

Iranian Press Monitor

Day 148 - Wednesday, 29 July 2026 · 7 Mordad 1405 · 14 Safar 1448

Nine Persian kiosk scans read by vision plus four daily titles and three agency wires read by channel; the English kiosk scan was the prior day's Iran Daily and Tehran Times was unavailable at the time

Defensive open-source press-intelligence. Hostile rhetoric is quoted and translated for attribution and analysis only; nothing herein endorses or amplifies it.



Executive Summary

Day 148 is a Strait-of-Hormuz edition, and its lead judgment is that the standing chokepoint thread has crossed from asserted friction into a claimed kinetic interdiction. On the agency wires the IRGC Navy states that three 'violating tankers' were struck and stopped (Defa Press 64492, Fars 453286) and Rear Admiral Sayyari asserts 'complete Iranian dominance' over the strait (Defa Press 64506); on the front pages Kayhan's lead editorial warns against 'opening the enemy's breathing space through negotiations on the Strait of Hormuz', Qods headlines 'a plan to turn power into a rule in Hormuz', Vatan-e Emrooz insists 'Hormuz has no price tag', and Sobh-e No reports a warning that any country accepting compensation from frozen Iranian assets will be denied passage. The mechanism is a coordinated move from last edition's claimed vessel standoff to a claimed act of interdiction plus an explicit editorial red line against diplomacy, and the significance is that the chokepoint story is now the war's organising frame; the tanker-strike and dominance claims are Iranian military assertions, uncorroborated here, and the tracking cue is whether any primary or external source substantiates them.

The second organising theme is a near-unanimous framing of Netanyahu's Washington visit as a failing, deceptive gambit rather than a threat. Qods casts the trip as 'the banana peel of the architect of chaos under Trump's feet'; reformist Etemad leads 'Diplomacy of deception', reporting Israeli-media claims that Netanyahu is using classified material on Iran's nuclear and missile activity to enlarge his role in White House decisions; the government daily Iran calls it 'the weakness of Netanyahu's prescription at the White House'; Nour News frames it as 'behind diplomacy's mask, a new operations room against Tehran'; and Jomhuri Eslami runs pro-Palestinian protests outside the White House as its main image. That the reformist, government and hardline titles converge on a single 'Netanyahu is weak and duplicitous' reading indicates centrally-comfortable message discipline across the spectrum, though the underlying material is inference about US-Israel friction rather than a demonstrated outcome.

Beneath the loud claims the edition again separates the corroborated-adjacent from the asserted, and the state's own broadcaster supplies the sharpest counter-signal. Jam-e Jam prices the war's domestic cost with unusual candour: a 4,200-megawatt reduction in grid capacity, more than 2,000 network points hit, losses above 60 trillion tomans, Qatar and UAE LNG supply down about 80 percent, and Hormuz transit flows well below pre-conflict levels. Against that, the day's freshest claimed kinetic escalation, an IRGC Aerospace assertion of a ballistic-missile strike on a US airbase and command node in Jordan (Defa Press 64491, Fars 453283), is a specific new claim with no corroboration on the page, while the closest-to-substantiated kinetic activity remains the Yemen-on-Saudi oil campaign: Vatan-e Emrooz's 'Target, Yanbu', Sobh-e No's report of the Saudi tanker 'NCC Ghazal' driven off by ballistic missiles and Bab al-Mandab transit collapsing from about 40 ships a day to roughly 10, and a Yemeni-claimed downing of a Saudi drone (Fars 453290).

The American-decline narrative consolidates onto opinion and elite-mood claims rather than battlefield facts. Seda-ye Iran devotes its whole front to 'America should accept defeat', beneath a khamenei.ir masthead and an editorial flag, using imagery of a US military coffin; Kayhan reports an American analyst conceding 'we have lost the war' (the individual is not identifiable from the excerpt and the quote is carried as a claim); Vatan-e Emrooz's 'New Middle East' has US think tanks describing the war as the start of American hegemonic collapse; and Sobh-e No marshals Israeli polling (44 percent calling the war no victory, only 17 percent crediting Netanyahu) to argue the Israeli premier is 'more despised than ever'. The near-identical carriage indicates centrally-guided amplification of Western and Israeli reporting of caution into a claim of demonstrated defeat, asserted rhetorically and by foreign-source citation.

The home front, meanwhile, is dominated not by the war but by the government's two-year anniversary and an impending fuel-price decision, and here the factional lines are at their sharpest. On 7 Mordad, the mark of the

fourteenth government's start, principlist Farhikhtegan gives its entire front to 'Pezeshkian's slogans and promises', arraying his campaign pledges (including 'I will not raise gasoline prices') as broken; Nobonyad warns of 'a dangerous game with gasoline' and 'repeating Rouhani's mistakes'; reformist Etemad frames 'two years of war and crisis'; while the government daily answers that 'ignoring the government's successes is unfair' and posits a 'consensus on moderation', and the economic titles carry recovery data, Ta'adol's 'the monthly inflation rate has halved', a rising bourse, and a technocratic case for gasoline reform, with reformist Sazandegi reassuring that 'gasoline will not get more expensive' and leading instead on an intellectual debate over Ali Shariati's legacy. Jomhuri Eslami holds the diplomacy lane, foregrounding Foreign Minister Araghchi's coordination with Omani and Saudi counterparts and a UN characterisation of Israel's Lebanon operations as possible war crimes, while Nour News reports fresh Israeli artillery strikes on southern Lebanon and Vatan-e Emrooz's 'Jolani, it is not me' reads Damascus as declining to move against Hezbollah.

Net assessment: this is a Strait-as-red-line edition. The verifiable developments are a further hardening of the Hormuz thread into a claimed interdiction plus an explicit anti-diplomacy editorial line, a candid state-media accounting of the war's domestic material cost, and a continuing Yemen-on-Saudi maritime campaign; the unverified content is the cluster of Iranian military claims (the Jordan base strike, the three struck tankers, Saudi 'aggression' against Iraq) and the American- and Israeli-defeat narratives that ride on foreign-press and polling citation. The highest-significance finding is the chokepoint escalation: the move from asserted standoff to claimed kinetic interdiction, doctrinally sealed by Kayhan's red-line editorial on the morning Netanyahu is in Washington. The signal most worth watching is whether the tanker-interdiction and Jordan-base claims draw any primary-source or external corroboration, or resolve as messaging as yesterday's Caspian warning appears to have; the negative-evidence findings are the state broadcaster's own damage accounting and the reformist and economic titles' continued distance from the mobilisation line.

BOTTOM LINE Day 148 hardens the standing Hormuz thread from an asserted vessel standoff into a claimed kinetic interdiction (the IRGC Navy says three 'violating tankers' were struck and stopped) and welds it to a near-unanimous 'do not negotiate the strait away' editorial line, all staged against a cross-spectrum reading of Netanyahu's Washington visit as a failing, deceptive gambit, while the state broadcaster's own paper quietly prices the war's domestic damage and the reformist and economic titles hold their distance on a factional battle over the government's two-year record.

CRITICAL SOURCING NOTE Nine Persian front pages for 7 Mordad 1405 were read by vision from the NewspaperTasnim kiosk album (t.me/NewspaperTasnim/43776); Kayhan, Vatan-e Emrooz, Jam-e Jam and Sobh-e No were read by their Telegram channels with permalinks cited per item. The English kiosk scan was the prior day's Iran Daily (6 Mordad) and is used only as continuity, and Tehran Times was unavailable at the time. Defa Press, Fars News and Nour News were read as agencies, not front pages; their operational items (a claimed IRGC strike on a US base in Jordan, a claimed IRGC Navy interdiction of three tankers in Hormuz, a claim of Saudi-US aggression against Iraq, and reports of Israeli shelling of southern Lebanon) are Iranian official or semi-official claims, labelled as such and uncorroborated here. Named figures were checked against the printed pages; the American analyst quoted by Kayhan is not independently identifiable and the Kayhan editorial was retrievable only in part (headline plus summary). 'The Leader' denotes Mojtaba Khamenei; Ali Khamenei was assassinated on 28 February 2026. Day numbering follows the fixed calendar count (Day 118 = 29 June 2026).

Macro Trend Analysis

① Hormuz crosses from standoff to claimed interdiction and a hard editorial red line

Last edition's Strait-of-Hormuz story was an asserted US-Iran vessel standoff; this edition it becomes a claimed act of interdiction plus an explicit anti-diplomacy doctrine. The IRGC Navy says three 'violating tankers' were

struck and stopped and Rear Admiral Sayyari claims 'complete dominance' over the strait; Kayhan's lead editorial warns against negotiating the strait away, Qods frames 'power turned into a rule in Hormuz', Vatan-e Emrooz insists 'Hormuz has no price tag', and Sobh-e No reports transit denied to any state accepting frozen-asset compensation. The move is the sharpest turn in the chokepoint thread to date, but the interdiction and dominance claims are Iranian military assertions without external corroboration on the page.

2 Netanyahu's Washington visit read across the spectrum as weakness and deception

From the government daily to the reformist and hardline titles, the Israeli premier's trip to Washington is framed not as a threat but as a failing, duplicitous gambit. Etemad's 'Diplomacy of deception' has Netanyahu leveraging classified Iran material for White House influence; Qods calls him a 'banana peel' under Trump's feet; Iran cites 'the weakness of Netanyahu's prescription'; Nour News sees 'a new operations room against Tehran behind diplomacy's mask'; Jomhouri Eslami leads its image on pro-Palestinian White House protests. The cross-factional convergence indicates centrally-comfortable message discipline, though it rests on inference about US-Israel friction rather than a demonstrated result.

3 American and Israeli defeat consolidated onto opinion and elite-mood claims

The standing 'America blinked' thread sharpens onto polling and elite-sentiment citations rather than operational facts. Seda-ye Iran's whole-front 'America should accept defeat' pairs a US-coffin image with a khamenei.ir masthead; Kayhan reports an American analyst conceding defeat; Vatan-e Emrooz's 'New Middle East' cites US think tanks on hegemonic collapse; Sobh-e No marshals Israeli polls (44 percent calling the war no victory, 17 percent crediting Netanyahu) for 'more despised than ever'. The near-identical carriage is centrally-guided amplification of Western and Israeli reporting of caution into a claim of demonstrated defeat.

4 The state broadcaster prices the war at home while the wires claim new strikes

Jam-e Jam, the IRIB daily, supplies the day's least triumphalist front, quantifying war damage (grid capacity down 4,200 MW, over 2,000 network points hit, losses above 60 trillion tomans, LNG supply down about 80 percent, Hormuz flows below pre-conflict levels). It runs against the freshest claimed escalation, an IRGC Aerospace assertion of a ballistic-missile strike on a US base and command node in Jordan, uncorroborated here. The only closest-to-substantiated kinetic activity remains Yemen-on-Saudi: the 'NCC Ghazal' tanker driven off, Yanbu struck, Bab al-Mandab transit collapsing, a downed Saudi drone.

5 The home front turns on the government's two-year mark and an impending fuel decision

On 7 Mordad, the fourteenth government's anniversary, the domestic fight eclipses the war on most fronts. Farhikhtegan gives its whole page to Pezeshkian's unkept campaign promises and Nobonyad warns of 'a dangerous game with gasoline' and 'Rouhani's mistakes', while the government daily counters that 'ignoring the government's successes is unfair' and Ta'adol reports halved inflation and argues for fuel-price reform; reformist Sazandegi reassures 'gasoline will not rise' and leads on a Shariati-legacy debate. Gasoline is the connective tissue, an anticipated price adjustment refracted through each faction's lens, and the reformist and economic titles sustain their distance from the mobilisation narrative.

Key Judgments

KJ-1 [MODERATE-HIGH] The Strait of Hormuz thread has hardened from an asserted vessel standoff into a claimed kinetic interdiction sealed by an explicit editorial red line. The IRGC Navy states that three 'violating tankers' were struck and stopped and Rear Admiral Sayyari claims complete dominance over the strait; Kayhan's lead editorial warns against 'opening the enemy's breathing space through negotiations on the Strait of Hormuz', Qods headlines power 'turned into a rule in Hormuz', Vatan-e Emrooz insists it 'has no price tag', and Sobh-e No reports transit denied to any state accepting frozen-asset compensation.

Significance: this is the sharpest escalation of the chokepoint story to date and moves it to the centre of the war frame, but the interdiction and dominance claims are Iranian military assertions with no external corroboration on the page; the tracking cue is whether any primary or independent source substantiates the tanker strikes.

KJ-2 [MODERATE-HIGH] Netanyahu's Washington visit is framed across the factional spectrum as a failing, deceptive gambit rather than a threat, indicating centrally-comfortable message discipline. Etemad's 'Diplomacy of deception' has him leveraging classified Iran material for White House influence; Qods calls him a 'banana peel' under Trump's feet; the government daily Iran cites 'the weakness of Netanyahu's prescription'; Nour News sees 'a new operations room against Tehran'; Jomhuri Eslami foregrounds pro-Palestinian White House protests. Significance: convergence by reformist, government and hardline titles on one reading is a message-discipline signal, but the material is inference about US-Israel friction rather than a demonstrated outcome; the cue is whether any concrete US-Israel decision validates or refutes the 'weak and duplicitous' framing.

KJ-3 [HIGH] The closest-to-substantiated kinetic activity on the pages remains the Yemen-on-Saudi oil campaign, not any Iranian strike on US forces. Vatan-e Emrooz headlines 'Target, Yanbu'; Sobh-e No reports the Saudi tanker 'NCC Ghazal' driven off by ballistic missiles, Bab al-Mandab transit collapsing from about 40 ships a day to roughly 10, and Saudi oil-export revenue down some 90 percent; Fars carries a Yemeni-claimed downing of a Saudi surveillance drone; Nobonyad gibes at 'bin Salman's cultural dream'. Significance: the Saudi disruptions should be tracked separately from the uncorroborated Iranian base-strike and Hormuz-interdiction claims that ride on the same coercion narrative; even here the toll figures are attributed claims, and the evidentiary base of the coercion story is Yemeni operations, not a demonstrated Iranian capability.

KJ-4 [MODERATE] A specific new Iranian military claim, an IRGC Aerospace strike on a US airbase and command node in Jordan, has entered the wires without corroboration. Defa Press and Fars both carry the IRGC Aerospace announcement of a ballistic-missile strike on a US air facility and central-command node in Jordan; Fars separately claims Saudi Arabia 'confirmed' military aggression against Iraq alongside America. Significance: these convert the prior edition's diffuse 'shock of the strikes' triumphalism into named, datable operational claims, which raises rather than settles the verification burden; nothing on the pages or accessible externally substantiates them, and they should be held as claims pending independent confirmation, with the cue being any external reporting of an actual incident in Jordan or Iraq.

KJ-5 [MODERATE-HIGH] The American- and Israeli-defeat narrative has consolidated onto opinion and elite-mood claims rather than battlefield evidence. Seda-ye Iran's whole-front 'America should accept defeat' pairs a US-coffin image with a khamenei.ir masthead; Kayhan reports an American analyst conceding 'we have lost the war'; Vatan-e Emrooz cites US think tanks on hegemonic collapse; Sobh-e No uses Israeli polling (44 percent calling the war no victory, 17 percent crediting Netanyahu). Significance: the discipline is real and the near-identical carriage indicates central guidance, but the underlying material is Western and Israeli reporting of caution amplified into a claim of demonstrated defeat; the item to watch is whether any operational fact is offered or whether it stays a foreign-source-sourced posture. The named US analyst is not independently identifiable and the quotation is carried as a claim.

KJ-6 [MODERATE] The state broadcaster's own daily has priced the war's domestic material cost with unusual candour, a first-class counter-signal to the triumphalist fronts. Jam-e Jam reports grid capacity down 4,200 MW, more than 2,000 network points damaged, losses above 60 trillion tomans, Qatar and UAE LNG

supply down about 80 percent, and Hormuz transit well below pre-conflict levels, alongside a denial of any attack on the Bushehr-area nuclear plant and completed Jask grid repairs. Significance: that the IRIB paper documents costs the 'we are winning' titles omit is a calibration check on the edition, indicating the damage figures are treated as reportable even inside the state media; the figures are official accounts pending independent verification.

KJ-7 [MODERATE] The government's two-year anniversary has become the day's dominant home-front battleground, with an impending fuel-price decision as its connective tissue. Farhikhtegan gives its whole front to Pezeshkian's unkept campaign promises and Nobonyad warns of 'a dangerous game with gasoline' and 'Rouhani's mistakes', while the government daily answers 'ignoring the government's successes is unfair' with a 'consensus on moderation' and Ta'adol reports halved inflation and argues for fuel reform. Significance: the anniversary crystallises a live principlist-versus-government contest over the cabinet's record, refracted through the gasoline question, and its prominence displaces the war from most non-hardline fronts; the cue is whether an actual price adjustment lands and how the factions realign around it.

KJ-8 [MODERATE] Negative evidence: yesterday's Caspian tripwire has produced no reported kinetic follow-through, and the reformist and economic titles sustain their distance from the war frame. Sobh-e No now reframes the reported Ukrainian Caspian attack as a US strategic miscalculation rather than reporting any Iranian response, indicating the prior edition's 'will not go unanswered' warning has so far resolved into messaging; meanwhile Sazandegi leads on an intellectual debate, Ta'adol on recovery data, and Etemad parses rather than mobilises. Significance: the absence of Caspian follow-through and the persistence of reformist-economic distance are logged as findings in their own right, a proxy for both the limits of the deterrence signalling and the durability of elite reservations about the centrally-set mobilisation line.

Named-Figure Tracker

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
Netanyahu	Israeli prime minister, in Washington	Cast across the spectrum as weak and duplicitous, 'diplomacy of deception', a 'banana peel' under Trump, 'more despised than ever' in Israeli polls	TARGET FRAMING
Trump	US president, host in Washington	Framed as burdened by Netanyahu and, per Nour News, 'trapped in a political quagmire' with no clear war aim	WATCH
Rear Admiral Sayyari	Iranian navy commander	Claims 'complete Iranian dominance' over the Strait of Hormuz on the day of the tanker-interdiction claim	COERCION SPOKESMAN
Abbas Araghchi	Iranian foreign minister	Reported coordinating joint diplomacy with Omani and Saudi counterparts, the diplomacy-forward counterpoint to the chokepoint line	WATCH
Amir Ali Abolfath	Iranian US-affairs analyst	Etemad's interviewee decoding Netanyahu's Washington visit as deception	NEW NAMED FIGURE
Ahmad al-Sharaa (Jolani)	Syria's leader	Vatan-e Emrooz reads him rejecting pressure to move against Hezbollah ('it is not me'), a stabilising Levant signal	NEW NAMED FIGURE

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
Mohammed bin Salman	Saudi crown prince	Mocked by Nobonyad ('cultural dream going up in smoke') as the Yemen-on-Saudi campaign continues	TARGET FRAMING
The Leader (Mojtaba Khamenei)	Supreme Leader	Only obliquely present, via the carried-over Hezbollah-steadfastness message and Seda-ye Iran's khamenei.ir-aligned front; no fresh full-page centrepiece	absence noted

Headline Summary Table

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
Qods	A plan to turn power into a rule in Hormuz	Conservative (Astan Quds Razavi, Mashhad)	Hormuz leverage and a failing Netanyahu-in-Washington gambit	MODERATE-HIGH: Hormuz reframed as codified prerogative
Kayhan	Do not open the enemy's breathing space through negotiations on the Strait of Hormuz	Hardline flagship (Leader's office / IRGC)	Hormuz declared a non-negotiable red line against talks	HIGH: anti-diplomacy chokepoint doctrine
Vatan-e Emrooz	New Middle East	Hardline / principlist (channel read)	American hegemonic collapse, Hormuz and the Yemen front	HIGH: maximalist collapse-and-chokepoint framing
Seda-ye Iran	America should accept defeat	Principlist / hardline (office-aligned)	American defeat as centrally-set editorial line	MODERATE: office-aligned defeat amplification
Etemad	Diplomacy of deception	Reformist	Netanyahu's Washington gambit decoded as deception	LOW-MODERATE: analytical reformist read
Sobh-e No	More despised than ever	Principlist (channel read)	Netanyahu-as-loser polling and the maritime pressure map	MODERATE-HIGH: coercive Hormuz linkage plus maritime claims
Jomhuri Eslami	Tehran, Muscat and Riyadh stress advancing joint diplomatic efforts	Traditional / establishment	Regional diplomacy and the Lebanon war-crime charge	LOW-MODERATE: diplomacy-forward, Lebanon legal framing
Jam-e Jam	Power-grid capacity down 4,200 MW following war damage	State broadcaster (IRIB)	War's material cost at home and chokepoint economics	MODERATE: candid war-damage accounting
Iran	Consensus on moderation	Official government daily	Anniversary defence of the government and a moderation frame	LOW-MODERATE: governance-normalcy and administration defence
Farhikhtegan	Pezeshkian's slogans and promises	Principlist (Azad University)	Anniversary broken-promises indictment of Pezeshkian	LOW-MODERATE: domestic factional attack
Nobonyad	A dangerous game with gasoline	Conservative / principlist	Domestic fuel/economy critique welded to	MODERATE: rejectionist ceasefire scepticism plus

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
			resistance doctrine	critique
Ta'adol	The monthly inflation rate has halved	Economic / business	Inflation relief and the technocratic case for fuel reform	LOW: domestic economic recovery
Sazandegi	The hidden half of Shariati	Reformist (Kargozaran)	Reformist distance, intellectual debate over mobilisation	LOW: war frame absent

Per-Paper Front-Page Analysis

Qods Conservative daily of Astan Quds Razavi, Mashhad

"A plan to turn power into a rule in

MODERATE-HIGH: Hormuz reframed as a codified Iranian prerogative

Hormuz" «طرحی برای تبدیل قدرت به قاعده در هرمز»



- Main: The banner analysis argues that the effects of the battlefield have once again entered the text of negotiation: it asserts America has halted its attacks, that Oman and the Persian Gulf states have entered talks over tight management of the Strait of Hormuz, and that Iran has 'sat back' having made its point (انار میدان وارد متن مذاکره شده). The frame converts a claimed military standoff into a claimed diplomatic-governance gain for Tehran over the strait.
- Op-ed: 'The banana peel of the architect of chaos under Trump's feet' (پوست خربزه «معمار آشوب» زیر پای ترامپ), an analysis of Netanyahu's trip to Washington and the effects it could have on the Iran file, casting the Israeli premier as a liability Trump is being made to carry.
- Sub-item: Top-left, Ayatollah Javadi Amoli recalls a 70-year friendship with the martyred Leader (رهبر شهید) and urges that the country be run 'with security and calm' (بگذارید مملکت با امنیت و آرامش اداره شود), a restraint note from a senior cleric.
- Right rail: A cultural-security feature, 'In search of the infiltrator' (در جستجوی نفوذی), on the use of the (infiltrator) trope in Iranian political-security film and serials.
- Sub-item: Domestic social-policy items, a warning that recent Social Security decisions gamble with workers' health under the pretext of the fund's imbalance, and a debate over paying students a cash stipend instead of subsidised meals.

ANALYST NOTE Qods anchors the day's dominant Hormuz-as-leverage thread and pairs it with the near-universal derision of Netanyahu's Washington visit, folding both into a single 'Iran holds the initiative, America is negotiating from weakness' storyline. The Javadi Amoli restraint note is the counter-register, a senior clerical voice for calm that sits against the maximalist chokepoint framing on the same page.

«اجماع بر سر میانه‌روی» "Consensus on moderation"



- Main: The lead argues that the country's major political currents are distancing themselves from the extremes (جریان‌های سیاسی بزرگ کشور با (افراط‌ها فاصله می‌گیرند), a government-daily framing that positions the Pezeshkian administration at a moderate centre against both radical wings on the two-year mark of the cabinet.
- Banner: Top strip, 'Ignoring the government's successes is unfair' (نادیده گرفتن موفقیت‌های دولت بی‌انصافی است), an explicit defence of the administration's record answering the anniversary-timed criticism from principlist titles.
- Sub-item: 'The weakness of Netanyahu's prescription at the White House' (ضعف نسخه نتانیاهو در کاخ سفید), reading the Washington visit as a losing hand, alongside a reference to the Leader's reply to Hezbollah Lebanon's letter carried by the president's executive deputy.
- Sub-item: 'The difficult gasoline equation' (معادله دشوار بنزین), foregrounding the fuel-pricing dilemma that runs across today's front pages, plus 'The state broadcaster was warned and promised to reform' (صدوسیما تذکر گرفت، قول (اصلاح داد).
- Right rail: 'Illegal interference in people's lives is forbidden' (مداخله غیرقانونی (در زندگی مردم ممنوع است), a social-freedoms note consistent with the daily's governance-normalcy register.

ANALYST NOTE As the government organ, Iran sets the administration's anniversary defence: a 'moderation consensus' that claims the centre and rebuts the principlist broken-promises attack running on Farhikhtegan and Etemad. Its handling of Netanyahu (a 'weak prescription') and gasoline (a 'difficult equation') keeps the paper in a managerial, diplomacy-tolerant register rather than the mobilisation line of the hardline titles.

«آمریکا شکست را "America should accept defeat" بپذیرد»

MODERATE: office-aligned defeat-narrative amplification

بپذیرد»



- Main: The full-width lead demands that 'America should accept defeat', subtitled 'why American circles are changing their view of the costly confrontation with Iran' (چرایی تغییر نگاه محافل آمریکایی به تقابل پرهزینه با (ایران), presenting an alleged shift in US elite opinion as capitulation.
- Banner: The masthead runs beneath a khamenei.ir logo, and the lead is flagged as the day's editorial (سرمقاله), signalling office-of-the-Leader alignment and centrally-set framing.
- Main image: A photograph of a US military honour guard bearing a flag-draped coffin is used as the page's dominant visual, welding the 'defeat' thesis to imagery of American casualties (an editorial choice, not a dated event on the page).
- Sub-item: 'Iran and Hezbollah, we are true brothers' (ایران و حزب الله برادران), reaffirming the Lebanon-axis solidarity line as the Lebanon front stays active.
- Op-ed: A companion column on shifting American cost-benefit calculations rounds out the single-theme, defeat-narrative front.

ANALYST NOTE Seda-ye Iran supplies the day's purest 'America has lost' front, and the khamenei.ir masthead plus the editorial flag mark it as an office-aligned amplification rather than reportage. Its coffin imagery is the sharpest instance of the edition's defeat-narrative visual grammar, and it should be read as message discipline: the claim is elite-opinion inference, not a battlefield fact.

«بازی خطرناک با بنزین»

MODERATE: rejectionist ceasefire scepticism plus domestic critique

خطرناک با بنزین»



- Main: The lead warns of 'a dangerous game with gasoline' over a full-width photo of a Tehran filling station, casting an anticipated fuel-price adjustment as a political and social risk, the principlist entry in the day's cross-paper gasoline argument.
- Banner: 'Repeating Rouhani's mistakes' (تکرار اشتباهات روحانی), tying the Pezeshkian cabinet's approaching one-year mark to the previous administration's record and citing official reports of falling popularity, an anniversary-timed attack from the right.
- Op-ed: 'The only option, resistance as a historical possibility' (تنها گزینه، ابتکار عمل را پس) and 'Take back the initiative' (بگیرید), a resistance-doctrine pairing that keeps the paper on the mobilisation line abroad even as it criticises the government at home.
- Sub-item: 'Is bin Salman's cultural dream going up in smoke?' (روای فرهنگی) over an image of the Saudi crown prince, folding the Yemen-on-Saudi pressure campaign into a gibe at Riyadh's Vision-era ambitions.
- Sub-item: 'Halting fire as a breathing spell for the enemy?' (توقف آتش یا) questions the ceasefire's wisdom, and 'Industrial electricity is still being cut' (برق صنایع همچنان قطع می‌شود) logs the war's domestic power strain.

ANALYST NOTE Nobonyad shows the principlist split clearly: hard on the government at home (gasoline, 'Rouhani's mistakes') and hard on the enemy abroad (resistance doctrine, ceasefire scepticism). Its 'breathing spell' framing carries the standing rejectionist argument that the truce buys the adversary time, a thread to track against the establishment titles' discipline line.

«نیمه پنهان شریعتی» "The hidden half of Shariati"



- Main: The lead is a cultural-intellectual essay, 'The hidden half of Shariati', on a public dispute between Abdolkarim Soroush and Mousa Ghaninejad over Ali Shariati's legacy, asking why Iranian intellectuals resort to 'the language of the street' to criticise one another, a front deliberately apart from the war frame.
- Banner: 'Gasoline will not get more expensive' (بنزین گران نمی‌شود), a top-strip counter to the alarmist fuel-price framing on principlist fronts, attributed to reassurances that the price will not change.
- Sub-item: 'President champion' (پرزیدنت قهرمان), reporting the end of a legal dispute involving filmmaker Asghar Farhadi, a culture-desk item.
- Op-ed: 'Let us think about Iran's future' (به آینده ایران فکر کنیم), a forward-looking reformist column, plus a note flagging an execution carried out (اجرای حکم اعدام).
- Right rail: A signed analytical column continues the paper's habit of privileging domestic reform and civil debate over the mobilisation narrative.

ANALYST NOTE Sazandegi is the clearest instance today of the reformist press holding its distance: it leads on an intellectual-heritage debate and downplays the fuel-price alarm ('gasoline will not rise') rather than joining the war or crisis registers. Read across editions, this sustains the standing reformist-distance thread, a proxy for elite reservations about the centrally-set war framing.

«شعارها و وعده‌های پزیشکیان»

LOW-MODERATE: domestic factional attack on the government

وعده‌های پزیشکیان»



- Main: The entire front is given to 'Pezeshkian's slogans and promises', a marked accountability layout pegged to 7 Mordad, the anniversary of the day he assumed the presidency, arraying his campaign pledges as unmet.
- Sub-item: The pledges are set as speech-bubble call-outs, among them 'I am not one for shock therapy' (اهل شوک‌درمانی نیستم), 'I will stop the dollar's rise' (جاری گرانی دلار را می‌گیرم), 'I will not raise gasoline prices' (بنزین را گران نمی‌کنم), and 'I will not lie to the people' (به مردم دروغ نمی‌گویم).
- Sub-item: Further call-outs include 'If I make a promise and cannot deliver, I will step aside' (اگر وعده‌ای دادم و نتوانستم اجرا کنم کنار می‌روم), 'I will roll back internet filtering' (فیلترینگ را جمع می‌کنم), and 'I will break the wall of sanctions' (سد تحریم را می‌شکنم).
- Banner: The gasoline pledge is the direct hinge to the day's fuel-pricing story, using the government's own words against the anticipated price adjustment.
- Right rail: A photo mosaic of cabinet figures and campaign placards ('For Iran') closes the reproach, presenting the administration's team alongside the unkept commitments.

ANALYST NOTE Farhikhtegan mounts the sharpest anniversary attack: a whole-front indictment of the Pezeshkian government by its own campaign words, timed to the two-year mark of the administration. It is the principlist counterpart to the government daily's 'ignoring the government's successes is unfair' defence, and the pairing maps a live intra-elite battle over the cabinet's record fought on the home-front rather than the war.

«دپلماسی فریب» "Diplomacy of deception"



- Main: The lead, 'Diplomacy of deception', examines Netanyahu's Washington visit through an interview with US-affairs analyst Amir Ali Abolfath, reporting Israeli-media claims that the premier is using classified material on Iran's nuclear and missile activity to win a larger role in White House decision-making (رسانه‌های اسرائیلی مدعی شدند).
- Banner: 'Washington's military deadlock' (بن‌بست نظامی واشنگتن), arguing an erosion of Western-Zionist cooperation and a shifting balance of power, the reformist paper's version of the American-exhaustion frame, kept analytical rather than triumphalist.
- Sub-item: 'The president, two years of war and crisis' (رئیس‌جمهور، دو سال جنگ و بحران), marking the anniversary of the fourteenth government's handover with a report from its 'hard days', a critical-but-contextual anniversary read distinct from the principlist indictment.
- Sub-item: A crime-desk lead on the case file of 'the second female serial killer' (دومین قاتل سریالی زن), and a cultural feature, 'The zest for life in butterflies'.
- Right rail: A stack of signed columns keeps the paper in a parse-and-analyse posture toward the war rather than a mobilisation one.

ANALYST NOTE Etemad treats the day's Netanyahu-in-Washington story as diplomacy to be decoded ('deception'), not as a battlefield victory, and frames American difficulty as a 'military deadlock' rather than a rout. Its anniversary framing ('two years of war and crisis') is critical of outcomes without adopting the principlist broken-promises line, holding the reformist middle distance that has run across recent editions.

«نرخ تورم ماهانه نصف شد» "The monthly inflation rate has halved"



- Main: The lead reports, on Central Bank data, that the monthly inflation rate has halved and a downward trend has begun (بر اساس گزارش بانک مرکزی), an economic good-news framing set against the war's macro strain.
- Sub-item: 'Tehran Chamber's message to policymakers' (پیام اتاق تهران به سیاستمداران), reporting the chamber of commerce warning that Iran's economy is caught between recession and over-regulation.
- Op-ed: 'Why is gasoline-price reform necessary?' (چرا اصلاح قیمت بنزین؟), an explicit pro-reform argument that is the technocratic counterpoint to Nobonyad's 'dangerous game' alarm.
- Sub-item: 'The stock market on the verge of a historic high' (بورس در آستانه), extending the domestic-recovery register.
- Banner: A top-strip item on the dual track of market-opening and the 'divestment' of Justice Shares (سهام عدالت) keeps the paper on structural-economy terrain rather than the war.

ANALYST NOTE Ta'adol supplies the day's economic counter-narrative: halved inflation, a rising bourse, and a technocratic case for gasoline-price reform, the reformist-adjacent economic answer to the principlist fuel alarm. Its foregrounding of recovery data is itself a factional signal, reinforcing the administration's 'the numbers are improving' defence on the government's anniversary.

“Tehran, Muscat and Riyadh stress advancing joint diplomatic efforts” **LOW-MODERATE: diplomacy-forward, Lebanon war-crime framing**
 «تأکید تهران، مسقط و ریاض بر پیشبرد تلاش‌های دیپلماتیک مشترک»



- Main: The lead reports that Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, in conversations with his Omani and Saudi counterparts, stressed advancing joint diplomatic efforts (در گفت‌وگوی عراقچی با همتایان عمانی و عربستانی), a diplomacy-forward front that names Riyadh as a partner even as other titles gibe at bin Salman.
- Main image: A photograph of a pro-Palestinian demonstration outside the White House (banners reading 'Expose Israel's control of Washington' and 'US/Israel war machine') is captioned as coinciding with Netanyahu's visit (تظاهرات حامیان فلسطین مقابل کاخ سفید همزمان با سفر نتانیاهو).
- Sub-item: 'The UN: Israel's actions in Lebanon could constitute a war crime' (سازمان ملل، اقدامات اسرائیل در لبنان می‌تواند مصداق جنایت جنگی باشد), carrying the Lebanon-front escalation into a legal register.
- Sub-item: The first anniversary of the '398 army martyrs' of Amol was marked around Major General Monfared Niaki (نخستین سالگرد ۳۹۸ شهید ارتش در), a war-commemoration item.
- Right rail: A pointed critique that state-broadcaster officials treat IRIB as the property of themselves and small like-minded groups (مسئولان صداوسیما این), echoing the government daily's 'the broadcaster was warned' note.

ANALYST NOTE Jomhouri Eslami is the day's diplomacy anchor, foregrounding an Iran-Oman-Saudi diplomatic track and a UN war-crime characterisation of Israel's Lebanon operations rather than the chokepoint or defeat narratives. Its willingness to name Riyadh as a diplomatic partner, on the same morning principlist titles mock the Saudi crown prince, marks the establishment-reformist axis's preference for a negotiated regional path.

Jam-e Jam

State broadcaster daily (IRIB)

"Power-grid capacity down 4,200 MW

MODERATE: candid war-damage accounting beneath chokepoint framing

following war damage" «کاهش ۴۲۰۰ مگاواتی ظرفیت شبکه برق در پی خسارات جنگ»

- Main: The lead reports a 4,200-megawatt reduction in grid capacity from war damage, with more than 2,000 network points hit and losses put above 60 trillion tomans (jamejamdaily post 24266), an unusually candid state-media accounting of the war's material cost at home.
- Sub-item: Energy-market data, Qatar and UAE LNG supply reportedly down about 80 percent (March-June versus 2025) and Hormuz transit flows well below pre-conflict levels (post 24278), quantifying the chokepoint disruption the hardline titles frame as leverage.
- Sub-item: A denial of any attack on the nuclear plant near Bushehr and confirmation that Jask power-grid repairs are complete after enemy strikes (posts 24271-24272), a reassurance-and-recovery pairing.
- Op-ed: Defence analyst Nima Akbarkhanai on the 'second war' over control of the Strait of Hormuz (post 24267), and Larijani-attributed commentary that the US is 'deeply mistaken' over Hormuz management (post 24280).
- Sub-item: An escalation-risk piece asks whether a wide conflict on the scale of the 'Ramadan War' could recur (post 24284).

ANALYST NOTE As the broadcaster's paper, Jam-e Jam is the day's most quantitative and least triumphalist front: it prices the war's domestic damage (grid loss, LNG collapse, sub-pre-conflict Hormuz flows) even while carrying the standard Hormuz-sovereignty commentary. The candour is a first-class negative-evidence signal, the state's own outlet documenting real costs that the 'we are winning' fronts omit.

"Do not open the enemy's breathing space

HIGH: Hormuz declared a non-negotiable red line against talks

through negotiations on the Strait of Hormuz" «راه تنفس دشمن را با مذاکره درباره تنگه هرمز باز نکنید»

- Op-ed: The lead editorial (Yadasht-e Rooz) warns against 'opening the enemy's breathing space through negotiations on the Strait of Hormuz', casting the strait as Iran's red line of national sovereignty and any talks over its management as a strategic concession to be refused (kayhan_online post 79176).
- Main: 'An American analyst's candid admission, we have lost the war' (ما اعتراف صریح تحلیلگر آمریکایی، (جنگ را باختیم), reporting a US commentator as conceding defeat and asserting Trump sought a ceasefire for an 'honorable agreement' before elections; the named individual is not independently verifiable from the channel excerpt and the quotation is carried as a claim (post 79175).
- Sub-item: A market-shock item warning oil could exceed the 2022 peak near 139 dollars and approach 150 dollars a barrel by September if shipping does not resume (post 79174), tying the chokepoint pressure to a price-spike forecast.
- Banner: The paper keeps the Hormuz-as-non-negotiable line as its organising frame, positioned directly against any diplomatic 'management' arrangement of the kind other titles float.

ANALYST NOTE Kayhan converts the day's Hormuz thread into an explicit editorial red line: the flagship's warning against negotiating the strait away is the hardline check on the diplomacy-forward titles (Jomhouri Eslami, Iran). Read with the IRGC Navy's claimed tanker interdiction on the wires, the editorial supplies the doctrinal cover for a claimed kinetic posture, and the 'we have lost the war' item is foreign-opinion amplification rather than an operational fact.

«منفورتر از» *"More despised than ever"***MODERATE-HIGH: coercive Hormuz linkage plus maritime-pressure claims**

«همیشه»

- Main: The lead, 'More despised than ever' (منفورتر از همیشه), marshals Israeli polling to argue Netanyahu emerged from the war a loser: 44 percent of Israelis say the war was not a victory, 36 percent see Iran as the victor, only 17 percent credit Netanyahu, with confidence in him near 30 percent (sobhe_no post 114691).
- Sub-item: Maritime pressure, the Saudi tanker 'NCC Ghazal' reported targeted by Yemeni ballistic missiles and forced to retreat, with Bab al-Mandab transit said to have collapsed from about 40 ships a day to roughly 10 and Saudi oil-export revenue down some 90 percent (claims attributed to the paper).
- Sub-item: Hormuz, a military spokesman is reported warning that any country accepting compensation from frozen Iranian assets would be denied passage through the strait, a coercive linkage of sanctions redress to transit rights.
- Op-ed: A geopolitical analysis casts Ukraine's reported Caspian-Sea attack as a US strategic miscalculation, arguing a northern front backfires by threatening Israel's crude supply (put at 70 percent via Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan) and European NATO interests, invoking Russia-Iran naval superiority under the 2018 Caspian convention.
- Banner: The front sustains the American-and-Israeli-defeat register while keeping the Yemen and Hormuz pressure stories in view.

ANALYST NOTE Sobh-e No consolidates the anti-Netanyahu case onto testable Israeli-opinion figures and keeps the Yemen-on-Saudi maritime campaign, its closest-to-corroborated kinetic content, front and centre. Its Caspian analysis retro-fits yesterday's tripwire as an American blunder rather than reporting any Iranian kinetic follow-through, evidence that the 'will not go unanswered' warning has so far resolved into messaging.

«New Middle East» «خاورمیانه جدید»

HIGH: maximalist American-collapse and chokepoint framing

- Main: The lead, 'New Middle East' (خاورمیانه جدید), reports that American think tanks describe the US war against Iran as the beginning of a global collapse of American hegemony, the maximalist end of the day's American-decline frame (vatanemrooz post 22225).
- Sub-item: 'Jolani, it is not me' (جولانی، من نیستم), reporting Syria's new leader rejecting military involvement against Hezbollah despite alleged Trump pressure and prioritising reconstruction, a Levant-front signal that Damascus will not open a flank on Lebanon (post 22179).
- Sub-item: 'Target, Yanbu' (هدف، ینبع), reporting Yemeni forces striking Saudi oil facilities along the East-West pipeline under a 'siege against siege' economic-pressure doctrine (post 22220).
- Sub-item: 'Hormuz has no price tag' (هرمز قیمتی ندارد), casting Iranian sovereignty over the strait as non-negotiable, aligned with Kayhan's editorial line (post 22215).
- Op-ed: A cognitive-warfare analysis argues that US sanctions and psychological operations have failed to alter Iranian strategic calculations (post 22218).

ANALYST NOTE Vatan-e Emrooz runs the widest-angle triumphalism, a 'New Middle East' of American collapse, and reinforces both the Hormuz-is-non-negotiable line and the Yemen-on-Saudi pressure story. The 'Jolani, it is not me' item is the notable Levant datapoint: it reads Damascus as declining to move against Hezbollah, a stabilising signal on the Lebanon flank even as artillery exchanges continue in the south.

The Leader's message on Hezbollah's steadfastness (carried from the prior cycle, partial)

Referenced on today's Iran (government daily) front and carried in full on the prior day's Iran Daily (English); primary text on khamenei.ir not retrievable at compile time

No single new message from the Leader dominated the Persian front pages of 7 Mordad 1405. The most concrete leadership item in circulation is the Leader's message praising Hezbollah's 'steadfastness' as an 'inspiring message to free nations', referenced on today's government daily (Iran) via the president's executive deputy and printed in fuller form on the prior day's English Iran Daily. It is reproduced here as a continuity item, flagged partial.

As rendered by the state press, the message commends the Lebanese resistance's endurance through the war, casts that endurance as a model for 'free nations', and situates Lebanon within the axis-solidarity frame that Seda-ye Iran restates today ('Iran and Hezbollah, we are true brothers').

Handling note: the full authoritative Persian text was not retrievable from khamenei.ir at compile time, so no verbatim quotation is reproduced. 'The Leader' in current coverage denotes Mojtaba Khamenei; the martyred predecessor Ali Khamenei is referenced on the pages as رهبر شهید / سید علی. The wording above is an editorial summary of the state rendering, not a primary-source quotation, and should not be reproduced as authentic text without confirmation against khamenei.ir.

Kayhan editorial (Yadasht-e Rooz): 'Do not open the enemy's breathing space through negotiations on the Strait of Hormuz' (partial)

Kayhan, Yadasht-e Rooz, t.me/s/kayhan_online post 79176, Wednesday 7 Mordad 1405

Headline as printed: راه تنفس دشمن را با مذاکره درباره تنگه هرمز باز نکنید, 'Do not open the enemy's breathing space through negotiations on the Strait of Hormuz.'

The note frames the Strait of Hormuz as Iran's red line of national sovereignty (خط قرمز حاکمیت ملی) and argues against any negotiation over the strait's 'management', characterising such talks as granting the adversary a strategic breathing space (راه تنفس) after the war rather than a diplomatic settlement. It positions the editorial directly against the diplomacy-forward and 'joint management' framings appearing on other titles the same morning.

Verification note: only the headline and a short summary excerpt were retrievable from the public channel at compile time; the full body was not captured, so this appendix is a faithful rendering of the retrieved material, flagged partial, with no invented passages. The Yadasht-e Rooz is customarily written by Kayhan's managing editor Hossein Shariatmadari, but the individual byline on this specific note was not separately confirmed from the retrieved text and is therefore attributed only as customary. Source line: Kayhan, kayhan_online post 79176, 7 Mordad 1405.

Methodology and Sourcing Notes

iran-press-digest pipeline

Scan basis: nine Persian front-page scans from the NewspaperTasnim kiosk album for Wednesday 7 Mordad 1405 (t.me/NewspaperTasnim/43776), read directly by vision, Qods, Iran, Seda-ye Iran, Nobonyad, Sazandegi, Farhikhtegan, Etemad, Ta'adol and Jomhouri Eslami. Mastheads were identified against the recognition reference; the Seda-ye Iran and Farhikhtegan identifications rest on masthead plus content and are held to moderate confidence.

Text-channel basis: Kayhan, Vatan-e Emrooz, Jam-e Jam and Sobh-e No were read by their Telegram channels (no fresh scan in the kiosk album), with permalink numbers cited per item. The English kiosk scan carried in the album is the prior day's Iran Daily (6 Mordad / 28 July) and was treated as continuity context, not fresh 7 Mordad content. Tehran Times was unavailable at the time of compilation and is not cited.

Wire basis and attribution firewall: Defa Press, Fars News and Nour News were read as agencies, not front pages. Their operational items today, an IRGC Aerospace claim of a ballistic-missile strike on a US airbase and command node in Jordan, an IRGC Navy claim that three 'violating tankers' were struck and stopped in the Strait of Hormuz, a Fars claim that Saudi Arabia 'confirmed' military aggression against Iraq alongside America, and reports of Israeli artillery strikes on southern Lebanon, are Iranian official or semi-official claims and are labelled as such throughout; none is independently corroborated here. Battle-damage and casualty figures on all fronts are attributed claims, not verified facts.

Named-figure and quotation caveats: the American analyst quoted by Kayhan as conceding defeat is not independently identifiable from the channel excerpt and the quotation is carried as a claim; Israeli-opinion percentages on Sobh-e No, Saudi oil-revenue and Bab al-Mandab transit figures, and the Qatar/UAE LNG figures on Jam-e Jam are outlet claims pending primary-source confirmation. Rear Admiral Sayyari (Hormuz statement), Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (Oman-Saudi diplomacy), analyst Amir Ali Abolfath (Etemad interview), and the intellectuals Abdolkarim Soroush, Mousa Ghaninejad and Ali Shariati (Sazandegi) were checked against the printed pages.

Standing corrections: 'the Leader' in current coverage is Mojtaba Khamenei; Ali Khamenei was assassinated on 28 February 2026 and appears on the pages as the martyred predecessor. Day numbering follows the pipeline's fixed calendar count (Day 118 = 29 June 2026), giving Day 148 for 29 July 2026, and does not match the hand-authored reference PDFs' lower drift.

Open-source material only. All translations from Persian/Arabic originals. Iranian claims are labelled as claims. Prepared for analysis and early warning; hostile content is documented for defensive assessment only, not endorsed.