OPEN-SOURCE PRESS INTELLIGENCE

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DEADLIEST GULF STRIKE, QUIETEST FRONT PAGES EDITION

Nine Persian front pages of 19 Mehr 1405, read with Kayhan, Sobh-e No and Iran reconstructed from their own channels, alongside six outlet channels and three agency wires; the English-language kiosk had not advanced past the 8 October issue, and Tehran Times, khamenei.ir and the Iran newspaper's article site were all unavailable at the time of compilation.

Front pages published the morning of 2026-10-11, reflecting events through late 10 October local.

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



Executive Summary

The lead judgment of this edition is that the Iranian press had a verified mass-casualty attack on a Gulf Arab capital available to it and declined to lead on it. Saudi authorities confirmed twelve dead and 309 wounded at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, among them four Saudi nationals and one American citizen, in what the independent record describes as the deadliest attack in a Gulf Arab country since this war began in February. The confirmation reached Jam-e Jam's own channel at item 30626 before the night's posting had finished. It does not lead a single one of the twelve Iranian front pages retrievable for this cycle. The two titles that did engage the Saudi story engaged it on their own terms: Kayhan led on «بزرگ‌ترین میدان نفتی عربستان منهدم شد», and Sobh-e No (No. 2446) on «از محاصره صنعا تا محاصره ریاض». Both are coercion arguments. Neither is a casualty report.

Kayhan's choice is the edition's sharpest single finding because the paper refutes its own headline four hundred words below it. The front page asserts that Saudi Arabia's largest oil field has been destroyed; the accompanying analytic report at item 86454 states «تا لحظه تنظیم این گزارش جزئیات مستقلی درباره میزان خسارت‌ها و تأثیر بر تولید نفت اعلام نشده» and describes the attribution to Yemeni forces as the paper's own. Independent open-source reporting records satellite-visible smoke plumes in the Eastern Province and disagrees about whether they originate at Abqaiq, Ayn Dar or Ghawar; there is no Aramco or Saudi confirmation of damage, production impact or casualties. The headline is not supported by the body beneath it and is reported here as a claim. The analytic point is the selection, not the exaggeration: an infrastructure-destruction claim argues that Saudi Arabia cannot afford to continue the war, while a civilian airport attack invites exactly the charge the UN Secretary-General made within hours, a condemnation Etemad's own channel relayed at item 538484. The hardline estate took the argument that costs it nothing.

What the covers did lead on was the adversary's credibility, and three of them did it with material that checks out. Hamshahri gave its entire upper page to a bilingual attack on the US Treasury Secretary, «پس چی شد احمق؟» set beside the paper's own English "SO, WHAT HAPPENED, IDIOT?", decked to the expiry of a fourteen-day deadline with no sign of the predicted Iranian collapse. The predicate verifies and the clock is exact: Scott Bessent told Fox News on 27 September 2026 that Iran would make its final oil deliveries to China "probably within the next two weeks" and would then have nothing left to trade, and fourteen days from 27 September is this cover's own date. Sazandegi led on «طاعون نارنجی», the gold-leafed nude Trump unveiled by Jens Galschiot in the European Parliament building in Strasbourg on 7 October. Vatan-e Emrooz led on «باستان‌گرایی ترامپید!», arguing that the American president knifed Europe over Russian diesel one day after his Secretary of State invoked Western civilizational unity in Athens. These are not claims about Iranian capability. They are claims about whether the adversary can be believed, and the method, a dated audit against a named official's checkable quotation, is new in this monitor's record.

The civilizational frame this monitor first recorded in the previous cycle has been institutionalised in twenty-four hours, and the government's own daily did it. Iran newspaper fielded a coordinated edition against the 7 October address at the Pnyx: the archaeologist Malekzadeh rejecting the claim that the Achaemenid army destroyed Greek civilisation (item 509458), Touraj Daryaee of the University of California, Irvine, arguing that Rubio places the present war in continuity with 480 BC and that «در حال حاضر نیز این ایران نیست که به غرب حمله کرده سناتورهای آمریکایی» (item 509460), the foreign minister with «روبیو که هیچ؛ سخنرانی‌نویس او هم سواد ندارد», Zarif with «خواهان خروج از مهلکه هستند», and the editor-in-chief Hadi Khosroshahin with a Mead-taxonomy reading of American foreign-policy traditions whose

coinage, «ویلسونیسم در چکمه», the front page then promoted to a headline (item 509461). Javan ran the same speech as a cartoon, «خشایارستیزی روبی کوچولو», the Secretary of State in a cardboard Corinthian helmet. A state press capable of fielding a credentialled counter-argument within one cycle, including a named scholar resident in the United States, is demonstrating a capability it has not shown on any operational subject in this monitor's record, and it is spending that capability on a quarrel about 480 BC.

Two escalation signals sit below the folds and neither is in a lead. Javan's right rail carries «خروج از ان‌پی‌تی مطالبه‌ای در پاسخ به ناکامی تعهدات», withdrawal from the Non-Proliferation Treaty presented as a demand answering the failure of commitments, on the same cover whose bottom banner writes off the nuclear agreement as «دستمال کاغذی برجام». Vatan-e Emrooz's top strap reads «چرا هرمز در انتظار مسقط نمی‌ماند؟» over «شمارش معکوس بحران نفت», which puts a clock on the Omani mediation channel whose agreed coordinates the previous edition of this monitor recorded. Both are placed in rails rather than leads, which is either a judgment that they are not yet ripe or a deliberate normalisation of them as settled background. If either migrates to a lead in any hardline title, that is a change of state.

The chokepoint produced measurable third-party damage for the first time in this monitor's record. UKMTO reported an outbound tanker struck on its port side by an unidentified projectile while leaving the Strait of Hormuz, with a fire aboard and the crew safe (Defa Press item 69559, Etemad item 538486, Vatan-e Emrooz item 28117); Defa Press item 69557 reports that following an IRGC Navy statement on the explosion of a violating tanker in the Persian Gulf, the United Arab Emirates reported one of its own tankers on fire in the same area. Sobh-e No's channel carried TankerTrackers reporting Kuwaiti crude exports falling again because several KOTC very large crude carriers are under repair after the recent Hormuz attacks, with regional freight and insurance costs sharply higher and Kuwait possibly obliged to charter foreign tonnage. Until now the chokepoint has appeared in Iranian print as posture, then as bargain, then as enforcement doctrine. This is the first cycle in which it appears in the export volumes of a Gulf Arab state.

Domestically the cycle is governed by one internal-security event and one economic measure. Second Colonel Nosrat Eftekhari, the deputy for cultural and social affairs of the Sistan and Baluchestan police command, was killed on Friday 9 October by a roadside device on the Cheshmeh Ziarat road outside Zahedan, together with a second officer, Ehsan Dahmardeh; Jomhouri Eslami prints the president's order for rapid identification of the perpetrators and the instigators, with the feminine form «شهیده» as printed, and the dispatch of an investigating delegation. The sequence across three cycles is tight: a senior policewoman killed on Friday, the Leader's Police Week message to the internal-security force printed Saturday, a presidential order printed Sunday. On the economic side the food-coupon increase is the most-carried domestic item of the cycle, present on Jam-e Jam, Iran and Ta'adol and on every wire, with the Programme and Budget Organisation putting roughly forty million people in about 18.3 million households in scope after a self-declaration at my.gov.ir closing on Tuesday 21 Mehr. Ta'adol alone treats it sceptically, printing «سیاست حمایتی دولت زیر فشار تورم» over «جهش قیمت خودرو در بازار رکودی»: a car-price jump inside a recession is a statement about currency pass-through, not about demand.

The Leader returned to the covers for a second consecutive cycle, and the register changed completely. Saturday's return was a Police Week message to the internal-security force; today Charsoogh gave its entire front page to «فرمان اقتصادی ۱۰», an infographic compiling his economic priorities from his own previous messages under his portrait. Two things follow. The compilation form requires no new text, which is how an office with thin public output is kept visibly present. And the tenth item is «جنگ و بازسازی اقتصادی»: compensating losses, securing goods, managing energy, and

reconstruction after the war. That is the first instance in this monitor's record of an Iranian cover printing, in the Leader's own attributed voice, a category that presupposes the war ending. The «امام» honorific recorded on Kayhan's rendering in the previous cycle does not recur anywhere in this batch.

Net assessment: this is a displacement edition. The war's loudest event of the past twenty-four hours happened in Riyadh and reached Iranian readers through Telegram rather than through newsprint, while the front pages spent themselves on the adversary's honesty, the adversary's history and the adversary's statuary. Part of that is a press-time artifact and this edition says so; the pages closed on the evening of 10 October and the Saudi toll was confirmed at about 22:00 UTC. But the part that is not an artifact is the choice made by the two titles that did have the material, and both chose coercion framing over casualty reporting. Set against that, the most consequential printed items of the cycle are small and placed low: a treaty-withdrawal demand in a rail, a clock on the Omani mediator in a strap, and a post-war reconstruction category in the Leader's own compiled voice. Lebanon is absent for a ninth consecutive cycle and the Israeli front has no presence on any cover as an active theatre. The Iranian state is describing this war to its own public as a Gulf and Red Sea conflict about shipping, airspace, fuel prices and ancient history, and it is now describing it, in one line on one economic cover, as a war with an after.

BOTTOM LINE On the morning after the deadliest attack on a Gulf Arab state since this war began, twelve dead and 309 wounded at Riyadh's main airport, the Iranian front pages were arguing about Xerxes, a failed two-week prediction and a gold statue in Strasbourg: the one hardline paper that led on Saudi Arabia chose an unconfirmed claim that the kingdom's largest oil field had been destroyed over the attack its own channel had already confirmed, which indicates an estate protecting the legitimacy of its pressure campaign rather than advertising its effect.

CRITICAL SOURCING NOTE Nine Persian front pages were retrieved from the NewspaperTasnim kiosk album of 19 Mehr 1405 and the stale-batch guard passed on the first attempt, with the album's own printed Jalali date matching the target date, so no page in this edition is carried over from an earlier cycle. Kayhan, Sobh-e No and the Iran newspaper did not appear in the album and are reconstructed from their own channels, which is a first-party source but not the printed page; those three entries carry no scan. The English-language kiosk had not advanced past the Iran Daily issue of Thursday 8 October, which is included and labelled as out of cycle and from which nothing is reported as current. Tehran Times, khamenei.ir and the Iran newspaper's own article site were all unavailable at the time of compilation, so the Leader appendix is a compilation made by an Iranian economic daily rather than a primary text, and the editorial appendix renders the five paragraphs the publisher itself posted rather than the full article. Kayhan posted no «یادداشت روز» for the second consecutive day. Kayhan's headline claim that Saudi Arabia's largest oil field was destroyed is reported as the paper's claim and is expressly not adopted: the paper's own body text states that no independent detail of damage or production impact had been announced, independent open-source reporting disagrees about the origin of the observed plumes, and there is no Aramco or Saudi confirmation. The Mearsheimer and Foreign Affairs material on the same cover is second-hand rendering of named Western sources and is not verified here. Where Iranian renderings differ from the independent record, the independent record is used and the divergence is stated: Jam-e Jam's figure of 309 injured matches the Saudi civil aviation authority's own count, while the figure of 50 wounded that Defa Press carried from a New York Times rendering does not. The name of the assassinated Pakistani election official is given as Shamshad Akhtar by some outlets and Shamshad Khan Mehsud by others; the killing is confirmed and the name is not settled. The byline of the Sazandegi editorial is not legible at the resolution of the retrieved scan and is not asserted.

Macro Trend Analysis

❶ The deadliest attack of the war on a Gulf Arab state reached the Iranian wires and almost none of the Iranian covers

Saudi authorities confirmed twelve dead and 309 wounded at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, including four Saudi nationals and one American, in the deadliest attack in a Gulf Arab country since the war began in February. Jam-e Jam's channel carried the confirmation at item 30626, Etemad's channel carried the UN Secretary-General's condemnation of «حمله مرگبار حوثی‌ها» at item 538484, Vatan-e Emrooz carried Egypt's suspension of Cairo-Riyadh flights and the week-long closure of Riyadh's schools at items 28116 and 28125, Nour News carried the 24-hour extension of the airport closure at item 400962. Not one of the twelve retrievable front pages leads on it. Part of this is press time, since the pages closed before the toll was confirmed; the part that is not is which frame the two engaged titles chose.

❷ Kayhan's lead is refuted by Kayhan's own text

The front page asserts «بزرگ‌ترین میدان نفتی عربستان منهدم شد»; the report beneath it at item 86454 states that no independent detail of damage or effect on oil production had been announced at the time of writing, describes the attribution to Yemeni forces as the paper's own, and places the aviation disruption, 400-plus Riyadh cancellations since Friday, FlightRadar's 335, Cirium's near-half of departures, advisories from five states, in the body rather than the headline. Independent open-source reporting records smoke plumes in the Eastern Province and disputes whether they originate at Abqaiq, Ayn Dar or Ghawar, with no Aramco or Saudi confirmation. An infrastructure-destruction claim argues that Riyadh cannot afford the war; a civilian airport toll invites a war-crime charge. The estate took the first.

❸ Adversary credibility, not Iranian capability, is what the covers now attack, and the material checks out

Hamshahri ran a bilingual «پس چی شد احمق؟» / "SO, WHAT HAPPENED, IDIOT?" timed to the expiry of the US Treasury Secretary's fourteen-day window, a predicate that verifies to his 27 September Fox News remarks almost to the day. Sazandegi ran «طاعون نارنجی» on the Galschiot statue unveiled in the European Parliament on 7 October. Vatan-e Emrooz ran «باستان‌گرایی ترامپید!» on the Russian diesel licence as a knife in Europe's back. Kayhan ran «ترامپ درمانده در جنگ | غرب را به ۳۰۰ هزار تن گازوئیل فروخت!». Four covers, four different adversary-credibility arguments, no Iranian capability claim among them.

❹ The civilizational frame was institutionalised by the government's own daily within one cycle

Iran newspaper fielded an archaeologist (item 509458), a professor of Iranian history at the University of California, Irvine (item 509460), the foreign minister, the former foreign minister and its own editor-in-chief (item 509461) against the 7 October Athens address, and promoted the editor's coinage «ویلسونیسم در چکمه» to a front-page headline. Javan ran the same speech as «خشایارستیزی روبی کوچولو» with the Secretary of State in a cardboard helmet; Vatan-e Emrooz built its lead on it. A press that can assemble a credentialled rebuttal in twenty-four hours is showing a capability it has not shown on any operational subject.

❺ Treaty withdrawal and a clock on the mediator are both in rails, not leads

Javan's right rail carries «خروج از ان‌پی‌تی مطالبه‌ای در پاسخ به ناکامی تعهدات» on the same cover whose bottom banner reads «دستمال کاغذی برجام»; Vatan-e Emrooz's top strap reads «چرا هرمز در انتظار مسقط

؟نمی‌ماند» over «شمارش معکوس بحران نفت». The previous edition of this monitor recorded the chokepoint acquiring a bargain with coordinates agreed through Oman. Asking in print why Hormuz should wait for Muscat is how a negotiating track is put on notice without an official saying so. Placement below the fold is the variable to watch in both cases.

6 The chokepoint has begun to register in a Gulf Arab state's export volumes

UKMTO reported an outbound tanker struck on the port side by an unidentified projectile while leaving the Strait of Hormuz, with a fire aboard and the crew safe; Defa Press item 69557 reports that after an IRGC Navy statement on the explosion of a violating tanker, the United Arab Emirates reported one of its own tankers alight in the same area. Sobh-e No's channel carried TankerTrackers attributing a renewed fall in Kuwaiti crude exports to KOTC very large crude carriers under repair after the recent Hormuz attacks, with freight and insurance costs sharply higher. Posture, then bargain, then enforcement doctrine, now measurable third-party damage.

7 The Leader is present for a second consecutive cycle, as an economic rulebook that names a post-war category

Charsoogh (No. 577) gave its whole cover to «فرمان اقتصادی ۱۰» compiled from the Leader's own messages under his portrait, running from «معیشت مردم» through «اقتصاد مقاومتی» and «دلار و وابستگی ارزی» to a tenth item, «جنگ و بازسازی اقتصادی», compensating losses, securing goods, managing energy and reconstruction after the war. The compilation form needs no new text from him. The tenth item is the first Leader-attributed category on any cover in this monitor's record that presupposes the war ending. The «امام» honorific recorded on Kayhan's rendering in the previous cycle does not recur anywhere in this batch.

8 Internal security produced the cycle's one Iranian casualty story, and the command response was printed at presidential level

Second Colonel Nosrat Eftekhari, deputy for cultural and social affairs of the Sistan and Baluchestan police command, was killed with a second officer by a roadside device outside Zahedan on Friday 9 October. Jomhouri Eslami printed the president's order for rapid identification of the perpetrators and the instigators, in the feminine «شهیده», with an investigating delegation dispatched; the Iran channel carried the same at item 509456; the national police commander has said retribution is certain. Separately, the qisas sentence for the killer of Second Lieutenant Reza Ehterami of the FARAJA relief unit in Bandar Abbas was carried out and reported on five channels in a single morning.

9 The Minab school killings returned as commemoration on two covers, never as a casualty claim

Jam-e Jam gave its entire front page to «قصه‌گویی عروسک‌ها برای کودکان میناب», a puppet and storytelling programme for Minab's schoolchildren, over a photograph of a classroom of small girls. Javan's rail carried the Tehran theatre festival work «خیال‌نامه میناب»; Fars carried the FARAJA special-units commander paying respects to the «شهدای دانش‌آموز میناب». The event underneath is the 28 February strike on the Shajareh Tayyebeh girls' elementary school, roughly 156 to 168 dead including about 120 children, the heaviest civilian loss of this war. The state press is building it into a commemorative vocabulary rather than an evidentiary one.

10 The economic press is contradicting the political press about the same week, in the same cycle

Hamshahri's cover argues that the predicted collapse did not happen. Ta'adol's prints «سیاست حمایتی از رکود مسکن تا مهاجرت سازندگان» and «جهش قیمت خودرو در بازار رکودی», plus «دولت زیر فشار تورم» over

«عقب‌نشینی بیت‌کوین از مرز ۸۷ هزار دلار». Etemad leads on «بورس همچنان می‌تازد» and immediately qualifies it with the expectation that six-month filings will turn the rally from across-the-board growth into selection on actual profitability. Both accounts can hold at once: the measurable claim is not that the economy is well but that it has not collapsed, and the papers themselves have begun marking the difference.

11 Lebanon is absent for a ninth consecutive cycle and the Israeli front has no presence on any cover as an active theatre

No Lebanese item appears on any of the twelve retrievable front pages, on any of the six outlet channels or on any of the three agency wires, a third consecutive wire blackout following the two the previous edition recorded. Israel appears on the covers only as the object of other people's legal and moral arguments: the Nobel laureate who accused it of genocide in Gaza (Hamshahri, Jomhouri Eslami), worldwide opposition to the American sanctions on the International Criminal Court (Jomhouri Eslami), and a signed piece on Yahya Sinwar's legacy (Vatan-e Emrooz). No strike, no retaliation, no casualty figure and no battle-damage claim from the Israeli front appears anywhere.

Key Judgments

KJ-1 [HIGH] **The Iranian press had the deadliest Gulf Arab attack of this war available to it and no front page led on it.** The evidence is one verified event and twelve covers. Saudi authorities confirmed twelve dead and 309 wounded at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, including four Saudi nationals and one American citizen, which the independent record describes as the deadliest attack in a Gulf Arab country since the war began in February. Jam-e Jam's own channel carried the Saudi confirmation at item 30626, Etemad's carried the UN Secretary-General's condemnation at item 538484, Vatan-e Emrooz carried the Egyptian flight suspension and the week-long closure of Riyadh's schools, and Nour News carried the airport's 24-hour closure extension. None of it leads a cover. The calibration runs both ways and this monitor states it: the Persian pages closed on the evening of 10 October and the Saudi toll was confirmed at roughly 22:00 UTC, so treating the whole absence as editorial judgment would overread a press-time artifact, while treating it all as timing would miss that two titles did have Saudi material and chose what to do with it. The significance is that the cycle in which Iranian-aligned forces inflicted their heaviest civilian toll on a Gulf Arab state is the cycle in which Iranian front pages were least willing to make the Gulf the subject.

KJ-2 [HIGH] **Kayhan's lead claim is contradicted by Kayhan's own reporting, and the selection, not the exaggeration, is the finding.** The front page of 19 Mehr asserts «بزرگ‌ترین میدان نفتی عربستان منهدم شد» with the deck «مرشایمر: هیچ راهی برای شکست ایران و یمن نیست». The paper's own analytic report at item 86454 states «تا لحظه تنظیم این گزارش جزئیات مستقلی درباره میزان خسارت‌ها و تأثیر بر تولید نفت اعلام نشده», describes the attribution to Yemeni forces as the paper's own, and puts the verifiable material, more than 400 Riyadh cancellations since Friday, FlightRadar's count of 335, Cirium's near-half of departures, advisories from five states, flydubai suspended to 11 October, in the body. Independent open-source reporting records satellite-visible plumes in the Eastern Province and disagrees about whether they originate at Abqaiq, Ayn Dar or Ghawar; there is no Aramco or Saudi confirmation of damage, production impact or casualties. The claim is reported here and expressly not adopted. The significance is in the logic of the choice: an infrastructure-destruction claim argues that Saudi Arabia cannot sustain the war, while a mass-casualty civilian

airport attack invites precisely the charge the Secretary-General made within hours. The estate took the argument that carries no liability, which indicates it is protecting the legitimacy of the pressure campaign rather than advertising its effect.

KJ-3 [HIGH] **The Iranian press has shifted from contesting adversary claims to auditing adversary credibility, and in this cycle it did so with material that checks out.** The evidence is four covers. Hamshahri gave its upper page to a bilingual «پس چی شد احمق؟» set beside its own English "SO, WHAT HAPPENED, IDIOT?", decked «مهلت ۱۴ روزه وزیر خزانه‌داری آمریکا به پایان رسید اما خبری از فروپاشی اقتصاد ایران نشد». The predicate verifies: on 27 September 2026 Scott Bessent told Fox News that with 15 million barrels of Iranian oil on the water Iran would make its final deliveries to China "probably within the next two weeks" and would then have nothing left to trade, and fourteen days from 27 September is this cover's own date. Sazandegi led on «طاعون نارنجی», which verifies to Jens Galschiot's gold-leafed nude unveiled in the European Parliament building in Strasbourg on 7 October at an exhibition hosted by the Danish MEP Per Clausen. Vatan-e Emrooz and Kayhan both built leads on the Russian diesel licence. The significance is methodological and it cuts against the Iranian press's own recent record: this monitor has repeatedly found adversary-origin material arriving in Persian with an upgraded verb, and here the strongest covers of the cycle are the ones that needed no upgrade at all. A press that has learned it can win on the adversary's own checkable statements will reach for them more often, and it is a harder form of information operation to answer than a fabricated one.

KJ-4 [HIGH] **The civilizational frame recorded as new in the previous cycle has been institutionalised by the government's own daily within twenty-four hours.** The evidence is one coordinated edition. Iran newspaper, published by IRNA under editor-in-chief Hadi Khosroshahin, ran the archaeologist Malekzadeh rejecting the claim that the Achaemenid army destroyed Greek civilisation and citing the Achaemenid assumption of the pharaonic title in Egypt (item 509458); Touraj Daryaee, professor of Iranian history and culture at the University of California, Irvine, arguing that the Secretary of State is placing the present war in continuity with 480 BC and that «در حال حاضر نیز این ایران نیست که به غرب حمله کرده» (item 509460); the foreign minister with «سناتورهای آمریکایی روبیو که هیچ؛ سخنرانی‌نویس او هم سواد ندارد» (item 509456); and Zarif with «خواهان خروج از مهلکه هستند» and the editor-in-chief's own Mead-taxonomy analysis concluding that the speech signals contest among American traditions rather than a settled turn, coining «ویلسونیسم در چکمه», which the front page then printed as a headline (item 509461). Javan rendered the same speech as a cartoon, «خشایارستیزی روبی کوچولو». The significance is capability rather than content. A state press that can field a credentialled, non-polemical counter-argument including a named scholar resident in the United States within a single news cycle is demonstrating something it has not demonstrated on any operational subject in this monitor's record, and the subject it chose to demonstrate it on is a quarrel about 480 BC that contains no negotiable quantity.

KJ-5 [MODERATE-HIGH] **Withdrawal from the Non-Proliferation Treaty is now a printed demand in the Guard Corps' daily, and it is placed in a rail rather than a lead.** The evidence is one cover. Javan's right rail carries «خروج از ان‌پی‌تی مطالبه‌ای در پاسخ به ناکامی تعهدات», withdrawal framed as a demand answering the failure of others' commitments, on the same page whose bottom banner runs «دستمال کاغذی برجام», the nuclear agreement as a paper tissue. No other cover in the batch carries either item. The calibration matters: a rail item in one hardline title is not state policy, and reading it as such would inflate a single editorial decision into a decision of the Supreme National Security

Council; but treating it as noise would miss that the same page disposes of the agreement and demands exit from the treaty in one cycle, which is a coherent position rather than two separate complaints. The significance is that the position is now in print and available to be escalated. The tracking cue is placement: if the NPT line migrates from a rail to a lead in any hardline title, or appears on a second cover, that is a change of state and not a change of emphasis.

KJ-6 [MODERATE-HIGH] **The hardline estate has begun putting a clock on the Omani mediation channel in print.** The evidence is one strap and one absence. Vatan-e Emrooz's top strap reads «چرا هرمز در انتظار مسقط نمی‌ماند؟» over «شمارش معکوس بحران نفت», asking in the paper's own voice why Hormuz will not wait for Muscat. The previous edition of this monitor recorded the chokepoint moving from posture to bargain, with coordinates agreed through Oman, and recorded Jomhouri Eslami as the single daily sponsoring the negotiating track in print with «پاسخ به پیشنهاد جدید آمریکا روزهای آینده داده می‌شود». Three days after the foreign minister's «روزهای آینده», Jomhouri Eslami has dropped the track entirely and led on the crop year, and no other cover has picked it up; the only trace on any front page is a strap on Javan assigning the answer to the foreign minister. The significance is that the mediation channel has lost its last print sponsor in the same cycle in which the hardline estate started asking publicly why it should be waited for. A track with no defender and an attacker with a clock is a track that can be abandoned at low political cost.

KJ-7 [MODERATE-HIGH] **The Hormuz campaign has produced its first measurable damage to a Gulf Arab state's own exports, as reported by an Iranian principlist paper.** The evidence is three surfaces. UKMTO reported an outbound tanker struck on the port side by an unidentified projectile while exiting the Strait of Hormuz, with a fire aboard and no crew injured, carried by Defa Press at item 69559, Etemad at item 538486 and Vatan-e Emrooz at item 28117. Defa Press item 69557 reports that following an IRGC Navy statement on the explosion of a violating tanker in the Persian Gulf, the United Arab Emirates reported one of its own tankers on fire in the same area. Sobh-e No's channel at item 116655 carried TankerTrackers attributing a renewed fall in Kuwaiti crude exports to a shortage of operational tonnage, with several KOTC very large crude carriers under repair and the company's fleet damaged by the recent attacks in Hormuz, regional freight and insurance costs sharply higher, and Kuwait possibly obliged to charter foreign vessels. The attribution of the individual strikes is not established and is not asserted here. The significance is the progression this monitor has now recorded in four stages: Hormuz as posture, then as bargain with coordinates, then as enforcement doctrine reaching beyond the strait, and now as a measurable reduction in a neighbouring producer's export volumes. The fourth stage is the one that creates pressure on parties who are not belligerents.

KJ-8 [MODERATE-HIGH] **The Leader's print presence has stabilised across two consecutive cycles, and today it printed a category that presupposes the war ending.** The evidence is one cover. Charsoogh (Year 3, No. 577) gave its entire front page to «فرمان اقتصادی ۱۰», an infographic compiled by the paper from the Leader's own messages and printed under his portrait with the strap «چارسوق بررسی کرد: رهبر انقلاب در پیام‌های خود بر چه اولویت‌های اقتصادی تأکید کردند؟». The tenth of the ten is «جنگ و بازسازی اقتصادی»: compensating losses, securing goods, managing energy, and reconstruction after the war. Two observations follow. The compilation form means a Leader cover can be produced without any new text from him, which is how an office with thin public output is kept present on the front pages, and it should temper any reading of his return as renewed activity. And the post-war category is, in this monitor's record, the first time an Iranian cover has printed in

the Leader's own attributed voice a heading that only makes sense if the war ends. The «امام» honorific recorded on Kayhan's rendering in the previous cycle does not recur anywhere in this batch, which is filed as a non-recurrence and not as a correction.

KJ-9 [MODERATE] **The Iranian system is answering internal-security attrition with visible command attention at the highest level, in the same week the Leader addressed the police.** The evidence is one cover item and a three-cycle sequence. Jomhouri Eslami prints «دستور رئیس جمهور برای شناسایی سریع عاملان و آمران شهادت شهیده افتخاری», with a portrait, the feminine «شهیده» as printed, and bullets recording the dispatch of an investigating delegation and identifying the victim as the deputy for cultural and social affairs of the Sistan and Baluchestan police command. The independent record names her as Second Colonel Nosrat Eftekhari, killed on Friday 9 October by a roadside device on the Cheshmeh Ziarat road outside Zahedan together with a second officer, Ehsan Dahmardeh, with the national police commander stating that retribution is certain. The sequence runs: a senior policewoman killed on Friday, the Leader's Police Week message to the internal-security force printed Saturday, a presidential order printed Sunday. In the same cycle the qisas sentence for the killer of Second Lieutenant Reza Ehterami of the FARAJA relief unit in Bandar Abbas, killed in a clash with fuel smugglers, was carried out and reported on five channels in one morning. The significance is that the internal-security file is the one subject on which this press is currently reporting Iranian losses by name, with a face and a rank, which it does not do for any external theatre.

KJ-10 [MODERATE] **The state press is converting the war's heaviest Iranian civilian loss into commemorative culture rather than evidentiary claim.** The evidence is three surfaces in one cycle. Jam-e Jam, the state broadcaster's own daily, gave its entire front page to «قصه‌گویی عروسک‌ها برای کودکان میناب» over a photograph of a classroom of small girls, with no restatement of what happened in Minab. Javan's rail carried the Tehran theatre festival work «خیال‌نامه میناب» described as addressing the narration of this crime. Fars carried video of the FARAJA special-units commander paying respects to the «شهدای دانش‌آموز میناب». The event underneath is the 28 February 2026 strike on the Shajareh Tayyebeh girls' elementary school in Minab, with an independently recorded toll of roughly 156 to 168 dead including about 120 children, the heaviest single civilian loss of this war and the subject of an internal American military review that found US forces likely responsible. The significance is that a system with a legally potent grievance is choosing puppetry, theatre and a wreath-laying over the toll. That is consistent with a decision to build a durable commemorative vocabulary rather than to spend the event on a single news cycle, and it means the absence of casualty figures from these covers is not evidence that the claim has been dropped.

KJ-11 [MODERATE] **The Iranian press is no longer defending the economy; it is defending the proposition that the economy has not collapsed, and the economic papers are marking the difference themselves.** The evidence is four covers read against each other. Hamshahri's whole page argues that a dated American prediction of collapse expired unfulfilled. Ta'adol prints «سیاست حمایتی دولت زیر فشار تورم» over «جهش قیمت خودرو در بازار رکودی», with «از رکود مسکن تا مهاجرت سازندگان» and «عقب‌نشینی بیت‌کوین از مرز ۸۷ هزار دلار» in the rail. Etemad leads on «بورس همچنان می‌تازد» and then qualifies it in its own deck, expecting the six-month filings on Codal to turn an across-the-board rally into selection on actual profitability. The food-coupon increase, the cycle's most-carried domestic item, reaches the covers as relief on Jam-e Jam and Iran and as a policy under inflationary pressure on Ta'adol. A car-price jump inside a recession is a statement about

currency pass-through rather than demand, and an equity index at a high that the paper itself attributes to nominal rather than real factors is the same statement in another market. The significance is that the gap between the political and the economic covers is now wide enough to be measured in a single cycle, and both halves are published by the same state.

KJ-12 [MODERATE] **Negative evidence, filed as a finding: Lebanon is absent for a ninth consecutive print cycle and for a third consecutive cycle from the wires.** The evidence is a complete absence across twelve front pages, six outlet channels and three agency wires. No cover carries a Lebanese item of any kind; no outlet channel carried Lebanese political content; and Defa Press, Fars and Nour News, which in earlier cycles carried Hezbollah statements and southern Lebanon strike reports as routine filler, carried none. The previous edition recorded the eighth empty print cycle and the second empty wire cycle, so this is continued consolidation rather than a gap. The significance is unchanged and the limit of the inference is restated: a theatre the Iranian system spent two decades presenting as the forward edge of its deterrence has been entirely withdrawn from the Iranian public's field of vision, which is consistent either with a theatre that has gone quiet or with a theatre whose condition the system has decided not to describe. Iranian print cannot distinguish the two and this monitor does not attempt to.

KJ-13 [MODERATE] **Negative evidence, filed as a finding: the Israeli front appears on the Iranian covers only as the object of other people's legal arguments, for a second consecutive cycle.** The evidence is three mentions across twelve covers, none of them operational. Hamshahri's «ترامپ ماند و حسرت نوبل» reaches Israel through the laureate who accused it of genocide in Gaza; Jomhouri Eslami carries «مخالفت گسترده جهانی با تحریم‌های آمریکا علیه دیوان کیفری بین‌المللی» and the laureate's dedication of her prize to the survivors of international crimes; Vatan-e Emrooz carries a signed piece on Yahya Sinwar's legacy in the making of a new Palestinian. No cover carries an Israeli strike, an Iranian retaliation, a casualty figure or a battle-damage claim. The calibration is the same as in the previous edition and bears repeating: inferring a quiet front from editorial silence would overread, since this monitor has repeatedly found that Iranian print suppresses losses rather than reporting them. What can be said is narrower and still useful. For a second consecutive cycle the Iranian state described this war to its own public as a Gulf and Red Sea conflict, with Israel present only as a defendant in other people's courtrooms.

KJ-14 [MODERATE] **The epithets attached to the American president in Iranian state-adjacent media have moved from political to personal, and the shift is not confined to one estate.** The evidence is three channels in one night. Kayhan's channel at item 86440 introduces him as «رئیس‌جمهور پدوفیل آمریکا» before quoting him calling Iran an evil nation and the world's largest source of terrorism. Vatan-e Emrooz at item 28121 introduces him as «رئیس‌جمهور تروریست آمریکا» before reporting his judgment that the attacks on Saudi Arabia were catastrophic, that «ما با انصارالله در ارتباط هستیم», that he has not yet spoken to the Saudi crown prince and that Iran may act again before the American elections. Nour News, linked to the Supreme National Security Council, uses the same «رئیس‌جمهور تروریست آمریکا» formula at item 400958. The calibration is that Iranian media have insulted American presidents for four decades and a harsher adjective is not by itself an escalation. What is new is the convergence: a hardline daily, a principlist daily and a security-council-linked wire using personal-conduct epithets as standing descriptors in the same cycle, attached to verbatim quotation rather than to commentary. The significance is that this is the

> vocabulary a system adopts when it has decided the counterpart is not a negotiating partner, published on the same morning the only daily that sponsored the negotiating track dropped it.

Named-Figure Tracker

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
Mojtaba Khamenei	Supreme Leader	Present on Charsoogh's whole cover as the source of ten compiled economic commandments, including a tenth on post-war reconstruction; standard honorific «رهبر انقلاب», no «امام» form anywhere in this batch	WATCH
Donald Trump	President of the United States	Central adversary object on four covers: knifing Europe over Russian diesel (Vatan-e Emrooz, Kayhan), a gold nude in the European Parliament (Sazandegi), a school-desk cartoon (Jam-e Jam); on the wires called «رئیس‌جمهور تروریست» and «رئیس‌جمهور پدوفیل»	TARGET FRAMING
Marco Rubio	US Secretary of State	The cycle's most-worked figure: a cardboard Corinthian helmet on Javan's cover, the subject of a four-piece coordinated rebuttal in the government daily, and the premise of Vatan-e Emrooz's lead	TARGET FRAMING
Scott Bessent	US Treasury Secretary	Subject of Hamshahri's bilingual front page auditing his 27 September two-week prediction of Iranian economic collapse against its expiry date	TARGET FRAMING
Nosrat Eftekhari	Second Colonel, deputy for cultural and social affairs, Sistan and Baluchestan police command	Printed as «شهیده افتخاری» on Jomhouri Eslami with a presidential order for rapid identification of perpetrators and instigators; killed by a roadside device outside Zahedan on 9 October	NEW NAMED FIGURE
Antonio Guterres	UN Secretary-General	Carried on Etemad and Vatan-e Emrooz channels condemning «حمله مرگبار حوثی‌ها» on Riyadh's airport as a violation of international law; carried by the wires, kept off every cover	WATCH
Mohammad Javad Zarif	Former foreign minister	On Sazandegi's cover as «همیشه متهم!», describing simultaneous campaigns against him by American hardliners and Tehran radicals; on the Iran channel mocking Rubio's speechwriter	WATCH
Abbas Araghchi	Foreign minister	Present only on the Iran channel with «سناتورهای آمریکایی خواهان خروج از مهلکه هستند»; his 8 October promise of an answer «روزهای آینده» is three days old and appears on no cover	absence noted
Touraj Daryaee	Professor of Iranian history and culture, University of California, Irvine	Fielded by the government daily against the Athens address; a named scholar resident in the United States used as the state's historical authority	NEW NAMED FIGURE

Figure	Role / relevance	Today's framing	Flag
Hadi Khosroshahin	Editor-in-chief, Iran newspaper	Author of the cycle's most restrained adversary analysis, coining «ویلسونیسم در چکمه», promoted to his own front page	WATCH
John Mearsheimer	Political scientist, University of Chicago	Second-hand rendering on Kayhan's deck, «هیچ راهی برای شکست ایران و یمن نیست»; not a verified quotation and not reproducible as authentic	COERCION SPOKESMAN
Mohammad Ali al-Houthi	Senior Ansar Allah figure	Carried verbatim on Jam-e Jam and Vatan-e Emrooz warning that Saudi crimes will meet painful and decisive retribution, and congratulating the armed forces on their victories	COERCION SPOKESMAN
Jens Galschiot	Danish sculptor	Author of «طاعون نارنجی», carried by Sazandegi as evidence of a new phase in the Europe-America rift; the artist's own framing is satire	WATCH
Navi Pillay	2026 Nobel Peace laureate	Third consecutive cycle in which the prize reaches an Iranian cover only through the American reaction to it; Jomhouri Eslami adds her dedication of the award to survivors of international crimes	WATCH
Mohammed bin Salman	Saudi Crown Prince	Named on no cover. Present only in the American president's remark, carried by Vatan-e Emrooz, that he has not yet spoken to him. The Iranian press reports the siege of his capital without naming him	absence noted
Benjamin Netanyahu	Israeli prime minister	Entirely absent from every cover, every outlet channel and every agency wire in this cycle, for a second consecutive edition	absence noted
Hossein Shariatmadari	Managing editor, Kayhan	No «یادداشت روز» posted for a second consecutive day; the hardline estate's doctrinal surface is dark	absence noted

Headline Summary Table

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
Kayhan	Saudi Arabia's largest oil field destroyed	Hardline, Supreme Leader's office	Unverified Ghawar destruction claim chosen over the Riyadh airport toll	HIGH: unconfirmed strategic-infrastructure destruction claim advanced as settled
Sobh-e No	From the siege of Sanaa to the siege of Riyadh	Principlist	Siege symmetry, plus measured damage to Kuwaiti crude exports	MODERATE-HIGH: siege-symmetry framing of Gulf disruption

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
Javan	Little Rubio's war on Xerxes	Hardline, IRGC-affiliated	NPT withdrawal in the rail under a civilizational cover	HIGH: printed NPT-withdrawal advocacy alongside disposal of the nuclear agreement
Vatan-e Emrooz	Antiquarianism, Trumped!	Hardline principlist	Western unity prosecuted and dismantled; a clock on Omani mediation	HIGH: chokepoint timetable pressure plus civilizational framing
Iran	Falsifying history, justifying warmongering	Official government daily (IRNA)	Coordinated state rebuttal of the Athens address	MODERATE: coordinated state counter-campaign on the civilizational frame
Hamshahri	So, what happened, idiot?	Tehran municipality, centrist	Dated prediction audit of the US Treasury Secretary, printed in English too	MODERATE: adversary-credibility attack aimed outward
Sazandegi	The Orange Plague	Reformist, Kargozaran party	European ridicule of the adversary; inward warning on street enforcement	LOW-MODERATE: outward ridicule paired with inward warnings
Charsoogh	The ten economic commandments	Economic daily, No. 577	The Leader's economic doctrine compiled, including post-war reconstruction	LOW: domestic economic authority consolidation
Jomhouri Eslami	Iran's agriculture must be transformed by relying on modern knowledge	Clerical establishment	Crop year and internal security; the negotiating track drops out of print	MODERATE: internal-security attrition and command response
Jam-e Jam	Puppets tell stories to the children of Minab	State broadcaster (IRIB)	War memory as cultural recovery	LOW-MODERATE: inward resilience framing, war displaced to the channel
Etemad	The bourse keeps galloping	Reformist	Equity rally and workplace safety; adversary read through a named diplomat	LOW: war absent from the cover
Ta'adol	The government's support policy under inflationary pressure	Economic daily	Support policy under inflation; car	LOW: domestic economic strain

Outlet	Lead Headline (English)	Orientation	Theme	Threat signal
			prices jump in a recession	reported without war framing
Iran Daily (8 Oct, out of cycle)	Speaker warns of enemy plots to foment domestic insecurity after failure on battlefield	English-language state daily (IRNA)	Out-of-cycle English kiosk issue retained for thread continuity	LOW: out-of-cycle, not reported as current

Per-Paper Front-Page Analysis

Iran Daily (out of cycle)

English-language state daily published by IRNA; carried here from the English-language kiosk batch, which had not advanced past the 8 October issue

LOW: out-of-cycle issue, retained for thread continuity only

"Speaker warns of enemy plots to foment domestic insecurity after failure on battlefield"



- Banner: "Speaker warns of enemy plots to foment domestic insecurity after failure on battlefield". Read against today's Persian covers, this is the same proposition the Eftekhari killing and the Sistan and Baluchestan delegation are now attached to, three days earlier and in English.
- Main: "President: Iran will negotiate from position of strength amid 'full-scale war'", over a photograph captioned to a meeting in Tehran on 7 October 2026. This is the last dated statement of the negotiating posture available in the English record, and nothing in today's Persian batch advances it.
- Opinion: "Beijing's 'smart geoeconomics' doctrine", a signed exclusive.
- Sub-items: "Minister urges support for rural, nomadic culture"; "Flag carrier Iran Air resumes Karachi flights from Tehran, Mashhad"; "Diesel warning: Trump's Iran war comes home!"; "Iran set for U23 Wrestling Worlds after US issues visas to delegation".
- The aviation-restoration thread runs from this 8 October issue (Karachi flights resumed) through today's Jomhouri Eslami banner on thirty foreign destinations from Imam Khomeini airport.
- The diesel item predates the 9 October American announcement and is a warning rather than a report, which places the Iranian English-language framing ahead of the event by a day.

ANALYST NOTE This issue is three days stale and is reported here as such; it is included because it is the only English-language front page the pipeline retrieved and because two of its threads, aviation restoration and the diesel cost to the American home front, are both live on today's Persian covers. The stale kiosk is itself a continuing coverage gap for this monitor: the English-language batch has not advanced since 8 October, which removes the surface on which the Iranian state addresses foreign readers directly and leaves the English-language record to Tehran Times, which was unavailable at the time of compilation.

Jam-e Jam

State broadcaster's daily (IRIB), published by the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting organisation; the print arm of the state's own television and radio monopoly

"Puppets tell stories to the children of Minab" «قصه‌گویی عروسک‌ها برای کودکان میناب»

LOW-MODERATE: inward resilience framing, operational war displaced from print to channel



- Main: «قصه‌گویی عروسک‌ها برای کودکان میناب» runs across the full width of the page over a photograph of a girls' classroom of small children in white maqna'as facing a puppet stage, decked to a touring storytelling and puppetry programme for the schoolchildren of Minab (Hormozgan). The cover does not restate what happened there. Minab is the site of the Shajareh Tayyebeh girls' elementary school struck on 28 February 2026, the war's first day, with an independently recorded toll of roughly 156 to 168 dead including about 120 children, the heaviest single civilian loss of this war. The state daily is treating that event today as a recovery story and not as a grievance claim.
- Banner: «افزایش ۵۰ درصدی کالابرگ کم‌درآمدها» (a fifty percent increase in the food coupon for low earners), the cycle's single most-carried domestic item. The authoritative version is on the wires rather than this cover: the Programme and Budget Organisation says roughly 40 million people in about 18.3 million households qualify after filing a self-declaration at my.gov.ir, with registration closing at midnight on Tuesday 21 Mehr (vatanemrooz 28124, EtemadOnline 538494).
- Sub-item: «رکب ترامپ به اروپا» (Trump's trick on Europe), the American licensing of Russian diesel read as a betrayal of the European allies, the same frame Vatan-e Emrooz gives its entire cover and Kayhan prints as «غرب را به ۳۰۰ هزار تن گازوئیل فروخت!».
- Sub-item: «سرباز فقط کسی نیست که لباس نظامی پوشیده» (a soldier is not only someone who wears a military uniform), an interview widening the category of service beyond the armed forces, printed one cycle after the Leader's Police Week message and two days after the killing of a senior policewoman in Zahedan.
- Sub-item: «چشم روشنی برای مادران تهرانی», a municipal welfare item, and «وفادار به سکوهای ایرانی», advocacy for domestic digital platforms.
- Op-ed/right rail: a column stack of named commentators, and a political cartoon placing the American president at a school desk in front of a blackboard.
- Channel (not on the cover): item 30626 at 21:59 UTC reports that Saudi Arabia confirmed 12 killed and 309 injured in the attack on King Khalid airport; item 30636 carries the Yemeni health ministry's count of 91 killed and 168 wounded in Saudi strikes since 3 September, women and children 60 percent of the casualties; item 30633 reports the assassination of a senior Pakistani election official in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

> **ANALYST NOTE** The state broadcaster's own daily gave its entire front page to a children's puppet programme on the morning its own Telegram channel was carrying the deadliest single attack on a Gulf Arab state since this war began. The placement is the finding, not the omission: IRIB's print arm is converting the war's worst Iranian civilian loss into a resilience-and-recovery narrative aimed inward, while the operational war stays on the wire. Track whether the Minab commemoration thread (also on Javan's cover today as a Tehran theatre-festival work) is being built into a standing anniversary vocabulary.

The American president seated at a child's school desk before a blackboard, flanked by figures in academic dress

Hamshahri

Tehran municipality daily, centrist; the capital's city-government paper and the largest-circulation title in the batch

“So, what happened, idiot?” «پس چی شد احمق؟»

MODERATE: adversary-credibility attack, bilingual and aimed outward



- Main: the whole upper page is a bilingual attack on the US Treasury Secretary, printed in Persian as «پس چی شد احمق؟» and in the paper's own English as "SO, WHAT HAPPENED, IDIOT?", over a caricature of Scott Bessent with briefcase and flag-pattern tie. The Persian deck reads «مهلت ۱۴ روزه وزیر خزانه‌داری آمریکا به پایان رسید اما خبری از فروپاشی اقتصاد ایران نشد»; the English deck beneath it reads "BESSENT'S 14-DAY DEADLINE EXPIRED, BUT THERE IS NO SIGN OF THE COLLAPSE OF IRAN'S ECONOMY".
- Kicker: a boxed recap places the predicate fourteen days back and renders it «اقتصاد ایران تا ۲ هفته دیگر فرو می‌پاشد». The predicate checks out and is datable: on 27 September 2026 Bessent told Fox News's Sunday Morning Futures that with only 15 million barrels of Iranian oil on the water Iran would make its final deliveries to China "probably within the next two weeks" and would then "have nothing left to trade". Fourteen days from 27 September is 11 October, today's cover date, which is the whole construction of the page.
- Sub-item: «ترامپ ماند و حسرت نوبل» (Trump was left with the Nobel he did not get), carrying a portrait of the laureate and the line that the peace prize went to the jurist who had accused Israel of genocide in Gaza. This is the third consecutive cycle in which the award reaches an Iranian cover only through the American reaction to it.
- Sub-item: «ارتش با سلاح‌های نسل جدید», the army ground forces commander saying the fitting of units with precise, smart and network-capable weapons is on the agenda; one of only two Iranian capability claims on any cover this cycle.
- Sub-item: «پل تازه روی گره ترافیک», the opening of the link from Sattarkhan street to the Shahid Chamran expressway at Tohid square, the same municipal item Kayhan also prints on its front page.
- Op-ed: «سربازان جبهه امید» (soldiers of the front of hope), a leader column in the left rail.

> **ANALYST NOTE** The most aggressive anti-American front page of the cycle comes not from the hardline estate but from the Tehran municipality's own daily, and it is set in English as well as Persian, which fixes its intended reader outside Iran. The method is new in this monitor's record and worth naming: instead of a counter-claim, Hamshahri runs a dated prediction audit against a named adversary official whose quotation is verifiable, times its own cover to the expiry of his window, and lets the absence of the predicted event carry the argument. That is the cheapest available form of information advantage and the hardest for the adversary to answer, because answering requires conceding the clock.

Caricature of the US Treasury Secretary with briefcase, hand on chin, eyes crossed

Vatan-e Emrooz

Hardline principlist morning daily, VOL.18 NO.471; one of the two covers in this batch that routinely carries the Guard Corps line on the chokepoint

"Antiquarianism, Trumped!" «باستان‌گرایی ترامپید!»

HIGH: chokepoint timetable pressure plus civilizational framing of the adversary



- Main: «باستان‌گرایی ترامپید!», a verb coined from the American president's name, over a photograph of a European Council table. The deck, reproduced verbatim on the paper's own channel at item 28122, reads «تنها یک روز پس از تلاش مارکو روبیو در آتن برای القای اتحاد باستانی و ایدئولوژیک غرب مقابل ایران، ترامپ با آزاد کردن صادرات گازوئیل از روسیه به آمریکا در میانه جنگ اوکراین، از پشت به اروپا خنجر زد»: one day after the Secretary of State invoked an ancient and ideological unity of the West against Iran, the president stabbed Europe in the back by freeing Russian diesel exports.
- Banner: «چرا هرمز در انتظار مسقط نمی‌ماند؟» (why Hormuz will not wait for Muscat), set over «شمارش معکوس بحران نفت» (countdown of the oil crisis). This is the paper putting a clock on the Omani mediation channel whose agreed coordinates the previous edition of this monitor recorded.
- Right rail: «فرار بمب‌افکنی» on American force posture, «مجازات سریع تروریست» on the swift punishment of a terrorist, and «محبوبیت از دست رفته» on lost popularity; also a signed piece on «معماری شهید یحیی سنوار در زایش «فلسطینی جدید»».
- Op-ed: «ارتش سلطه: پر از فناوری، تهی از اراده» (the army of domination: full of technology, empty of will), the cover's long analytic column.
- Channel item 28121: the paper reports the American president, whom it labels «رئیس‌جمهور تروریست آمریکا», saying the attacks on Saudi Arabia were catastrophic but that the Saudis can defend themselves, that «ما با انصارالله در ارتباط هستیم», that he has not yet spoken to the Saudi crown prince, that petrol is cheaper than under his predecessor, and that Iran may act again before the American elections.
- Channel item 28117: UKMTO reports an incident between a tanker and military forces in the Gulf of Oman, carried without Iranian attribution. Item 28125: Riyadh schools suspend in-person classes for a week. Item 28116: Egypt suspends all Cairo flights to King Khalid airport. Item 28112: a senior Pakistani election official assassinated in Tank, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

ANALYST NOTE The cover prosecutes the civilizational frame this monitor first recorded in the previous edition and then immediately undercuts it: if the West is an ancient bloc, it cannot also be a bloc whose leader knifes its European half over diesel. The hardline estate is willing to run both arguments on one page because the target is American credibility rather than analytic consistency. The Hormuz strap is the harder signal. Having spent the previous cycle recording that the chokepoint had acquired a bargain with

> agreed coordinates through Oman, the hardline estate is now asking in print why Hormuz should wait for the mediator, which is how a negotiating track is put on notice without a single official saying so.

Javan

Hardline daily affiliated with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps; the estate's most direct print voice on force posture and the nuclear file

"Little Rubio's war on Xerxes" «خشایارستیزی روبی کوچولو»

HIGH: printed NPT-withdrawal advocacy alongside disposal of the nuclear agreement



- Main: «خشایارستیزی روبی کوچولو» over a near-full-page composite of the US Secretary of State at a lectern wearing a cardboard Greek helmet, the diminutive «کوچولو» (little) doing the work of the page. This is the second consecutive cycle in which the Guard Corps daily has given its cover to the 7 October address at the Pnyx in Athens rather than to any operational subject.
- Banner: «"دیزل دیپلماسی" ترامپ با نفت عربستان سوخت!» (Trump's "diesel diplomacy" burned up with Saudi oil), tying the American licensing of Russian diesel to the damage to Saudi energy infrastructure, so that the two adversary energy stories cancel each other.
- Right rail: «خروج از ان‌پی‌تی مطالبه‌ای در پاسخ به ناکامی تعهدات» (withdrawal from the NPT, a demand in answer to the failure of commitments). Printed withdrawal advocacy in the Guard Corps' daily is the single most consequential item on any cover in this batch and it is placed in the rail, not the lead.
- Bottom banner: «دستمال کاغذی برجام» (the JCPOA's paper tissue), running the length of the page under the lead, which puts the agreement's disposal and the treaty's renunciation on the same cover.
- Right rail: «اثر سکوت‌هایی که کمتر از ترور نیست» (the effect of silences that is no less than assassination), and «این وکلای کارچاق‌کن و مالیات‌گریز!» on fixer lawyers and tax avoidance.
- Right rail: «جشنواره تهران مبارک با «خیال‌نامه میناب» به روایت این جنایت می‌پردازد», a Tehran theatre festival work on the Minab school killings, the second Minab item on any cover this cycle and the second commemorative rather than evidentiary treatment of it.
- Strap: an item on Iranian officials assigning the answer to the American proposals to the foreign minister, the only trace of the negotiating track on any front page in this batch.

> **ANALYST NOTE** Two items that would each be a lead in a normal cycle sit in this paper's right rail: withdrawal from the Non-Proliferation Treaty as a stated demand, and the JCPOA written off as disposable paper. The Guard Corps estate is placing its most escalatory nuclear position below a satirical cover about a speech, which is either a judgment that the demand is not yet ripe for the lead or a deliberate normalisation of it as settled background. Either reading makes the NPT line the item to track across the next cycles; if it migrates from the rail to the lead in any hardline title, that is a change of state and not a change of emphasis.

The US Secretary of State at a lectern wearing a cardboard Corinthian helmet, face contorted, American flag pin on the lapel

Sazandegi

Reformist daily of the Kargozaran-e Sazandegi party, the technocratic wing of the reformist estate

LOW-MODERATE: outward ridicule of the adversary paired with inward warnings on enforcement

"The Orange Plague" «طاعون نارنجی»



- Main: «طاعون نارنجی» beside a full-height photograph of a gold-leafed nude statue of the American president seated on the shoulders of a smaller bronze figure, with scales and a staff. The deck reads «نصب مجسمه‌ای برهنه از دونالد ترامپ، رئیس‌جمهور ایالات متحده، با نام «طاعون نارنجی» در ساختمان پارلمان اروپا، شکاف میان اروپا و آمریکا را وارد مرحله جدیدی کرده است». The underlying event verifies: the Danish artist Jens Galschiot unveiled the work on 7 October 2026 inside the European Parliament building in Strasbourg, as the centrepiece of a three-day exhibition hosted by the Danish MEP Per Clausen. The artist's own framing is satire drawing on The Emperor's New Clothes; the reading of it as a new phase in the Europe-America rift is the paper's, not the artist's.
- Banner: «ریسک نکنید» (do not take the risk), a warning addressed to senior officials against political, military and tactical gambles, printed at the top of a reformist cover on a morning when the hardline covers are arguing about Xerxes.
- Left rail: «همیشه متهم!» (always the accused), with a photograph of Mohammad Javad Zarif. The deck records him saying at the launch of two new books that in the same week hardliners in America and radicals outside his Tehran office mounted a campaign and a gathering against him. Zarif also appears on the Iran newspaper channel today with the line «روبیو که هیچ؛ سخنرانی‌نویس او هم سواد ندارد».
- Op-ed (یادداشت روز): «جامعه را به نقطه جوش نرسانید» (do not bring society to boiling point), prompted by remarks from the head of Tehran's security police about women's presence on the capital's pavements and streets. The byline is not legible at the resolution of the available scan and is not asserted here.
- Right column: a signed analytic column running the full height of the page beside the statue photograph.

ANALYST NOTE The reformist estate is doing what the hardline estate is doing, attacking the adversary leader's standing, but it has chosen a European object and a European voice to do it with, which lets it reach the same conclusion without adopting the civilizational vocabulary that Etemad accepted in the previous cycle. The more consequential half of the page is the pair of inward warnings: a banner telling senior officials not to gamble and an editorial telling the enforcement apparatus not to bring society to boiling point over women walking in the street. In a cycle where the hardline covers face outward entirely, the reformist cover is the only one arguing that the domestic order is the exposed flank.

Charsoogh

Economic daily, year three, No. 577; masthead motto «نبض اقتصاد را در دست بگیرید» (take the pulse of the economy)

LOW: domestic economic authority consolidation, with a post-war reconstruction category

"The ten economic commandments" «۱۰ فرمان اقتصادی»



- Main: the entire front page is a single infographic, «۱۰ فرمان اقتصادی», built around a portrait of the Leader, Mojtaba Khamenei, in black turban. The strap reads «چارسوق بررسی کرد: رهبر انقلاب در پیام‌های خود بر چه اولویت‌های اقتصادی تأکید کردند؟»: the paper has gone through the Leader's messages and extracted the economic priorities.
- Numbered items as printed: 1 «معیشت مردم», livelihood and welfare at the centre of economic policy; 2 «تولید داخلی», domestic production as the axis of solving economic problems and confronting the economic war; 3 «اشتغال», protecting the workforce, preventing lay-offs; 4 «تورم و گرانی», curbing inflation and managing prices of goods and services; 5 «نقدینگی و ثبات اقتصادی», managing liquidity and creating stability; 6 «سرمایه‌گذاری و رشد اقتصادی», raising investment and directing it to productive sectors; 7 «اقتصاد مقاومتی», making the resistance economy the main framework of policy; 8 «دلار و وابستگی ارزی», progressively neutralising the dollar's role; 9 «واردات», imports where needed alongside protection of domestic production; 10 «جنگ و بازسازی اقتصادی», compensating damage, securing goods, managing energy and post-war reconstruction.
- The tenth item is the one to read closely. «بازسازی پس از جنگ» (reconstruction after the war) is printed as a standing category of the Leader's own economic doctrine, on a cover sourced entirely to him.

ANALYST NOTE This is the Leader's second consecutive appearance in print after the five-cycle absence this monitor tracked, and the register has changed completely in twenty-four hours: Saturday's return was a Police Week message to the internal-security force, and today he is the source of an economic rulebook assembled by a business daily out of his own back catalogue. Two things follow. The compilation form means the paper needed no new text to put him on the cover, which is how an office with thin public output is kept present. And the tenth commandment commits a Leader-sourced category to post-war reconstruction, which is the first time in this monitor's record that an Iranian cover has printed, in the Leader's own voice, a category that presupposes the war ending.

Jomhouri Eslami

Clerical-establishment daily founded in 1979, institutionally close to the traditional religious establishment rather than to either organised faction; the title that has carried the negotiating track alone in recent cycles

MODERATE: internal-security attrition and command response; negotiating track dropped

"Iran's agriculture must be transformed by relying on modern knowledge" «کشاورزی ایران باید با تکیه بر دانش روز متحول شود»


جمهوری اسلامی

کشاورزی ایران باید با تکیه بر دانش روز متحول شود

- Main: «کشاورزی ایران باید با تکیه بر دانش روز متحول شود», decked «رئیس جمهور در آیین ملی آغاز سال زراعی جدید», over a photograph of the president touring an exhibition. The agricultural context is independently strong this cycle: the agriculture minister reports 95 percent of wheat growers' dues settled with 20,000 billion tomans outstanding, and the national wheat growers' foundation reports a record 14.5 million tonnes, all domestically produced (EtemadOnline 538487, vatanemrooz 28114).
- Banner: «پرواز از فرودگاه امام به ۳۰ مقصد خارجی» over «افزایش پروازها در راه است», Imam Khomeini airport restoring service to thirty foreign destinations with more flights promised. Printed on the morning Riyadh's main airport is closed for a further 24 hours, this is the cycle's clearest instance of an Iranian cover claiming normality against a Gulf rival's disruption without naming the comparison.
- Banner: «هزار میلیارد تومان جرایم مالیاتی بنگاه‌های آسیب‌دیده بخشوده شد», the economy minister forgiving 148 trillion tomans of tax penalties owed by war-damaged enterprises. Kayhan prints the identical figure on its own front page, which makes this the only quantified war-damage measure carried across factional lines this cycle.
- Sub-item: «دستور رئیس جمهور برای شناسایی سریع عاملان و آمران شهادت شهیده افتخاری», with a portrait, the president ordering rapid identification of the perpetrators and the instigators. The bullets identify the victim as the deputy for cultural and social affairs of the Sistan and Baluchestan police command, killed in a terrorist act, and record that a delegation has been dispatched. The independent record names her as Second Colonel Nosrat Eftekhari, killed by a roadside bomb on the Cheshmeh Ziarat road outside Zahedan on Friday 18 Mehr (9 October), with a second officer, Ehsan Dahmardeh, also killed; the national police commander has stated that retribution is certain. Note the feminine form «شهیده» as printed.
- Right rail: «مخالفت گسترده جهانی با تحریم‌های آمریکا علیه دیوان کیفری بین‌المللی», worldwide opposition to the American sanctions on the International Criminal Court, which is the same argumentative move Hamshahri makes on the Nobel: reach for the adversary's quarrel with an international legal institution rather than for a claim about Iran.
- Sub-items: «برنده نوبل صلح جایزه‌اش را به بازماندگان جنایات بین‌المللی تقدیم کرد»; «تخصیص ۳ میلیارد دلار ارز برای دارو و تجهیزات پزشکی»; «تعطیلی احتمالی مدارس بر اساس شرایط هر منطقه تعیین می‌شود»; and an obituary

panel. The foot of the page carries a quotation from «شهید مظلوم آیت‌الله بهشتی» on martyrdom.

ANALYST NOTE The one daily that led the previous cycle on the Iran-United States negotiating track has dropped it entirely and led on the crop year instead. That is the negative finding of this cover: three days after the foreign minister said Iran would answer the American proposal «روزهای آینده», the single title that was sponsoring that track in print has moved on, and no other cover has picked it up. Against that, the Eftekhari item is the cycle's internal-security signal, and its sequence is tight: a senior policewoman killed on Friday, the Leader's Police Week message printed Saturday, a presidential order for rapid identification printed Sunday. The system is answering an internal security loss with visible command attention at the highest level while keeping the external war off this page.

Etemad

Reformist daily; the estate's broadsheet of record, with a dense signed-commentary rail

“The bourse keeps galloping” «بورس همچنان می‌تازد»

LOW: domestic economy and labour safety foregrounded, war absent from the cover


اعتماد
بورس همچنان می‌تازد
ونس چه می‌گوید
بندبازی روی خط مرگ و زندگی
نیم‌قرن روایت علیه نقطه‌های کور تاریخ

- Main: «بورس همچنان می‌تازد», decked «تحلیلگران در گفت‌وگو با «اعتماد»» «رشد بازار سهام را بررسی می‌کنند», with the forward-looking line that the publication of six-month filings on the Codal system is expected to turn the market from across-the-board growth to selection on performance and profitability. Ta'adol runs «صعود ادامه‌دار بورس» on the same morning: two separate estates are reporting the same equity rally and both are treating it as a question rather than an achievement.
- Second lead: «ونس چه می‌گوید», decked «اعتماد در گفت‌وگو با کوروش احمدی بررسی می‌کند», an interview with the former diplomat Kourosh Ahmadi reading the American vice president. The reformist paper is covering the adversary through a named Iranian diplomatic analyst while the hardline papers cover him through caricature.
- Third lead: «بندبازی روی خط مرگ و زندگی», decked «اعتماد رعایت نشدن ایمنی در محیط‌های کارگری را بررسی می‌کند», over a photograph of workers on unsecured scaffolding; a workplace-safety investigation given the same page weight as the adversary interview.
- Fourth: «نیم‌قرن روایت علیه نقطه‌های کور تاریخ», a tribute marking the honouring of the novelist Amir Hassan Cheheltan.
- Right rail «یادداشت‌ها»: a stack of ten signed commentators with portraits, the densest op-ed rail in the batch.
- Channel (not on the cover): item 538484 relays the UN Secretary-General, deeply shocked, strongly condemning the deadly attack on King Khalid airport; item 538486 carries the UKMTO report from the Gulf of Oman; item 538495 reports the Riyadh airport closure extended by a further 24 hours; item 538491 carries a dispute over an Assembly of Experts member, Ayatollah Mohsen Araki, telling the president not to interpret the Qur'an and the Nahj al-Balagha.

ANALYST NOTE Etemad adopted the hardline estate's civilizational vocabulary in the previous cycle while rejecting its content; today it has dropped the register entirely and put a workplace-safety investigation and an equity rally on the same page as its adversary analysis. The reformist front page is the only one in this batch on which the war is not the organising principle. The channel is the tell: the paper's own wire carried the Secretary-General's condemnation, the Hormuz incident and the Riyadh airport closure through the night and none of it reached the cover, which places Etemad with the rest of the batch on the print-wire lag rather than making it an outlier of judgment.

Ta'adol

Economic daily published by the Iran Chamber of Commerce circle; the batch's most consistently data-led business cover

“The government's support policy under inflationary pressure” «سیاست حمایتی دولت زیر فشار تورم»

LOW: domestic economic strain reported without war framing


تعادل

سیاست حمایتی دولت زیر فشار تورم

جهش قیمت خودرو در بازار رکودی

- Main: «سیاست حمایتی دولت زیر فشار تورم», decked «از تداوم یارانه نقدی تا تلاشی برای افزایش رقم کالابرگ»: the cash subsidy and the food-coupon increase presented not as relief but as a policy under pressure from the inflation that makes it necessary. This is the single most sceptical treatment of the cycle's most-carried domestic item.
- Second lead: «جهش قیمت خودرو در بازار رکودی» (a jump in car prices in a recessionary market), over a photograph of a crowded dealer lot. A price jump inside a recession is the cleanest statement available in Iranian print of currency pass-through rather than demand, and it continues the consumer-price thread this monitor recorded on Charsoogh's cover in the previous cycle.
- Banner: «تعادل»: پیروزی «دیپلماسی آب» در عبور از سخت‌ترین تابستان پایتخت», the paper crediting a water-diplomacy effort with getting Tehran through its hardest summer, alongside a line on the capital moving from consumption to smarter management. Water scarcity has been absent from the covers in this monitor's recent record; it returns here as a victory claim rather than as a warning.
- Left rail: «عقب‌نشینی بیت‌کوین از مرز ۸۷ هزار دلار» (bitcoin retreating from the 87,000 dollar line), «صعود ادامه‌دار بورس» (the continued ascent of the bourse), «از رکود مسکن تا مهاجرت سازندگان» (from the housing recession to the emigration of builders), and a column on economic enterprises facing an unidentified challenge.

ANALYST NOTE The economic press is now running a parallel and contradictory account of the same cycle: the political covers argue that the adversary's two-week prediction of collapse failed, and the economic covers print a car-price jump inside a recession, a housing slump severe enough to drive builders abroad, and a support policy described as being under inflationary pressure. Both accounts can be true at once, and the gap between them is the useful measurement: Iranian print is no longer defending the economy, it is defending the claim that the economy has not collapsed, which is a much lower bar and one the papers themselves have begun to mark.

Iran

Official government daily published by IRNA, editor-in-chief Hadi Khosroshahin; the administration's own print voice

“Falsifying history, justifying warmongering” «تحریف تاریخ؛ توجیه جنگ‌طلبی»

MODERATE: coordinated state counter-campaign on the civilizational frame

- Front-page list as posted: «نگاه زلال خراسانی», «افزایش اعتبار کالابرگ کلید خورد», «تحریف تاریخ؛ توجیه جنگ‌طلبی», «ویلسونیسم در چکمه؛ از تراژدی تا کمدی», «تدابیر گازی برای زمستان», «از بوی چوب تا رؤیای شریف», «۱۱۰ هکتار زمین برای سرمایه‌گذاری، نه واگذاری», «تحریم‌ها تولید محصولات جدید را متوقف نمی‌کند».
- The government daily has mounted a full counter-campaign against the Athens address in a single edition, across three separate signed pieces. Item 509458 carries the archaeologist Malekzadeh rejecting the claim that the Achaemenid army destroyed Greek civilisation and citing the Achaemenid kings' formal assumption of the title of pharaoh in Egypt without disturbing Egyptian religion, art or script.
- Item 509460 carries Touraj Daryaee, professor of Iranian history and culture at the University of California, Irvine, arguing that Rubio is placing the present conflict in continuity with 480 BC, that the omission is deliberate, and that «در حال حاضر نیز این ایران نیست که به غرب حمله کرده».
- Item 509461 is the editor-in-chief's own analysis, Hadi Khosroshahin, «روبیو و کشمکش سنت‌های سیاست خارجی آمریکا», arguing that the speech is not proof of a neoconservative return but evidence of contest among competing American foreign-policy traditions, and naming the resulting posture «ویلسونیسم در چکمه» (Wilsonianism in boots), the phrase the front page then prints as a headline.
- Item 509456 carries the foreign minister, Abbas Araghchi, with «سناتورهای آمریکایی خواهان خروج از مهلکه هستند» (American senators want out of the quagmire), a Foreign Policy rendering «پیروزی آمریکا در جنگ با ایران؟ تردیدی جدی دارم», and Mohammad Javad Zarif's «روبیو که هیچ؛ سخنرانی‌نویس او هم سواد ندارد».
- Item 509453: the paper's own analysis ties the Hormuz debate to a sell-off in the American debt market, citing Bloomberg on the worst long-term return in the history of US Treasuries and arguing that this could complicate Washington's deficit financing. The claim is the paper's framing; the market data is attributed, not verified here.
- Item 509456 also records a delegation dispatched to examine the terrorist act in Sistan and Baluchestan, and the government spokesman calling the Iranophobia campaign a fabricated myth to isolate Iran.

> **ANALYST NOTE** Within twenty-four hours of this monitor recording that the war had acquired a civilizational frame, the government's own daily has institutionalised the response: not a rebuttal in the opinion column but a coordinated edition with an archaeologist, a diaspora historian at an American university, the foreign minister, the former foreign minister and the editor-in-chief all working the same speech, and the editor's own coinage promoted to a front-page headline. The mechanism matters more than the content: a state press that can field a credentialled counter-argument in one cycle, including a named scholar inside the United States, is demonstrating a capability it has not shown on any operational subject in this monitor's record. The thing it is spending that capability on is a quarrel about 480 BC.

Kayhan

Hardline daily under the Supreme Leader's office, managing editor Hossein Shariatmadari; the estate's most authoritative print voice and the title whose front page this monitor reconstructs from its own channel when no scan reaches the kiosk batch

“Saudi Arabia's largest oil field destroyed” «بزرگ‌ترین میدان نفتی عربستان منهدم شد»

HIGH: unconfirmed strategic-infrastructure destruction claim advanced as settled

- Main: «بزرگ‌ترین میدان نفتی عربستان منهدم شد», decked «مرشایمر: هیچ راهی برای شکست ایران و یمن نیست». The headline asserts destruction; the paper's own accompanying report at item 86454 does not. Its text says Arab media published fresh images of an attack on the Ghawar field in the Abqaiq area of the Eastern Province, that columns of smoke are still rising, and, in the paper's own words, «تا لحظه تنظیم این گزارش جزئیات مستقلی درباره میزان خسارت‌ها و تأثیر بر تولید نفت اعلام نشده». The attribution to Yemeni forces is the paper's own, and it marks it «انتسابی بی‌رقیبی است». Independent OSINT reporting records satellite-visible smoke plumes near Abqaiq and Ghawar and disputes among analysts about which facility they originate from; there is no Aramco or Saudi confirmation of damage, production impact or casualties. The headline is not supported by the body beneath it and should not be reproduced as established.
- Deck: the Mearsheimer attribution is to the University of Chicago political scientist arguing that America has no strategy to defeat Ansar Allah, that re-entry would consume more valuable munitions and intensify retaliation against Saudi oil infrastructure, and that even degrading Ansar Allah risks Iranian entry to prevent an ally's defeat. This is second-hand rendering of a named Western academic and is not a verified quotation.
- Sub-item: «ترامپ درمانده در جنگ | غرب را به ۳۰۰ هزار تن گازوئیل فروخت!» (Trump, helpless in the war, sold the West for 300,000 tonnes of diesel), the same Russian-diesel frame Vatan-e Emrooz, Javan and Jam-e Jam all carry.
- Sub-item: «فارن افرز: آمریکا از ایران شکست فاجعه‌باری خورد، ایرانی‌ها پشت حاکمان خود ایستاده‌اند», a Foreign Affairs rendering; and «دانشجویان ایرانی خطاب به جوانان فرانسه: ما هم علیه نظام سلطه در خیابان هستیم، شما تنها نیستید».
- Sub-item: «وزیر اقتصاد: ۱۴۸ هزار میلیارد تومان جرایم مالیاتی بنگاه‌های آسیب‌دیده بخشیده شد», identical to Jomhouri Eslami's banner; and the Sattarkhan to Chamran bridge opening, identical to Hamshahri's.
- The aviation material sits in the body of item 86454 and not in the headline: flights over Dammam halted, more than 400 flights cancelled from Riyadh since Friday, FlightRadar recording 335 Riyadh cancellations and Cirium close to half of departures, advisories from the United States, Britain, India, Canada and the Philippines, flydubai suspended to 11 October, and the Sanaa humanitarian operations coordination centre repeating that Saudi airspace outside Mecca and Medina is a missile operations theatre.
- No «یادداشت روز» was posted to the channel in this cycle; the editorial slot is absent from the retrievable record for the second consecutive day.

> **ANALYST NOTE** Kayhan chose the oil field over the airport, and the choice is the finding. The deadliest attack on a Gulf Arab state in this war had been confirmed by Saudi authorities at 12 dead and 309 injured before this paper's own channel finished posting, and it appears nowhere in the lead; what leads is an unconfirmed infrastructure claim that the paper's own body text declines to stand behind. Infrastructure destruction is a coercion argument about Saudi capacity to continue the war; a mass-casualty civilian airport attack is a liability argument that invites the charge Guterres made within hours.

The hardline estate took the first and left the second to the wires, which indicates the line being protected is the legitimacy of the pressure campaign rather than the scale of its effect. The missing editorial for a second day, in the title whose Yadasht-e Rooz this monitor treats as the estate's doctrinal surface, is a separate gap and is filed as such.

Sobh-e No

Principlist daily; the title this monitor recorded in the previous cycle forecasting American electoral restraint

"From the siege of Sanaa to the siege of Riyadh" «از محاصره صنعا تا محاصره ریاض»

MODERATE-HIGH: siege-symmetry framing of Gulf disruption; measured third-party export damage

- Main: «از محاصره صنعا تا محاصره ریاض», the only front page in the retrievable record for this cycle that makes the Riyadh disruption its organising frame, and it does so as a symmetry argument rather than as a casualty report: the siege the Saudis imposed on Sanaa has arrived at Riyadh. The paper went to press before the Saudi confirmation of the airport toll, so the frame is about closure and cost, not about the dead.
- Channel item 116649: Kuwait Airways cancels its Riyadh flights because the airport is closed, carried four hours before the Saudi casualty confirmation.
- Channel item 116655: TankerTrackers reports Kuwaiti crude exports falling again, attributing it to a shortage of operational tankers, with several KOTC very large crude carriers under repair and the company's fleet damaged by the recent attacks in Hormuz, and noting that Kuwait may have to charter foreign tonnage while regional freight and insurance costs have risen sharply. This is the first item in this monitor's record in which a Gulf Arab state's export volumes are reported as directly degraded by the chokepoint campaign rather than by sanctions.
- Channel item 116651: the Yemeni foreign ministry says the Saudi side ended the de-escalation phase by closing Sanaa airport on 13 July, welcomes the Russian and Chinese interventions at the Security Council, and warns that attempts to impose Saudi occupation are unacceptable «حتی اگر درگیری‌ها به بالاترین سطح ... منتقل شود».
- Channel item 116648: a third Ukrainian drone strike on the Samara oil pumping station in Russia, carried without comment on the day the Iranian covers are arguing about American access to Russian diesel.

ANALYST NOTE Sobh-e No is the only title in this batch whose cover frame survives contact with the night's news, and it got there by arguing symmetry rather than effect: Sanaa was besieged, now Riyadh is. That frame has a property the Kayhan oil-field frame does not: it does not require any claim about damage, so nothing in it can be falsified by an Aramco statement. Read with the paper's own TankerTrackers item, the cycle's underlying signal from this title is that the chokepoint campaign has begun to show up in a Gulf Arab state's export volumes, which moves Hormuz from a bargaining claim to a measurable effect on a third party.

Appendix A - The Leader's economic directives as compiled on the front page of Charsoogh (partial reconstruction)

Charsoogh, Year 3, No. 577, 19 Mehr 1405 (11 October 2026), front-page infographic «فرمان اقتصادی ۱۰», strap «چارسوق بررسی کرد: رهبر انقلاب در پیام‌های خود بر چه اولویت‌های اقتصادی تأکید کردند؟»

Verification note before the text. No new message from the Leader was published in this cycle. khamenei.ir was not reachable at the time of compilation, so no primary text could be retrieved and none is reconstructed here. What follows is a translation of a compilation made by an Iranian economic daily out of the Leader's previous messages, printed under his portrait and presented on the cover as his own priorities. It is therefore the paper's selection and ordering, not a Leader text, and is rendered as such. The portrait is of the living Leader, Mojtaba Khamenei; the page carries no reference to the assassinated predecessor.

Strap, as printed: «چارسوق بررسی کرد: رهبر انقلاب در پیام‌های خود بر چه اولویت‌های اقتصادی تأکید کردند؟» - Charsoogh has examined: which economic priorities has the Leader of the Revolution emphasised in his messages?

Deck, as printed in part: a review of the Leader's messages shows that in the various sections of those messages he has given attention to a set of economic subjects, from the livelihood and welfare of the people through to production, employment, inflation, liquidity, investment and market management, with the resistance economy as the framework.

1. «معیشت مردم» - The people's livelihood. Securing livelihood and raising welfare must be at the centre of economic policy.

2. «تولید داخلی» - Domestic production. Domestic production is the axis of solving economic problems and of confronting the economic war.

3. «اشتغال» - Employment. Preserving the workforce, preventing lay-offs, and reviving employment.

4. «تورم و گرانی» - Inflation and high prices. Curbing inflation and managing prices in the market for goods and services.

5. «نقدینگی و ثبات اقتصادی» - Liquidity and economic stability. Managing liquidity and creating economic stability.

6. «سرمایه‌گذاری و رشد اقتصادی» - Investment and economic growth. Increasing investment and directing it into productive sectors.

7. «اقتصاد مقاومتی» - The resistance economy. Turning the resistance economy into the principal framework of economic policy.

8. «دلار و وابستگی ارزی» - The dollar and currency dependence. Progressively neutralising the role of the dollar in the economy.

9. «واردات» - Imports. Imports where there is need, accompanied by support for domestic production.

10. «جنگ و بازسازی اقتصادی» - War and economic reconstruction. Compensating losses, securing goods, managing energy, and reconstruction after the war.

Analyst flag. Three points. First, the compilation form is itself the finding: a cover sourced entirely to the Leader can be produced without any new text from him, which is how an office with thin public

output is kept visibly present on the front pages. Second, the honorific used on this page is the standard «رهبر انقلاب» with no addition; the «امام» form that this monitor recorded on Kayhan's rendering in the previous cycle does not appear here, so that usage is not yet established across the press. Third, item 10 commits a Leader-sourced category to post-war reconstruction. That is the first instance in this monitor's record of an Iranian cover printing, in the Leader's own attributed voice, a category that presupposes an end to the war.

Verification status: partial. Single-source, compiled rather than primary, and not checked against khamenei.ir. The individual priorities are consistent with the Leader's published economic vocabulary in prior cycles, but the wording here is the paper's rendering and should not be quoted as the Leader's own phrasing.

Appendix B - «روبیو و کشمکش سنت‌های سیاست خارجی آمریکا» (Rubio and the contest of American foreign-policy traditions), by Hadi Khosroshahin

Iran (official government daily, published by IRNA), 19 Mehr 1405 (11 October 2026); channel @irannewspaper item 509461. Author identified in the channel's own byline line as «هادی خسروشاهین، سردبیر روزنامه ایران» - Hadi Khosroshahin, editor-in-chief of the newspaper Iran. The front page prints the piece's coinage as the headline «ویلسونیسم در چکمه؛ از تراژدی تا کمدی».

Selection note. This monitor's usual editorial appendix is Kayhan's «یادداشت روز». No Yadasht-e Rooz was posted to the Kayhan channel in this cycle, for the second consecutive day, and the Sazandegi editorial «جامعه را به نقطه جوش نرسانید» carries a byline that is not legible at the resolution of the available scan. The editorial translated here was chosen because its authorship is verifiable from the source itself and because the front page promoted its central coinage to a headline. The full article could not be retrieved, as inn.ir was not reachable at the time of compilation; what follows renders the five paragraphs the paper itself published, with the original script retained.

«نطق روبیو را نباید نشانه قطعی بازگشت نومحافظه‌کاری یا تغییر بنیادین در سیاست خارجی دولت ترامپ دانست.» - Rubio's address should not be taken as conclusive evidence of a return of neoconservatism or of a fundamental change in the foreign policy of the Trump administration.

«سیاست خارجی آمریکا را می‌توان حاصل بازآرایی و تغییر موازنه میان همین سنت‌ها دانست.» - American foreign policy can be understood as the product of a rearrangement and a shift of balance among the same traditions.

«ترامپیسم را می‌توان آمیزه‌ای از جکسونیسم قرن بیستمی، عناصر همیلتونی در اقتصاد و مالیه و بدبینی جفرسونی به مداخلات خارجی دانست.» - Trumpism can be read as a compound of twentieth-century Jacksonianism, Hamiltonian elements in economics and finance, and a Jeffersonian pessimism about foreign intervention.

«سخنان روبیو را بهتر است نه نشانه قطعی تغییر مسیر دولت ترامپ، بلکه نشانه‌ای از کشمکش میان سنت‌های رقیب در واشنگتن دانست.» - Rubio's words are better read not as a definitive sign that the Trump administration has changed course, but as a sign of the contest between rival traditions in Washington.

«سخنان اخیر روبیو بیش از آنکه نشانه بازگشت نومحافظه‌کاری به‌عنوان گفتمان مسلط باشد، به بازنمایی فشرده و تا حدی ساده‌شده‌ای از آن طرح شباهت دارد؛ طرحی که می‌توان آن را «ویلسونیسم در چکمه» نامید.» - Rather than marking the return of neoconservatism as the dominant discourse, Rubio's recent remarks resemble a compressed and somewhat simplified representation of that design, a design that may be called Wilsonianism in boots.

Analyst flag. This is the most restrained analysis of the adversary published on any Iranian surface in this cycle, and it appears in the government's own daily over the editor-in-chief's name while the hardline covers are rendering the same speaker as a cartoon in a cardboard helmet. The Mead taxonomy of American foreign-policy traditions is being used accurately and without polemic, and the conclusion is deliberately deflationary: that the speech signals internal contest rather than a settled policy turn. The significance is that the administration's print voice is arguing, in public and to an Iranian readership, that the adversary has not decided, which is the position least compatible with the hardline estate's civilizational framing on the same morning.

Verification status: author verified from the publishing channel's own byline; text partial, five paragraphs as published by the outlet, full article not retrievable at compile time. The characterisation of Rubio's Athens remarks is consistent with the independently verifiable occasion, the 7 October 2026 address at the Pnyx.

Appendix C - Methodology and sourcing notes

iran-press-digest pipeline, edition of 11 October 2026 (Day 222)

Scan coverage. Nine Persian front pages were retrieved from the NewspaperTasnim kiosk album of 19 Mehr 1405 (t.me/NewspaperTasnim/45105, posted 00:59 UTC on 11 October). The stale-batch guard passed on the first attempt: the album's own printed Jalali date matched the target date exactly, so no fallback sources were needed and no page in this edition is carried over from an earlier cycle. Mastheads were identified from the printed nameplates and not from page style or caricature.

Titles with no scan. Kayhan and Sobh-e No did not appear in the kiosk album and are reconstructed from their own channels (@Kayhan_Online item 86442 and the analytic report at item 86454; @sobhe_no item 116653). The Iran newspaper's front page is reconstructed from the channel's own front-page list at item 509457. These three entries carry no scan and are marked accordingly; their headline wording is the channel's rendering of their own covers, which is a first-party source but not the printed page.

English-language coverage gap. The English-language kiosk batch (Newspapers_Iran) had not advanced past the issue of 8 October, so the only English front page available is Iran Daily Vol. 8273 of Thursday 8 October, three days out of cycle. It is included and labelled as out of cycle; nothing in it is reported as current. Tehran Times was unavailable at the time of compilation, as was khamenei.ir and the Iran newspaper's own article site, so the Leader appendix is a compilation rather than a primary text and the editorial appendix is partial.

Text channels. Six outlet channels (Kayhan, Vatan-e Emrooz, Jam-e Jam, Etemad, Iran, Sobh-e No) and three agency wires (Defa Press, Fars News, Nour News) were read in full for the cycle. Agency material is treated as claim and corroboration and is folded into the trends and judgments rather than into the front-page sections, per the attribution firewall.

The print-wire gap in this cycle. The Persian front pages went to press on the evening of 10 October; the Saudi confirmation of the King Khalid airport toll reached the Iranian channels at about 22:00 UTC that night, after most pages had closed. The absence of that event from the covers is therefore a timing artifact in part and an editorial choice in part, and this edition separates the two: Kayhan and Sobh-e No both had the Saudi disruption available and chose different frames for it, which is a judgment about those two covers and not about the batch.

Claims carried but not adopted. Kayhan's headline «بزرگ‌ترین میدان نفتی عربستان منهدم شد» is reported as the paper's claim and is explicitly not adopted: the paper's own body text states that no independent detail of damage or production impact had been announced, independent OSINT reporting disagrees about whether the observed smoke plumes originate at Abqaiq, Ayn Dar or Ghawar, and there is no Aramco or Saudi confirmation. The Mearsheimer and Foreign Affairs material on Kayhan's cover is second-hand rendering of named Western sources and is not verified here; quoting a rendering does not verify it. Jam-e Jam's channel figure of 309 injured matches the Saudi civil aviation authority's own count, while the figure of 50 wounded carried by Defa Press from a New York Times rendering does not; the Saudi count is the one used here.

Verified named figures. Scott Bessent's 27 September 2026 Fox News remarks, which are the predicate of Hamshahri's cover, were checked against the original broadcast reporting and are accurately dated by the paper. The Riyadh airport toll of 12 dead and 309 injured, including four Saudi

nationals and one American, is from the Saudi civil aviation authority as carried by multiple independent wires. Jens Galschiot's «The Orange Plague» was unveiled on 7 October 2026 in the European Parliament building in Strasbourg at an exhibition hosted by the Danish MEP Per Clausen. Second Colonel Nosrat Eftekhari, deputy for cultural and social affairs of the Sistan and Baluchestan police command, was killed on 9 October by a roadside device on the Cheshmeh Ziarat road outside Zahedan, with a second officer, Ehsan Dahmardeh, also killed. The Minab school struck on 28 February 2026 was the Shajareh Tayyebeh girls' elementary school, with an independently recorded toll of roughly 156 to 168 dead including about 120 children.

Single-source and naming flags. The assassinated Pakistani election official is named Shamshad Akhtar by some outlets and Shamshad Khan Mehsud by others, and his title is given variously as director general and as provincial election commissioner of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; the killing is confirmed, the name is not settled, and this edition reports it with that caveat. The byline of the Sazandegi editorial is not legible at the resolution of the retrieved scan and is not asserted. Kayhan posted no Yadasht-e Rooz in this cycle, for the second consecutive day.

Succession evidence. The Leader in current coverage is Mojtaba Khamenei; the portrait on Charsoogh's front page is of the living Leader and the page carries no reference to the assassinated predecessor. The «امام» honorific that this monitor recorded on Kayhan's rendering in the previous cycle does not recur on any cover in this batch, and that non-recurrence is reported as a finding rather than as a correction.

Handling. This product documents and analyses hostile foreign-press rhetoric for defensive assessment only. Nothing in it endorses, amplifies or operationalises that rhetoric. Iranian military and battle-damage claims are labelled as claims throughout. Unverified attributed quotations are not to be reproduced as authentic without primary-source confirmation.

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.