Every...
(Continued From Page One)

vast numbers of people, consider themselves Basijis because their hearts are devoted to the school and ethos of the Basij," he said.

The Leader also referred to those who carried national flags in squares and streets, day and night, giving a tangible and visible expression to the awakening of the nation, as well as the large numbers of people who had pledged their lives in defense of the country.

"There are many people who are not formally members of the Basij but admire its thought and school of conduct and, in some cases, align their own way of life with it. The Basij organization must make the best possible use of this God-given blessing," he stressed.

The Leader said the transformation of the Basij should not be limited to expanding its organizational membership, emphasizing that the official institution must continue working to spread the Basij spirit throughout every part of the country.

He described good character, kindness, compassion, respect for people, individual and collective piety, humility, selflessness and avoidance of extravagance and ostentation as essential characteristics of the Basij ethos.

"Adopting good manners, compassion and kindness, respect for people, observing the various aspects of individual and collective piety, and maintaining the qualities with which many Basijis were known in previous periods, such as humility, selflessness, not seeking to be seen, keeping away from luxury and ceremony, and other such admirable behaviors, will turn them into the pride and guiding light of the nation in every neighborhood, city and village," he said.

Ayatollah Khamenei added that such conduct will encourage society as a whole to follow the Basij's example.

Addressing the ideological foundations of the Basij, Ayatollah Khamenei said its members' fundamental allegiance is to the school of Imam Hussein (AS), which he described as the correct understanding of pure Muhammadan Islam.

"The fundamental allegiance of the Basijis is to the school of Hussein, peace and blessings be upon him, which is the correct understanding of pure Muhammadan Islam," he said.

He stressed that all forms of allegiance and disavowal among Basijis must be shaped by this foundation.

He then cited two Qur'anic teachings as guiding principles for the movement: "Merciful among themselves" and "Firm against the disbelievers."

"These two life-giving Quranic teachings, 'Merciful among themselves' and 'Firm against the disbelievers,' are the guiding lights of the hearts of the Basijis," he said.

"Accordingly, they demonstrate every form of kindness and self-sacrifice toward the people, the system and the Revolution, and they do not overlook any opportunity to strike blows against the enemies of Islam and the Islamic system."

The Leader also identified the preservation of social cohesion and the nation's sacred unity as a shared responsibility of all Basijis.

"Safeguarding the social cohesion and sacred unity of the Iranian nation, whose great value and profound impact in extending the victories of the brave and self-sacrificing fighters of Islam on the military front against the enemy's calculations on both sides of the battlefield of truth and falsehood are evident in these days, must be one of the common characteristics of all Basijis," he said.

In another part of his message, Ayatollah Khamenei highlighted the role the Basij has played in compensating for shortcomings in official and unofficial institutions throughout its history.

He said the expansion of the Basij spirit during the recent national awakening has created a much greater reservoir of human capacity that must be mobilized to address the country's challenges and seize new opportunities.

"With regard to the remarkable growth of the Basij during the period of the people's awakening, the existing capacities and all those who are Basijis in their hearts, including those present in squares and streets, those who have pledged their lives, and others who are committed to the same path of individual and social advancement, constitute an immense power," he said.

He emphasized that the hearts of these people are the true bases of the Basij.

"This immense power must be utilized in every single part of the country to solve its problems and achieve new and unprecedented opportunities, thereby giving greater depth to the slogan 'Every Iranian, One Basiji,'" he added.

The Leader expressed hope that the Iranian Basij will establish an outstanding model of cooperation and a high standard of realizing the concept of the Ummah and the nation.

He said this model should become a starting point for the country's significant future progress.

"I hope that, by taking these points into consideration, the Basij of Iran will establish an outstanding model of mutual assistance and a high standard for realizing the concept of the Ummah and the nation in the history of this country, in such a way that it becomes the starting point for remarkable progress and achievements in the future," he said.

IRGC ...
(Continued From Page One)

Iran's regulations governing maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz.

The aircraft was confronted by warning fire from a new and advanced air defense system operated by its Aerospace Force.

"Following a sharp evasive maneuver, the aircraft was forced to change course and move away from the country's airspace," the statement said.

The IRGC emphasized that Iranian airspace constitutes a red line for the country's Armed Forces, warning American military commanders against repeating such incursions.

It also warned that attempts to circumvent Iran's maritime traffic control and management regulations in the Strait of Hormuz will not be tolerated, adding that continued violations can result in considerably heavier losses for those responsible and the military forces supporting them.

The IRGC warned that any further incursions by American military aircraft will trigger a decisive air defense response, pointing to previous engagements involving U.S. fighter aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles.

The latest incident follows a series of engagements in which Iranian forces have intercepted, disabled or destroyed American military aircraft, including advanced reconnaissance and combat drones, as well as manned aircraft.

One of the most consequential incidents involved a U.S. F-15E fighter jet that was brought down over Iranian territory in April. The United States acknowledged the loss of the aircraft and launched an extensive search-and-rescue operation to recover its two crew members.

Iranian military authorities subsequently reported that their forces also struck American aircraft involved in the rescue mission, including two C-130 transport aircraft and several helicopters.

Iran's unified Armed Forces command said two C-130 aircraft and two Black Hawk helicopters were destroyed during the botched operation. The IRGC subsequently said additional American helicopters, including MH-6 Little Bird aircraft, were hit or rendered inoperable.

Washington acknowledged that two MC-130J transport aircraft and four helicopters were destroyed during the operation. It also acknowledged damage to two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

The U.S. Congressional Research Service, in an assessment updated on October 5, documented 81 American fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles reportedly lost or damaged during Operation Epic Fury.

The United States has also acknowledged that an F-35A stealth fighter was damaged by Iranian ground fire in March. The F-35 incident was included in the Congressional Research Service's assessment of American aircraft losses and damage.

Iranian air defenses have also repeatedly targeted American unmanned aircraft, including MQ-9 Reaper reconnaissance and strike drones.

In the latest reported engagements, the Iranian Army's Air Defense Force said it detected and destroyed two American drones, identified as an MQ-9 Reaper and a Low-cost Uncrewed Combat Attack System (LUCAS), in separate operations over the Strait of Hormuz on Tuesday night.

The Army said the interceptions demonstrate its continued ability to detect and counter aerial intrusions despite repeated American claims that Iran's air defense capabilities had been destroyed.

Iran's expanding use of electronic warfare has also emerged as an important element of its campaign against aerial surveillance and reconnaissance operations.

On Friday, Iranian security forces announced that they intercepted an unidentified hostile unmanned aerial vehicle over the Sar Jangal area of Sistan and Baluchestan province and brought it safely to the ground after taking control of its guidance and navigation systems.

According to the provincial police public relations office, the electronic warfare unit detected and identified the aircraft before disabling its navigation and control capabilities.

The announcement follows earlier operations by the IRGC Navy, which has reported taking control of several American MQM-170 reconnaissance drones through electronic warfare.

Alongside its air defense operations, the IRGC has emphasized that Iran's missile production and weapons development have continued without interruption despite the war and sustained military pressure.

Speaking in an interview with the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) on Thursday, IRGC spokesman Brigadier General Hussein Mohebbi said the country's missile production has not stopped and that Iran's offensive and defensive military capabilities are in a considerably stronger position than those of the United States.

"On the contrary, we are continuously increasing our missiles' capabilities, accuracy, and destructive power," he said.

Mohebbi also stated that Washington is experiencing shortages of strategic weapons, while Iran has neither encountered nor expected to encounter comparable difficulties.

He described the IRGC's sustained firepower along Iran's southern coastline and the Persian Gulf islands as a central component of the country's defense strategy.

According to the spokesman, Iranian forces are maintaining their military presence to defend national territory, protect the country's sovereignty and prevent hostile forces from exploiting the Strait of Hormuz.

"The successful interception of enemy drones and the destruction of numerous drones over the Strait of Hormuz demonstrate the considerable technological capabilities of Iran's Armed Forces," he said.

Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari, chief of staff and deputy coordinator of the Iranian Army, said on Thursday that the experience of the 12-day war and the subsequent Ramadan war have underscored the importance of strengthening the country's air defense capabilities.

"We learned many lessons from the 12-day and Ramadan wars, and one of them was the need to pay greater attention to strengthening air defense," he said.

Sayyari explained that although Iran had made considerable progress in air defense development following the eight-year war imposed by Saddam Hussein's regime in the 1980s, subsequent confrontations demonstrated the need for further improvements.

He said Army specialists have since developed and manufactured new defensive equipment through their technical expertise, creativity and sustained efforts.

The newly produced systems have already been deployed in the country's defense network and inflicted considerable damage on hostile forces, he added.

"The enemy will face our new air defense systems in practice and, if it launches an attack, will see their effects," Sayyari warned.

USS...
(Continued From Page One)

Rear Admiral Shahram Irani, commander of the Iranian Navy, made the disclosure during Friday prayers in Tehran, saying Iranian forces identified the aircraft carrier as a central element of the enemy's military presence and launched a missile against it.

"On the first day of the war, our comrades fired a missile at the USS Abraham Lincoln, which hit its target and struck the enemy's body," he said.

According to Irani, the missile used in the operation had not previously been tested, making the strike a significant demonstration of Iran's naval capabilities.

He said American forces subsequently sought assistance from ports in neighboring countries to evacuate wounded personnel, recover casualties and conduct medical and repair operations before resuming aerial attacks against Iranian targets.

Irani said Iran's naval forces have since upgraded their operational systems, maintained close coordination with the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy and continued monitoring enemy movements throughout the region.

He stressed that Iranian forces have prevented hostile military vessels from approaching not only the country's territorial waters but even the waters of the Sea of Oman.

"Today, the enemy has deployed all its capabilities, yet it has been unable to get even a single vessel through the Strait of Hormuz, whether manned or unmanned, by sea or air. What a futile illusion! The order is for the Strait of Hormuz to remain closed," the commander declared.

The remarks came as the IRGC Navy reported further incidents involving oil tankers attempting to circumvent Iran's maritime traffic restrictions.

The IRGC Navy separately announced that an oil tanker attempting to pass secretly through an unauthorized route in the Strait of Hormuz had exploded after striking a naval mine, while another vessel was forced to turn back.

In a statement issued on Friday, the IRGC Navy's public relations office said two tankers attempted to circumvent Iranian maritime regulations by using an unauthorized passage north of Ghannam Island.

One of the vessels struck a naval mine and exploded, while the second abandoned its attempted passage and retreated.

The IRGC said the number of tankers attempting to violate maritime restrictions has declined significantly in recent days, describing the development as evidence of Iran's control over the eastern and western approaches to the strategic waterway.

In a separate announcement concerning earlier incidents, the IRGC Navy reported that two tankers exploded after striking naval mines north of Khasab Port. One was carrying more than two million barrels of crude oil.

The force said the vessels were sailing with their navigation systems switched off and attempting to pass through unauthorized routes without coordinating with Iranian maritime authorities.

"They were attempting to pass secretly, placing their trust in the fighter jets of the invading U.S. military," the IRGC Navy's maritime traffic control center said.

The IRGC warned shipping companies and vessel operators against attempting covert passage through the waterway, stressing that Iran will not permit unauthorized maritime movements under wartime conditions.

Tehran has maintained restrictions on the Strait of Hormuz since the beginning of the U.S.-Israeli military aggression on February 28, stating that the strategic waterway cannot be used to facilitate military operations against Iranian territory.

Iran has also conditioned the restoration of normal maritime traffic on an end to military aggression, the lifting of the American naval blockade and recognition of its sovereign rights and security requirements.

Addressing another major episode in the naval confrontation, Irani vowed that Iran will avenge the martyrdom of its personnel in the attack on the Dena destroyer near Sri Lanka on March 4.

Irani said the destroyer was struck while its crew was assessing damage from an earlier attack and considering ways to preserve the vessel and evacuate personnel.

He added that the enemy subsequently attacked the location where other crew members were present, condemning the operation as a violation of established principles governing conduct at sea.

The commander stressed that even incapacitated enemy vessels and their crews must be treated in accordance with international maritime rules.

He vowed that Iran will not leave the losses unanswered, emphasizing that retaliation will take place on the battlefield rather than through statements and declarations.

Irani also revealed that Iranian naval commandos had recovered two oil tankers previously seized by enemy forces and detained the security personnel assigned to guard them.

"When our forces boarded the vessels, the security team was asleep, allowing our commandos to apprehend them as well," he said.

Iran's military preparations are not limited to naval operations. The Army's Ground Force says it has deployed its full capabilities along the country's borders and prepared operational plans to counter any potential ground invasion.

Brigadier General Sirus Amanollahi, deputy commander for operations of the Iranian Army's Ground Force, said on Friday that military units are positioned throughout the country's border regions, stretching from the northwest to the junction of the Iranian, Turkmen and Afghan borders.

Speaking to the IRNA news agency, he said the deployments and operational preparations have been coordinated with the General Staff of the Armed Forces and approved by senior military authorities.

"Taking into account the capabilities of the forces of global arrogance, we have drawn up plans suited to the prevailing conditions. These plans have been approved by the General Staff, and we have deployed all our capabilities along the length and depth of the country's borders," he said.

Amanollahi emphasized that the Army, IRGC, Law Enforcement Command, Basij and popular forces are operating in close coordination, describing the Armed Forces as being at their highest level of combat readiness.

He added that military inspections have confirmed the readiness of ground units, while maneuver formations and air defense units had received the necessary weapons and equipment.

Asked about the possibility of a ground invasion, the commander said Iran's enemies have repeatedly failed to achieve their objectives through decades of military aggression, sanctions and destabilization efforts.

He stressed that Iran has developed comprehensive plans to confront any ground operation, drawing on its experience during the eight-year Sacred Defense and subsequent military confrontations.

"We will resist any enemy, regardless of its capabilities, for as long as blood flows through our veins. Our enemies know that to achieve their objectives, they will have to walk over the bodies of every single one of us," he declared.

Major General Ali Abdollahi, chief of the General Staff of Iran's Armed Forces and commander of the Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, said the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz have become central arenas of strategic confrontation with foreign powers and the Israeli regime.

He praised the Navy's coordination with the IRGC Navy in defending national security, protecting territorial waters and asserting Iran's authority in the Sea of Oman.

Abdollahi said the naval forces remain prepared, in accordance with the directives of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei, to deliver a decisive and effective response to any threat or act of aggression.

Expel ...
(Continued From Page One)

former government banning protests, highlighting growing public anger over Riyadh's role in southern Yemen.

The outrage has intensified following the killing and wounding of thousands of southern fighters who were forcibly deployed to conflict zones in recent months to fight Yemeni armed forces.

Aden has also become a focal point of the rivalry between Saudi Arabia and the UAE, whose competing ambitions have fueled repeated confrontations between their respective local allies.

Intense fighting last year between the UAE-backed Southern Transitional Council (STC) and Saudi-backed forces ended following Saudi airstrikes, the UAE's withdrawal and the separatists' defeat.

The developments coincided with renewed Saudi military escalation elsewhere in Yemen. On Friday, Saudi warplanes struck a residential building in At Turbah, northern Ta'izz province, killing 11 civilians, most of them children, according to local sources.

Rescue teams recovered eight bodies from beneath the rubble, while three other people remained trapped as continued flights by Saudi aircraft hampered rescue operations.

The Yemeni health ministry separately reported that 14 civilians were wounded in Saudi attacks across Hudaydah, Ta'izz and Sa'ada provinces during the preceding hours.

Saudi aircraft also struck a house in the Hajlah area of Sana'a province, with initial reports indicating that civilians might remain trapped beneath the debris.

Yemen's ministry of economy condemned attacks on commercial facilities in Sana'a and Ta'izz, reporting damage to warehouses, food-production workshops and shops. The strikes reportedly killed one civilian in Ta'izz and threatened the livelihoods of thousands of families.

Yemeni Armed Forces spokesman Brigadier General Yahya Saree had earlier reported 109 Saudi air and missile strikes across Yemen within 24 hours.

Paris...
(Continued From Page 2)

The case of Iranian woman Mahdieh Esfandiari, who was detained in France for more than a year over her pro-Palestinian social media activity, further underscores the contradiction in Paris's claims to defend freedom of expression and women's rights.

Esfandiari, an Iranian translator who had been living in France since 2018, was arrested in Lyon in February 2025 and held in Fresnes prison for eight months before being released on bail.

During her detention, she was kept in isolation for extended periods and subjected to conditions that severely affected her physical and psychological well-being and left her traumatized.

Despite the prolonged pretrial detention, French authorities subsequently sentenced Esfandiari to four years in prison, including one year of actual imprisonment, on charges including glorifying terrorism and online incitement.

She appealed the verdict and returned to Iran in April 2026 following her release from French custody.

Moscow...
(Continued From Page 3)

Reciting verses by Parvin Etesami, Rashed said thousands of women poets and literary figures across Iran are continuing the tradition established by Rabia Balkhi more than a thousand years ago.

He described these women as successors to Rabia's literary legacy, saying she hsd helped establish a lasting voice for women in Persian literature.

Murodbek Aslamzoda, counsellor at the embassy of Tajikistan in Russia, also addressed the conference, emphasizing that Rabia Balkhi's significance extended beyond her status as one of the earliest known women poets.

He said her poetry expressed profound human emotions and values, including love, loyalty, intellectual independence and spiritual aspirations.

The program concluded with a theatrical performance depicting Rabia Balkhi's life and literary works.

The 1,050th anniversary of Rabia Balkhi was included in UNESCO's List of Anniversaries for 2026–2027 during the organization's 43rd General Conference in November 2025.

Isfahan ...
(Continued From Page 3)

Isfahan's Deputy Governor for Political and Social Affairs Ayoub Darvishi proposed establishing a peace center to bring together academics, intellectuals and cultural activists and promote the city's role in advancing dialogue and peaceful coexistence.

He stressed that promoting peace should not be confused with abandoning the right to defend the country, noting Isfahan's historical resistance to foreign aggression and its contribution of 24,000 martyrs during the 1980-1988 Iraqi-imposed war.

Darvishi also emphasized that the city's future depends on environmental protection and sustainable development, describing the revival of the Zayandeh Rud River as essential to the survival of central Iran's ecosystem and Isfahan's cultural identity.

The gathering also addressed the broader meaning of architectural heritage. University of Isfahan professor Hadi Safaeipour said heritage extends beyond historic buildings to include collective memory, traditional craftsmanship and the everyday social life associated with historic spaces.

He cited Isfahan's Jameh Mosque and Khaju Bridge as examples of sites whose significance lies not only in their architecture but also in their connection to generations of residents and their social traditions.

Two books were also unveiled during the event. Symbols of Isfahan examines the historical and cultural roots of the city's identity, while Inventory of Isfahan's Intangible Heritage documents around 1,000 examples of local traditions, practices and cultural expressions.

The latter work highlights the importance of preserving oral traditions, traditional games, rituals, craftsmanship and knowledge for future generations.

The event also honored five prominent Isfahan figures in research, architecture, cultural heritage, archaeology and women's sports.

Speakers further called for greater recognition of Isfahan's traditional crafts, stronger public participation in heritage preservation and the use of historical documentation in identifying the city's cultural symbols.

A recurring theme throughout the gathering was that Isfahan's identity extends far beyond its celebrated mosques, bridges and historic architecture: it also lives in its people, traditions, social tolerance and relationship with the natural environment.

Rumi...
(Continued From Page 3)

Naghmehaye Javidan (Timeless Melodies) on November 24 and 25 at Roudaki Hall. Conducted by Ali-Akbar Ghorbani, with Navid Norouzi as vocalist, the program featured orchestral arrangements of works by Ali-Akbar Sheyda, Darvish Khan, Alinaghi Vaziri, Ruhollah Khaleghi, Ali Salimi and Aram Khachaturian.

The performance was the 12th instalment of the Rudaki Foundation's Tarz-e Tazeh initiative, which supports new musical ideas and provides performance opportunities for young musicians.

Other traditional music programs include Az Dirooz ta Emrooz (From Yesterday to Today) by the Koucheh-Bagh ensemble, scheduled for November 27 at the Shahnaaz Hall of the House of Artists of Iran.

Led by Shahrokh Sarlak, the concert explores the relationship between Iranian music and modern Persian poetry, with performances in Homayoun, Bayat-e Esfahan and Afshari modes. The Pargar ensemble, featuring vocalist Soroush Mozaffari, is also scheduled to perform at Azadi Tower Cultural and Artistic Complex on the same date.

Elsewhere, Mahyar Fazeli will make his concert debut with the Nava-ye Aftab Orchestra on November 26, alongside singers Hussein Kian and Muhammad Azimi, at Rose Mall in Tehran. Singer and composer Vessal Alavi is scheduled to perform at Niavaran Cultural Center on November 27.

A separate program titled Hezar Seda (A Thousand Voices), marking the 20th anniversary of composer Babak Bayat's death, will pay tribute to him and his late son Bamdad Bayat at Azadi Tower on November 26. Admission is free.

The 19th National Youth Music Festival has also announced finalists in several instrumental categories, including traditional and Western classical instruments. The festival attracted participants across traditional, regional and classical music, composition and radif preservation.

Its published category figures are 1,105 participants in traditional music, 649 in classical music, 732 in regional music, 79 in composition and 13 in radif preservation. The festival is organized by the Iranian Music Association under the direction of Hamidreza Ardalan.

Other developments include a new music video, Delam Raft, by singer and composer Javad Zaki Shamsabadi; a performance workshop titled Secrets of Stage Performance, led by tar and setar player Maziar Shahi on December 8; and the presentation of the book Zarb-Avaz, by Akbar Aghamirzaei, at Arasbaran Cultural and Artistic Center on November 27. The book examines rhythmic reinterpretations of sections of Iran's traditional musical repertoire.

Iran...
(Continued From Page 3)

Iran's participation in the Tashkent International Tourism Exhibition and the accompanying international tourism summit, held under the theme of sustainability and resilience, is aimed at promoting the country's tourism potential and expanding regional and international partnerships.

Parham Janfeshan, director general of tourism services supervision at Iran's Cultural Heritage Ministry, said the Iranian pavilion features the country's cultural and natural attractions and handicrafts, including live demonstrations by Iranian artists.

He added that Iran will also present its tourism sustainability capabilities and strategic plans for 2027, seeking to attract more visitors from Central Asia and strengthen its position in the regional tourism market.

Salehi-Amiri said the two countries can build on their shared heritage and existing cultural connections to open a new chapter in cooperation across tourism, handicrafts and cultural preservation.