

Maria Zakharova, Spokesperson for the Russian Foreign Ministry, Told RIA Novosti That Consultations Between Iran, Russia and China Regarding Iran's Nuclear Issue Will Be Held on April 8 in Moscow

IRAN NEWS

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Iran Says Arash-2 Drone Will Wipe Out All Threats Within 2,000km Range



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran's Army Ground Force Commander Brigadier General Kiumars Heidari says the Arash 2 is one of the leading long-range drones with high precision and pinpoint accuracy.

The suicide Arash 2 is also a long-range and radar-evading research unmanned aerial vehicle with a high destructive capability, Heidari said on Monday.

He noted that the drone stands at the cutting edge of technology of the Iranian Army which has been designed and mass produced by the country's defense industries experts.

Back in September 2022, Heidari said the advanced Arash-2 drone, which is a newer version of the previously unveiled Arash-1 aircraft, has been designed to target the coastal cities of Tel Aviv and Haifa in the Israeli-occupied territories in case of a military confrontation with the regime.

He explained that the drone enjoys unique specifications and capabilities, and can successfully retrieve information multiple times before it strikes and destroys the designated target.

Arash-1 drone is a kamikaze and radar-evading unmanned aerial vehicle first launched during the Iranian Army's massive drone exercises in January 2019 from a portable launcher installed on the Makran coast in the southeastern part of the country.

The drone's wing is of the delta type and has been designed for high speeds. Its design, therefore, enables the aircraft to conserve its fuel for greater endurance and flying longer distances.

Iran's massive and rapid progress in drone technology and its capabilities to carry out long-range strikes in drone warfare with a high level of accuracy have further cemented the country's growing military might in the West Asia.

Iran Criticizes UNHRC for Politicizing the Issue of Human Rights



TEHRAN (IRNA) - The High Council for Human Rights has criticized the selective and political actions of international organizations, particularly the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), towards the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In a report released on Monday, the High Council for Human Rights accused the UNHRC of clear political bias, citing the adoption of numerous resolutions against Iran while overlooking major human rights violations in other countries.

The report criticized the UNHRC for violating the principle of neutrality and questioned its legitimacy, asserting that inconsistent responses to human rights violations worldwide undermine the universality of human rights and the credibility of international institutions.

"The different responses to human rights violations in different parts of the world have not only questioned the universality of these rights but have also challenged the policymaking of powerful countries and international institutions. This inconsistency, which stems from political interests, has undermined trust in human rights mechanisms and undermined their legitimacy," it said.

It argued that such inconsistencies are driven by political interests, which damage trust in human rights mechanisms.

The report emphasized that Western countries, led by the United States, have subjected the Iranian people to "economic terrorism" and "pharmaceutical terrorism" through sanctions, while international institutions have remained silent in the face of these violations of fundamental rights.

U.S. Yet to Respond to Generous Proposal for Indirect Talks

TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran says it has not yet received any response from the United States regarding indirect negotiations about Tehran's peaceful nuclear program.

U.S. President Donald Trump announced on March 7 that he had written to Iran to call for nuclear negotiations and threaten military action. The letter was delivered to Tehran on March 12 by UAE presidential adviser Anwar Gargash.

On March 27, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said that Tehran's official response to the US president's letter had been sent through Oman.

Speaking at a weekly press conference in Tehran on Monday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said Iran has sent its response to Trump's letter and is now waiting for the US decision in this regard.

"Iran's proposal for indirect negotiations was a generous and wise proposal given the history of the issue and trends related to the nuclear talks over the past decade. We are focused on what we have proposed," he added.

He dismissed "false" reports about the beginning of talks between Tehran and Washington.

On the sidelines of a meeting with a number of Iranian lawmakers on Sunday, Araghchi reiterated Iran's openness to hold "indirect" talks with the United States while emphasizing that the two countries have held no direct negotiations yet.

In response to a question about the role of third parties in indirect Tehran-Washington talks, Baghaei said there are clear indications of other parties' involvement in advancing the negotiations.

"If such a process takes shape, Oman will be the main candidate for this role. Oman is a key candidate for facilitating any indirect talks with the US," the Iranian spokesperson noted.

The Iranian spokesman said the ongoing developments in Gaza are "sheer crime" which cannot be justified by any standard principle.

"Genocide is the most severe form of crime... Since the beginning of genocide [in Gaza], reporters have been among the main targets of the [Israeli] regime," he emphasized.

He noted that the US, the Israeli regime and their supporters think that they can implement all their plans by the time the world is unaware of their acts.

The spokesperson said Western countries and the Israeli regime are responsible for normalizing crimes against the Palestinian people in Gaza.

Baghaei expressed hope that justice would one day prevail in the world.

He said claims that Iran's nuclear program is a threat are only a conspiracy aimed at spreading Iranophobia and exerting more pressure on Tehran.

He added that Iran has been under high pressure over the past decades but no single proof has ever been presented showing any diversion in Iran's peaceful nuclear program toward non-peaceful purposes.

The spokesman reiterated Iran's determination to continue its peaceful activities regardless of all threats and claims.

Baghaei noted that Iran pursues a very clear stance on the nuclear issue, saying the country has



never sought to develop nuclear weapons.

Responding to a question on Trump's threats to wage war against Iran in case that the Islamic Republic did not reach a new deal over its nuclear program, Baghaei dismissed reports that the Iranian Armed Forces are on high alert over the increasing possibility of war.

He said the Iranian Armed Forces are, naturally, always ready to defend the territorial integrity of the homeland.

Elsewhere in his presser, Baghaei said Iran has never been part of any coalition to attack neighboring countries and has always emphasized and pursued a good neighborliness policy.

"At every opportunity, we inform our neighbors about the consequences of any warmongering by third parties, whether actors outside the region or the Zionist regime," he

said.

The nature of fire, the spokesperson hastened to warn, is that it is contagious, and "we believe that our neighbors are careful not to let divisions destroy their relations with Iran."

Baghaei also criticized the three European parties to the 2015 Iran deal, namely Britain, France, and Germany, against threatening to trigger the so-called "snapback mechanism," saying Europe should instead pursue a constructive approach to foster engagement.

Responding to a question about Paris's latest warnings while European countries claim to be seeking to revive the deal officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), Baghaei said, "The three European countries and the European Union played a key role in initiating the negotiations that led to the formation of the JCPOA."

He described the accord as an opportunity for Europe to present itself as a major player. "This opportunity was not used properly, and they failed to compensate for the consequences of the U.S. withdrawal from the JCPOA," he said.

Iran and six major powers - the U.S., Russia, China, France, Britain, and Germany - signed the JCPOA in July 2015 to end years of commotion over the country's civilian nuclear program. In 2018, however, U.S. President Donald Trump, who back then served his first term in office, unilaterally withdrew Washington from the JCPOA and implemented a "maximum pressure" policy against the Islamic Republic.

Iran waited an entire year after the U.S. withdrawal as the three European powers promised to offset the impact of U.S. sanctions. However, as the trio failed to deliver on their promises, the Islamic Republic ultimately began to reduce its nuclear obligations in a remedial move envisioned within the JCPOA.

In his Monday press conference, Baghaei warned the same European states against repeating their past mistakes. "I stress that the Europeans must not return to their previous course of action," he said.

"If they seek to be seen as relevant actors on the international stage, they must make efforts based on a constructive approach to build interactions," he added.

NAM Urged to Forge New Cooperation to Counter Unilateralism

TEHRAN - The Vice Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran has emphasized that escaping unilateral policies depends on forming new cooperation within the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to help shape a new international order. He stated that peace, security, sustainable development, and welfare are the foundational goals of NAM.

Speaking at the 4th Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement Parliamentary Network in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, Hamid Reza Haji Babaei, who is leading the Iranian parliamentary delegation, said:

"The world is currently navigating unprecedented complexities and challenges, the erosion of international laws, ongoing conflicts, and a failure to respond adequately to emerging global threats."

He noted that while the current global context is different from the time when the NAM was established, the member countries still hold significant political, material, and spiritual capacities.

"In this interconnected and networked world, new threats and challenges are constantly emerging. It is our shared responsibility to find new solutions for these modern issues," he stated, emphasizing that the choices made today by the NAM will determine whether the future will be marked by fear and conflict or by peace, justice, and sustainable prosperity.

Haji Babaei argued that: "The principles of Bandung were forward-looking. Now, more than ever, we must implement those principles to escape unilateralism, neocolonialism, and occupation. A collective political project with a new cooperative framework is urgently needed to shape a fair international order. This is not just one option—it is the only option."

He suggested that this effort can be advanced through parliamentary diplomacy within the NAM Parliamentary Network, playing a historic and enduring role in confronting global insecurity, war, domination, and occupation.

Haji Babaei warned against losing sight of NAM's core values: "Many NAM members also belong to other regional and international organizations. However, this must not distract from the Bandung principles. A shared foundational understanding of these principles must be the strategic goal of all member states if they are to play a meaningful role in shaping the new world order."

He stressed that without this commitment, the effectiveness and influence of NAM and



its parliamentary arm will diminish.

Highlighting Iran's steadfast support for the NAM principles, he said: "The Islamic Republic of Iran has transformed these principles into a demand of all humanity. Our four-decade resistance against U.S. unilateralism and illegal sanctions reflects Iran's commitment to rejecting domination and achieving political, economic, and cultural independence."

Haji Babaei described Iran's continued support for Bandung principles as a sacred duty: "Defending Bandung means defending humanity, peace, and respect for diverse opinions. It is a pathway to coordinated and adequate responses to today's challenges, promoting global governance and multilateralism."

Addressing the ongoing violence in Gaza, Haji Babaei referred to the Bandung Conference Declaration, which emphasized the right to self-determination:

"Despite this, the people of Palestine have been denied that right for decades. Today, they are suffering one of the most savage injustices in history. The barbaric acts of the Zionist regime against children continue unchecked, despite global warnings."

He called for a comprehensive resolution to the Palestinian crisis: "Iran believes the only viable solution is a comprehensive referendum with participation from all Palestinians and the formation of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. The two-state solution is not viable—it's a way to erase the core issue."

Haji Babaei urged the NAM Parliamentary Network to raise its voice in support of justice and Palestine: "If this network seeks to realize a fair and democratic world order, it must take a stronger stand against coercive unilateral actions and illegal occupations."

He stressed that Iran is committed to supporting this effort in collaboration with other NAM members.

"This is how the true identity of the NAM Parliamentary Network can be revealed, amplifying its influence among freedom-loving nations. We must act as the voice of our peoples and turn NAM into an active inter-parliamentary platform."

He concluded by urging the NAM Parliamentary Network to play a bold and proactive role in addressing current global crises and emerging challenges:

"We must lead in resisting unilateralism and colonial policies while deepening cooperation and solidarity to build a just future."

We Believe in Negotiation, But Not at the Cost of Humiliation



TEHRAN - President Masoud Pezeshkian emphasized the country's commitment to diplomacy during a meeting with representatives of political parties and civil society organizations. Stressing a firm yet principled approach, he said, "We believe in negotiations, but not at the cost of humiliation. We are not seeking war, unrest, or nuclear weapons—we seek dialogue. But the U.S. must prove that it genuinely seeks negotiations too."

During the session, Pezeshkian discussed the need for long-term organizational reform, noting that simply changing individuals in government is not enough. "Real reform requires a decade of consistent effort," he said, citing scientific research that shows organizations do not change behavior based on a single leader.

On domestic challenges, he acknowledged the complexity of addressing social and economic issues. "Having plans is not enough—we must implement them effectively," he said. The government is working on solutions to school shortages, livelihood struggles, and employment imbalances, but Pezeshkian stressed that execution remains a major hurdle.

Highlighting his administration's efforts to attract both domestic and foreign investment, Pezeshkian pointed out active planning in sectors like energy, rail infrastructure, and regional development. "We are trying to bridge gaps in electricity supply, rail expansion, and economic corridors. In education, we are seeking public participation because the government lacks sufficient resources," he said.

Pezeshkian announced a new approach to decentralization, giving provincial governors greater authority—provided they submit strategic plans. He also mentioned development plans for the Makran region, including consultation with international experts.

In foreign policy, Pezeshkian explained that while regional ties have improved, the situation with the United States remains strained. "How can we negotiate with a country that constantly threatens and pressures us?" he asked, reaffirming Iran's commitment to peaceful nuclear capabilities and referencing the Supreme Leader's religious decree against nuclear weapons.

Europe Standing on Wrong Side of History by Appeasing Israel



TEHRAN (PressTV) - The spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry says Europe is standing on the wrong side of history by appeasing Israel, stressing that it is showing disregard for "the rule of law" by ignoring the International Criminal Court's (ICC) arrest warrant for Benjamin Netanyahu, the regime's criminal prime minister.

Esmail Baghaei made the remarks in a post on his X account on Sunday, following Netanyahu's official visit to Hungary despite an active ICC arrest warrant for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by his regime in the besieged Gaza Strip.

"The International Criminal Court's arrest warrant for Israeli regime's officials reflects the widespread global outrage over genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza, as well as an overwhelming demand to uphold international law and end impunity for atrocity crimes against Palestinians," Baghaei said.

"Yet, by appeasing the Israeli regime, Europe is compromising its moral credibility and placing itself on the wrong side of a defining historical moment," he added.

The spokesman went on to say that Europe is "dishonoring the rule of law, betraying justice and re-enforcing the impunity with all its lethal consequences for the innocent victims and the whole humanity."

"This is truly normalization of lawlessness and canalization of atrocity," he said.

Netanyahu touched down in Budapest on Wednesday evening for a four-day trip at the invitation of Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban.



Iran's Blacklisting by FATF Hinders Foreign Investment

TEHRAN – A senior Iranian official has highlighted that Iran's presence on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) blacklist remains one of the major obstacles to attracting foreign investment.

According to a report by the Ministry of Economy, Hadi Khani, Secretary of the Supreme Council for the Prevention and Combat of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, emphasized on Wednesday that removing Iran from the blacklist is crucial for improving investment and production in the country.

"Currently, foreign investors are reluctant to enter the Iranian market due to concerns over reputational risks, capital transfer restrictions, and U.S. sanctions in addition to FATF-related limitations," Khani stated.

Iran Sees 35% Surge in Agricultural Exports Despite Ongoing Challenges



TEHRAN - Iran's agricultural exports have increased by 35% in the first 11 months of the Iranian year 1403 (March 2024 to February 2025), compared to the same period last year, according to new data released by the Ministry of Agriculture Jihad. Despite the rise, officials note that several export challenges still persist.

Rouhollah Latifi, spokesperson for the Trade Development Commission of the House of Industry, Mining, and Trade, stated that during this 11-month period, Iran exported 9.4 million tons of animal, agricultural, and food products. The total value of these exports reached \$7.566 billion.

Latifi highlighted that 90% of the weight and 77% of the value of Iran's agricultural and food exports were directed to 15 neighboring countries.

Despite the export growth, industry figures pointed out that regulatory and logistical hurdles continue to hamper further expansion.

Hadi Karimi, a member of the Iran-Kazakhstan Chamber of Commerce, stressed the importance of product traceability. "Every product must be clearly identified — where it was grown, when it was harvested, and what types of fertilizers were used," he said. "This level of detail is essential for accelerating customs clearance and entry into destination markets."

Mohammad Ali Rezaei, Chairman of the Agricultural Commission at the Chamber of Commerce, added that exporters must be able to meet customer expectations and maintain support. "Unfortunately, sudden policy changes have caused some international buyers to lose confidence in Iranian markets," he said.

To support exporters, the Ministry of Agriculture Jihad is working on reducing bureaucratic obstacles. Minister Gholamreza Nouri Ghezleh noted that while certain sensitive and essential goods are subject to restrictions, the government is actively working to provide clarity and streamline the export process.

60% of Iranians Stayed Home During Nowruz Holidays



IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK

TEHRAN - Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Seyyed Reza Salehi Amiri appeared on national television to share a comprehensive overview of Iran's Nowruz holiday period. He highlighted key developments in domestic tourism, foreign visitor trends, investment opportunities, cultural diplomacy, and the fight against negative perceptions of Iran abroad.

Salehi Amiri described the upcoming year (1404 in the Iranian calendar) as "The Year of Investment and Fundamental Transformation in Tourism Infrastructure" and emphasized the government's commitment to strengthening the tourism sector.

During the Nowruz holiday window from March 15 to April 1, more than 35.8 million domestic trips were officially recorded. This represents a 2.2% increase from the previous year. Still, Salehi Amiri noted that only about 40% of Iran's 27 million households traveled—meaning 60% did not take any trips during the holiday.

Top tourist destinations included Mazandaran, Gilan, Razavi Khorasan, Tehran, Isfahan, Fars, Khuzestan, Hormozgan, Bushehr, and Markazi provinces.

The minister credited the smooth coordination of Nowruz services to over 1.2 million personnel across 28 different governmental agencies, guided directly by the President's participation in the national travel services command center. He called this coordinated effort a "model of effective inter-agency collaboration".

This year, the Nowruz holidays coincided with the Islamic holy month of Ramadan—a rare alignment that Salehi Amiri described as an opportunity to reflect on Iran's unique cultural-religious identity. He said there is no contradiction between Iranian and Islamic values, but rather a harmonious coexistence within the country's social fabric.

During the holidays, over 1,000 cultural events were held from Iftar (sunset) to Suhoor (pre-dawn) across the country, aimed at celebrating both national and religious traditions.

Salehi Amiri revealed that more than 7 million foreign tourists visited Iran last year. He attributed this increase to the success of tourism diplomacy and a growing international awareness of Iran's safety, hospitality, and cultural richness.

In combatting Iranophobia, he emphasized the importance of: Creating targeted content showcasing Iran's attractions; Engaging with civil society and intellectuals, and Strengthening connections with the Iranian diaspora.

One of the biggest shifts this year was the launch of a "One-Stop Investment Window", dramatically reducing bureaucratic delays. Tourism project permits

are now processed in under a month, Salehi Amiri said.

He also noted strong financial backing: The Central Bank has committed 20 trillion tomans; and the National Development Fund is allocating another 4 trillion tomans to support tourism projects.

New policies such as zero-tariff imports for hotel equipment, the issuance of Visa Cards for tourists, and targeted use of natural resources are part of broader structural support for private sector growth.

The minister pointed to strengthened tourism ties with neighboring countries, citing: Visa-free travel with Tajikistan; and an uptick in pilgrims from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait visiting Mashhad.

Salehi Amiri said the country will focus on attracting visitors from the "Nowruz Civilization Belt," the Islamic world, and Persian Gulf nations—regions he called the top three priorities for tourism development.

On cultural heritage, Salehi Amiri stressed the need for a shift in public discourse from punitive responses to public education and citizen participation. With over 400 cities hosting heritage sites, he called for a balance between citizen rights and state preservation responsibilities.

He highlighted the Sialk site in Kashan as a successful example of managing such conflicts, where alternative land was offered to residents to preserve historical grounds.

Iran's handicrafts industry continues to be a cornerstone of resilient local economies, employing over 570,000 artisans, the majority of whom are women, across 34,000 workshops.

Salehi Amiri reported over 500 million euros in combined formal and informal exports of handicrafts, projecting that this could reach 1 billion euros in the near future.

During the Nowruz season alone, over 4 million people visited 1,000 local events, resulting in 540 billion tomans in handicraft sales. Leading provinces in sales included Razavi Khorasan, Gilan, Isfahan, Kerman, and Fars.

The minister concluded by stressing the need to expand infrastructure, offer targeted support, and open international markets for Iranian crafts. He also underlined the urgent need to resolve insurance issues for artisans to ensure the long-term sustainability of the sector.

Salehi Amiri's remarks underscored a vision of a more dynamic, inclusive, and globally connected tourism and cultural economy in Iran—grounded in heritage, shaped by public-private cooperation, and focused on transformation.

Iran Sees 4.5-Fold Increase in Exports to the Americas



IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - Iran's exports to the Americas have increased by a staggering 4.5 times in 2024 compared to 2023, according to Ahmad Firouzi, Director General of the Europe and Americas Office at the Trade Promotion Organization of Iran. He also announced that Iran is just one step away from establishing a free trade agreement with Venezuela after two decades of negotiations.

Firouzi highlighted that while Iran's imports from the Americas slightly declined in 2024, exports surged dramatically. Notably, official exports to Brazil alone saw an 8.5-fold increase compared to the previous year.

On trade relations with Europe, Firouzi noted a slight decrease in 2024 compared to 2023. He attributed this to ongoing restrictions on Iran's access to European markets. However, he emphasized that unofficial data shows Iranian traders have managed to retain a presence in Europe by using third-country channels to supply Iranian goods.

Firouzi also reported progress in expanding Iran's commercial presence in Europe. In 2024, trade centers were established in Serbia, Oman, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, aiming to boost private sector trade with Europe. Additionally, Iran stationed its second commercial attaché in Europe, located in Hungary.

To help Iranian traders access new markets, a series of expert meetings were held in 2024, targeting countries such as Canada and Mexico. Firouzi said the Trade Promotion Organization, in line with the 14th government's policies, has actively pursued trade agreements. A nearly finalized free trade deal with Venezuela is expected to be implemented in 2025, marking the end of a 20-year effort.

Gov't Unlikely to Pursue Major Economic Reforms



TEHRAN (IRNA) - A senior member of Iran's Chamber of Commerce has expressed concerns over the country's economic stability, emphasizing the need for decisive action to stabilize the currency market.

Masoud Bakhtiari, a member of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, stated in an interview with ILNA that the current foreign exchange market is in disarray. He criticized the lack of coordination among policymakers, noting that despite past commitments, the government has failed to implement a unified exchange rate system.

"In the past, officials have pledged to unify the exchange rate to eliminate corruption and bring transparency to the economy. However, these promises have often led to dead ends," Bakhtiari remarked.

He pointed out that previous governments had also attempted currency reforms, such as the removal of the 42,000-rial exchange rate under the banner of subsidy targeting. However, within less than a year, the system reverted to a dual exchange rate, with a new government-set rate of 28,500 rials, failing to close the gap between the official and free-market rates.

Bakhtiari stressed that Iran needs a bold, long-term decision to stabilize its currency market, warning that current short-term measures are merely temporary fixes rather than real solutions.

Furthermore, he highlighted the impact of Iran's international relations on the country's currency volatility. "A major part of our currency challenges stems from foreign relations. Addressing domestic policies alone will not be sufficient to bring stability," he said.

According to Bakhtiari, Iran's economic infrastructure, government institutions, and private sector are all experiencing significant strain. Despite this, he believes the administration lacks the political will to implement large-scale reforms.

He concluded by emphasizing the need for public trust and social capital to drive meaningful change. "The government requires strong public support, but social capital in Iran has been eroding. There is an urgent need to restore and rebuild trust," he warned.

Despite growing concerns from the private sector, it remains unclear whether the government will take decisive steps to address these economic challenges.

New Innovations Introduced for "Iran Expo 2025"



IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - Amir Roshanbakhsh Ghanbari, Deputy for the Promotion of International Business at the Iran Trade Promotion Organization (TPO), announced new initiatives for the upcoming seventh edition of Iran Expo 2025, highlighting the event's expanded scope and distinguished international participation.

Roshanbakhsh Ghanbari said on Sunday that the event has attracted strong interest from international guests. Iran Expo 2025 will host 27 ministers, 16 deputy ministers, 20 heads of chambers of commerce, and 27 presidents of trade and business associations. Confirmed attendees include delegations from 35 Asian countries, 19 European countries, 34 African nations, and five countries from the Americas and Australia.

He also shared gender participation statistics, noting that 281 women and 1,667 men have registered to attend. The total number of international participants is expected to exceed 2,500, surpassing last year's figures. So far, 1,948 attendees have confirmed their participation through the official expo registration platform.

Roshanbakhsh Ghanbari emphasized the TPO's efforts to enhance the cultural aspect of the exhibition. "Iran has the potential to foster unique and positive developments in international trade through its rich cultural heritage," he said, noting that sessions focusing on creative industries and knowledge-based enterprises will also be held.

A key innovation in Iran Expo 2025, he explained, is the format: the event will span five days, including an opening and a closing ceremony, with three days in between dedicated to expert panels. Inspired by the World Economic Forum in Davos, each panel will feature a government official, a foreign expert, and a representative from academia or the private sector, offering multi-dimensional analyses on issues related to foreign trade.

Panel topics will include the role of artificial intelligence, tourism, regional international agreements, and the challenges and opportunities in foreign trade development. Roshanbakhsh Ghanbari noted that the goal is to produce tangible, actionable outcomes from the discussions. A dedicated secretariat will be established to document agreements and discussions, enabling accurate tracking of the event's impact. Follow-ups will be handled through the expo's policy council, trade offices, and commercial attachés.

Impact of U.S. Tariffs on Iranian Exports

TEHRAN - The spokesperson for the Trade Development Commission of Iran's Chamber of Commerce has stated that the recent 10% tariff imposed by the United States on imports from Iran is unlikely to halt or significantly reduce Iranian exports to the U.S., primarily due to the already high transportation costs involved. According to him, unless the U.S. government enacts a complete ban on Iranian imports, the tariff's impact will be minimal.

Seyyed Rouhollah Latifi, the Commission's spokesperson, explained in an interview with ILNA news agency that the U.S. currently imposes tariffs ranging from 10% to 90% on imports from 185 countries. These include both U.S. allies and non-aligned nations, with Iran among those affected.

Citing recent customs data, Latifi said that in the first 11 months of the Iranian calendar year 1403 (March 2024–February 2025), Iran exported 84 tons of goods worth \$172,621 to the United States. In contrast, Iran imported about 1,431 tons of goods valued at \$93.7 million from the U.S. He noted that these figures only account for direct trade, while a significant volume of Iranian products reach the U.S. market indirectly through third countries.

Latifi emphasized that the new tariffs only apply to goods entering the U.S., meaning American exports to Iran will remain unaffected. He also noted that Iran's recent export volume to the U.S. is relatively small—having declined significantly due to U.S. sanctions in recent years.



IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

According to Latifi, 55% of Iran's exports to the U.S. consist of food products, while 28% are cultural items such as calendars and books. He believes that the 10% tariff will not be enough to dissuade buyers in the U.S. from continuing to import these goods, especially since transportation costs are already high and the tariff adds little to the overall expense.

Goods exported from Iran to the U.S. over the 11-month period include dried fruits like figs, apricots, and prunes; dried bread and dough; saffron; sweets such as sohan; biscuits; citrus juice; flavored snacks; traditional herbal distillates; plastic kitchenware; carpets; decorative statues; chandeliers; party supplies; and cast iron tools.

Latifi also pointed out that 75% of Iran's imports from the U.S. are pharmaceuticals and hospital equipment, emphasizing the critical nature of these goods.

He added that the U.S. government has conditioned tariff reductions on foreign manufacturers investing in U.S. soil. This, he said, is a strategic effort to bring production closer to home and attract foreign investment to boost the American economy.

Regarding Russia's absence from the U.S. tariff list, Latifi said this is due to ongoing negotiations between Moscow and former U.S. President Donald Trump. The imposition of tariffs on Russian goods is contingent upon the outcome of these talks. He noted that potential sanctions against Russia could also impact its export capacity to the U.S., depending on how negotiations unfold.

Supporters Gather in Sao Paulo to Back Bolsonaro

SAO PAULO (Dispatches) - Supporters of former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro gathered in Sao Paulo on Sunday to back him just weeks after the Supreme Court decided he would face trial for allegedly conspiring to overthrow the government after a 2022 election defeat.

Bolsonaro himself called on supporters to take part in the event on Sao Paulo's Paulista Avenue following a similar demonstration on Rio de Janeiro's Copacabana beach last month, when turnout fell short of what organizers had hoped for. The demonstration comes as a panel of Brazil's Supreme Court last month voted to put the former far-right leader on trial for his actions after the 2022 presidential election, which he lost to leftist President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. If found guilty in the court proceedings expected later this year, Bolsonaro could face a long prison sentence.



Turkey's Main Opposition Calls for Elections by November Amid Unrest



ANKARA (Dispatches) - The head of Turkey's main opposition party has demanded that elections be held "at the latest in November" following the country's most widespread unrest in a decade. The protests came on the heels of last month's arrest of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's main rival for the presidential post.

The leader of Turkey's main opposition party on Sunday called for expected elections to be held "at the latest in November" following the country's most widespread unrest in a decade.

Addressing President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, CHP party leader Ozgur Ozel said: "In November at the latest, you will come to confront our candidate," referring to the CHP's presidential candidate Ekrem Imamoglu whose detention sparked the protests.

"We will defy you, we want our candidate at our sides," Ozel added. "We invite you to once again appeal to the will of the people."

Ozel hailed the demonstrations triggered by last month's arrest of Imamoglu, Istanbul's popular opposition mayor who is widely considered Erdogan's greatest political threat, as "the greatest motion of censure in history".

In the days following Imamoglu's arrest, the CHP drew tens of thousands of people into the streets of Istanbul and many other cities to denounce a "coup d'etat".

In response Turkey has clamped down on the protests, with authorities detaining nearly 2,000 people including several hundred students, journalists and young people.

Hamas Fires Rockets at Israeli Cities



CAIRO (Dispatches) - Palestinian militant group Hamas said it fired a barrage of rockets at cities in Israel's south on Sunday in response to Israeli "massacres" of civilians in Gaza.

Israel's military said about 10 projectiles were fired, but most were successfully intercepted. Israel's Channel 12 reported a direct hit in the southern city of Ashkelon.

Israeli emergency services said they were treating one person for shrapnel injuries, and teams were en route to locations of fallen rockets. Smashed car windows and debris lay strewn on a city street, videos disseminated by Israeli emergency services showed.

Meanwhile, Gaza local health authorities said Israeli military strikes killed at least 39 people across the Gaza Strip on Sunday.

Shortly after the rocket firing, the Israeli military posted on X a new evacuation order, instructing residents of several districts in Deir Al-Balah city in the central Gaza Strip to leave their areas, citing earlier rocket firing.

"This is a final warning before the attack," the military warning statement said.

Later, it said it struck the rocket launcher from which projectiles were launched earlier from the Gaza Strip.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, on a flight to Washington for a meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump, was briefed on the rocket attack by his Defense Minister, Israel Katz.

A statement issued by his office said Netanyahu instructed that a "vigorous" response be carried out and approved the continuation of intensive activity by the Israeli military against Hamas.

Israel's Channel 12 television said at least 12 lightly injured people have been treated as a result of the rocket firing from Gaza, quoting officials at the Bazilai Hospital in Ashkelon.

The first phase of a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas went into force on January 19 after 15 months of war and involved a halt to fighting, the release of some of the Israeli hostages held by Hamas, and the freeing of some Palestinian prisoners.

However, Israel said on March 19 that its forces resumed ground operations in the central and southern Gaza Strip. Both parties blamed one another for a stalemate in the ceasefire talks.

More than 50,000 Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli offensive in Gaza, Palestinian officials say.

Oil Plunge Deepens on Fears Global Trade War Could Trigger Recession



TOKYO (Dispatches) - Oil prices slid more than 3% on Monday, deepening last week's losses, as escalating trade tensions between the United States and China stoked fears of a recession that would reduce demand for crude.

Brent futures declined \$2.28, or 3.5%, to \$63.30 a barrel, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude futures lost \$2.20, or 3.6%, to \$59.79.

Oil plunged 7% on Friday as China ramped up tariffs on U.S. goods, escalating a trade war that has led investors to price in a higher probability of recession. Over the past week, Brent lost 10.9%, while WTI dropped 10.6%.

"The primary driver of the decline is concern that tariffs will weaken the global economy," said Satoru Yoshida, a commodity analyst with Rakuten Securities.

"Additionally, a planned production increase by OPEC+ is also contributing to the selling pressure," he said, adding that retaliatory tariffs from countries beyond China will be a key factor to watch.

Yoshida predicted that WTI could fall to \$55 or even \$50 if stock market declines persist.

Trump Compares Tariffs to Medicine as Asian Markets Convulse

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE (Dispatches) - U.S. President Donald Trump said on Sunday foreign governments would have to pay "a lot of money" to lift sweeping tariffs that he characterized as "medicine," prompting further carnage in global financial markets.

Asian stocks posted steep losses in early trading on Monday and U.S. stock market futures opened sharply lower as investors registered concerns that Trump's tariffs could lead to higher prices, weaker demand, lower confidence and potentially a global recession.

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Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One, Trump indicated he was not concerned about losses that have already wiped out trillions of dollars in value from share markets around the world.

"I don't want anything to go down. But sometimes you have to take medicine to fix something," he said as he returned from a weekend of golf in Florida.

Trump said he had spoken to leaders from Europe and Asia over the weekend, who hope to convince him to lower tariffs as high as 50% due to take effect this week.

"They are coming to the table. They want to talk but there's no talk unless they pay us a lot of money on a yearly basis," Trump said.

Trump's tariff announcement last week jolted economies around the world, triggering retaliatory levies from China and sparking fears of a global trade war and recession.

Investors and political leaders have struggled to determine whether Trump's tariffs are here to stay, or part of a permanent new regime or a negotiating tactic to win concessions from other countries.

On Sunday morning talk shows, Trump's top economic advisers sought to portray the tariffs as a savvy repositioning of the U.S. in the global trade



order.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said more than 50 nations had started negotiations with the U.S. since last Wednesday's announcement. "He's created maximum leverage for himself," Bessent said on NBC News' "Meet the Press".

Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick said on CBS News' "Face the Nation" the tariffs would remain in place "for days and weeks."

White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett sought to tamp down concerns that the tariffs were part of a strategy to pressure the U.S. Federal

Reserve to lower interest rates, saying there would be no "political coercion" of the central bank.

JPMorgan economists now estimate the tariffs will result in full-year U.S. gross domestic product declining by 0.3%, down from an earlier estimate of 1.3% growth, and that the unemployment rate will climb to 5.3% from 4.2% now.

Billionaire fund manager Bill Ackman, who endorsed Trump's run for president, said Trump was losing the confidence of business leaders and warned of an "economic nuclear winter" unless he called a time out.

U.S. customs agents began collecting Trump's unilateral 10% tariff on all imports from many countries on Saturday. Higher "reciprocal" tariff rates of 11% to 50% on individual countries are due to take effect on Wednesday at 12:01 a.m. EDT (4:01 a.m. GMT).

Some governments have already signaled a willingness to engage with the U.S. to avoid the duties.

Taiwan's President Lai Ching-te on Sunday offered zero tariffs as the basis for talks with the U.S., pledging to remove trade barriers and saying Taiwanese companies will raise their U.S. investments.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he would seek a reprieve from a 17% tariff on the country's goods during a planned meeting with Trump on Monday.

An Indian government official told Reuters the country does not plan to retaliate against a 26% tariff and said talks were under way with the U.S. over a possible deal.

In Italy, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni - a Trump ally - pledged on Sunday to shield businesses that suffered damage from a planned 20% tariff on goods from the European Union.

Italian wine producers and U.S. importers at a wine fair in Verona on Sunday said business had already slowed and feared more lasting damage.

Marine Le Pen Slams Witch Hunt Against Her Party at Paris Rally

PARIS (Dispatches) - France's Marine Le Pen on Sunday denounced the "witch hunt" against her National Rally party to thousands of supporters at the Place Vauban in Paris. The far-right leader alleged her conviction was a "political decision" and vowed not to give up after she was found guilty of embezzlement and banned from holding public office, potentially ending her presidential hopes for 2027.

France's far-right leader Le Pen on Sunday vowed not to give up after she was found guilty of embezzlement and banned from taking part in elections, slamming her conviction as a "political decision".

The bombshell judgement, which could crush Le Pen's dream of winning the French presidency in 2027, has stunned the country's political establishment.

"I won't give up," Le Pen told members of her National Rally party and supporters, who packed the Place Vauban, with the glittering golden dome of the Hotel National des Invalides, one of the French capital's best-known landmarks, in the background.

She denounced a "witch hunt" against her party as supporters waved French flags and chanted "Marine! Marine!"

Jordan Bardella, Le Pen's top lieutenant and head of the National Rally party, told the rally that the court ruling was aimed at "eliminating her from



the presidential race".

Bardella, 29, stressed the party did not want to "discredit all judges" but Le Pen's conviction was "a direct attack on democracy and a wound to millions of patriotic French people".

The far right sought to mount a show of force after Le Pen, 56, was found guilty Monday of embezzling European Parliament funds and given a partly suspended jail term and an immediate ban on holding public office.

Her supporters branded the ruling politically motivated, but President Emmanuel Macron insisted the French judiciary is "independent". The judges who convicted Le Pen have received threats.

US President Donald Trump called the sentence a "witch hunt" by "European leftists using lawfare to silence free speech, and censor their political opponent".

Some leftwing forces and the centrist camp staged counter gatherings on Sunday against the far right.

At a meeting of Macron's Renaissance party in the northern working-class Paris suburb of Saint-Denis, former prime minister Gabriel Attal accused the far right of "attacking our judges, attacking our institutions".

"You steal, you pay," Attal said in a speech later in the day.

Verstappen Wins Japanese GP to Close Championship Gap on Norris



SUZUKA (Dispatches) - Four-time world champion Max Verstappen led from pole to chequered flag to win the Japanese Grand Prix on Sunday, his first victory of the 2025 season, with McLaren's Lando Norris second.

The Dutch Red Bull driver crossed the finish line almost 1.5 seconds in front of Briton Norris, who held off his McLaren teammate Oscar Piastri of Australia in third.

The win on a damp but drying track at Suzuka was Verstappen's fourth straight victory in Japan and closed the gap on Norris at the top of the drivers' championship to one point.

Norris now has 62 points after three races, with Verstappen on 61 and Piastri third on 49.

"It was tough. The McLarens were pushing me very hard," said Verstappen.

"It was a lot of fun but not easy pushing the tyres. I am incredibly happy.

"Starting on pole made it possible to win."

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc finished fourth ahead of the Mercedes pair of George Russell and Kimi Antonelli.

Ferrari's Lewis Hamilton was seventh, with RB's Isack Hadjar next ahead of Williams' Alex Albon and Haas's Oliver Bearman.

Yuki Tsunoda finished 12th in his first race for Red Bull since replacing Liam Lawson, having started from 14th on the grid in his home grand prix. Lawson was 17th for RB.

Norris said the race was won and lost in qualifying, where Verstappen pulled off a lap for the ages to claim his first pole of the season with a new lap record.

"Max drove a good race today, made no mistakes," said Norris, who started from second on the grid.

"A flat-out race from start to finish, so it was tough but there was nothing we could get Max on."

Verstappen and Norris were involved in a flashpoint midway through the race as the two front-runners emerged from a pit stop.

Norris drew alongside Verstappen but the Dutchman refused to budge and Norris was forced onto the grass before sliding back onto the track.

Stewards reviewed the incident and decided not to investigate further and Norris admitted later it was just part of racing.

"Max is the last guy I expect to give me any space, in a good way, in a racing way," he said.

Verstappen has struggled to get to grips with his Red Bull this season, finishing second in Australia and fourth in China.

But he set a stunning pole lap and Red Bull team principal Christian Horner hailed the way Verstappen has kept the team in the title race.

"There's no better tonic for motivation than winning," said Horner.

"Verstappen is like Mr Motivator. It was a flat-out race, there was no tyre saving.

"For us all priority is on the drivers' championship, for us the constructors' will be harder."

McLaren's double podium extended their lead in the constructors' title race to 36 points over Mercedes. McLaren have 111 points, Mercedes are second on 75 with Red Bull third on 61, all scored by Verstappen.

Eighteen-year-old rookie Antonelli briefly took the mid-race lead while Verstappen and Norris were in the pits, to become Formula One's youngest-ever race leader.

Verstappen, back in the lead after Antonelli's stop, was given the green light to push until the end of the race.

Piastri told his team "I have the pace to get Max" but Norris would not cede second and Verstappen could not be caught.

Conditions at Suzuka had been dry all week, with a series of small trackside fires halting practice several times but rain early on Sunday removed any chance of a repeat in the race.

Underwhelming Manchester Derby Ends in Stalemate



MANCHESTER (Dispatches) - Manchester United and Manchester City played out an anticlimactic 0-0 Premier League draw in a low-key derby that dealt a blow to City's bid for Champions League qualification.

Pep Guardiola's team, who were missing their top scorer Erling Haaland through injury, are fifth in the table on 52 points, one behind Chelsea, and United are languishing in 13th place on 38.

"Tight game. They had chances, we had chances as well," Guardiola said. "The only problem is we moved too much with the ball. We had to be in the right position and we didn't do that."

With both sides struggling through difficult campaigns, neither created many clearcut chances, particularly in a drab first half at a sun-drenched Old Trafford.

The first scoreless draw in the derby since 2020 picked up after the interval and City striker Omar Marmoush unleashed a blistering shot from 25 yards that forced United goalkeeper Andre Onana into a terrific save.

Joshua Zirkzee had United's best opportunity midway through the second half when he turned and struck a half-volley that forced City keeper Ederson into an outstanding two-handed save.

United's clean sheet was their first at Old Trafford since a 4-0 rout of Everton on December 1.

The previous derby had been far more entertaining with United stunning the champions in December with a 2-1 win at Etihad Stadium thanks to late goals by Bruno Fernandes and Amad Diallo.

There were no such fireworks in Sunday's 196th Manchester derby across all competitions, however, with many fans heading to the exits before the final whistle blew.

Guardiola and United boss Ruben Amorim embraced at the end as the players amiably shook hands.

"Happy with the performance. Obviously the result, not," Fernandes said. "We want to win games and we need points in the league. We are aware of that. Obviously, we played against a very good side. I think the game was there for both teams."

The second half at least hinted at goals. City squandered a terrific chance soon after the break when Marmoush flicked a pass to send Phil Foden through on goal, but United defender Noussair Mazraoui swooped in to make a clean tackle from behind.

Darderi Wins Marrakech Title in an Upset

LONDON (Dispatches) - Luciano Darderi of Italy upset top seed Tallon Griekspoor of the Netherlands 7-6 (3), 7-6 (4) to win the Grand Prix Hassan II in Marrakech, Morocco.



Griekspoor was competing in his first ATP Tour championship final since 2023, when he won two tournaments. Instead, it was the second win for Darderi, who also was victorious on the clay courts of Cordoba, Argentina, in 2024.

Seventh-seeded Darderi survived 10 aces from Griekspoor in a match that otherwise was statistically almost identical between the players. Each player broke serve once, and Griekspoor won points on 76 percent of his first serves, compared to 73 percent from Darderi. Each player won 70 percent of his service points, while Darderi had 27 unforced errors against 30 for Griekspoor.

Third seed Flavio Cobolli won his first ATP Tour title, defeating top-seed Sebastian Baez 6-4, 6-4 in Bucharest.

Showing the nerves, Cobolli couldn't seal the victory until his seventh match point. Serving up 5-2 in the second set, he squandered three match points as Baez broke his serve. With Baez serving up 5-3, Cobolli had three more match points before his opponent won the game.

Up 40-15 while serving up 5-4, Baez finally was able to convert the seventh championship point.

Cobolli arrived at the tournament on an eight-match losing streak.

Now, he's the first Italian to win the Romanian event.

It was the first career meeting between Cobolli and Argentina's Baez. Cobolli had the advantage in points on first serve, winning 76 percent compared to 53 percent for Baez, whose serve was broken four times.

Richard Gasquet of France won his opening match in Monaco, holding off Matteo Arnaldi of Italy 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.

Ranked No. 148 in the world, Gasquet converted five of his 10 break opportunities and committed just 28 unforced errors. Arnaldi, ranked No. 39, had 53 unforced errors.

Also moving to the second round was home favorite Valentin Vacherot of Monaco, who cruised past Germany's Jan-Lennard Struff 6-2, 6-1. Jordan Thompson of Australia moved on after defeating France's Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard 6-4, 6-3.

Meanwhile top-seeded Tommy Paul lost to unseeded Jenson Brooksby in one of the two all-American semifinals matches of the U.S. Men's Clay Court Championship in Houston.

Brooksby, who is ranked 507th in the world but was as high as 33rd in 2022, prevailed 7-6 (5), 3-6, 7-6 (6) in a match that lasted two hours and 48 minutes.

In the final, Brooksby will take on second-seeded Frances Tiafoe, who defeated Brandon Nakashima, the fourth seed, 6-4, 7-6 (3).

Brooksby, who has never won on the ATP Tour, led 4-1 in the third set, but Paul roared back to tie it at 4-4. Each player held serve, then each lost their serve to set up the tiebreaker.

Both players lost their serve three times in the tiebreaker as well. Paul was at match point before Brooksby won his serve for a 6-6 tie. Brooksby held serve to set up his own match point, then stopped Paul on serve to win the match.

Paul had six aces to none for Brooksby, but he also had five double-faults to two for the challenger.

Tiafoe, who is looking for his fourth ATP Tour win, had less trouble in his tiebreaker to clinch the match. He jumped to a 4-1 lead and eventually closed it out on his first match point.

Slot Denies Liverpool Complacent After Error-Strewn Fulham Defeat



LONDON (Dispatches) - Liverpool boss Arne Slot denied his players were complacent, despite the runaway Premier League leaders slumping to a 3-2 defeat at Fulham on Sunday with an error-strewn display.

The Reds took an early lead through Alexis Mac Allister, at which point they looked set to take another step towards a record-equalling 20th English top-flight title.

But Fulham benefitted from Liverpool's defensive mistakes to score three times in 14 first-half minutes and take an unassailable lead, holding on with relative comfort after Luis Diaz's late goal setting up a nervy finish.

Slot said that the first-half errors were the key reason for defeat, saying he felt Liverpool created enough chances in the second half to salvage a point.

The Dutchman also firmly rejected any suggestion his side have taken their foot off the gas with an 11-point lead at the top.

"I think there's no reason for us to be complacent... we're not number one at the moment because we win every game with a margin of three or four goals," he said.

"I think everyone that has seen our games, it takes us so much effort, so much hard work, to win games of football, combined with quality of course."

"The team that won the league the last four seasons (Manchester City) were already 3-0 up at halftime every single game almost they played and that's not the way it is for us."

He added: "I don't think the errors we've made have anything to do with the players being tired."

"I know how it works, it's everywhere the same in football: if you concede three goals in the first half, everybody's like, 'wow, that was a disaster'."

"Now, if you look back at it, knowing that you concede three, you will probably see a few good moments as well."

Antetokounmpo, Bucks Top Heat in OT

LOS ANGELES (Dispatches) - Giannis Antetokounmpo tallied 36 points, 15 rebounds and 10 assists for his second straight triple-double and 10th of the season as the Milwaukee Bucks secured a 121-115 road win over the Miami Heat in overtime.

Kevin Porter Jr. had 24 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists off the bench for the Bucks, who won their third straight. Brook Lopez, who had 17 points, sank a layup with 38.2 seconds left in regulation to tie the game at 111.

Both Kyle Anderson of Miami and Antetokounmpo missed midrange jumpers, sending the game to overtime, where the Bucks outscored the Heat 10-4. Milwaukee won its fourth in a row over Miami and completed the season series sweep. It is the first time the Bucks have swept the series in 10 seasons.

Bam Adebayo paced Miami with 31 points and 12 rebounds, while Alec Burks chipped in with 24 points as the Heat lost their second straight game after winning six in a row.

Knicks 121, Hawks 105: Karl-Anthony Towns had 30 points and 11 rebounds, OG Anunoby added 14 points and



New York cruised to the road win over Atlanta.

All five Knicks starters scored in double figures, including Josh Hart, who finished with 16 points, 11 assists and nine boards. Mikal Bridges had 20 points and Delon Wright scored 10 for New York, which won its fourth in five games.

Trae Young had 16 points and nine assists for the Hawks, while both Terance Mann and Caris LeVert scored 14 off the bench. Atlanta dropped its fifth in six games, dropping to seventh in the Eastern Conference.

Grizzlies 109, Pistons 103: Desmond Bane scored nine of his game-high 38 points in the final 2:50 to lift visiting Memphis past Detroit.

Jaren Jackson Jr. added 27 points and 11 rebounds for Memphis, which won its ninth straight game against the Pistons. Grizzlies big man Zach Edey finished with a career-high 21 boards and a team-high six assists. Scotty Pippen Jr. finished with 15 points.