

Leader extends condolences over deaths of two Iranian Supreme Court judges

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has extended his condolences over the deaths of two senior Iranian judges who were assassinated in the capital Tehran. In a message on Saturday, the Leader expressed his condolences to the families of the two justices, Hojjatoleslam Ali Razini and Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Moqiseh, who lost their lives in a shooting attack earlier in the day. Ayatollah Khamenei said in his message that prior to the Saturday shooting, Razini had been subjected to assassination attempts as well.

Pezeshkian: Iran, Russia don't tolerate any external pressure



The comprehensive strategic partnership agreement between Russia and Iran sends a message that the two states will not tolerate any external pressure and are capable of ensuring security in the region, Iran's President says.

Tehran - ISNA - "Moscow and Tehran don't want anyone from outside to determine their roles. We are capable of pursuing independent policies and are ready to develop security and economy in the region together, to bring peace and stability here. We don't need the West," Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said in an interview with the Soloviov Live television channel.

According to the Iranian president, the signing of the comprehensive strategic partnership agreement with Russia has demonstrated that the two countries "have this very approach." If the two countries followed instructions from outside, "they would have changed their policies many times," he added.

On January 17, Presidents Vladimir Putin of Russia and Masoud Pezeshkian of Iran signed a comprehensive strategic partnership agreement after their talks in the Kremin. The agreement covers all spheres of bilateral cooperation and opens up new prospects in various areas of cooperation, including defense, fighting against terrorism, energy, finance, transport, industry, agriculture, culture, science and technologies.

Baghaei: Fighting Israel's impunity over Gaza genocide a global responsibility



With a ceasefire deal set to take effect in Gaza, Iran has called on the international community to hold Israel accountable, demanding an end to the impunity with which the regime has committed "war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide" over the past 16 months.

Esmaeil Baghaei, the spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry, made these remarks in a post on his X account on Saturday on the occasion of the "Day of Gaza, Symbol of Resistance."

"Fighting impunity of the occupying regime, which is constantly perpetuating war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide, is a global responsibility under international law and international humanitarian law," Baghaei wrote.

He said Iran commemorates the innocent Palestinian children, women and men who have fallen victim during the past 16 months to the "colonial erasure" project by the occupying Israeli regime.

He also paid homage to the heroic resistance of the people of Gaza against Israel's genocide and apartheid policy.

"Resistance and struggle for the right of self-determination and liberation from colonial occupation and apartheid are a human and legitimate right under international law," the Iranian spokesman emphasized.

In the early hours of Saturday, the Israeli regime's cabinet voted to approve a ceasefire deal between the Tel Aviv regime and the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas, after more than 460 days of genocidal war that has killed 46,899 Palestinians, mostly women and children.

Netanyahu's office announced that the deal to halt the fighting with Hamas would come into effect on Sunday. The phased-out deal would begin with a six-week truce and could eventually end the brutal military onslaught.

Hamas has already approved the deal, hailing the Palestinian fighters and civilians for their overcoming the regime's aggression and preventing it from achieving any of its wartime goals.

In a statement on Thursday, Iran's Foreign Ministry welcomed the newly-reached ceasefire in Israel's genocidal war against the besieged Gaza Strip, while calling for the prosecution of the regime's authorities over their appalling crimes in the besieged territory.

Araghchi hails Palestinians unmatched victory

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has commended Palestinians in the Gaza Strip for their achieving "unmatched victory" in the face of the Israeli regime, which has been waging a ferocious war of genocide against the coastal sliver for the past 15 months.

The top diplomat made the remarks during a phone call on Saturday with Secretary-General of Gaza's Islamic Jihad resistance movement, Ziad al-Nakala.

The former considered Palestinians' victorious resistance to have been behind the regime's recent approval of a ceasefire with Gaza's resistance groups.

The Israeli regime's so-called "security cabinet" approved the ceasefire deal between Tel Aviv and the Palestinian resistance movements in Gaza on Friday.

The cabinet lent its approval to the agreement, paving the way for its potential endorsement by the regime's full cabinet, which agreed to the deal on Saturday.

Upon initiation of its potential implementation on Sunday, the phased-out deal would begin with a six-week truce and could eventually end the brutal military onslaught that has so far claimed the lives of at least 46,788 Palestinians, mostly women and children.

The Gaza-based resistance movement Hamas has already approved the deal, hailing the Palestinian fighters and civilians for their overcoming the regime's aggression and prompting it to fail to achieve any of its wartime goals.

2 Supreme Court judges assassinated in Tehran

An assailant has opened fire near the Supreme Court headquarters in the Iranian capital, Tehran, killing at least two judges.

Informed sources told IRNA that the two judges were killed and a third one was wounded in the shooting, which occurred on a busy Tehran square earlier on Saturday.

In a statement, the Judiciary's media office identified the victims as Hojjatoleslam Ali Razini, head of Branch 39 of the Supreme Court, and Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Moqiseh, head of Branch 53.

"This morning, an armed infiltrator in the Supreme Court acted on a pre-planned assassination [plot] against two brave judges with a long history of fighting crimes against national security, spies, and terrorism," the statement read.

It said that according to initial findings, the person in question had not been involved in any lawsuit in the Supreme Court, nor was he a client of the court's branches.

"Right after the terrorist act, an attempt was made to arrest the gunman, who then quickly committed suicide," it added.

The Judiciary further said an investigation had been launched to identify and arrest those behind the assassination.

Iran prosecutor general orders speedy probe into assassination of two Supreme Court judges

Iran's Prosecutor General has ordered an immediate investigation into a deadly attack in downtown Tehran in which two Supreme Court judges of the country were assassinated.

In his order on Saturday, Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Movahhedi Azad tasked Tehran prosecutor general with an immediate and accurate probing into the incident which happened earlier in the day.

He urged the need for identifying and arresting those behind this act of terrorism.

Hours after the Prosecutor General's order, Judiciary spokesperson Asghar Jahangir said that arrests have been made in connection with the attack.

Jahangiri explained that "some people have been identified, summoned or arrested" as part of the investigation into the incident.

Iranian Armed Forces' General Staff rejects implications of crash that killed former Iranian president

Iran's Armed Forces General Staff has refuted implications that the crash that killed former Iranian President Ebrahim Ra'eesi last year was not due to inclement weather.

The communication center of the General Staff said in a statement on Saturday that an extensive investigation by the General Staff had concluded that "merely the 'complicated weather and geographical conditions of the region' had caused the accident, which involved the presidential helicopter to crash in a mountainous area in Iran's northwest".

It dismissed any speculations about technical failures, sabotage, terrorist attacks, explosions, or electronic warfare.

The statement clarified that the unfounded claims in the cyberspace regarding President Ra'eesi's death are out of touch with reality, adding that these claims arise from ignorance, a lack of knowledge, or are made for specific purposes.

Earlier, the brother of former President Ra'eesi's security chief has said in an interview published online that his brother had opposed a trip by the presidential entourage to Iran's border with Azerbaijan.

Also, Iranian member of parliament Hamid Rasa'ee claimed, "What happened to the president of this country [Ebrahim Ra'eesi] remains a question mark, and no one has yet been able to erase this question."

Export of farmed caviar from Iran sees 112% growth in 9 months

A senior official at the Iran Fisheries Organization (IFO) has reported a 112% increase in exports of farmed caviar from the country in the first nine months of the Iranian calendar year starting on March 19, 2024, compared with that of in the last year. Nasser Karami-Rad, the head of the renovation office at IFO, made the remarks on Sunday. The increase came after the exports of over 5.3 metric tons of the farmed caviar worth 3.2 million dollars, he said.