

Iran...

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The acting defense minister described the recent war as a major test for the Iranian people, despite its bitterness, costs and losses. “We lost dear ones, including senior commanders, military commanders, scientists, women, and children who were unjustly martyred in this war. The loss of our martyrs is something we will never forget,” he said. He added that alongside this tragedy, the Iranian people witnessed another profound reality: the power of national self-confidence and self-reliance.

The war demonstrated that if the Iranian people “stand on their own feet, trust their young people, harness science and technology, and remain united and cohesive, they can withstand all threats”, he added.

Production of Advanced Weapons Brigadier General Shahrokh Shahram, Iran’s deputy defense minister, said on Friday that the country’s production of advanced weapons continues without interruption despite the U.S.-Israeli aggression against Iran. He said the enemy miscalculated Iran’s defense and military capabilities during the war and wrongly assumed that targeting a few sites linked to the Defense Ministry would cripple the country’s military production. “The production of advanced weaponry in Iran is continuing uninterrupted,” he added. He emphasized that Iran enjoys broad national participation in its defense industry, making it impossible for the enemy to halt military production through attacks on a limited number of facilities.

The senior Iranian defense official reiterated that the enemy received “more devastating, advanced, and larger volumes of weapons” as the war progressed, eventually realizing that its attacks on Iran’s defense industry had failed to achieve their objectives. “We had made the necessary preparations for this war and had relocated our defense and military assets from vulnerable locations and bottlenecks, to the extent that the enemy could not even identify a single one of our missile cities,” Shahram said. He noted that the U.S.-Israeli imposed war has generated “special momentum” in Iran’s defense industries.

“If previously production was carried out in a routine and uniform manner, it is now increasing at an astonishing and upward pace,” he said. Shahram also said that confronting the Islamic Republic is “doomed to fail” while Iran’s adversaries must accept the country’s power and authority in the Strait of Hormuz.

Defense Industry ‘Revolution’ Based on War Lessons In a statement marking National Defense Industry Day, Iran’s Defense Ministry said the country’s defense industry has been born from threat but has not been halted by it. “Every pressure and every sanction made the necessity and belief in relying on domestic capacity clearer, and every battlefield opened a new opportunity for the country’s specialists,” it said.

The statement praised martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei for designing and engineering the path of defense self-reliance, based on trust in the people, especially young Iranian scientists, and the development and indigenization of knowledge and technology.

It paid tribute to commanders and specialists martyred along this path, including Mostafa Chamran and Aziz Nasirzadeh, as well as hundreds of defense ministry personnel martyred in the 12-day war and the Ramadan war. “The recent imposed wars were the real field of testing the country’s defensive capabilities,” the statement said. What had been built over years of Iranian expertise was put to use and, alongside the operational capacities of the armed forces and the Iranian nation, defeated a significant part of the enemy’s calculations and objectives, confounding them.

“At the same time, these wars were not only a field of confrontation; they were an opportunity to more precisely recognize capabilities, reveal new needs and map the future path. We have learned never to stop,” the ministry said, adding that the recent war was now “the past”.

“Without pride or concern, we must continuously renew, recreate and update the defense industry in accordance with these findings and lessons,” it said.

The ministry said the concept of a “defense industrial revolution” based on a national defense participation model was not limited to building a new product, but transformed ways of thinking, design, production, technology management, the use of knowledge-based capacities, smart systems and the speed of converting knowledge into defensive power. “The experience of the recent wars showed that the stronger the bond between the nation and the armed forces, the greater the country’s capacity to confront threats and overcome crises,” the statement said.

Armed Forces Chief: Response Will Be ‘Devastating’ Major General Ali Abdollahi, Chief of Staff of Iran’s Armed Forces, said in a message to General Ebn-e-Reza that any miscalculation or conventional and emerging threats by Iran’s enemies will be met with revolutionary, forceful, deterrent, and devastating responses. He described Iran’s defense industry as an “indispensable pillar of national power” and said that what has been achieved at the Ministry of Defense in recent years goes beyond the production of military equipment and represents a “deterrent defense industrial revolution”—a strategic transformation encompassing design, technology management, the defense economy, the knowledge-based

supply chain, and smart production models. He said this transformation ensures success on the battlefield and represents an intelligent response to the complexities of modern and future warfare.

Abdollahi stressed that the Armed Forces, fully prepared across all domains—including land, sea, air, air defense, space, and cyberspace—will respond to any miscalculation or threats from the enemy with revolutionary, forceful, deterrent, and devastating responses. Navy Commander: Enemy Dares Not Approach

Rear Admiral Shahram Irani, commander of Iran’s strategic navy, rejected claims that Iran’s naval forces have been destroyed, asking why the enemy has not attempted to enter the “Strait of Uhud of the Guardianship”. He said Iranian forces have remained deployed along a line extending from the Pakistani border to Ras al-Hadd in Oman for more than 175 days.

“The soldiers of Islamic Iran are stationed in the ‘Strait of Uhud of the Guardianship’ and have not allowed the enemy to take even a single step closer to this area.” “The Navy has a strong presence in the straits and strategically important waterways in the Persian Gulf,” he said. The Iranian Navy “continues to defend Iran’s national interests and security in the Persian Gulf,” he stressed, adding that the Navy “is fighting the enemies with all its might and will not let them get close”.

Irani said, “It is the power and will of the people of Islamic Iran that has put the enemy in its place and grounded it, and if we possess the knowledge and the competence of knowledge-holding, we will steer the ship of the country to its rightful destination.”

After...

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“crimes against humanity,” saying Washington’s reliance on sanctions and military pressure represented two sides of the same policy of aggression. “Economic sanctions and pressure are the other side of the same coin as military war and aggression,” the ministry said, warning that the policy was placing global peace and security at risk.

The ministry said the new sanctions demonstrated the continuation of 73 years of U.S. hostility toward the Iranian people, and condemned their announcement on the anniversary of the 1953 U.S.-backed coup against Iran’s democratically elected government.

“The new U.S. sanctions are not only another indication of the continuation of 73 years of hostility by U.S. policymakers toward the Iranian people, but also demonstrate the anti-human, lawless and hegemonic nature of the U.S. government,” it said.

The ministry further said the sanctions targeted the fundamental rights of Iranian citizens and violated international norms.

“Without a doubt, the U.S. economic sanctions against Iran, which target the fundamental human rights of every Iranian citizen, constitute ‘economic terrorism’ and ‘crimes against humanity,’” it said, adding that those responsible should face prosecution and punishment.

The sharp denunciation came as Tehran rejected Washington’s latest attempt to use economic pressure to force Iran to surrender its national interests, arguing that the new campaign merely repeated failed strategies used by successive U.S. administrations.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said the latest American campaign is “bound to fail,” pointing to a succession of increasingly harsh U.S. pressure campaigns against Tehran.

In a post on X on Friday, Araghchi recalled Washington’s descriptions of its previous efforts:

“14 years ago: ‘Most crippling sanctions in history.’ Failed.

8 years ago: ‘Maximum pressure.’ Failed.

5 months ago: ‘Unconditional surrender.’ Failed.

Today: ‘Most crushing economic operation ever.’ Bound to fail.”

“We have seen this movie before. Same bull. Different bullies,” he wrote.

Araghchi had already dismissed Trump’s so-called “Economic D-Day” on Thursday, describing it as an attempt to divert attention from America’s own economic problems.

“The so-called ‘Economic D-Day’ is a diversion from America’s own crisis: unprecedented debt & surging interest costs,” he said.

“Doubling down on failed policies will only bring further defeat—and enmity of Iranians. U.S. economic terrorism threatens global economy and sovereignty worldwide,” he added.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry said the latest sanctions followed the failure of U.S.-Israeli aggression to force the Iranian people to surrender to what it called “illegal and inhumane ambitions.”

“The policy has already been tried and failed, and testing it again will undoubtedly produce nothing but a repetition of past failures and the disgrace of those who designed and implemented it,” the ministry said.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Kazem Gharibabadi similarly described the latest campaign as another consequence of Washington’s miscalculations.

“They claim that Iran is on the verge of defeat and hanging by a thread, yet they are begging all their allies to help them,” he wrote on X.

“The problem is the miscalculations that, each time, force them to inflict an even greater defeat on themselves in an attempt to cover it up. The military war failed to deliver results; now they have called the next defeat an ‘economic war’,” Gharibabadi added.

The Iranian position has received support from China, which rejected Washington’s call for greater pressure on Tehran and said sanc-

tions would not resolve the crisis. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lin Jian said sanctions and pressure “will not be useful in solving the Iran issue,” while calling on the parties to act responsibly and pursue a political and diplomatic approach.

The United States has sought to use secondary sanctions to pressure countries and companies that continue commercial relations with Tehran, particularly those involved in Iranian oil.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has said Washington is preparing what he described as the toughest sanctions yet against Iran, with further details expected Monday. Former U.S. diplomat Alan Eyre, who played a key role in negotiations leading to the 2015 nuclear agreement, likewise said the latest sanctions appeared to stem from frustration. “The tree of sanctions has already been plucked,” he said, arguing that many of Washington’s punitive options had already been exhausted.

Eyre warned that further pressure was more likely to produce counter-escalation than Iranian capitulation, particularly as Tehran views concessions under existential pressure as inviting further demands.

The new sanctions also prompted increasingly critical assessments in major U.S. media, with coverage questioning whether Washington’s renewed reliance on economic pressure can produce the result that earlier sanctions failed to achieve.

The Washington Post reported that Trump has “pivoted back to sanctions” as other strategies for ending the war have failed to produce a breakthrough, while its latest assessment noted that Iran was already deeply familiar with decades of American sanctions.

The Wall Street Journal similarly described Trump’s approach as a return to an old strategy, reporting that the administration is relying on financial sanctions and pressure on Iran’s economic lifelines in the hope of forcing Tehran to change course.

The Post also published an assessment describing the Iran war as a “strategic failure,” while another recent analysis said Trump’s erratic approach is undermining his own threats and negotiations.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry said the country would continue to defend its national security and interests against US military, economic, political and psychological pressure.

“The Islamic Republic of Iran, relying on its unparalleled national capabilities and taking into account seven decades of comprehensive resistance against U.S. pressure, intervention, military aggression and state terrorism against Iran, will employ all available tools and capacities to counter the U.S.-Israeli enemy’s hostile actions and safeguard Iran’s national interests,” it said.

U.S....

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... aboard the Lincoln, including suicide attempts, sanitation problems and food shortages.

One sailor told CNN that the deployment was initially intended to last for two weeks of combat operations but was extended for a further seven months.

“The main reason this deployment is so worse is because we were not supposed to come out here and fight a war,” he said.

According to Pentagon casualty data updated on Thursday, more than 750 U.S. troops have been wounded since the U.S. launched its war of aggression on Iran. The update added more than 50 wounded U.S. soldiers to the Pentagon’s war casualty database, bringing the official total to 757 wounded and 18 killed.

Those figures are drawn from two separate entries in the Pentagon’s Defense Casualty Analysis System, combining the totals listed under “Overseas Operations” with those recorded for Operation Epic Fury.

The Pentagon created an Overseas Operations category last month for personnel killed or wounded from 7 July onward, separating those figures from casualties recorded under Operation Epic Fury.

The Pentagon has not specified which war the Overseas Operations casualties relate to, nor where or how the personnel were killed or wounded, prompting further questions about the transparency of its reporting.

The Intercept reported on 4 August that the split came days after a wave of Iranian strikes on U.S. facilities, and cited a U.S. government official who called the new method “designed to obscure the count” and a “casualty cover-up.”

Counting casualties left out of the database, The Intercept put the real number of U.S. personnel killed or wounded in the war on Iran above 900. The outlet has documented repeated anomalies, including the Epic Fury count dropping from 500 on 21 July to 431 without explanation.

The Washington Post reported that the Pentagon is reassessing its military footprint in Persian Gulf countries after months of losses inflicted by Iran.

The central question is whether to pull troops back from the Persian Gulf, where the largest U.S. bases overseas have absorbed much of the Iranian retaliatory fire, with over 200 U.S. facilities being damaged or destroyed since the war began in February.

Michael Ratney, a former U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia, named Jordan, Israeli occupied territories, and Saudi Arabia’s Red Sea coast as possible destinations for relocated forces, though he acknowledged the added distance was no perfect fix, as Iranian missiles have already reached all three throughout the war on Iran.

Sailors on the Lincoln and other U.S. aircraft carriers worked 16-hour days, seven days a week, slept just a few hours each night, were given little food and water, and often even lacked soap, according to a close relative of

one sailor serving aboard the USS George HW Bush. The extreme conditions caused a mental health crisis among sailors that led at least two to attempt suicide by jumping overboard.

Annabelle Loma told the Military Times that her husband attempted to jump overboard from the Lincoln earlier this month. “He’s scared,” Loma said. “He thinks he’ll get a dishonorable discharge, and just because he was burnt out, his 13-year career is ruined, just like that.”

The Lincoln crossed into West Asia in late January together with several guided-missile destroyers, part of a wider U.S. buildup that also brought fighter jets and air defense systems into the region in January – one month before the U.S.-Israeli attacks on Iran were launched. Trump said at the time that he was sending an “armada” toward Iran “just in case.”

Months later, that armada is withdrawing in defeat. Iranian strikes have battered American bases across the region, exposing U.S. military vulnerability and shattering Washington’s aura of invincibility. Over 200 U.S. facilities have been damaged or destroyed. The Pentagon is now weighing a smaller U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf – a retreat that would have been unthinkable before the war.

The Lincoln’s withdrawal and the reassessment of the US military footprint mark a humiliating chapter for Washington, which launched its war of aggression expecting a quick victory but instead found itself mired in a costly confrontation with a determined adversary.

As Iranian officials have repeatedly declared, the United States has tasted the bitter flavor of defeat and is now licking its wounds, returning crestfallen with its tail between its legs.

MP...

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the language of diplomacy. Therefore, they will neither lift the sanctions, release the funds nor end their acts of piracy,” he said. “But history will show that through the language of power, they will be forced to take these steps, and the United States will leave the region after apologizing to the Iranian people.”

Ghalibaf...

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On Thursday, speaking with Iranian and Iraqi businesspeople in Baghdad, Ghalibaf said Iran does not seek war, but diplomacy can only be effective when backed by readiness for war.

“We are neither warmongers nor seeking war,” he said. “But as Muslims, we believe in a principle: We will not allow people to trample on our dignity and honor. On this path, we will sacrifice our wealth and lives, stand firm, and defend our dignity and honor.”

He said that diplomacy carries weight only when a country is prepared to defend itself. “We believe diplomacy is valuable and moves forward when we are prepared for war. If we are not prepared for war, no one will respond to us when we use diplomacy.”

Separately, Iraqi National Security Adviser Qasim al-Aboudi reaffirmed Baghdad’s commitment to its security agreement with Tehran, saying Iraq’s policy is focused on strengthening relations with neighboring countries.

Al-Aboudi described Iran-Iraq relations as historic and close, saying Iraq’s stability is directly linked to the stability of the wider region. “Iraq adheres to the joint security agreement between Baghdad and Tehran,” he said.

Ghalibaf’s visit to Iraq included meetings with senior Iraqi officials, including the parliament speaker, prime minister, president and chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council.

During his meeting with Prime Minister Ali al-Zaidi, Ghalibaf highlighted the deep geographical and historical ties between the two countries.

In a separate meeting with President Nizar Amidi, Ghalibaf discussed the latest regional conflicts, attributing much of the region’s insecurity to U.S. policies and Israeli actions.

Senior...

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illegitimate demands and accept humiliation, but the Iranian nation, which is the nation of Imam Hussein, does not accept such a demand,” he said.

“The response of the Iranian nation to the foolish and ignorant American president and the masters of the system of domination who want the Iranian nation to surrender is ‘hahiat mina al-dhillah’ (Far be it from us to accept humiliation),” he added, citing a famous Shia slogan.

“To avoid submitting to their illegitimate demands, we must become strong,” Aghajanian said. “Today, Islamic Iran is at the peak of authority and has become an emerging power in the world.”

Border...

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officials confirming support for Kurd-

ish terrorists.

U.S. President Donald Trump was reported to have discussed providing military support to Kurdish groups for operations against Iran.

Tehran has previously warned that such groups are receiving intelligence, funding and weapons from American and Israeli sources, including the Mossad.

Iranian security forces have intensified border operations in recent months. In April, security forces in the southeastern border region with Pakistan also thwarted a militant infiltration, killing multiple armed group members who had crossed into the country.

At...

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commercial and cultural corridors could be revived as platforms for people-to-people exchanges, tourism development, cultural dialogue and stronger regional cooperation.

He said that tourism should be understood as more than an economic activity.

“Let us turn tourism into a bridge between nations,” he said, describing tourism as a means of connecting cultures, restoring hope, supporting communities and contributing to lasting peace.

Iran, he added, is ready to participate actively in developing practical mechanisms for deeper tourism cooperation among BRICS countries.

From...

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hunting scenes and human figures appear across Safavid textiles, often drawing on the visual language of Persian miniature painting and manuscript illustration.

In this sense, the textile became more than a decorative surface: it became a meeting point between weaving, painting, literature and the natural world.

A particularly striking Metropolitan Museum textile from the first half of the 16th century depicts figures wearing turbans alongside hunted animals and vegetation.

Woven in silk using the lampas technique, the piece demonstrates how Persian textile designers incorporated narrative, movement and character into the structure of the cloth.

The sophistication extended to the mathematics of weaving itself. Creating complex patterns required designers to calculate the precise sequence of threads so that the intended image could emerge on the loom.

The finished textile was therefore the product not of a single craft, but of a chain of specialized knowledge encompassing silk preparation, dyeing, design, calculation and weaving.

Safavid luxury textiles served many purposes, from courtly and aristocratic garments to curtains, ceremonial coverings and furnishings. Their value also carried them beyond Iran’s borders, making textile production an important component of the country’s commercial networks.

The surviving pieces now dispersed among international collections offer a glimpse into that world. The Metropolitan Museum preserves Persian examples of silk, velvet, lampas and metallic-thread textiles, while the British Museum holds Safavid

silks incorporating Persian poetry and epic imagery.

One early 17th-century textile, for example, contains framed Persian verses alongside scenes drawn from Iranian heroic narratives.

In...

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... a broader cultural and sporting exchange between Iran and India. According to Iran’s Cultural Counsellor in India, Farid al-Din Farid, the Iranian Cultural Centre in New Delhi has supported efforts over the past three years to establish a national Zurkhaneh federation in India.

Those efforts have included training programs for athletes and coaches, assistance with the federation’s registration process, demonstrations and events at the cultural center, and support for Indian Zurkhaneh athletes travelling to Iran to compete.

A major milestone came in January 2026, when India hosted the Zurkhaneh Sports and Pahlavani Wrestling World Cup following a year of preparations and coordination with Indian authorities. Held over three days at the international stadium of Jamia Millia Islamia University, the competition brought together athletes from nine countries.

Iran’s Cultural Counsellorship played a coordinating and quality-supervision role in the event on behalf of the International Zurkhaneh Sports Federation.

The organizers described the competition as an important practical step towards establishing Zurkhaneh in India and securing wider recognition of the sport by the country’s Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

The event brought together athletes and coaches from participating countries, officials from international and national Zurkhaneh federations, veteran practitioners, traditional masters, morsheds and national champions.

Archaeology...

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... place in the historical geography of Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad.

The wider history of the site also places it within a region where successive political and cultural periods left their mark on urban form.

Dehdasht reached particular prominence during the Safavid period, when it functioned as an important administrative and commercial center. Surviving remains include bazaars, mosques, caravanserais, baths, religious buildings and residential structures, revealing a city organized around the movement of people, goods and ideas.

The archaeological importance of Belad Shapur therefore extends beyond the question of a name. Its buildings and urban fabric offer material evidence for the development of Iranian city life across successive Islamic periods.

Comparable archaeological landscapes in southern Iran demonstrate how urban planning and architectural traditions could persist and evolve across political and religious transformations.

Auspicious...

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on his reappearance at the holy Ka'ba would be: **“Know O’ people of the world! The bare body of my ancestor [Imam] Husain was trampled [by the Omayyad horsemen].”**

True believers from all over the world will rally to the Imam’s call on his reappearance, which would be preceded by five definite signs, according to a statement from the Prophet’s 6th Infallible Heir, Imam Ja’far Sadeq (AS), who says:

“Before the uprising of Imam Mahdi (AS) there will be five certain signs: (uprisings of) the Yemeni, the Sufyani, the call from the sky, martyrdom of Nafs Zakiyyah (or the pure soul) and the rift in the desert (where the earth will swallow an army sent to Hijaz by the enemies of the Ahl al-Bayt).”

This hadith is ample proof that the Arabian Peninsula will be cleared of the evil presence of the Wahhabis, who masquerade as Muslims in order to destroy the spirit of Islam through their collaboration with the US and the Zionists, and their open enmity with the followers of the Prophet’s Ahl al-Bayt.

Another point to note is the Islamic Revolution in Yemen and preparation of Yemeni Muslims for the reappearance of Imam Mahdi (AS), along with the flags of the east from Khorasan (Iran) that will converge on Iraq to save the country from the bloody hordes of Sufyani, who would be unleashing bloodbaths in Syria. Imam Mahdi (AS) will arrive in Iraq to save the people from the sedition of the Sufyani and his bloodthirsty invaders from Syria.

The Mahdi (AS) will have as his lieutenant Prophet Jesus (AS) – who will also reappear and disown Christianity. This means, most of the Europeans and Americans, having rid themselves of the despots in the White House and the despicable Zionists, will then become God-fearing believers, receptive to the universal mission of Islam.

No wonder, the 12th Imam of the Infallible Progeny of Prophet Muhammad (SAWA), had as his mother the spotlessly pure lady, Narjes, a granddaughter of the Byzantine emperor and a direct descendant through her mother of Simeon, one of the 12 disciples of the Virgin-born Messiah.

“O Allah make him the refuge for Your oppressed servants and a helper for him who has no other helper besides You and the reviver of the commandments in Your book which has been neglected and the strengthener of the sciences in Your religion and the way of Your Prophet – may Allah’s blessing be upon him and his progeny.”

“O Allah, enable us to witness his days, his appearance and his rising, and appoint us to be among his helpers, avenging the martyrs alongside him. Write us among his supporters and dedicated friends; bring us to life in his reign, prosperous, enriched by his company, defending his cause, and secure from all ills, O Most Merciful of the merciful. All praise belongs to Allah, the Lord of all the worlds, and may His blessings be on our master, Muhammad, the Seal of the Prophets, and on his Progeny, the truthful ones; (O God), may Your curse be on all oppressors!”