

Majlis... (Continued From Page One)

The session marked the legislature’s first in-person sitting since February 28, when the U.S. and Israeli regime launched their war of aggression against Iran, resulting in the martyrdom of late Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, several top officials, and dozens of civilians.

During the intervening period, the Parliament held eight virtual meetings with cabinet ministers, while parliamentary commissions continued to meet regularly.

At the session, lawmakers approved amendments to internal rules allowing virtual plenary meetings during emergencies and formally introduced a bill titled the “Strategic Action for Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development of the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf”.

Ebrahim Azizi, chairman of the Parliament’s National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, announced the bill’s introduction.

“We remain steadfast in defending our red lines, particularly regarding the management of the Strait of Hormuz. This is the first step; subsequent measures are forthcoming.” Azizi noted the bill was introduced at the exact moment American drones were being destroyed.

The bill aims to codify Iran’s sovereign authority over the strategic waterway through which approximately one-fifth of global oil supplies pass. Lawmakers also vowed to prioritize legislation to enhance the defense doctrine.

Major General Yahya Rahim Safavi, senior adviser to the commander-in-chief of the armed forces, revealed that the current closure of the Strait of Hormuz is the execution of a comprehensive plan prepared 15 years ago under the direct guidance of the martyred Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

Safavi said the martyred Leader instructed him in 2011 to prepare a comprehensive plan for closing the strategic waterway within one month. He worked with senior IRGC commanders—including Admiral Ali Fadavi, martyred Brigadier General Amir Ali Hajizadeh, and martyred Major General Hussein Salami—to draft a 15-page operational plan.

“What is being carried out today is part of the same plan that was prepared 15 years ago through the foresight and prudence of the martyred Leader,” Safavi stated. The proposal covered not only the closure of the Strait of Hormuz but also operations in the Persian Gulf, the Sea of Oman, the Red Sea, and the Mediterranean.

Safavi also shed light on the origins of Iran’s massive missile stockpile. When he became IRGC commander in 1997, Iran possessed around 2,000 missiles, but the martyred Leader considered that insufficient and instructed military commanders to build a missile capability capable of sustaining “at least three months of an offensive war”.

The late Leader deemed 2,000 missiles insufficient, instructing military leadership to scale production to “tens of thousands of missiles”.

The 14-point Islamabad MoU, signed on June 17 after Pakistani-mediated diplomacy,

had committed both sides to ending military operations “on all fronts,” suspending war-time restrictions on the Strait of Hormuz, lifting the U.S. naval blockade, and releasing frozen Iranian assets. However, Washington has systematically dismantled the agreement.

Iran’s Army spokesman Brigadier General Muhammad Akraminia delivered a stark warning: “The Strait of Hormuz will never be reopened through war, hostility, or acts of aggression by the United States”.

He added that “any action in the Strait of Hormuz outside the arrangements stipulated in the memorandum of understanding would be met with a decisive response”.

Deputy Speaker of Parliament Ali Nikzad affirmed that revenge for the blood of the martyred Leader remains on the agenda: “Let the enemy know that revenge is on our agenda, and that the enmity between us and you will continue forever.”

IRGC... (Continued From Page One)

and ammunition depots belonging to American forces.

The strikes were carried out in response to repeated U.S. attacks on Iranian military sites and continued American aggression.

Adding to the intensity of Iran’s retaliatory campaign, the UAE Defense Ministry confirmed that two tankers, the Mombasa and Al Bahiyah, were struck by Iranian cruise missiles while transiting the southern shipping lane of the Strait of Hormuz, within Omani territorial waters.

The IRGC confirmed the strikes, stating that the “violating super-tankers” were deceived by the U.S., ignored repeated warnings from the Strait of Hormuz shipping security control center, switched off their navigation systems, and chose to pass through a mined corridor, endangering maritime traffic.

The Iranian military operations came as the U.S. launched its third consecutive night of brutal strikes on Iranian territory. Heavy American attacks hit multiple areas, including Kish Island, the city of Saravan, Iran’s southern coast – where civilian boats were set ablaze – and the port city of Bandar Abbas.

A ranger station in the Hajiabad district of Hormozgan Province was also targeted, resulting in the martyrdom of a park ranger’s family members, including his two sons and daughter-in-law.

U.S. President Donald Trump formally notified Congress that the war on Iran has resumed, initiating a new 60-day period of military terrorism without congressional authorization.

Trump also reinstated the illegal blockade on Iranian ports and declared Washington the “Guardian of the Strait”.

Trump boasted to Fox News: “We’re going to hit them very hard tonight and we’re going to hit them hard tomorrow – and there’s not a damn thing they can do about it.”

The Islamic Republic has scaled up its retaliation strategy, pledging to strike enemy targets at a ratio of at least two to one – meaning for every Iranian target hit, at least two enemy targets will be struck in return. The U.S. violations have continued even after the signing of the Pakistan-mediated Islamabad MoU, whose first clause mandates cessation of aggression on all fronts.

As Iran’s Armed Forces continue their “ongoing” retaliatory opera-

tions, Iranian officials have reiterated that the Strait of Hormuz will never be reopened through war, hostility, or acts of aggression by the United States. The only path forward, they insist, is for Washington to respect Iranian rights and comply with the provisions of the MoU.

Zionist... (Continued From Page One)

tank, including the commander of the 52nd Battalion of the 401st Armored Brigade.

“The reserve army will collapse in on itself. There will be an unreasonable burden on the reservists. If nothing changes, the reservists will not be able to withstand this pressure in the years to come,” Israeli army chief Eyal Zamir warned in May.

The military crisis is compounded by a political deadlock over drafting ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) Jews into the army. Haredim, who make up a significant bulk of prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s coalition regime, have been largely exempt from military service for decades.

On July 14, the Knesset passed a law temporarily banning the arrest and prosecution of Haredi draft evaders, granting approximately 72,000 Haredi men immunity from arrest until November 30 . The bill passed 58-54 votes.

IDF chief of staff Eyal Zamir has warned that implementing such a law would create an array of security problems and would decrease recruitment both from the Haredi community and from the general Israeli population by delegitimizing the IDF. Zamir stated he opposes the bill’s implementation “completely and unequivocally”.

Zamir has warned in recent months that the IDF could soon collapse if no solution is found for the manpower shortage, raising “ten red flags” before the security cabinet. The immediate trigger is a shortage of roughly 15,000 troops, including 8,000 combat soldiers. Opposition leader Yair Lapid described reservists being called up for their sixth and seventh rotations as “worn out and exhausted”.

The military is grappling with a severe funding shortfall after a sharp rise in operational spending, resulting in a budget deficit estimated at tens of billions of shekels. Deep disagreements between the ministries of war and finance over the military budget have led to a temporary compromise under which additional funding will be provided in exchange for reducing reliance on reserve forces and cutting operational expenditures.

The Israeli military does not disclose the number of troops deployed in Lebanon, the occupied West Bank, the Gaza Strip, or Syria. But the picture painted by Army Radio, military commanders, and Hezbollah’s documented operations reveals an occupying force stretched to its breaking point, hollowed out by relentless resistance and undermined by a political class that prioritizes coalition survival over national security.

Yemenis ... (Continued From Page One)

de-escalation phase in the long-running conflict, military spokesman Yahya Saree said.

Celebrations broke out across Sanaa following the flight’s successful arrival, with residents expressing gratitude to Iran for its role in challenging the decade-old aerial embargo. One local man, who named his newborn daughter “Mahan” in honor of the airline that broke the siege, said the flight represented a “miracle” for Yemenis who have been suffocated by the blockade. “We were told the airport was destroyed,

but the plane came anyway,” he said. “That is why I named my daughter Mahan—so she will always remember the day Yemen’s skies were opened.”

The flight carried a returning Yemeni delegation that had traveled to Tehran for the funeral of martyred Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei. Saudi-led coalition forces had attempted to prevent the aircraft from landing.

In response to the Sanaa airport strikes, Yemen’s armed forces launched ballistic missiles and drones at Saudi Arabia’s Abha International Airport, warning all airlines against using Saudi airspace. Ansarullah political bureau member Hizam al-Assad declared that any future Saudi aggression would “completely paralyze the kingdom’s aviation network”.

The breakthrough follows a July 3 flight that also successfully breached the blockade, carrying over 200 sick and wounded Yemenis. Yemen’s Deputy Foreign Minister Abdulwahid Abu Ras said at the time that the arrival of Iranian aircraft while Saudi warplanes bombed the airport demonstrated “Yemen’s steadfastness, resilience, military capability, and high combat readiness”.

An Ansarullah decree of general mobilization has placed tribal forces and regular army units on full military alert.

Official... (Continued From Page 2)

visa revocations and political pressure to stop cooperating with the court in order to build a protective wall around officials and military personnel of the U.S. and Israeli regime,” he wrote.

“This is overt blackmail and intimidation to suffocate justice before it reaches the American-Zionist defendants.”

The remarks came after the U.S. State Department announced on Monday the launch of a broad campaign to counter what it called ICC “threats.”

According to the U.S. statement, the initiative will involve a coordinated, government-wide response aimed at systematically disabling the ICC’s ability to operate, prosecute U.S. military personnel or officials, or take actions that it deemed to threaten U.S. sovereignty.

The measures outlined by Washington include diplomatic efforts to compel countries to withdraw from the ICC, pressure on security partners to reject the court’s jurisdiction over Americans, reviews of U.S. assistance, visa restrictions, travel bans and expanded sanctions targeting ICC personnel and affiliated organizations.

Tehran... (Continued From Page 2)

authorities would bear responsibility for the political, legal, and diplomatic consequences of the decision.

The statement came after British Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood announced that the IRGC would be designated a “national security threat under new powers in the National Security (State Threats) Act,” making support for the elite force a “criminal offence punishable by up to 14 years in prison.”

U.S.... (Continued From Page 2)

further critical reporting from Iran, which is likely why my interrogators from CBP demanded to know if I would be returning to Tehran to report any time soon.”

Blumenthal said the scrutiny followed his recent reporting from Iran, which included coverage of public reactions to recent regional developments and reporting on US-Israeli aggression and the assassination of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

He went on to say that the questioning was directly linked to his work, accusing his interrogators of acting on political motives.

The journalist also claimed that those questioning him were part of an “Israeli-influenced criminal cartel” that was “clearly threatened by my reporting from Tehran.”

Max Blumenthal, editor of The Grayzone, was among several foreign journalists who traveled to Iran to attend the farewell and funeral ceremonies of the martyred Leader.

The United States and Israel assassinated Ayatollah Khamenei, alongside some of his family members, on February 28, the first day of the 40-day illegal war of aggression on Iran.

Surviving... (Continued From Page 3)

terrain through the Tang-e Abolhayat corridor.

Archaeological surveys indicate that the builders first created a foundation using rubble stone before paving the surface with locally available flat stones. In sections where larger bedrock slabs were exposed, these were incorporated directly into the roadway, producing broad, level walking surfaces. Some paving stones measure as much as 120 by 80 centimeters.

The road averages around two meters in width and incorporates stone steps at intervals determined by the natural gradient of the mountain. These risers, generally between 10 and 15 centimeters high, reduced the steepness of the ascent and improved movement through the pass. Visible wear on the paving stones indicates prolonged use, while surviving sections of a stone parapet along the valley edge suggest that the route once included protective barriers approximately 50 centimeters high.

Researchers regard the engineering of the roadway as evidence of sophisticated ancient Persian road construction, carefully adapted to mountainous terrain through graded inclines, stepped sections and retaining structures.

Despite its archaeological significance, conservationists warn that sections of the monument have already been damaged by the construction of a modern road through the Tang-e Abolhayat pass. Without clearly established protection zones, further deterioration of one of the region’s few surviving examples of an ancient royal road remains a growing concern.

Three... (Continued From Page 3)

by Muhammadreza Shirvanizadeh at Ba Gallery, curated by Mojdeh Hassani.

The exhibition explores the concept of the duality of existence through the forms and techniques employed in Shirvanizadeh’s works.

In the exhibition statement, written by Hussein Ganji, geometry is described as “the mechanism that guides the gaze,” while dance represents “the suspension of its certainty.” The statement says orderly surfaces and flat colors, set against fragmented bodies, animals and lines of color, create an unstable order. Rather than depicting either chaos or balance, the works capture a moment in which order and disorder simultaneously make one another possible.

“The Geometry of Dance” will remain on display through July 31, with visiting hours from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Fridays.

Mansour... (Continued From Page 3)

neither teachers nor instrument makers to guide him.

Undeterred, he modified the strings of a bass tar to imitate the instrument’s lower register while studying performances broadcast by Egyptian and Iraqi radio stations, effectively teaching himself the foundations of oud playing.

Seeking formal guidance, Nariman began a remarkable long-distance apprenticeship with composer and music educator Ruhollah Khaleghi, founder of Iran’s National Conservatory of Music.

After sending Khaleghi a recording of his playing, he was invited to study in Tehran, but family circumstances prevented the move. Instead, the two maintained a correspondence in which Khaleghi reviewed Nariman’s performances, answered technical questions and even tutored him in musical notation over scheduled telephone conversations.

Nariman also sought advice from Egyptian composer and singer Muhammad Abdel Wahab, one of the Arab world’s most influential musicians. Through letters exchanged with Abdel Wahab, Nariman discussed technical aspects of the oud, including its tuning and tonal range.

According to Nariman, the Egyptian maestro confirmed that the tuning system he had independently adopted was correct, reinforcing his confidence in developing his own musical approach.

While drawing on Arab oud traditions, Nariman charted a different course. Working alongside musicians including Ahmad Ebadi, he adapted the instrument to the Persian radif repertoire and modal system, establishing what became known as an Iranian style of oud performance. His compositions reflected the melodic structures of Persian classical music rather than the conventions traditionally associated with Arab oud playing.

Beyond performance, Nariman became one of the principal architects of modern oud education in Iran. Beginning in 1962, he introduced specialized oud instruction at the conservatory, arguing through historical research that the instrument was the direct descendant of the ancient Persian barbat.

He later authored influential instructional books, including Barbat Playing Method, 42 Pieces for Oud and The Persian Radif for Barbat, which became foundational texts for students.

His pupils—including Hussein Behrouzina, Arsalan Kamkar, Muhammad Firouzi, Negar Bouban and Shahram Gholami—helped establish the oud as a standard instrument in contemporary Iranian classical ensembles.

As a composer, Nariman collaborated with some of Iran’s most celebrated vocalists, including Muhammadreza Shajarian, Akbar Golpayegani, Hossein Ghavami and Iraj Khajeh Amiri.

His instrumental works and radio performances demonstrated that the oud could express the full emotional range of Persian classical music, helping secure its place in Iran’s musical heritage after decades on the margins.