

Iranian mix of youth and experience for FS World Cup

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Rahman Amouzad (L) and Kamran Qasempour are seen in a training session in Tehran, Iran, on November 22, 2022.

Head coach Pejman Dorostkar has pieced together an impressive blend of young and experienced wrestler as Iran eyes a decent run at the Freestyle World Cup in Coralville, Iowa, the United States.

• Saturday

• December 3,2022

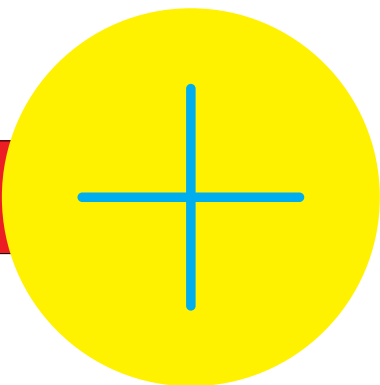
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Qazvin:  
City of historical monuments

Kolah Farangi Mansion

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The city of Qazvin, the capital city of the north-central province of Qazvin, is one of the historical cities in Iran. This article will acquaint you with the famous attractions of the city.

**Kolah Farangi Mansion**  
Kolah Farangi Mansion, also known as Chehel Sotoun Palace, is undoubtedly a familiar name for tourists who are interested in Iran and its historical monu-

ments, because there is another palace by the same name in Isfahan which is one of the most splendid historical sites of the city. The Chehel Sotoun Palace in Qazvin, however, is older than the one in Isfahan. Kolah Farangi Mansion is an octagonal building, with an area of over 500 square meters, which is located in a large and beautiful garden, dating back to the rule of King Tahmasp I. The mansion was rebuilt by the or-

Qajar Bathhouse

yaldamedtour.com

der of Mohammad Baqer Sa'd al-Saltaneh, the governor of Qazvin in the Qajar Period (1794-1925), but unfortunately it was damaged seriously in the Pahlavi Period. In addition to the numerous monuments in Qazvin, this city is also the cradle of the Iranian art of calligraphy that had flourished by the advent of Islam in Iran. Kolah Farangi Mansion is the Calligraphy Museum of Qazvin.

**Qajar Bathhouse**  
Qajar Bathhouse is the oldest bathhouse in Qazvin, built in 1647 upon the order of Shah Abbas II. The bathhouse connects to the sudatorium through a spiral stairway. One of the architectural beauties of this building is the one-piece stone used in the bath. This building is dome-shaped, with some chambers around it. The bathhouse hosts Qazvin's Museum of Anthropology.

Criticism mounts of 'climate killer' modern art museum in Berlin

**GUARDIAN** – A vast modern art museum under construction in Berlin has been castigated by conservation experts and architecture critics for its poor environmental credentials, as the energy crisis intensifies scrutiny of the efficiency of new buildings. The Museum of the 20th Century, designed by the Swiss star architects Herzog and de Meuron, is intended to propel the German capital into the top tier of world cities for modern art, competing with New York's Moma and London's Tate Modern. The museum was hailed as a "building of the future" when its plans were first made public. However, in recent months there has been growing criticism of its main construction material, concrete – one of the highest contributors to carbon dioxide emissions – and of its open and transparent internal structure, which will require a highly sophisticated ventilation system to maintain temperature and humidity levels. Stefan Simon, a leading expert in conservation science and proponent of "ecological museums", has called the museum a "climate killer", a "structural nightmare" in regards to its upkeep and running costs, and a big "step in the wrong direction" that will fail by a considerable margin to meet the EU's climate neutrality goals.

The Museum of the 20th Century under construction last year near Potsdamer Platz in Berlin

FILIP SINGER/EPA

Why the Iranian football team deserves to be supported

EXCLUSIVE

Arshin Adib-Moghaddam

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I was educated to analyse how politics is behind everything. Yet, as a former footballer (and tennis player), I know that sports transcends the profanity of politics. No sports team have the interest, much less the ability to affect the gruelling mechanisms of power. In football, in those 90 minutes or so, there exists a positive spirit of sportsmanship, something that Iranians would call "javanmardi" (or "khanoumi" for that matter). That is something one rarely encounters in the polluted and sinister realm of political competition. In those 90 minutes, the rules of engagement are clear. There is a referee, things are equal, fair, true. There is no Caesar who can decide about life and death. Footballers may be gladiators, but they are not warriors. Football is nothing like war by other means. There is a sensuousness about the game and a pronounced life-affirming beauty. David can

win against Goliath without staring into the barrel of a gun, unless one uses that analogy for the inimitable power of Robert Carlos's free kicks when Brazil won the World Cup in 2002. In fact, World Cups are great cultural meeting points; fantastic carnivals of life and humanity, where tolerance is tested and differences are mitigated. They are a playing field for the way politics should operate as there is purity in this competition, an innocence that provokes sportsmanship and a sense of global community, certainly on the pitch. While it is important to adhere to basic principles of humanity and universal human rights, I wouldn't relegate football to the nefarious realm of day-to-day politics or ideology. So I celebrate the inclusive plurality of the German and English team, which is a reflection of the beautifully diverse mosaic that composes contemporary German and British so-

ciety. I adore Argentina ever since as a child, I was mesmerised by the magic of the late great Diego Armando Maradona. I hope they go all the way and that Lionel Messi lifts the World Cup in honour of Diego's legacy, as the team did when Argentina won South America's Copa America in 2021. And yes, I fully support the Iranian national team. I am in awe of their mental strength after their deserved 2:0 win against Wales. As the former captain of the English national team, Gary Lineker rightly noted: The Iranian team plays under incredible mental duress, which explains their beautifully emotional celebration when they scored against Wales. As in Argentina in 1978, when Argentinians rallied behind their national team led by Daniel Passarella and Mario Kempes because of its quality and not because of politics, whereby winning the World Cup gave them a moment of bliss



during a period of agony, none of those spirited Iranian players can be blamed for anything happening in Iranian politics. It truly has nothing to do with what they stand for. It seems self-defeating, even vindictive, to call for a boycott of these young lads, who are fighting for glory against all odds.

While it is important to adhere to basic principles of humanity, we shouldn't relegate football to the nefarious realm of ideology. Football is not politics. It is not psycho-nationalism, it doesn't stand for exclusion, ideology, enmity. For the sake of the beautiful game, let's keep it that way.

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Iranian players celebrating after scoring a late goal against Wales in their second match of the group stage of the 2022 World Cup.

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