

OPEN-SOURCE PRESS INTELLIGENCE

Iranian Press Monitor

Daily Front-Page Intelligence

Day 151 - Saturday, 1 August 2026 · 10 Mordad 1405 · 17 Safar 1448

THE OFF-RAMP FAULT LINE EDITION

Ten front pages read - nine Persian kiosk scans by vision plus the fresh English Iran Daily - with Sobh-e No and the Kayhan editorial read by channel and three agency wires for corroboration; Tehran Times was unavailable and Vatan-e Emrooz was not cleanly retrievable

Front pages published the morning of 1 August 2026, reflecting events through late 31 July local

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



Front page: Sazandegi

Executive Summary

The lead judgment of Day 151 is that the negotiation question has surfaced from the agency wires onto the front pages themselves, and with it a visible elite fault line. The reformist Sazandegi leads its whole front on 'Israel's withdrawal from Gaza', reporting that Donald Trump has announced a historic Hamas-America agreement to disarm Hamas and framing the open question as whether Israel will let the deal conclude; the establishment Jomhuri Eslami surfaces 'Pakistan's resolve to revive Iran-US negotiations and end the war'; and a terms-setting register runs across the government daily Iran ('Trump must give Tehran concessions') and the principlist Sobh-e No ('America must accept Iranian arrangements'). Two days after the prior edition retired the 'fragile ceasefire' thread into open exchange, the fronts are for the first time in this stretch pricing an off-ramp, even if each hardline-adjacent title prices it as capitulation by Washington rather than compromise by Tehran.

Against that opening, the hardline apparatus has escalated specifically to foreclose it. Nobonyad is the day's most escalatory front: over a full-page portrait of Mohammed bin Salman it turns the Saudi role in Iraq into a threat to the kingdom itself ('A reassessment, Riyadh-time'), invokes overt messianic-expansionist language ('the liberation of Hejaz is the prelude to the Appearance'), presses an atomic-deterrence argument as the yardstick of victory, forecloses the notion of splitting Israel from America as 'a miscalculation', and brands clemency as surrender ('no to execution is the same as waving the white flag'). Kayhan runs an eliminationist box demanding execution and asset-seizure for Trump and Netanyahu, and - most tellingly - its 'Yadasht-e Rooz' editorial, 'Brotherly with Ms. Mohajerani', disciplines the government's own spokesperson Fatemeh Mohajerani for acknowledging war damage, arguing that speaking of it hands the adversary targeting information. The message-discipline machinery is now aimed inward at the executive as much as outward at the enemy.

The kinetic claims that ride alongside are notably mobile and thin this edition. The English Iran Daily broadcasts 'Iran pounds US military base in Kuwait in retaliation' under Speaker Qalibaf's 'the US will pay the price' line - but the prior edition located the same retaliatory base-strike claim in Jordan, at al-Muwaffaq al-Salti, and nothing on today's pages reconciles the two; a retaliation claim that relocates between editions weakens rather than strengthens its standing. Kayhan's banner that '700 tons of bombs and missiles were dropped on the people of Lebanon in one night' is a single-source atrocity-scale figure carried without corroboration, and Iran Daily's lead pre-blames Israel for an Egypt drone incident via a 'false-flag' construction that asserts a plot rather than evidencing one. The one genuinely new hard datum in the kinetic register is Kayhan's repatriation of five named IRGC dead from the US-Saudi Iraq strike at the Mehran border, which advances the corroborated Saudi-entry thread rather than the offensive claims.

That Saudi-entry thread has itself shifted from fresh strikes to political aftermath. Where the prior edition documented the strikes on Hashd al-Shaabi as the organising kinetic event, today's fronts process their consequences: Jomhuri Eslami leads on 'hundreds of Jordanian figures' demanding US withdrawal in an open letter and carries a Hezbollah warning that Riyadh must not fall into the American-Israeli trap; Nobonyad recasts Saudi Arabia as a target; and the five repatriated Guards give the strikes named victims. The Strait of Hormuz, meanwhile, is for the first time openly contested on the fronts rather than uniformly asserted: the reformist Etemad prints 'the dream of eliminating Hormuz', rating full closure 'nearly impossible for the foreseeable future', directly against Kayhan's 'Hormuz is in our war's grip', the Defa Press Zolqadr statement on tightening control, and the Forbes and Nour News 'Washington will pay the price of the energy war' items.

The calibration counter-lane holds and is now visibly under pressure, which is the edition's durable negative-evidence finding. The economic titles refuse the war frame outright - Charso leads on food inflation running

2.8 times higher under the sitting government and reports a Central Bank lawsuit against its own reporting; Ta'adol leads on rent-seeking and economic justice and prices the war as a sectoral cost, some 50,000 real-estate agents idled - and the reformist Etemad both rebuts the Hormuz-closure line and documents IRIB publicly disputing its account of the president. Read against Kayhan's editorial policing Mohajerani for the very act of damage-accounting, the counter-lane is no longer merely tolerated but actively contested from the hardline side. Net assessment: this is an off-ramp edition, defined less by any battlefield event than by the negotiation question breaking onto the front pages and the hardline apparatus mobilising to shut it - down to disciplining the government's spokesperson - while the offensive claims that decorate the day are mobile, single-sourced or pre-emptive, and the economic and reformist titles keep pricing a war the mobilisation fronts want spoken of only in glory. The highest-significance finding is the printed elite split over an exit; the signals to watch are whether any second Iranian title or external source substantiates the Gaza deal and the Pakistan track, and whether the retaliation claim settles on a single, verifiable location.

BOTTOM LINE Day 151's defining development is not a new battlefield claim but the surfacing of a negotiation question onto the front pages: a reformist title front-pages a claimed Trump-announced Gaza disarmament deal and an establishment title a Pakistan track to end the war, while the hardline fronts escalate to foreclose every off-ramp and Kayhan's editorial disciplines the government's own spokesperson for acknowledging war damage, and the day's offensive claims - a US-base strike relocated from Jordan to Kuwait and 700 tons dropped on Lebanon in one night - remain mobile and uncorroborated.

CRITICAL SOURCING NOTE Nine Persian kiosk front pages were read directly by vision (Iran, Seda-ye Iran, Nobonyad, Kayhan, Sazandegi, Charso, Etemad, Ta'adol, Jomhuri Eslami) and one fresh English front page (Iran Daily, 1 August 2026); Sobh-e No and the Kayhan editorial were read by channel, and Fars News, Defa Press and Nour News were read as agency wires for corroboration and treated as claims, not front pages, under the attribution firewall. Tehran Times was unavailable at compile time and is not reflected here. Vatan-e Emrooz's 10 Mordad front page was not cleanly retrievable and was left without a per-paper entry rather than risk an unverified headline. Jam-e Jam's channel returned a grid-damage figure identical to the 30 July edition, indicating a stale or pinned image, so it is not reported as fresh and the state-broadcaster damage-accounting thread is carried forward generically. The principal offensive claims of the day - the US-base strike (given as Kuwait today versus Jordan/al-Muwaffaq al-Salti previously), the 700-tons-on-Lebanon figure, the Hormuz-closure threats, and the Trump-announced Gaza disarmament deal - are attributed to their outlets and carried as claims requiring primary-source confirmation. Named figures were verified against the printed pages; 'the Leader' denotes Mojtaba Khamenei and the mourned «سید علی» is the martyred predecessor. Translations are editorial.

Macro Trend Analysis

1 The negotiation question surfaces from the wires onto the front pages

For the first time in this monitor's recent stretch, an off-ramp is priced on the fronts themselves rather than in the agency register. Sazandegi front-pages a claimed Trump-announced Hamas-America disarmament deal and Israeli withdrawal from Gaza; Jomhuri Eslami surfaces a Pakistan track to revive Iran-US talks and end the war; and Iran ('Trump must give Tehran concessions') and Sobh-e No ('America must accept Iranian arrangements') run a settlement-on-Iran's-terms line. The current is real but conditional: every hardline-adjacent title frames any deal as Washington's capitulation, not Tehran's compromise, so the convergence indicates centrally-guided terms-setting rather than genuine flexibility.

2 The hardline apparatus escalates to foreclose the off-ramp, and turns inward

The message-discipline machinery answers the surfacing negotiation question by escalating and by policing its own side. Nobonyad stacks anti-off-ramp signals - 'can't separate Israel from America', 'no to execution equals the white flag', an atomic-deterrence yardstick, and messianic 'liberation of Hejaz' language against Saudi Arabia. Kayhan runs an execution-and-confiscation demand for Trump and Netanyahu and, in its editorial, disciplines government spokesperson Fatemeh Mohajerani for acknowledging war damage. The apparatus is now aimed inward at the executive as much as outward at the enemy, which is itself evidence that an off-ramp is being contemplated somewhere in the system.

3 The offensive claims turn mobile, single-sourced and pre-emptive

The day's kinetic claims are unusually thin. The retaliatory US-base strike is located in Kuwait by Iran Daily today, having been placed in Jordan (al-Muwaffaq al-Salti) two days earlier, with nothing reconciling the shift; a retaliation claim that relocates between editions weakens its own standing. Kayhan's '700 tons on Lebanon in one night' is a single-source atrocity-scale figure without corroboration, and Iran Daily's lead pre-blames Israel for an Egypt drone incident through a 'false-flag' construction that asserts rather than evidences a plot. The one hard datum is Kayhan's repatriation of five named IRGC dead from the US-Saudi Iraq strike, which belongs to the corroborated Saudi-entry thread, not the offensive claims.

4 The Saudi-entry-into-Iraq thread shifts from strikes to political aftermath

The organising kinetic event of the prior edition is now processed as consequence rather than action. Jomhuri Eslami leads on 'hundreds of Jordanian figures' demanding US withdrawal in an open letter and carries a Hezbollah warning to Riyadh; Nobonyad recasts Saudi Arabia itself as a target under an MBS portrait; and five repatriated Guards give the Iraq strikes named victims. The thread is maturing from a corroborated strike into a regional political-pressure campaign against Riyadh and the US presence, the shape of which is the widening now worth tracking.

5 Hormuz becomes openly contested on the fronts

The chokepoint line is no longer uniformly asserted. The reformist Etemad prints 'the dream of eliminating Hormuz', rating full closure 'nearly impossible for the foreseeable future', an on-front rebuttal set directly against Kayhan's 'Hormuz is in our war's grip', the Defa Press Zolqadr statement on tightening control, and the Forbes and Nour News framings that Washington will pay the price of the energy war. That a mainstream title now openly disputes the closure claim is a first-class calibration check; the tracking cues remain shipping, insurance and transit data rather than the front-page declarations, with an Oman-Sea tanker projectile strike the only concrete maritime datum on the wires.

6 The economic and reformist counter-lane holds, and is now actively policed

The durable negative-evidence thread persists and has moved from tolerated to contested. Charso leads on food inflation 2.8 times higher under Pezeshkian and a Central Bank lawsuit against its own reporting; Ta'adol prices the war as 50,000 idled realtors under an economic-justice lead; Etemad foregrounds civilian cost and documents an IRIB-versus-press rebuttal; and the government daily Iran keeps the war off its lead behind Aref's two-year planning directive and the Leader's cultural-heritage message. That Kayhan's editorial polices the government spokesperson for the very act of damage-accounting these titles perform confirms the lane is real enough to be worth suppressing - the sharpest available proxy for the durability of elite reservations about the mobilisation line.

Key Judgments

KJ-1 [MODERATE-HIGH] The negotiation question has surfaced onto the front pages and opened a visible elite fault line over an off-ramp. Sazandegi front-pages a claimed Trump-announced Hamas-America

disarmament deal and Israeli withdrawal from Gaza; Jomhuri Eslami surfaces a Pakistan track to revive Iran-US talks and end the war; Iran and Sobh-e No run settlement-on-Iran's-terms lines. Significance: after the prior edition retired the ceasefire thread into open exchange, the fronts are now pricing an exit, which shifts the analytic task to gauging whether the terms-setting current can survive the hardline foreclosure; the calibration is bidirectional, since every hardline-adjacent title frames a deal as US capitulation, so this is guided terms-setting rather than demonstrated flexibility, and the cue is any title that prices reciprocal Iranian concessions - none did today.

KJ-2 [HIGH] The hardline apparatus has escalated specifically to foreclose the off-ramp, and is now disciplining the government's own side. Nobonyad stacks 'can't separate Israel from America', 'no to execution equals the white flag', an atomic-deterrence yardstick and messianic anti-Saudi 'liberation of Hejaz' language; Kayhan demands execution and asset-seizure for Trump and Netanyahu and, in its 'Yadasht-e Rooz' editorial, disciplines spokesperson Fatemeh Mohajerani for acknowledging war damage. Significance: message discipline aimed inward at the executive, not only outward at the enemy, indicates that an off-ramp is being seriously contemplated inside the system and that the hardline bloc is mobilising pre-emptively against it; the escalation markers to track are the nuclear and messianic-expansionist registers, which are the ceiling of the day's rhetoric.

KJ-3 [MODERATE-HIGH] The day's principal offensive claims are mobile, single-sourced or pre-emptive, and their evidentiary standing is weak. Iran Daily locates the retaliatory US-base strike in Kuwait, where the prior edition placed it in Jordan (al-Muwaffaq al-Salti), with nothing reconciling the two; Kayhan's '700 tons on Lebanon in one night' is an uncorroborated atrocity-scale figure; and Iran Daily pre-blames Israel for an Egypt drone incident through a 'false-flag' construction that asserts a plot. Significance: a retaliation claim that relocates between editions and an atrocity figure carried by a single title should be logged as claims, not events, and the pattern suggests narrative production outrunning verifiable action; the item to watch is whether the base-strike claim settles on one location any external source can confirm.

KJ-4 [MODERATE-HIGH] The Saudi-entry-into-Iraq thread has matured from a corroborated strike into a regional political-pressure campaign. Jomhuri Eslami leads on hundreds of Jordanian figures demanding US withdrawal in an open letter and carries a Hezbollah warning to Riyadh; Nobonyad recasts Saudi Arabia as a target under an MBS portrait; Kayhan repatriates five named IRGC dead from the strike at the Mehran border. Significance: the widening now runs through politics - Jordanian and Iraqi domestic pressure on the US presence and an axis-wide campaign against Riyadh - rather than through fresh strikes, and the named casualties keep the corroborated core distinct from the offensive claims; the cue is whether the Jordanian open letter and Iraqi factions convert rhetoric into pressure on the US footprint.

KJ-5 [MODERATE] The Strait of Hormuz is now openly contested on the fronts rather than uniformly asserted, a shift from the prior edition's declared closure posture. The reformist Etemad prints 'the dream of eliminating Hormuz' and rates full closure 'nearly impossible for the foreseeable future', set against Kayhan's 'Hormuz is in our war's grip', the Defa Press Zolqadr control-tightening statement, and the Forbes and Nour News energy-war framings. Significance: that a mainstream title openly disputes the closure claim is a first-class check on the chokepoint-coercion line and evidence the posture is contested inside the press, not consensus; the tracking cues remain shipping, insurance and transit data, with an Oman-Sea tanker projectile strike the only concrete maritime datum, itself only wire-attributed.

KJ-6 [MODERATE] Negative evidence: the economic and reformist counter-lane holds and has moved from tolerated to actively policed. Charso leads on food inflation 2.8 times higher under Pezeshkian plus a Central Bank lawsuit against its own reporting; Ta'adol prices the war as 50,000 idled realtors; Etemad foregrounds civilian cost and an IRIB-press rebuttal; Iran keeps the war off its lead. Significance: that Kayhan's editorial polices the government spokesperson for the very damage-accounting these titles perform confirms the lane is consequential enough to suppress, making it the sharpest available proxy for the durability of elite reservations about the mobilisation line; the cue is whether official pressure - the Central Bank suit, the Mohajerani discipline - begins to narrow the lane in coming editions.

KJ-7 [MODERATE] The Gaza-disarmament deal is single-title-prominent and unconfirmed, and must be carried as a claim rather than an event. Only Sazandegi front-pages it, attributed to a Trump announcement of a Hamas-America agreement, and even Sazandegi frames the open question as whether Israel will let it conclude; no second Iranian front page and no accessible external source corroborated it at compile time, while the Fars wire simultaneously reports a fresh Israeli strike on a Gaza refugee-camp store, which cuts against a settled withdrawal. Significance: a de-escalation claim of this magnitude carried by a lone reformist title is as likely to be aspirational positioning as reportage, so the verification burden is high; the cue is whether the deal is corroborated on a second front or contradicted by continued Gaza strikes in the next edition.

Named-Figure Tracker

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
Donald Trump	US president	Cast simultaneously as baffled and helpless before Iran's steadfastness (Kayhan via NBC; Fars via CNN), as the announcer of a Gaza disarmament deal (Sazandegi), and as a figure who must pay concessions or 'the price' (Iran, Nour News, Qalibaf)	TARGET FRAMING
Benjamin Netanyahu	Israeli prime minister	Named with Trump in Kayhan's execution-and-confiscation demand; implicit spoiler of the claimed Gaza deal in Sazandegi's 'will Israel let it conclude'	TARGET FRAMING
Mohammed bin Salman	Saudi crown prince	Full-page portrait on Nobonyad under 'A reassessment, Riyadh-time'; recast from mediator to target as the Saudi role in the Iraq strikes is turned against the kingdom	NEW NAMED FIGURE
Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf	Speaker of Parliament	Voices the coercive 'the US will pay the price for attacks on civilians' line on Iran Daily's front	COERCION SPOKESMAN
Fatemeh Mohajerani	Government spokesperson	Target of Kayhan's 'Yadasht-e Rooz' editorial for acknowledging war	WATCH

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
		damage; disciplined by name for supposedly aiding enemy targeting	
Hossein Shariatmadari	Kayhan managing editor	Author of the day's flagged editorial policing the executive's messaging discipline	COERCION SPOKESMAN
Mohammad Reza Aref	First Vice President	Directs a two-year government program on Iran's governance-forward lead; the administration's normal-governance face	WATCH
Mojtaba Khamenei	The Leader	Author of the day's lead message on cultural heritage; amplified via Russia and the Russian Orthodox Patriarch, a soft-power register rather than a war message	WATCH
Sayyid Ali Khamenei (the martyred predecessor)	Assassinated 28 Feb 2026	Portrait held aloft in Seda-ye Iran's Arbaeen imagery; the succession's legitimacy anchor, still carried through mourning rather than a live political role	absence noted
Majid Kazemi	Iranian air-arm pilot, killed	Named martyr given a 'grand farewell' in Shiraz on Jomhouri Eslami's front; a verifiable-in-principle air-war loss datum	NEW NAMED FIGURE
Abbas Araghchi	Foreign minister	On the Fars wire warning the UK that hosting aggressors violates international law and justifies self-defence; the diplomatic-threat voice	COERCION SPOKESMAN

Headline Summary Table

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
Sazandegi	Israel's withdrawal from Gaza	Reformist (Kargozaran)	Claimed Trump-announced Hamas disarmament deal; de-escalation outlier	LOW: prices a Gaza deal against the war frame
Nobonyad	A reassessment, Riyadh-time	Conservative / principlist	Saudi Arabia recast as target; atomic deterrence and anti-off-ramp discipline	HIGH: expansionist and nuclear rhetoric, forecloses negotiation
Kayhan	NBC News: Trump and his allies are baffled by Iran's steadfastness	Hardline flagship (Leader's office; editor Shariatmadari)	Enemy-disarray narrative; Lebanon atrocity claim, Iraq martyrs, Hormuz threat	HIGH: eliminationist rhetoric and inward message-policing

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
Iran Daily	Iran urges vigilance against Israeli false-flag plots after Egypt drone attack	English state daily	Pre-emptive false-flag framing; claimed US-base-in-Kuwait retaliation	MODERATE-HIGH: broadcast retaliation claim, pre-blame construction
Jomhuri Eslami	Hundreds of Jordanian figures demand US forces leave their country	Traditional / establishment	Jordan and Saudi political pressure plus a Pakistan mediation track	MODERATE: pressure-plus-mediation
Sobh-e No	America must accept Iranian arrangements	Principlist (channel read)	Settlement framed strictly as US capitulation	MODERATE: coercive terms-setting
Iran	Aref's directive to draft a two-year government program	Official government daily	Governance-forward; war filed as concessions Washington must pay	LOW-MODERATE: war kept off the lead
Seda-ye Iran	Restless steps, connected souls	Principlist / office-aligned (khamenei.ir)	First Arbaeen since the martyred predecessor; succession-legitimacy register	MODERATE: mourning-mobilisation via Arbaeen
Etemad	We observe professional caution	Reformist	IRIB-press rebuttal; on-front rebuttal of Hormuz closure; civilian cost	LOW-MODERATE: reformist counter-frame
Charso	What is the root of food-price inflation in the Pezeshkian government?	Economic / business	Food inflation 2.8x; Central Bank lawsuit against the paper	LOW: economic-critique front, press-pressure signal
Ta'adol	The enigma of economic justice in Iran	Economic / business	Rent-seeking and the war's cost to the property market (50,000 idled)	LOW: refuses the war frame, prices sectoral cost

Per-Paper Front-Page Analysis

Iran Daily

English-language state daily (government; the anglophone shop window)

"Iran urges vigilance against Israeli false-flag plots after Egypt drone attack" **MODERATE-HIGH: pre-emptive false-flag framing; broadcast retaliation claim**



- Main: The English-facing lead is a pre-emptive attribution move - 'Iran urges vigilance against Israeli false-flag plots after Egypt drone attack', framing a fresh Egypt drone incident as a likely Israeli provocation designed to widen the war, and inoculating against blame before facts are established.
- Main (photo): 'Qalibaf: US will pay price for attacks on civilians' with the caption 'Iran pounds US military base in Kuwait in retaliation' - Speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf voices the coercive 'US will pay' line while the paper asserts an Iranian retaliatory strike on a US base in Kuwait; note this shifts the base-strike claim from the prior edition's Jordan (al-Muwaffaq al-Salti) location to Kuwait, a discrepancy to flag rather than reconcile.
- Top: 'Russian Orthodox Patriarch praises Leader's message, backs closer religious ties' corroborates the day's Leader-message diplomacy (echoed by Kayhan's Russia item), pairing the succession's soft-power outreach with a religious-solidarity gloss.
- Right rail: 'Tehran, Yerevan seek to boost regional trade through transport links' and 'Why China isn't pushing its cleantech advantage in Hormuz crisis' keep an economy-and-alignment register for foreign readers; a sports note ('Iran's Greco-Roman title streak snapped by Russia') signals normal-life continuity.
- Opinion: 'China leads development of beneficial AI, helps shape fairer global governance' mirrors the Persian Iran daily's Beijing/AI item, a coordinated soft-power theme across the two government mastheads.

ANALYST NOTE Iran Daily, freshly dated 1 August (unlike the prior edition's stale English scan), is the government's anglophone message-shaping vehicle and today does two jobs: it pre-blames Israel for an Egypt drone incident via the 'false-flag' construction (an attribution-firewall red flag - the plot is asserted, not evidenced), and it broadcasts the retaliation cycle to foreign readers with a US-base-in-Kuwait strike claim that does not match the prior edition's Jordan-base claim. The Kuwait-versus-Jordan inconsistency in the offensive claims is itself the finding: the declared retaliation is narratively mobile, which weakens rather than strengthens its evidentiary standing.

"Aref's directive to draft a **LOW-MODERATE: governance-forward, war filed as 'concessions Washington must pay'** two-year government program" «دستور عارف برای تدوین برنامه دو ساله دولت»



- Main: The lead is administrative rather than kinetic - First Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref instructs universities, research centers and executive agencies to draft a two-year government program, framed by the strapline that 330 days of Pezeshkian's tenure have now passed and that the government faces its test 'in the arena of war and livelihood' (آزمون دولت در (میدان جنگ و معیشت).
- Banner: A message from the Leader of the Revolution runs across the top under a portrait: 'Iranians themselves must be the interpreters and narrators of their cultural heritage' (خود ایرانیان باید مفسر و روایتگر میراث فرهنگی‌شان) (باشند), the day's lead Leader message and a soft-power, civilizational register rather than a war message.
- Sub-item: A left-rail box carries 'Trump must give Tehran concessions' (ترامپ باید به تهران امتیاز دهد), positioning any negotiating track as one Washington must pay to enter, not Iran.
- Sub-item: 'Gasoline: a measure to preserve energy security' (بنزین؛ تدبیری) (برای حفظ امنیت انرژی) treats fuel management as a war-economy resilience question, echoing the day's cross-title gasoline-rationing theme.
- Right rail: Softer-power items - 'A new era of financial transparency in Iranian cinema' and 'Beijing and just governance of AI' (پکن و حکمرانی) (عادلانه هوش مصنوعی) - keep the government paper's front deliberately off the front-line war lead.

ANALYST NOTE As the administration's own daily, Iran keeps the war off its lead for a second consecutive edition, foregrounding governance (Aref's planning directive) and the Leader's cultural-heritage message while filing the confrontation as a concessions-from-Washington line. Consistent with the prior edition's president-Leader concord framing, this indicates the executive is managing the war's domestic cost by projecting normal governance rather than mobilization; the tracking cue is whether the 'two-year program' survives contact with the war's fiscal drain.

"Restless steps, connected souls"

MODERATE: succession-legitimacy and mourning mobilization via Arbaeen

«گام‌های بی‌قرار، جان‌های متصل»



- Main: A full-width devotional lead - 'Restless steps, connected souls' (گام‌های بی‌قرار، جان‌های متصل) over 'a look at the first Arbaeen since the departure of the martyred Agha' (نگاهی به اولین اربعین پس از فراق آقای شهید), running a mass-pilgrimage photograph in which a framed portrait of the martyred predecessor (سید علی) is held aloft, fusing the Karbala Arbaeen march with mourning for the assassinated leader.
- Op-ed: A سرمقاله (lead editorial) anchors the right column, tying the pilgrimage's emotive register to continuity of the succession line rather than to the war front.
- Sub-item: 'The return of the war's costs to the White House' (بازگشت هزینه‌های جنگ به کاخ سفید) carries the day's cross-title 'Washington will pay the price' line onto an office-aligned front.
- Sub-item: A lower-front piece on the failure of adversary 'field and media' projects (شکست میدان و رسانه در طرح‌های فانتزی) frames enemy operations as fantasy that has already failed.

ANALYST NOTE Seda-ye Iran, carrying the khamenei.ir masthead, uses the approaching Arbaeen (17 Safar on the page, the pilgrimage falling 20 Safar) to bind popular religious devotion to the martyred-predecessor and by extension the Mojtaba succession, an emotive legitimacy move rather than a battlefield claim. That the office-aligned title leads on mourning-and-continuity while pairing it with the 'costs return to the White House' line indicates the succession narrative and the war narrative are being welded together; the cue is whether Arbaeen imagery is used to stage a mass show of succession legitimacy over the coming days.



- Main: A full-page portrait of Mohammed bin Salman under 'A reassessment, Riyadh-time' (بازنگری به وقت ریاض); the body argues that Saudi Arabia, having halved its exports after the 2019 Aramco strike and reached a truce with Iran, gained nothing, and that Riyadh's recent role in the strikes on Hashd al-Shaabi positions puts it back in the crosshairs - a warning wrapped as strategic analysis.
- Banner: 'Separating Israel from America is a miscalculation' (تفکیک اسرائیل از آمریکا)، an op-ed under two politician portraits foreclosing the notion of splitting Washington from Tel Aviv, aimed at the same 'US-Israel friction' reading other titles run.
- Sub-item: 'The liberation of Hejaz is the prelude to the Appearance!' (آزادی! حجاز مقدمه ظهور) escalates into overt messianic-expansionist rhetoric against Saudi Arabia, casting the holy Hejaz as a target for eventual 'liberation'.
- Op-ed: 'No to execution is the same as waving the white flag' (نه به اعدام همان بلندگوی پرچم سفید است) polices against clemency and any softening as surrender - an anti-off-ramp discipline line.
- Right rail: An editorial 'Atomic deterrence: the measure of Tel Aviv's defeat' (بازدارندگی اتمی؛ معیار شکست تل آویو) presses a nuclear-deterrence argument as the yardstick of victory, and 'The price Washington has not yet paid' (تاوانی که واشنگتن هنوز نپرداخته) reinforces the day's cost-to-America theme.

ANALYST NOTE Nobonyad is the day's most escalatory front: it turns the Saudi entry into Iraq into a threat against the kingdom itself, invokes messianic 'liberation of Hejaz' language, and explicitly presses an atomic-deterrence argument and an anti-clemency line. The convergence of 'can't separate Israel from America', 'no to execution equals white flag' and nuclear-deterrence framing indicates a deliberate foreclosing of every off-ramp - Saudi mediation, US-Israel splitting, and domestic clemency alike; the messianic-expansionist and nuclear registers are the escalation markers worth tracking against the wire-level threat signaling.

"NBC News: Trump, his advisers

HIGH: eliminationist rhetoric, Lebanon atrocity claim, Hormuz-erasure threat

and allies are baffled by Iran's steadfastness" «ان بی‌سی‌نیوز: ترامپ، مشاوران و متحدانش از ایستادگی ایران درمانده شده‌اند»



- Main: The lead is a second-hand Western-media rendering, attributed to NBC News, that Trump and his circle are 'baffled/at a loss' before Iran's steadfastness, with sub-bullets that 'in the White House no agreement is reached on any strategy' and that 'Trump sometimes gets so angry he curses at his subordinates' - a psychological-attrition frame built on a quoted foreign outlet, not primary reporting.
- Banner: 'In one night, 700 tons of bombs and missiles were dropped on the people of Lebanon' (در یک شب ۷۰۰ تن بمب و موشک بر سر مردم لبنان ریختند), an atrocity-scale Lebanon claim; the tonnage is an attributed figure carried without independent corroboration.
- Main (photo): 'The pure bodies of 5 martyred Guards from the American-Saudi attack on Iraq enter at the Mehran border' (ورود پیکر مطهر ۵ پاسدار) - (شهید حمله آمریکا و سعودی به عراق به مرز مهران) - repatriation of five IRGC dead, tying Kayhan's front to the Saudi-entry-into-Iraq thread with named casualties.
- Sub-item: 'Hormuz is in our war's grip; continued malice brings the erasure of every oil and gas platform in the region' (نگه هرمز در جنگ ماست) sustains the chokepoint-as-coercion posture with a threat to Gulf energy infrastructure.
- Sub-item: 'Yemen at the highest level of readiness; the Al Saud again think of forming a coalition' folds Ansarullah into the anti-Saudi pressure map.
- Right rail: 'Russia's congress thanks the Supreme Leader's message' (قدردانی ... کنگره روسیه از پیام رهبر معظم انقلاب) corroborating the day's Leader-message diplomacy; a boxed line demands 'the punishment for Trump and Netanyahu is execution and confiscation of their assets' (مجازات) (ترامپ و نتانیاهو اعدام و مصادره اموال آنهاست).

ANALYST NOTE Kayhan's front is built on the attribution firewall's exact failure mode: its lead and much of its evidentiary weight are second-hand Western-media renderings (NBC, and inside the paper CNN and Forbes) recast as proof of enemy disarray, which quoting does not verify. The genuinely new hard datum is the repatriation of five named IRGC dead from the US-Saudi Iraq strike, which advances the corroborated Saudi-entry thread; the 700-tons-on-Lebanon figure and the Hormuz-erasure threat are attributed claims to be tracked, not adopted. The execution-of-Trump-and-Netanyahu box marks the ceiling of the day's eliminationist register.



- Main: The day's most consequential diplomatic claim and the sharpest break from the mobilization front - 'Israel's withdrawal from Gaza' (خروج اسرائیل از غزه), reporting that 'with the announcement of a Hamas-America agreement' Donald Trump has declared a historic deal to disarm Hamas, calling it the peace mission's most important achievement; Sazandegi frames the open question as 'whether Israel will let this agreement reach conclusion' (آیا اسرائیل می‌گذارد این توافق به سرانجام برسد).
- Op-ed: A left-column editorial, 'A wall and the terror of ambiguity' (یک دیواری و (و هشت ابهام), argues for transparency and against the fog surrounding official decision-making.
- Banner: A provocative top line, 'Officials should go to the front first!' (مسئولین به اول بروند), needles the elite's distance from the war's costs.
- Sub-item: Boxed items include 'Freedom after 15 years?' and an 'Hour of death' (ساعت مرگ) feature, keeping the front's register human and skeptical rather than triumphalist.

ANALYST NOTE Sazandegi is the edition's diplomatic outlier: it leads not on the kinetic front but on a claimed Trump-announced Hamas-US disarmament deal and Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, and frames the risk as Israeli spoiling rather than Iranian resolve. The claim is presently single-front-page-prominent within this monitor and attributed to a Trump announcement, so it carries a high verification burden; its significance is that a reformist title is publicly pricing a de-escalation scenario at the exact moment the hardline fronts foreclose every off-ramp - the clearest elite fault line of the day. Cue: whether any second Iranian title or external source substantiates the Gaza deal in the next edition.

«ریشه گرانی مواد غذایی در دولت پزشکیان چیست؟»
 «What is the root of food-price inflation in the Pezeshkian government?»



- Main: A data-forward lead - 'What is the root of food-price inflation in the Pezeshkian government?' (ریشه گرانی مواد غذایی در دولت پزشکیان چیست؟), with the strapline that a comparison of the 13th and 14th administrations shows food inflation has run 'nearly 2.8 times' higher under Pezeshkian, illustrated by multiple price-index charts.
- Sub-item: 'The Central Bank has filed suit against Charso newspaper' (شکایت بانک مرکزی از روزنامه چارسو) over the paper's earlier article 'Micro-facilities, the last priority of the Central Bank' - a press-freedom / official-pressure story the paper runs against itself under a portrait of the bank governor.
- Banner: The front is entirely economic-analytic, carrying no war lead - a deliberate refusal of the mobilization frame.

ANALYST NOTE Charso is a first-class calibration counter-signal: on a day of atrocity claims and martyr repatriations it front-pages food inflation running 2.8x higher under the sitting government and a Central Bank lawsuit against its own reporting, refusing the war frame outright. That an economic title both quantifies the government's cost-of-living failure and publicizes official legal pressure on the press indicates the durability of an economic-critique lane the guided narrative has not closed; the lawsuit is itself a datapoint on the state's tolerance for economic dissent, worth tracking as a press-pressure indicator.

«احتیاط حرفه‌ای را رعایت می‌کنیم» "We observe professional caution"



- Main: The lead documents an intra-establishment media clash - 'We observe professional caution' (احتیاط حرفه‌ای را رعایت می‌کنیم), IRIB's formal rebuttal to an Etemad item about the president's remarks, keeping alive the state-broadcaster-versus-press fault line the prior edition flagged.
- Sub-item: 'The dream of eliminating Hormuz' (روای حذف هرمز) directly counters the hardline chokepoint-closure line, arguing that fully removing the Strait of Hormuz from global energy equations is 'nearly impossible, at least for the foreseeable future' - a rare on-front rebuttal of the closure claim.
- Photo: 'The bitter hour of war' («ساعت تلخ جنگ») over a woman amid rubble, 'the story of life on the bomb line' (روایت زندگی در خط بمب), foregrounding civilian cost rather than triumph.
- Banner: Top items 'Expansion of the war's geography' (گسترش جغرافیای جنگ) and 'asymmetric deterrence' (بازدارندگی نامتقارن) treat the widening analytically, noting diplomacy's road is not closed.
- Op-ed: A left-column tribute, 'Goodbye, comrade' (خدا حافظ رفیق), and a column 'Escaping the narrative of repression' (فرار از روایت سرکوب) keep the reformist register on governance and rights.

ANALYST NOTE Etemad supplies the day's most direct counter-evidence to the guided narrative: it prints an explicit rebuttal of the Hormuz-closure claim ('the dream of eliminating Hormuz'), foregrounds civilian war cost over battlefield triumph, and documents IRIB publicly disputing the reformist paper's account of the president - the same broadcaster-versus-press tension tracked last edition. That a mainstream reformist title openly rates full Hormuz closure as near-impossible is a first-class check on the chokepoint-coercion line; the IRIB spat is the live elite fault line to keep watching.

«معمای عدالت اقتصادی در ایران» "The enigma of economic justice in Iran"



- Main: 'The enigma of economic justice in Iran' (در معمای عدالت اقتصادی در ایران), with the strapline 'Is rent-seeking still the biggest obstacle to production and livelihood?' (آیا رانت همچنان بزرگ‌ترین مانع تولید و معیشت است؟) - a structural-economy lead entirely outside the war frame.
- Sub-item (photo): 'Real-estate agencies without customers' (املاکی‌های بی مشتری) - Ta'adol reports, citing experts, that the war left some 50,000 real-estate agents idle and transactions down toward 25,000, quantifying the conflict's drag on a whole sector.
- Sub-item: 'Examining the right to refuse work: when saying no to news carries the cost of dismissal' pairs a labor-rights piece with a press-freedom edge.
- Right rail: Market items - 'Stock-market rise with political risks' (صعود بورس) (با ریسک‌های سیاسی) and 'Has the time for Bitcoin's surge arrived?' - price political risk into the markets rather than into the front line.

ANALYST NOTE Ta'adol reinforces the economic-title lane that refuses the mobilization frame, and unusually it prices the war directly as an economic cost - some 50,000 realtors idled and transactions collapsing - rather than as a battlefield. Read beside Charso's food-inflation lead, the two economic fronts together sustain the standing negative-evidence thread that the non-hardline press keeps accounting for the war's domestic damage while the hardline titles account only its glory; the cue is whether official pressure (see Charso's Central Bank suit) begins to narrow this lane.

“Hundreds of Jordanian

MODERATE: pressure-plus-mediation; Jordan and Saudi threads, a Pakistan track

figures, in an open letter, demand the withdrawal of American forces from their country” «صدها شخصیت اردنی خواستار خروج نظامیان آمریکایی از کشورشان شدند»



- Main: The lead advances the standing Jordan thread onto softer ground - 'Hundreds of Jordanian figures, in an open letter, demand US forces leave their country' (صدها شخصیت اردنی خواستار خروج نظامیان آمریکایی از کشورشان شدند), reframing the al-Muwaffaq al-Salti base question from the prior edition's claimed missile strike into a domestic-Jordanian political-pressure story.
- Sub-item: 'Pakistan's resolve to revive Iran-US negotiations and end the war' (عزم پاکستان برای احیای مذاکرات ایران و آمریکا و پایان جنگ) surfaces a mediation track - one of the few explicit end-the-war diplomacy items on any front today.
- Banner: 'A call for 15% gasoline-consumption savings to remove the need for imports' (درخواست صرفه جویی ۱۵ درصدی مصرف بنزین) carries the day's fuel-resilience theme with an official conservation appeal.
- Photo: 'Shiraz's grand farewell to the pure body of the martyred pilot Majid Kazemi' (وداع باشکوه مردم شیراز با پیکر مطهر خلبان شهید مجید کاظمی) - a named military funeral, corroborating continued Iranian air-arm losses.
- Right rail: 'Hezbollah: Saudi Arabia must not fall into the trap of American and Israeli policies' (حزب الله: عربستان نباید در دام سیاست های آمریکا و اسرائیل بیفتد) presses Riyadh from the resistance axis; a tribute to 'the oppressed martyr Ayatollah Beheshti' anchors the establishment register.
- Op-ed: The daily سرمقاله sustains the paper's discipline-and-unity line consistent with its establishment position.

ANALYST NOTE Jomhouri Eslami threads the establishment needle: it keeps the Jordan and Saudi pressure points live (the Jordanian open letter, the Hezbollah warning to Riyadh) while simultaneously surfacing a Pakistan-mediated 'end the war' track and an official fuel-conservation appeal - pressure and off-ramp on the same front. The named pilot funeral (Majid Kazemi) is a verifiable-in-principle loss datum worth logging against the air-war attrition thread; the Pakistan mediation line is the diplomacy cue to test against the hardline titles' off-ramp foreclosure.

Sobh-e No

Principlist (read via the paper's Telegram channel; front-page scan not in today's batch)

"America must accept Iranian

MODERATE: coercive terms-setting; settlement framed as US capitulation

arrangements" «آمریکا باید ترتیبات ایرانی را بپذیرد»

- Main: The lead (issue no. 2399) is a coercive-terms line - 'America must accept Iranian arrangements' (آمریکا باید ترتیبات ایرانی را بپذیرد) - casting any settlement as one Washington must accept on Tehran's terms, the principlist mirror of Iran daily's 'Trump must give Tehran concessions'.
- Sub-item: Read only via channel, the front-page image was retrievable but sub-headlines were not cleanly legible; the paper's feed sustained regional coverage across the day's Iraq, Hormuz and US threads consistent with its principlist line.

ANALYST NOTE Sobh-e No's 'America must accept Iranian arrangements' is the principlist bookend to the day's negotiation sub-current: several titles now concede a settlement is conceivable, but each frames it strictly as capitulation by Washington, not compromise by Tehran. That the concessions-only construction recurs across the government (Iran), principlist (Sobh-e No) and the wires indicates centrally-guided terms-setting rather than genuine openness; the cue is whether any title prices reciprocal Iranian concessions, which none did today.

Appendix A - The Leader's lead message: 'Iranians must be the interpreters and narrators of their own cultural heritage'

Message of the Leader of the Revolution, as printed on the front page of Iran (10 Mordad 1405); soft-power/heritage register

Printed banner (Persian, as reproduced on the Iran front page): «خود ایرانیان باید مفسر و روایتگر میراث»
«فرهنگی‌شان باشند».

Rendering: 'Iranians themselves must be the interpreters and narrators of their own cultural heritage.' The message, carried under the Leader's portrait across the top of the government daily, frames national identity and civilizational continuity, not the battlefield, as the day's leadership theme: Iranians are called to author their own cultural narrative rather than have it mediated by outsiders.

Corroboration and reach: the same message register is echoed abroad on the day's pages - Kayhan reports a Russian legislative body thanking 'the Supreme Leader's message', and the English Iran Daily leads its top strip with 'Russian Orthodox Patriarch praises Leader's message, backs closer religious ties', indicating the message was packaged for external religious-and-diplomatic amplification alongside its domestic heritage framing.

Verification note (important): 'the Leader' in current coverage denotes Mojtaba Khamenei; the martyred predecessor «سیدعلی» (assassinated 28 February 2026) is the figure mourned in Seda-ye Iran's Arbaeen imagery, not the author of this message. Only the printed lead line and its framing were cleanly legible on the front-page scan; khamenei.ir was not separately confirmed for the full text at compile time, so the body of the message beyond the headline theme is not reproduced here rather than reconstructed. Treat this appendix as the verified lead line plus its documented cross-title amplification, not a full transcript.

Appendix B - The day's flagged editorial: Kayhan's 'Yadasht-e Rooz', 'Brotherly with Ms. Mohajerani'

Kayhan daily editorial (یادداشت روز), attributed to managing editor Hossein Shariatmadari; read via the Kayhan channel (kayhan_online)

Printed title (Persian): «برادرانه با خانم مهاجرانی». Rendering: 'Brotherly with Ms. Mohajerani.'

Substance (rendered from the channel text, not a verbatim transcript): the editorial addresses government spokesperson Fatemeh Mohajerani and argues that her public remarks - said to reference damage to Bushehr's airport and to acknowledge economic vulnerabilities - hand the adversary 'correct targeting information'. The 'brotherly' conceit frames a hardline discipline demand as fraternal counsel: officials, it argues, must not narrate the war's damage in ways that aid the enemy's battle-damage assessment or its economic-pressure calculus.

Analyst flag: this is an operational-security discipline editorial aimed inward at the executive, not an escalation piece aimed outward - the same message-discipline apparatus tracked across editions, here policing what the government's own spokesperson may say about war damage. It sits directly against the reformist and economic titles (Etemad's civilian-cost photo-essay, Charso's inflation lead, Ta'adol's 50,000 idled realtors) that do precisely the damage-accounting Shariatmadari wants suppressed; the editorial is thus itself evidence of the elite fault line over whether the war's cost may be spoken.

Verification note: author attributed to Hossein Shariatmadari as the standing Yadasht-e Rooz writer and Kayhan's managing editor; the title is verified from the channel, the wording above is an editorial rendering of the retrieved text and should not be quoted as verbatim without the primary Kayhan print copy. Source line: Kayhan, Yadasht-e Rooz, 10 Mordad 1405.

Appendix C - Methodology and sourcing notes

iran-press-digest pipeline (gather + vision reads + channel/web reads)

Coverage: the batch guard passed (the newest Persian album's printed Jalali date, 10 Mordad 1405, matched the target), so this is a fresh, non-stale edition. Nine Persian kiosk front pages were read directly by vision from the NewspaperTasnim album (Iran, Seda-ye Iran, Nobonyad, Kayhan, Sazandegi, Charso, Etemad, Ta'adol, Jomhuri Eslami), and one English front page (Iran Daily, Vol.3170, 1 August 2026) was read from the Newspapers_Iran album. Sobh-e No was read via its Telegram channel (front-page image plus feed).

Text and wire sources: the Kayhan editorial was read from the Kayhan channel; the agency wires Fars News, Defa Press and Nour News were read for corroboration and threat-signaling context and are treated as claims, not front pages, per the attribution firewall (Fars: Araghchi's warning to the UK, an Israeli strike on a Gaza refugee-camp store, an Oman-Sea tanker projectile strike, a CNN item on Trump's frustration; Defa Press: a Fox News item on US interceptor depletion, the Hadid-110 drone as a CENTCOM challenge, and a Zolqadr statement on tightening Hormuz control; Nour News: 'Trump's big gamble - will Washington pay the price of the energy war?').

Gaps and caveats: Tehran Times was unavailable at compile time and is not reflected here. Vatan-e Emrooz's front page for 10 Mordad was not cleanly retrievable from its channel and no dedicated per-paper entry was written for it rather than risk an unverified headline. Jam-e Jam's channel returned a front-page figure (a 4,200-megawatt grid-capacity reduction) identical to the 30 July edition, indicating a likely stale or pinned image rather than a fresh 10 Mordad front; it is therefore not reported as today's fresh content, and the state-broadcaster damage-accounting thread is carried forward generically without re-asserting that figure as new.

Verification discipline: named figures were checked against the printed pages - First Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref (Iran's lead), Speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf (Iran Daily), government spokesperson Fatemeh Mohajerani (Kayhan editorial), Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (Fars wire), and Mohammed bin Salman (Nobonyad's portrait). 'The Leader' denotes Mojtaba Khamenei; «سید علی» is the martyred predecessor. The day's principal offensive claims - a US-base strike (located as Kuwait on Iran Daily today versus Jordan/al-Muwaffaq al-Salti in the prior edition), '700 tons on Lebanon in one night' (Kayhan), Hormuz-closure/erasure threats, and the Trump-announced Gaza disarmament deal (Sazandegi) - are attributed to their outlets and carried as claims requiring primary-source confirmation, not adopted as fact. Translations are editorial; loaded regime vocabulary is glossed inline where it carries the framing.

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.