting. Analysts attribute this to limited interceptor missile supplies, advancements in Iranian missile technology, and a strategic shift that combined coordinated drone and missile attacks to overwhelm Israeli systems.

A senior Iranian official, speaking anonymously to the Telegraph, confirmed that suicide drones were deliberately deployed alongside missiles to confuse and exhaust Israeli defenses. "Many drones don't get through—they're intercepted—but still cause confusion," the official explained.

The missile strikes exposed vulnerabilities in Israeli defense systems and underscored Tehran's readiness to escalate its military response if provoked again.

The aggression began on June 13 when Israel launched an attack on Iranian territory, assassinating several senior commanders, nuclear scientists, and civilians. Iran

responded within 24 hours with a barrage of missiles and drones, followed by a series of retaliatory operations under the codename True Promise III.

On June 22, the United States entered the war, conducting airstrikes on three Iranian nuclear sites in a move widely viewed as violating international law. In retaliation, Iran launched a missile strike against the Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, the largest U.S. military installation in West Asia. After sustained Iranian attacks, Israel agreed to a truce on June 24. One of the most significant blows came from Iran's strike on Israel's largest oil refinery in Haifa on June 17.

According to estimates, damage to the refinery's infrastructure amounts to \$1.5-2 billion, with monthly revenue losses estimated at \$450 million until operations resume in October. The refinery had previously processed 197,000 barrels per day.

The refinery's closure has forced Israel to increase oil imports amid repairs at its other key facility in

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## Dozens Dead as Devastating Floods Sweep Texas

HUNT, Texas (Reuters) -- The death toll from catastrophic floods in Texas reached at least 67 on Sunday, including 21 children, as the search for girls missing from a summer camp entered a third day.

Larry Leitha, the Kerr County Sheriff in Texas Hill Country, the epicenter of the flooding, said the death toll in Kerr County had reached 59, including the 21 children.

Leitha said 11 girls and a counselor remained missing from a summer camp near the Guadalupe River, which broke its banks after torrential rain fell in the central Texas area on Friday, the U.S. Independence Day holiday.

A Travis County official said four people had died from the flooding there, with 13 unaccounted for, and officials reported another death in Kendall County. The Burnet County Sheriff's office reported two fatalities. A woman was found dead in her submerged car in the city of San Angelo in Tom Green County, the police chief said.

Leitha said there were 18 adults and four children still pending

identification in Kerr County. He did not say if those 22 individuals were included in the death count of 59.

Officials said on Saturday that more than 850 people had been rescued, including some clinging to trees, after a sudden storm dumped up to 15 inches (38 cm) of rain across the region, about 85 miles (140 km) northwest of San Antonio. It was unclear exactly how many people in the area were still missing.

"Everyone in the community is hurting," Leitha told reporters.

Some experts questioned whether cuts to the federal workforce by the Trump administration, including to the agency that oversees the National Weather Service, led to a failure by officials to accurately predict the severity of the floods and issue appropriate warnings ahead of the storm.

President Donald Trump and his administration have overseen thousands of job cuts from the National Weather Service's parent agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, leaving many weather offices un-

derstaffed, said former NOAA director Rick Spinrad.

He said he did not know if those staff cuts factored into the lack of advance warning for the extreme Texas flooding, but that they would inevitably degrade the agency's ability to deliver accurate and timely forecasts.

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, who oversees NOAA, said a "moderate" flood watch issued on Thursday by the National Weather Service had not accurately predicted the extreme rainfall and said the Trump administration was working to upgrade the system.

The White House did not respond to a request for comment.

Joaquin Castro, a Democratic congressman from Texas, told CNN's 'State of the Union' that fewer personnel at the weather service could be dangerous.

"When you have flash flooding, there's a risk that if you don't have the personnel... to do that analysis, do the predictions in the best way, it could lead to tragedy," Castro said.

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