

Men Sitting Volleyball Team Defeats U.S. at World Championships



TEHRAN - Iran's men's sitting volleyball team on Wednesday defeated the United States in the quarterfinals of the World Championships in Hangzhou,

China, and advanced to the semifinals.

Iran won in straight sets 25-21, 25-15, and 25-16. The team had previously defeated Poland,

Bosnia, Japan, and China.

The Iranian team will continue its matches in the semifinals against Kazakhstan on Thursday.

Iran's squad includes Meysam Haj Babaei, Sadegh Bigdeli, Hamidreza Abbasi, Mehdi Babadi, Ali Akbari, Davoud Alipourian, Hossein Golestani, Masoud Emami, Muhammad Nemati, Jamal Nazari, Meysam Alipour, and Morteza Mehrzad.

The top teams in both men's and women's divisions will secure qualification for the 2028 Los Angeles Paralympic Games.

The 14th edition of the World Championships, which began on July 10 in Hangzhou, will continue until July 17. The two finalists in both the men's and women's divisions will secure qualification for the 2028 Los Angeles Paralympic Games.

Iran, with a record of eight championships, one runner-up finish, and three third-place finishes, is seeking its ninth world title in Hangzhou.

Iran at WC 2026: Most Dignified Team at Most Unfair Tournament in FIFA History



NEW DELHI (India Today) – Iran's Team Melli played their World Cup games in a country bombing their homeland, commuted from Mexico for every match, had goals disallowed by VAR and were asked about war at every press conference. They went home unbeaten. This is their story.

There is a particular kind of dignity that only becomes visible under pressure. Not the dignity of winners, which is easy to maintain when things are going your way, but the dignity of people who have every reason to lose their composure and choose, repeatedly and deliberately, not to.

That is the dignity Iran's national football team carried into, through and out of the 2026 FIFA World Cup. And it deserves to be named clearly, because the institutions responsible for this tournament have shown very little interest in doing so.

Iran arrived at a World Cup hosted by a country that had been at war with theirs since February 28th, when the United States launched war against Iran. FIFA President Gianni Infantino coordinated with Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum to designate Mexico as Iran's base camp, a decision that forced players to commute massive distances for every single match. United States authorities required the Iranian delegation to enter the country within 24 hours of each match and leave the same day. Those restrictions were eased only slightly for their final game in Seattle,

where they were permitted to arrive two days before kick-off.

Despite a nominal U.S. agreement to issue visas, not all members of the Iranian delegation received clearance. A portion of the technical staff and support personnel were denied entry, a decision the Iranian Football Federation condemned as "political." Team captain Mehdi Taremi pointed this out publicly, noting that logistics staff were absent and that Iranian journalists had been unable to attend matches or press conferences. The team originally planned to train in Phoenix but relocated to Tijuana when those plans collapsed. FIFA President Infantino visited the team's dressing room after their first game against New Zealand and told them "it's just the beginning." Taremi recalled this drily at a subsequent press conference: "But the group stage finishes tomorrow."

The picture that emerges is of a professional football squad playing at the highest level of international competition while operating without proper logistics support, without their media, without their fans, and without the basic recovery conditions that every other team at this tournament took for granted. The United States government, for its part, argued that it had done a great deal to accommodate a football team representing a country it was simultaneously at war with. That framing, in itself, tells you something about the standards being applied.

Women Taekwondo Team Claims Bronze Medal at World Cup

TEHRAN – Iran's women's taekwondo team won the bronze medal at the Taekwondo World Cup after defeating Thailand in the bronze medal match on Wednesday in Chuncheon, South Korea.

The second day of the World Cup team competitions featured the women's event, where Iran fell short of reaching the final after losing to Russia in the semifinals.

The eight-team women's competition included Iran, India, South Korea,

Russia, Morocco, Kazakhstan, Thailand and China.

Iran advanced to the semifinals by defeating India in its opening match.

After losing to Russia, the Iranian team moved into the bronze medal match.

Competing with Yalda Valinejad, Hasti Mohammadi and Fatemeh Ahmadi, Iran defeated Thailand by winning two straight rounds to secure the bronze medal.

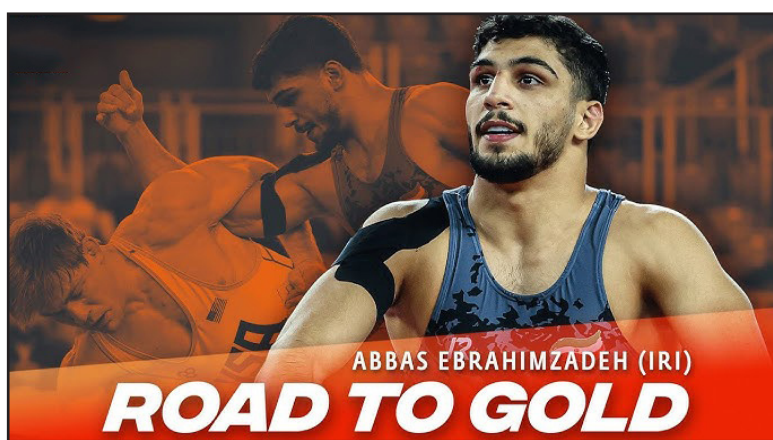
Meanwhile, the men's team competition was held on Tuesday.



Iran's men's national team was eliminated in its opening match after losing to Thailand.

The mixed-team competitions are scheduled to take place on Thursday.

Ebrahimzadeh Advances to Final in Budapest Ranking Wrestling Series



TEHRAN – Iranian 65 kg freestyle wrestler Abbas Ebrahimzadeh reached straight to Budapest Ranking Series 2026 final after a 10-0 win over Megrela from Germany and will

now try to claim the gold medal when he faces Shamil Mamedov of Bulgaria.

He used a strong gut-wrench and leg lace to complete a 10-0 win over Megrela on Wednesday.

day.

Ebrahimzadeh gave up a takedown and turn but countered the next attempt and scored two points. He also scored a turn to take the criteria lead

In the 65 kg weight class, Ali Khormadal lost to Kolar of Kazakhstan 12-3 in the first round and was eliminated due to the wrestler's loss in the quarterfinals against a Bulgarian wrestler.

In the 70 kg weight class, Ebrahim Elahi stunned Asian champion Abhimanyou of India 11-0

Elahi scores a takedown and then rolls Abhimanyou four times for a technical superiority win. He lost to Lovett of the United States 9-4 in the second round and advanced to the classification match due to Elahi's appearance in the final match. Elahi will face Kanan Hebetov of Azerbaijan in this match.

In the 86 kg weight class, Ali Savadkuhi, after a rest in the first round, lost to Samkharadze of Georgia 15-5 in the second round and was eliminated due to the wrestler's loss in the semifinals against another Georgian wrestler.

Tennis Team Starts in High Note in Davis Cup

TEHRAN – Iran's tennis team won host Malaysia 2-1 in Davis Cup Group 3 Asia-Pacific region.

The Davis Cup Group 3 Asia-Pacific region competition began on Wednesday, hosted by Malaysia, and Iran's team secured its first victory with a 2-1 lead over the host.

Sina Moghimi played

against Suresh Kumar. In the second match, Ali Yazdani faced and defeated Haosheng Kui 7-5, 6-2.

Our country's Davis Cup team will face the loser of the Saudi Arabia-Vietnam match on Thursday.

The Davis Cup Group 3 Asia-Pacific region competitions are underway in two groups, with Uzbeki-



stan, the Philippines, Jordan and Singapore in the first group, and Iran, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and Vietnam in the second group.

At the end of these competitions, the top three teams will advance to the World Group 2 playoffs in 2027.

Ira's roster in the edition includes, Ali Yazdani, Sina

Moghimi, Samyar Eliasi and Younes Talavar.

The team is led by Hamidreza Nadav (captain and head coach), and Tony Androjić (coach), Ashkan Almasi (bodybuilder), Nami Malek (technical staff), Amir Mohammad Barati (physiotherapist), and Mehran Ghodsi (supervisor).