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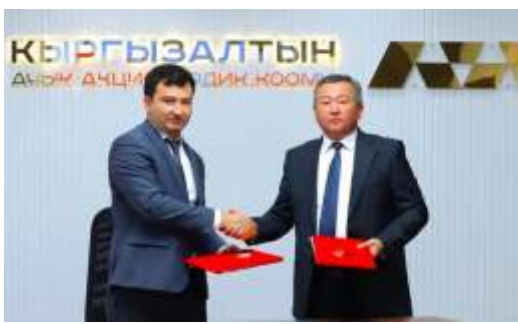
16 Page / 11 TL



“We will continue to move forward with determination towards the goal of a Terror-Free Türkiye”

President Erdoğan, in his speech at the event held in Ahlat as part of the 954th anniversary celebrations of the Malazgirt Victory, said: “We will continue to move forward with determination towards the goal of a Terror-Free Türkiye, which disturbs and unsettles our adversaries, with confidence in ourselves, fully aware of what we are doing and what we intend to achieve. Without ever neglecting the trust entrusted to us by our martyrs and veterans, we will build together a bright Türkiye where peace, tranquility, and affection are at the very center.”

Page 2



Kyrgyzaltyn signed agreements with Tajikistan's leading mining companies

Kyrgyzaltyn announced that these agreements provide a solid foundation for long-term cooperation.

Page 5

Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan aim to increase bilateral trade volume to \$3 billion by 2030

Page 3



In Gaza, Imposed Famine Claims 10 More Lives in the Last 24 Hours

Page 8



Foreign Minister Fidan: "On the Gaza issue, we are now at a point where humanity has completely failed its test"

Page 4



Turkmenistan and Russian Foreign Ministers met in Moscow

Page 5



Avaza Trilateral Summit: A New Era in Strategic Partnership

Page 9

Bayramov: "Azerbaijan Has Never Accepted Interim Solutions Contrary to National Interests"

Page 11



Commemoration of the 224 Civilians Massacre in Bosnia and Herzegovina on Its 33rd Anniversary

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, a memorial ceremony was held for 224 Bosniak and Croat civilians who were executed by gunfire at the Koricanske cliffs during the 1992-1995 war.

SOURCE: VEDAT KURT

Page 7



Kazakhstan and Japan become strategic partners

Kazakh President: "Japan is our reliable and close partner in Asia. We attach great importance to deepening comprehensive cooperation with Tokyo."

Page 6



TDT Secretary-General Attends the Opening of the 3rd Turkish Space Explorers Academy of the Organization of Turkic States

Page 10



TRNC President Tatar: "We will not start official negotiations without the recognition of our sovereignty"

Page 12



Bitter in Taste, Profound in Effect: Wormwood

Page 14

Agreements signed between Uzbekistan and Jordan on various issues

Page 12



Russia and Iran discussed the "nuclear program"

Page 14



Former EU Ambassadors Call for Sanctions on Israel in Joint Letter

Two hundred and six former ambassadors from the European Union (EU) and its member states have published a joint letter calling for urgent and concrete measures against Israel's "unlawful actions" in Gaza and the West Bank.

Page 13



Strategic Steps for Artificial Intelligence Development in Kazakhstan

Page 7



“We will continue to move forward with determination towards the goal of a Terror-Free Türkiye”

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President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan attended the event organized in the Ahlat district of Bitlis within the scope of the 954th anniversary celebrations of the Malazgirt Victory and delivered a speech. In his address, President Erdoğan expressed that on the anniversary of the Malazgirt Victory, one of the most glorious pages of history, he once again experienced the honor, pride, and happiness of being in Ahlat, and stated: “Through you, from Ahlat, the gateway to Anatolia, this ancient land referred to as the dome of Islam, I send my greetings and love to each of my citizens across our country. After a year’s interval, endless praise and thanks be to my Lord who has once again brought us together in this spiritual atmosphere, in this serenity of spirit that surrounds our hearts with the memory of the martyrs. I extend my gratitude and congratulations to every member of our Archers Foundation who contributed to the organization of this meaningful program. Likewise, I express my appreciation to all our institutions and organizations, municipalities, associations, and foundations that supported the program. I sincerely thank my brothers and sisters from Ahlat and my fellow citizens from Bitlis who have once again embraced us with warmth.”

President Erdoğan pointed out that today they were on fertile lands where scholars, ascetics, and saints had flourished and taken root, and continued with the following remarks: “Today we are in Ahlat, the land of the brave, the home of veterans, the land of martyrs. Today we are in the ancestral city where Ertuğrul Gazi was born. I remember with mercy all our ancestors, all our veterans, and martyrs who, with their swords, their pens, and their works, made Ahlat a homeland, first as the base of Malazgirt, and later as the stronghold of Anatolia’s conquest. May my Lord bless their souls and grant them paradise. I would like to share this truth; the graves, mausoleums, monuments, and all other works here are not merely cultural assets but the strongest witnesses of our thousand-year existence on these lands. Each of these works is the embodied form of our national and spiritual virtues.”

“FOR THE TURKISH NATION, AHLAT IS THE KEY TO KIZILELMA”
Emphasizing that in Ahlat knowledge meets with foresight, and art and craftsmanship are adorned with decency and morality, President Erdoğan said: “The clearest signs of this truth are the stone tombs in the Seljuk Cemetery. A unique feature of these structures, created with a style far ahead of their time and in a language full of wisdom, is this: pay attention, the verses of the Holy Qur’an, our guide to life, are inscribed solely on the headstones. The sarcophagi, however, are adorned with the Hadiths of our Prophet, who was sent as a mercy to all the worlds. This is undoubtedly an expression of a noble

character. It is the projection of a disciplined consciousness and personality. From Iyaz bin Ghanm, the conqueror of al-Jazira who illuminated this blessed land with the light of Islam, to Sultan Alparslan—whose descendants we are always proud to be—and from the free-spirited raider beys who practiced war as if it were an art to the heroic soldiers of the Seljuk armies whose hearts were as vast as Anatolia, I once again pray to Almighty Allah for mercy upon all our martyrs and veterans who, with love, faith, belief, and with the consciousness of unity, brotherhood, and martyrdom, laid the foundation of these lands and made Anatolia our eternal homeland. I sincerely thank you for your enthusiasm, for your loyalty, and for this magnificent picture of brotherhood I see before me.”



Quoting the verses:
“I am the present, I am the future, I am the past.
I am Erzen Hatun, I am Dede Maksut, I am Abdurrahman Gazi.
I sent Alparslan to Malazgirt.
I rocked the cradle of Ertuğrul and Osman Bey.
The sun rises differently in me.
My stars shine brighter.
My skies are bluer, my moonlight is purer.
Have you still not recognized me?
I am Ahlat.”

President Erdoğan said that these verses clearly express the place Ahlat holds in their history, culture, and civilization. President Erdoğan continued: “Ahlat is the symbol of our eternal and everlasting presence on these lands. For the Turkish nation, Ahlat is the key to Kızilelma. Ahlat is one of the places that tells us who we are, where we came from, and where we are heading. Ahlat, where our ancestors rested, breathed, and read the times correctly, is a bridge of faith, culture, and civilization stretching from a thousand years ago to today. Every square meter is watered with the blood of our martyrs; they are flags pointing to our martyrs, lying like mountain ranges in the bosom of this beloved homeland. On this occasion, I once again commemorate with mercy and gratitude all our martyrs and veterans who paid the price with their lives and blood for this homeland, for this cherished crescent, for the independence and future of this noble nation—from the Victory

of Malazgirt to the Battle of Chaldiran, from the War of Independence to the epic of July 15. We will, God willing, continue until our last breath to preserve and defend this homeland entrusted to us by our martyrs, our principle of an everlasting state, and all the values for which our martyrs sacrificed their lives.”

“WE WILL TOGETHER REPEL ALL ATTACKS TARGETING OUR UNITY AND SOLIDARITY”
In his speech, President Erdoğan stated that they would continue to preserve their unity, which gives hope to the oppressed, confidence to friends, and fear to enemies, in a very strong way. Saying, “History is full of countless examples of the successes we have achieved both at home and abroad when Turks, Kurds, and Arabs stood together, loved one another for the sake of Allah, and marched toward common goals,” President Erdoğan continued as follows:

“This is the very spirit in the army of Saladin, the beloved Sultan of the East, of our ancestor Sultan Alparslan, and of Yavuz Sultan Selim. The knot at Malazgirt was untied with this spirit. The gates of Jerusalem were opened with this spirit, Istanbul was conquered with this spirit. It was this very spirit that made Çanakkale impassable. The national struggle, where we forced seven great powers to their knees despite all impossibilities, was also carried to victory with this spirit. We will tighten our ranks, strengthen our brotherhood, and renew our pledge. Together, shoulder to shoulder, we will repel all attacks targeting our unity and solidarity. With Allah’s permission and with the support of our nation, we will bequeath a great and strong Türkiye to future generations. This century we are in, God willing, will take its place in history as the Century of Türkiye. On this path we set out for a much more influential, respected, and prosperous Türkiye, we will not fall into anyone’s traps or schemes. We will continue to move forward with determination, with confidence in ourselves, fully aware of what we are doing and what we intend to achieve, towards the goal of a Terror-Free Türkiye, which disturbs and unsettles our adversaries. Without neglecting the trust of our martyrs and veterans, we will together build a bright Türkiye where peace, tranquility, and affection are at the very center.”

Stating that they had endured many sufferings, paid very heavy prices, and faced numerous attacks from both inside and outside, yet managed to overcome them all, President Erdoğan said: “Now we have reached the final stretch. With a little more patience, a little more effort, and of course with caution, God willing, we will also pass through this stretch and attain our intended destination with ease. With these

thoughts, I once again congratulate the 954th anniversary of our Malazgirt Victory. May my Lord make our unity, our brotherhood, and our solidarity everlasting. I sincerely thank, first and foremost, our Archers Foundation, as well as all our institutions, municipalities, and non-governmental organizations who contributed to the organization of this valuable program. On this occasion, I would also like to particularly express my pleasure regarding the establishment of the ‘Conquest and Root: Ahlat/Malazgirt Studies Institute’ within the headquarters of the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) under the directives of its Chairman, Mr. Devlet Bahçeli, and I wholeheartedly wish this important institute to be auspicious and beneficial. I extend my gratitude in advance to Ahlat, Bitlis, Malazgirt, and Muş for their sincere hospitality.”

President Erdoğan visited the Ahlat Seljuk Cemetery
As part of the 954th anniversary events of the Malazgirt Victory, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, who was in the Ahlat district of Bitlis, visited the Ahlat Seljuk Cemetery, which is included in UNESCO’s Tentative List of World Heritage Sites and is considered the largest Turkish-Islamic cemetery in the world.



President Erdoğan was accompanied by Vice President Cevdet Yılmaz, MHP Chairman Devlet Bahçeli, BBP Chairman Mustafa Destici, HÜDA PAR Chairman Zekeriya Yapıcıoğlu, DSP Chairman Önder Aksakal, President of Religious Affairs Prof. Dr. Ali Erbaş, members of the Presidential Cabinet, and the commanders of the armed forces.



Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan aim to increase bilateral trade volume to \$3 billion by 2030



Kyrgyzstan’s President Sadyr Japarov welcomed Kazakhstan’s President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, who arrived in Bishkek on an official visit, with a ceremony held at the Intymak-Ordo Presidential Palace.

President Sadyr Japarov welcomed Kazakhstan’s President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, who arrived in Bishkek on an official visit, with a ceremony held at the Intymak-Ordo Presidential Palace. Following the official ceremony, the two leaders held a one-on-one meeting. After the closed-door talks, the 7th Meeting of the Kyrgyz-Kazakh

Supreme Interstate Council was convened. Speaking at the meeting, President Japarov emphasized that Kyrgyz and Kazakh peoples have lived in friendship and harmony throughout history, stating: “The 6th Council Meeting held last year in Astana made a significant contribution to bilateral cooperation. I believe today’s meeting will give new momentum to our fraternal ties, our strategic partnership, and alliance.” Japarov noted positive developments in bilateral trade relations and said: “We aim to increase mutual trade volume to \$3 billion by 2030.”

Kazakhstan’s President Tokayev thanked President Japarov for his invitation to Kyrgyzstan, saying that the purpose of his official visit was to deepen Kazakh-Kyrgyz relations. Tokayev said: “Kazakhs and Kyrgyz are fraternal peoples bound together by a common history and destiny. Our friendship is a spiritual value inherited from our ancestors and passed down from generation to generation.” Stressing that relations between the two countries are developing in the spirit of alliance, Tokayev stated: “Kyrgyzstan is one of Kazakhstan’s most important strategic partners in the region. The bilateral trade volume has reached nearly \$2 billion. There

are all the opportunities to further increase this figure.” He also noted that investment cooperation is expanding every year and joint projects are being successfully implemented, highlighting that coordination in the water and energy sectors, as well as cultural and humanitarian relations, continues to strengthen.

Comprehensive Cooperation Plan adopted between Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan

After his talks with President Japarov, Tokayev announced the adoption of a “Comprehensive Cooperation Plan” aimed at further deepening relations between the two countries. Referring to the “Historic Agreement on Deepening and Expanding Allied Relations” signed last year, Tokayev said: “Today, we are adopting the Comprehensive Cooperation Plan. I am confident that these important steps will give new momentum to the development of Kazakh-Kyrgyz relations. Both governments must act in line with the objectives set out in this plan.” It was reported that in the closed-door part of the talks, cooperation in trade and economy, transport and transit, water and energy, as well as cultural and humanitarian fields was discussed.

people and your contribution to bilateral relations.” Japarov, expressing his satisfaction in receiving the award, said: “It is a great honor for me to accept this state decoration. This award is a strong symbol of the special respect for the Kyrgyz people and the strength of our fraternal ties.”

Agreements signed in various fields

In the presence of President Japarov and President Tokayev, a large number of agreements and joint documents were signed between the two countries. The “Decision of the Kyrgyzstan-Kazakhstan Supreme Interstate Council Meeting” and the “Joint Statement of the Presidents,” covering political, economic, investment, energy, transport, cultural, and humanitarian cooperation, were signed. In addition, documents signed included a roadmap to increase trade volume, a memorandum of understanding on the construction of a wholesale distribution center in the Almaty region, training of border guard units, reciprocal allocation of embassy buildings, exchange of pension information, cultural and tourism action plans, as well as cooperation memorandums between media organizations.

Golden Eagle Order awarded to Japarov

As part of the official visit, during the “Golden Eagle Order Award Ceremony,” Tokayev presented President Japarov with Kazakhstan’s highest state award. Noting Japarov’s contribution to regional peace and stability, Tokayev said: “Under your wise leadership, I am confident that the fraternal Kyrgyz people will achieve even greater success. In Kazakhstan, we highly appreciate your efforts for the benefit of the Kyrgyz



Foreign Minister Fidan: "On the Gaza issue, we are now at a point where humanity has completely failed its test"



Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said, "On the Palestine issue, on the Gaza issue, we are now at the point where words no longer suffice."

Humanity has completely failed its test. All foreign ministers are aware of this. We have reached the end of the road in terms of what can be achieved through the tools of diplomacy. From now on, different actions and measures need to be taken, and the international community – not the system, but the people – must show greater reaction."

Following the 21st Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), convened at Turkey's call, Minister Fidan made a statement. He said, "As the acting chair of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers, I called for this extraordinary meeting due to the unbearable levels of hunger in Gaza. We held our meeting with record participation. Truly, the statements made during the closed session, as well as the topics addressed in bilateral talks, showed that the determination, unity of thought, and solidarity of Islamic countries in solving the Gaza issue in particular, and the Palestinian issue in general, have been taken to a further level. This was an important step."

"We will go to the UN High-Level Week with one voice, one heart"

Emphasizing that the meeting had established unity within the Islamic world regarding Palestine, Fidan said: "We deliberately aimed to hold this meeting before New York. Because going into the UN General Assembly week – where all countries participate – with the Islamic nations taking a joint stance, overcoming differences, forming a united position, and presenting new proposals as the bearers of this cause, was very important for us. Of course, these are issues that involve the intricacies of international diplomacy. There are matters of rhetoric, new steps that the international community may take, and how far countries can push certain boundaries. Today, in our closed session, we discussed these issues in great detail, and in the end, we adopted a resolution of significant substance, which we hope will have great

impact, unanimously by all countries. Considerable effort went into preparing this decision. I would like to thank my colleagues at the ministry who worked tirelessly on this. Thankfully, Turkey's perspective, together with its allies, gained general acceptance here. And now, God willing, we will go into the United Nations High-Level Week with one heart and one voice."

"We are now at the point where humanity has completely failed its test"

Underlining that diplomacy is no longer a solution in the Gaza Strip, Fidan said: "We are now at the point where words no longer suffice in the Palestine issue, in the Gaza issue. Humanity has completely failed its test. All foreign ministers are aware of this. We have reached the end of the road in terms of what can be achieved through diplomatic tools. From now on, different actions and measures must be taken, and the international community – not the system, but society itself – must show greater reaction. Because when it comes to Palestine, when it comes to Gaza, the system has completely collapsed. Surely, the most direct way to stop the suffering in Gaza at this stage is for the ongoing negotiation processes to yield results. But while we would like to remain hopeful, it is clear when we look at Netanyahu's current policies that they have nothing to do with reaching an agreement. His strategy is entirely based on buying time and advancing his military agenda and policies. Most of the Islamic world already has no relations with Israel. They do not recognize it. Except for one or two countries, there is no trade either. In such an equation, while the voice that emerges from here carries great significance for us, for our societies, for the Islamic nations, in practice it falls somewhat short of creating an effect. Therefore, the countries that support Israel economically, politically, and militarily taking a stand against it would, in practice, serve as a much greater brake on Israel. Thus, we are keeping on the agenda the strategy of developing policies and exerting pressure through relations with the countries that support Israel. This is an important strategy for us. Because many of the 57 countries around the table have very serious economic, political, and security ties with the West and the US. These relations must now, at some point, be used to curb Israel. There are various ideas on this, which we discussed among ourselves."

"Israel is taking steps to kill the idea of a two-state solution"

When asked about how the process should be interpreted in light of the UN declaring famine in Gaza, ceasefire efforts, and some countries announcing recognition of Palestine at the UN, Fidan said: "On the

Palestine issue, we are faced with an inverse correlation, which is quite interesting. The diplomatic efforts we initiated – particularly through the joint OIC-Arab League contact group in which Turkey participates, a group of seven countries – have been significant in shaping and guiding the rhetoric in the international arena regarding the recognition of the State of Palestine. Now, while Palestine is being recognized as a state, genocide in Gaza continues, and Gaza is subjected to a policy of depopulation. This is, of course, a great contradiction. On the one hand, you recognize Palestine as a state, while on the other, you allow the destruction of its essential human element in Gaza. This is a contradiction. Our first objective was the recognition of Palestine as a state. Why was this important? When this war first broke out on October 7, we said: as long as the occupation of Palestine continues, as long as Israel's oppression continues, and as long as Palestinians are denied an honorable, sovereign, and intact state, this will not be the first or last war in the Middle East. In fact, the risk of escalation was real.

Therefore, while focusing on stopping the war in Gaza, we also brought to the agenda the urgent need to revive the two-state solution and make a serious push toward its realization. The strategy we put forward was largely adopted by other countries because it represents the permanent solution. One must keep the permanent solution on the agenda while trying to contain the crisis in Gaza. Initially, the international community – particularly the West – resisted this approach, but later accepted it, seeing no other alternative. And we have reached that point now. But here we see something else: while the international community, under the leadership of the OIC, has made progress in this regard, Israel has been taking steps aimed at killing the idea of a two-state solution. The international community is now holding its own governments accountable on this issue, especially in the West, where many countries, under pressure from their public opinion, are moving toward recognizing Palestine. No one wants to be complicit in this historic massacre, this genocide. But unfortunately, for some countries, it is too late. They were on the wrong side of history when Jews were subjected to genocide, and they are on the wrong side of history again when Palestinians are subjected to genocide. These are conscious positions – there is no mitigating excuse here. Our civilization and our history, thank God, judge the act itself, not the perpetrator or the victim. Oppression is oppression, no matter who suffers it. Oppression is oppression, no matter who commits it. That does not change."

Bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the summit

Responding to a question about bilateral meetings he held on the margins of the summit, Fidan said: "As you know, we have important agendas with Egypt, Iraq, Syria, and Iran. We also have significant agendas with Africa. Since the early 1990s, Gambia has been a country in which Turkey has made substantial investments in the fields of military, economic, and technical cooperation. We have good ongoing relations with Djibouti as well. These were issues concerning Africa. With Iran, we discussed the ongoing nuclear negotiations and general assessments regarding the post-war period. Iran has a path it is pursuing with Europe concerning nuclear talks, and there are also suspended negotiations with the US. Recently, we held a meeting with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, as you know, where we discussed this matter as well.

Based on some comments that emerged from that meeting, we had the opportunity to evaluate this new agenda. In Iraq, there are elections in October, and before the elections, there are important issues regarding bilateral cooperation initiated under Prime Minister Sudani's tenure. These include cooperation on water, the Development Road project, counterterrorism, energy cooperation, projects initiated by businesspeople, and a generally dynamic agenda. It is an agenda that is both exciting and challenging, particularly in the field of counterterrorism. We also addressed how the ongoing 'terror-free Turkey' process affects these issues and possible developments.

With Egypt, we discussed the Gaza issue, potential aid to Gaza, and what the agenda would look like if an agreement is reached. We considered how to bring a new perspective to regional security in light of the last two years as responsible and historic countries of the region. These were the main topics. On Libya, the Mediterranean, and Africa, we exchanged views on how we could cooperate. We also addressed the Sudan issue, and of course, the situations in Somalia and Ethiopia, which are being closely followed. Regarding Syria, I frequently meet with my Syrian counterpart. We discussed his recent meetings in Paris, which were also reflected in the public domain. We also talked about a recent visit to Greece, as well as ongoing bilateral issues between the two countries, how they are progressing, and what we can do. We reaffirmed once again our commitment to Syria's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and security. As we said right after December 8, a chapter has ended in Syria, and a new chapter has begun –

Kyrgyzaltyn signed agreements with Tajikistan’s leading mining companies



Kyrgyzaltyn announced that these agreements provide a solid foundation for long-term cooperation.

A business delegation headed by Tajikistan’s First Deputy Prime Minister Kholikzoda paid an official visit to Kyrgyzstan and arrived in Bishkek. The purpose of the visit was to develop trade and economic cooperation, to closely examine industrial potential, and to sign new agreements.

As part of the visit, Tajik officials toured several Kyrgyz enterprises, including the tire processing plant of Kumtor Gold Company, a subsidiary of Kyrgyzaltyn OJSC. Afterwards, Kyrgyzaltyn OJSC signed memoranda of cooperation with Tajikistan’s leading companies in the mining sector.

The agreements were concluded with Talco Gold CJSC, the Tajik-Chinese Mining Company LLC, and Pakrut LLC. In addition, a separate protocol was signed for the tire processing and retreading factory of Kumtor Gold Company.

The documents aim to develop the mining sector. Plans also include the implementation of

modern technologies, increasing production efficiency, and creating new jobs. Kyrgyzaltyn stated that these agreements provide a solid foundation for long-term cooperation. The company emphasized that this will also further strengthen good-neighborly relations between the two countries.

Kyrgyzaltyn OJSC is known as a reliable international partner and a member of the London Bullion Market Association. In recent years, the company has generated record profits, making a significant contribution to the state budget. It is also the only institution in Kyrgyzstan that produces refined gold and gold bars. The gold bar facility has strengthened the country’s position in the global precious metals market. At the same time, it contributes to the development of domestic industry.



Turkmenistan and Russian Foreign Ministers met in Moscow

The parties discussed issues of deepening cooperation in political, trade, economic, and cultural fields, as well as exchanging views on international and regional problems.



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Turkmenistan’s Foreign Minister and Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Rashid Meredov held a meeting in Moscow. The two ministers discussed bilateral cooperation, as well as international and regional issues.

Preparations for Joint Summits Following the meeting, Lavrov stated that the two countries are actively preparing for the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) summit and the second Russia-Central Asia summit, which will be held in the fall.

Lavrov said, “Our positions on the international stage are close and coincide in many respects; this is particularly important for strengthening prosperity, security, and stability in Central Asia and the Caspian region.”

Emphasis on Cultural Cooperation Meredov, for his part, underlined the need to complete the necessary documents for the establishment of a Turkmen-Russian University in Ashgabat.

He also touched upon cultural projects such as the construction of a new building for the Alexander Pushkin Russian Drama Theater in Turkmenistan, and the construction of an additional building on the premises of the joint comprehensive school.

The parties discussed issues of deepening cooperation in political, trade, economic, and cultural fields, as well as exchanging views on international and regional problems. The first Russia-Central Asia summit was held in October 2022 in Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan.



Kazakhstan and Japan become strategic partners

Kazakh President: "Japan is our reliable and close partner in Asia. We attach great importance to deepening comprehensive cooperation with Tokyo."



Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev and Japanese Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya discussed the current status and development prospects of the expanded strategic partnership between Kazakhstan and Japan in trade-economy, investment, transit-transport, and cultural-humanitarian fields, as well as cooperation within international structures.

Japanese Foreign Minister Iwaya, during the reception of Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, emphasized that his visit to Astana would give new momentum to strengthening bilateral relations. Kazakh President stated, "Japan is our reliable and close partner in Asia. We attach great importance to deepening comprehensive cooperation with Tokyo."

Iwaya noted that Kazakhstan and Japan are strategic partners interested in strengthening the international order. The Japanese minister added, "I believe my visit will pave the way for further development of bilateral relations." During the meeting, they also exchanged views on current issues on the international and regional agenda.

Shanghai Cooperation Organization Gains Critical Weight in New Global Alignments

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), led by China and Russia, is emerging as a critical center of gravity in shifting global alliances and alignments under the new administration of U.S. President Donald Trump.



The 25th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State will be held this year in Tianjin, China. In addition to the leaders of Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan, Iran, and Belarus, as well as observer member Mongolia, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan will also attend the summit at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping. The gathering will be the broadest SCO Summit to date, with leaders from more than 20 member, observer, dialogue partner, and guest countries, alongside representatives from over 10 international organizations. At a time when President Trump's policies are straining traditional Western alliances, the SCO—driven by China and Russia in Asia—is increasing its geopolitical weight as an alternative bloc. Beijing sees the SCO Summit as an opportunity to position itself as a pole of global stability against the political and economic uncertainties triggered by Trump's policies.

A Call for a "Multipolar World"
Established in the aftermath of the Soviet Union's collapse to strengthen political, economic, and security cooperation across Eurasia, the SCO has expanded its scope of cooperation over time. The organization was first founded through the Treaty on Deepening Military Trust in Border Regions, signed in Shanghai on April 26, 1996, by Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. The so-called "Shanghai Five" then signed the Treaty on Reduction of Military Forces in Border Regions in Moscow on May 20, 1997. Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Chinese President Jiang Zemin issued a

declaration calling for a "multipolar world." Subsequent annual summits were held in Almaty (1998), Bishkek (1999), and Dushanbe (2000). At the 2000 Dushanbe Summit, member states pledged to oppose interventions in other countries' internal affairs under the pretext of "humanitarian intervention and protection of human rights," and to safeguard each other's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and social stability.

Founding of the SCO
At the 2001 Shanghai Summit, Uzbekistan joined as a new member, and on June 15, 2001, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization was officially founded to elevate cooperation. In 2002, the six leaders met in St. Petersburg and signed the SCO Charter on July 7, defining the organization's goals, principles, structure, and rules, thereby making it part of international law. By 2007, the SCO had launched over 20 joint projects in transportation, energy, and telecommunications, while also holding regular consultations on security, defense, foreign affairs, economy, culture, and banking.

India and Pakistan Join
At the July 2015 Ufa Summit in Russia, the membership process for India and Pakistan began. At the 2017 Astana Summit in Kazakhstan, both officially joined, bringing two nuclear-armed rivals into the same organization. India's entry also marked the participation of another Asian giant, alongside China and Russia. Iran was admitted at the 2021 Dushanbe Summit in Tajikistan, and Belarus's membership was approved at the 2024

Astana Summit in Kazakhstan, raising the number of member states to 10. Mongolia, along with Afghanistan (whose observer status has been inactive since September 2021),

remain observers, while 14 other countries—including Turkey—have become dialogue partners over the years.

Shifting Power Balances and the SCO
From Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014 to its war against Ukraine in 2022, the SCO has grown in importance in Eurasia as a forum for security and economic cooperation. Developments that reignited confrontation between Russia and the West increased Moscow's need for a security framework in Asia. Western sanctions on Russia over Crimea and Ukraine pushed Moscow to deepen ties with rising Asian economies such as China and India. For Russia, the SCO provides a strategic security umbrella in Asia, complementing its efforts to regain influence lost in Europe after the Soviet collapse.

China Sees Eurasia as a Gateway Against Pacific Encirclement
For China, Eurasia holds critical importance as it seeks to diversify transport and infrastructure routes for its industrial exports through the Belt and Road Initiative, launched by President Xi Jinping in Kazakhstan in 2013. The U.S.–China confrontation began during Trump's first term as a trade war, escalating with technology restrictions and human rights sanctions, and is now intensifying in Trump's second term through tariff hikes and geopolitical rivalry. Taiwan, over which Beijing claims sovereignty, carries the potential for a confrontation between the U.S. and China similar to Russia's conflict in Ukraine. Meanwhile, maritime disputes in the East and South China Seas limit China's ability to find reliable partners in the Pacific. This drives Beijing to strengthen its ties with Eurasian countries through the SCO and other platforms for strategic reasons. Amid Trump's unilateral tariff hikes aimed at reshaping global trade in America's favor and his revisionist approach to global politics that strains relations with allies, the SCO Summit provides China with a chance to present itself as a pillar of global stability.



Strategic Steps for Artificial Intelligence Development in Kazakhstan

Artificial intelligence is being given strategic importance in Kazakhstan.



Over the past year, Kazakhstan has made significant decisions in the field of artificial intelligence, particularly reflecting the strong interest of President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev in this area. Tokayev has recently preferred to meet with experts abroad during his foreign visits while frequently hosting international AI representatives in Astana.

In January of this year, President Tokayev received globally recognized AI entrepreneur and head of the "Sinovation" Artificial Intelligence Venture Institute, Dr. Lee Kai-Fu, at the Presidential Palace Akorda. Around the same period, during his visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), he held a meeting with experts in AI development. In his latest meeting with the state authorities on AI development, Tokayev stated, "The development of artificial intelligence is a task of strategic importance for our country."

Five-Year "Artificial Intelligence Development Concept" Adopted
The steps taken by the Kazakh government to develop AI, designated as a strategic state objective, are noteworthy. Last year, the Kazakh government adopted a five-year "Artificial Intelligence Development Concept," aiming to increase the number of AI-produced products fivefold by 2029, train around 500,000 industry specialists, and educate 5 million people in AI skills.

To implement these AI-related decisions rapidly, the Kazakh government has established a digital headquarters under the Prime Minister, focusing on increasing AI use in the real economy, health, and public sectors, promoting AI literacy among the population, and discovering young talents in the field. Additionally, this year in Astana, Kazakhstan plans to open a National Artificial Intelligence Center named "Alem AI" and to adopt legislation related to artificial intelligence.

Astana Hub Plays a Key Role in Kazakhstan's AI Sector
According to information obtained by Anadolu Agency (AA), activities aimed at spreading AI, training experts, and supporting local entrepreneurs in this field are being carried out within the Astana Hub Technopark.

Astana Hub, currently a leader in Central Asia, hosts more than 1,700 startup companies, including 450 with foreign capital. Astana Hub has launched a two-year AI school for university students and, in 2024, through its "AIpreneurs" platform established to bring AI ventures to life, succeeded in attracting investments worth more than \$350,000.



Commemoration of the 224 Civilians Massacre in Bosnia and Herzegovina on Its 33rd Anniversary



In Bosnia and Herzegovina, a memorial ceremony was held for 224 Bosniak and Croat civilians who were executed by gunfire at the Koricanske cliffs during the 1992-1995 war.

After being confined in detention camps, the civilians were taken to the cliffs by Serbian soldiers, shot, and then thrown from a height of 300 meters. Seid Omerovic, President of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Detention Camps Association, emphasized the brutality of the massacre in his speech at the ceremony, stating, "224 civilians were first shot, then thrown off the cliffs, and bombs were dropped on them."

During the commemoration, relatives of the victims and officials offered prayers, and 224 roses were placed on the cliffs. Omerovic noted, "This tragedy that occurred 33 years ago is being repeated in similar ways in different parts of the world today."

On August 21, 1992, Bosniak and Croat civilians were taken from the Trnopolje camp in Prijedor to the town of Travnik, where they were killed by Serbian soldiers. Following the incident, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia sentenced 11 individuals connected to the massacre to a total of 200 years in prison.

SOURCE: VEDAT KURT



In Gaza, Imposed Famine Claims 10 More Lives in the Last 24 Hours

In the Gaza Strip, where famine has been imposed due to Israeli attacks and blockade, 10 more people, including 2 children, have died of hunger in the past 24 hours.

According to a written statement from the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza, the latest information on those who died of hunger was shared. The statement noted that 10 Palestinians, including 2 children, lost their lives due to starvation and malnutrition in the last 24 hours. Since October 7, 2023, the number of people who have died of hunger in Gaza has risen to 313, including 119 children. In its latest report, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), supported by the United Nations (UN), confirmed that as of August 15, 2025, the level of famine in Gaza City has reached level 5, known as the catastrophic level. The IPC report also noted that "after 22 months of brutal conflict, more than half a million people in the Gaza Strip are facing catastrophic conditions characterized by hunger, poverty, and death."

Gaza is Dying of Hunger
Under Israel's attacks and tight blockade restricting humanitarian aid, Gaza is experiencing a humanitarian disaster, with hunger spreading and essential supplies such as water, medicine, medical equipment, and hygiene items unavailable. Deaths due to hunger are rising, particularly among children. Local and international circles state that Israel is using "hunger and thirst as a weapon." By destroying civilian infrastructure, Israeli forces have devastated 88% of Gaza. Palestinians displaced by expulsion orders are frequently targeted in the areas where they shelter.

In Gaza, with a population of around 2.3 million, the number of people displaced due to Israeli attacks and expulsion orders has reached 2 million, with many displaced multiple times. Displaced Palestinians, lacking basic necessities, try to survive in makeshift tents or overcrowded schools, where hygiene materials are insufficient and infectious diseases spread. The Israeli army, meanwhile, continues to bomb the tents and civilian shelters of displaced people in daily attacks.

Seven Palestinians Killed in Recent Attacks
According to hospital sources and eyewitnesses, the Israeli army targeted tents and homes of Palestinians in Gaza. In an attack on a house in the Derec neighborhood of Gaza City, 2 people were killed and several injured. A tent near the Sheikh Radwan cemetery, housing forcibly displaced Palestinians, was targeted in another attack, leaving 9 injured. Airstrikes also targeted tents in the Kadisiyye Refugee Camp west of Khan Yunus, killing 2 people. In the Asda area north of Khan Yunus, a tent housing Palestinians was bombed, killing 3 people, including a child and a teenage girl. Since August 11, Israeli attacks in Gaza City's Zeytun neighborhood have continued using explosive robots and artillery to destroy homes and forcibly displace residents.

Palestinian National Athlete Killed Waiting for Aid
According to family members, Palestinian national athlete Allam el-Ammur was killed in an Israeli attack while near a U.S.-based aid distribution point. The Palestinian Athletics Federation expressed sorrow over Ammur's death while waiting for aid.



Ammur had won a bronze medal in the 5,000-meter race at the West Asian Youth Athletics Championship in Doha, Qatar, in March 2023.

Hundreds of Athletes Killed in Israeli Attacks
According to Palestinian organizations, since October 7, 2023, Israel has killed at least 673 athletes in Gaza. Players, coaches, managers, referees, and club board members from various sports have been targeted by Israeli bombs.

Israeli Raid in Nablus, Old City Encircled
Eyewitnesses reported that Israeli forces raided Nablus, encircled the Old City, and sent reinforcements. Residents were forced from their homes, which were converted into military headquarters. Israeli soldiers also began searches in Palestinian homes in some neighborhoods. Early morning raids were conducted in Hebron, Bethlehem, and Qalqilya, with some Palestinians detained. Since October 7, 2023, alongside attacks on Gaza, arrests, raids, and assaults on Palestinians have increased in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem. The number of Palestinians arrested in the West Bank and East Jerusalem has exceeded 18,500, while at least 10,016 people have been killed in attacks by Israeli soldiers and settlers seizing Palestinian lands. Palestine: Netanyahu's West Bank Raids Reinforce Annexation Policy
The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and some ministers' participation in celebrations

for approving 17 new settlements in the West Bank's "Binyamin Settlement." The ministry described this as encouraging further attacks on Palestinians and reinforcing the annexation policy. Netanyahu's statement, "We are closer than ever to establishing sovereignty over the West Bank," was highlighted as emboldening the Israeli army and settlers to continue violations against Palestinians. The ministry called on the international community to take serious measures and sanctions to protect the Palestinian people and the two-state solution.

Israeli Forces Intensify Attacks in Northern Gaza
About 1 million Palestinians in northern Gaza are once again facing forced displacement. The Israeli army, implementing its Gaza occupation plan, is conducting intense air and ground attacks, focusing on Cibaliya, Zeytun, and Sabra neighborhoods. According to the Israeli army, two separate battalions continue ground attacks in Cibaliya and the outskirts of Gaza City. Because of these attacks, some residents in northern Gaza are being forced to flee again. Since October 7, 2023, repeatedly displaced Palestinians have been forced from place to place, with no safe haven.

Israel Plans Full Occupation of Gaza City
On August 8, Israel's Security Cabinet approved a plan to occupy northern Gaza City. Prime Minister Netanyahu, in a pre-meeting interview, said Israel aims to occupy the entire Gaza Strip. Israeli media reports indicate the army has received orders to occupy the rest of Gaza, though the step is not expected to be implemented before September. The first phase involves moving about 1 million Palestinians southward, besieging the city, and occupying it after intense attacks. The second phase targets refugee camps in Gaza's devastated center. Israel occupied Gaza for 38 years from 1967 to 2005. Today, the Gaza Strip, home to roughly 2.3 million Palestinians, has been under a severe blockade for 18 years.



Avaza Trilateral Summit: A New Era in Strategic Partnership

Turkmenistan’s Avaza Tourism Zone has hosted a landmark summit for regional cooperation, where the leaders of Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan signed a joint declaration covering transport, energy, economy, and culture.

At the invitation of Turkmenistan’s National Leader and Chairman of the People’s Council, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev gathered in Avaza for trilateral talks.

The three leaders discussed strengthening cooperation in trade, economy, investment, and transport. Following the summit, a joint declaration was signed, setting out a roadmap for continued strategic partnership among the three countries. Key issues included boosting transport along the “Uzbekistan–Turkmenistan–Azerbaijan” route and leveraging the potential of the Middle Corridor. A working group will be established to coordinate the transit corridor that will link the Turkic world through the Caspian Sea to Türkiye and Europe.



Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev underlined SOCAR’s new energy initiatives, stating: “Our state oil company SOCAR has already begun operations in an oil field in Uzbekistan, with a contract signed.” Aliyev, who continues his official visit to Turkmenbashi, praised the hospitality of Turkmenistan and emphasized the historic, cultural, and spiritual bonds uniting the three countries. “Today, here on the hospitable Turkmen land, I would once again like to stress that under the wise leadership of Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, Turkmenistan has achieved significant socio-economic progress and strengthened its international role and reputation,” Aliyev said, adding that a new chapter in trilateral cooperation was opening.

“Azerbaijan–Turkmenistan relations are experiencing an era of growth”

Aliyev recalled Berdimuhamedov’s recent visit to Azerbaijan, during which the two leaders toured the liberated



cities of Fuzuli and Shusha. He expressed gratitude for Turkmenistan’s decision to support the construction of a mosque in Fuzuli and highlighted the new twinning ties between Fuzuli and Arkadag.

“Shared investment projects with Uzbekistan”

Referring to the Treaty of Allied Relations signed with Uzbekistan in August 2024, Aliyev praised Uzbekistan’s reforms and dynamic development. He expressed appreciation for Uzbekistan’s contributions to Azerbaijan’s post-war reconstruction, including the building of a school in Fuzuli named after Mirzo Ulugh Beg, the establishment of a sewing factory in Khankendi, and the construction of an Uzbekistan Park in Baku.

Aliyev noted that Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan share “many investment projects based on mutual interests.”

“Joint efforts in transport and logistics will benefit the wider region”

Highlighting the geostrategic position of Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan as a bridge between East and West, North and South, Aliyev said: “New opportunities lie ahead of us in transport, including the Middle Corridor, port expansion, and railway connections. The joint efforts of our three countries in transit and logistics will not only serve our peoples but also bring great value to the wider region.”

“We await major oil discoveries in Uzbekistan”

Aliyev also emphasized energy cooperation: “We already have traditional energy cooperation with Turkmenistan. Now we have taken a step with Uzbekistan as well. SOCAR has started operating an oil field in Uzbekistan, and we hope to receive good news in the near future. We are all eagerly awaiting the announcement of a major oil discovery in Uzbekistan.”



TDT Secretary-General Attends the Opening of the 3rd Turkish Space Explorers Academy of the Organization of Turkic States

Ambassador Kubanychbek Omuraliev, Secretary-General of the Organization of Turkic States (TDT), attended the opening ceremony of the 3rd Turkish Space Explorers Academy held at the ESBAŞ (Aegean Free Zone Establishment and Operating Co.) Space Camp in İzmir.



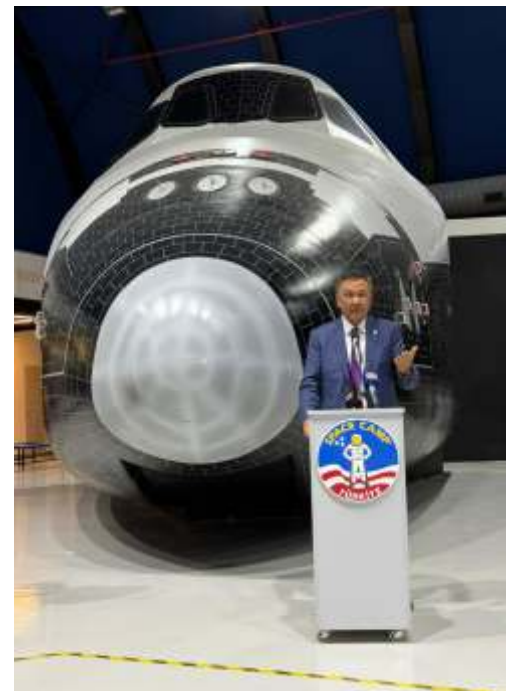
In his speech, Secretary-General Omuraliev emphasized that the Academy is not only an educational initiative but also a strategic investment in the shared future of the Turkic world. He expressed his belief that the Academy would foster valuable connections among young participants, support their future careers in science and space, and

prepare many of them to take active roles in joint projects in the field of space.

Hosted by the Turkish Space Agency, the program aims to raise space awareness among the youth of the Turkic world, train the future leaders in space, and strengthen the spirit of solidarity and friendship among participants.

This year, 40 students from TDT

member states are participating in the Academy, receiving education across a wide range of subjects, including observational astronomy, rocketry and space sciences, astrophysics, and the solar system.



ULUSLARARASI SİVİL DİPLOMASİ GAZETESİ

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Bayramov: "Azerbaijan Has Never Accepted Interim Solutions Contrary to National Interests"

Azerbaijan's Foreign Minister Bayramov, speaking at a special cabinet meeting held in Azerbaijan on the occasion of President Ilham Aliyev's visit to the United States, said, "Azerbaijan has never accepted interim solutions contrary to national interests."

A special cabinet meeting was held in Azerbaijan ahead of President Ilham Aliyev's visit to the United States. The meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Ali Asadov, was attended by government officials in the capital city of Baku. Speaking at the meeting, Asadov emphasized that at the White House, U.S. President Donald Trump received President Aliyev with great respect and at the highest level, highlighting the special warmth, sincerity, and hospitality shown to Aliyev. Asadov said, "The victories achieved by the Azerbaijani Armed Forces under the leadership of President Ilham Aliyev on the battlefield, and the peace initiated by Azerbaijan, were formalized in Washington with the participation and signature of the U.S. President. President Aliyev's successful visit to Washington not only strengthens Azerbaijan's influence and position in the international political arena but also opens new perspectives for achieving long-term peace in the region."

"Azerbaijan's peace agenda shapes the region's economic and political future"
Referring to the start of a new period full of opportunities in the region following the Washington meeting, Asadov said, "In particular, the agreement on opening a new corridor has freed the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic from blockade. While giving special momentum to its socio-economic development, it also lays the foundation for regional transport and economic integration. The opening of the corridor presents a new and challenging responsibility for the Azerbaijani Government. For this purpose, intensive work must be carried out every day in the initial phase. This unique route, connecting Europe to Asia, will completely change the region's energy and transport map, accelerate trade relations between countries, and, as a result, increase Azerbaijan's export opportunities as a transit country, integrating faster into the global economy."
Highlighting the historical significance for the South Caucasus, Prime Minister Ali Asadov said, "Azerbaijan's peace agenda shapes the economic and political future of the region. The South Caucasus will generally become an island of stability. All of this has always been a priority in President Aliyev's policy, who knows better than anyone what to do and

when, and who always fulfills his promises and commitments."

"Azerbaijan's main territory must have an uninterrupted land connection to Nakhchivan"
Asadov stated that the signing of the Joint Declaration is not only a document ending a long-standing armed conflict between the two countries but also the result of the Azerbaijani people's struggle for historical justice. "Azerbaijan, which has implemented UN resolutions that remained on paper for years, reestablished rights and justice through war and at the cost of the blood of its martyrs, emerged as the author of a peace agreement with Armenia, putting an end to the conflict at the political level. One of the important articles in the Joint Declaration concerns the opening of transport and communication lines in the region. After the Patriotic War, President Aliyev repeatedly and resolutely stated that Azerbaijan's main territory must have an uninterrupted land connection to Nakhchivan. Despite all difficulties, disagreements, and differing attitudes, this demand of the President was also accepted by Armenia."

"The Joint Declaration officially recognizes the peace that Azerbaijan has long pursued"
Referring to the significance of the Washington-signed document in ensuring uninterrupted and reliable connections between Azerbaijan's main territory and Nakhchivan, Asadov said, "For this purpose, a special infrastructure initiative supported by the U.S., called the International Peace and Prosperity initiative, known as the Trump Corridor



(TRIPP), is envisaged. This will not only be important for Azerbaijan but will also bring significant changes to the economic and geopolitical map of the entire region. The Joint Declaration, signed at the trilateral summit in Washington with the participation of the leaders of Azerbaijan, the U.S., and Armenia, demonstrates that the peace that Azerbaijan has long advocated and supported has gained broad international support and is officially recognized."

"Azerbaijan has remained steadfast in the pursuit of justice and peace and has ultimately succeeded"
Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov stated that Azerbaijan's economic and political strength has grown, making it one of the region's main actors, and added, "Significant steps have been taken to expose Armenia's war crimes against Azerbaijan. Azerbaijan has remained steadfast in the pursuit of justice and peace and has ultimately succeeded. Azerbaijan has never accepted interim solutions contrary to national interests." Regarding the dissolution of the OSCE Minsk Group, Bayramov said, "Based on a joint submission to the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, the draft decision on the dissolution of the OSCE Minsk Group and its additional structures has been circulated among participating countries. Participating states are required to support the necessary procedures for adopting the decision, which is expected to be made by September 1."

Azerbaijan expects Armenia to abandon territorial claims
Bayramov also touched on the section of the Joint Declaration related to Nakhchivan, an integral part of Azerbaijan. "For this purpose, the Zangezur Corridor (Trump Road), which will be established on Armenian territory, ensures Azerbaijan's internal unity and regional economic integration. This project will also expand regional trade and transport opportunities. Azerbaijan expects Armenia to make amendments to its constitution and abandon its territorial claims for the peace agreement to be signed."
"The capacity of the Middle Corridor will increase by 15 million tons per year"
Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mustafayev emphasized the strategic importance of the Zangezur Corridor, which connects Azerbaijan's main territory to Turkey and Central Asia. "It will also serve as a new connection linking Southeast Asia and the Persian Gulf to Northern European countries. With the opening of the Zangezur Corridor, the capacity of the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route (Middle Corridor) will increase by 15 million tons per year."

"Gas supply from Azerbaijan covers 14 countries via pipelines"
Economy Minister Mikayil Jabbarov said that Azerbaijan, together with U.S.-based Exxon Mobil, hopes to explore a major unconventional oil field in the country. "The cooperation agreement signed between SOCAR and Exxon Mobil will positively impact the development of energy relations. Azerbaijan currently supplies natural gas to 10 U.S. allies via pipelines. Overall, pipeline gas deliveries from Azerbaijan cover 14 countries. Our country recently started supplying gas to Syria. Allies such as the U.S., Israel, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) praised Azerbaijan's participation in oil and gas production. Azerbaijan's electricity resources, along with its renewable energy potential, make the country an attractive location for investments in data center infrastructure and artificial intelligence technologies. Azerbaijan plays an indispensable role in implementing a series of projects of strategic importance across Central Asia and the South Caucasus."



TRNC President Tatar: "We will not start official negotiations without the recognition of our sovereignty"

President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) Ersin Tatar criticized the process carried out by the Greek Cypriot Administration of Southern Cyprus (GCASC) against those who have acquired property in his country, stating: "We will not start official negotiations without the recognition of our sovereignty."



President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) Ersin Tatar received Turkish Vice President Cevdet Yılmaz at the TRNC Presidential Complex. In his remarks during the meeting, Tatar expressed, on behalf of the Turkish Cypriot people, his gratitude to President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and Vice President Cevdet Yılmaz for their support to the TRNC. Tatar pointed out that the Turkish Cypriot people have been under embargoes and isolations, explaining that they are trying to overcome the difficulties this situation creates in various sectors with the support of Türkiye. Stating that they have set forth the determination to turn the TRNC into an "information technology island" and that they continue to work in this direction, Tatar said he believes the Turkish Cypriot youth, who have shown success in sports, will also show success in the field of information technology. Tatar emphasized that the political stability achieved in the country after a

long period has made a positive contribution to the development of the TRNC, and congratulated Prime Minister Ünal Üstel and the coalition partners. Criticizing the process carried out by the GCASC regarding those who acquired property in the TRNC, Tatar said: "We will not start official negotiations without the recognition of our sovereignty. In the negotiations regarding the Cyprus issue, the conditions we put forward of 'direct trade, direct contact, direct flights' have not been fulfilled. The Greek Cypriot side does not want to recognize our sovereignty. Therefore, an official negotiation process cannot begin. We will not be the side avoiding contact. We are ready for cooperation on issues that will benefit both sides."



Agreements signed between Uzbekistan and Jordan on various issues



During the meeting, in the presence of King Abdullah and President Mirziyoyev, 9 cooperation agreements, 3 memoranda of understanding, and 2 cooperation protocols were signed between the governments of the two countries.

Cooperation agreements and memoranda of understanding were signed between Jordan and Uzbekistan in various areas such as higher education, tourism, and visa exemption.

According to a statement from the Jordanian Royal Court, King Abdullah II, as part of his Central Asia tour that began yesterday, met today with Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in the city of Samarkand. King Abdullah and Mirziyoyev discussed ways to strengthen relations between the two countries and advance cooperation in various fields. During the meeting, regional developments in the Middle East were also addressed. King Abdullah reiterated his call to the international community to "make every effort to de-escalate tensions in the region and to restore security and stability." King Abdullah stressed the need to end Israel's attacks on the Gaza

Strip, to put an end to the humanitarian catastrophe there, and to ensure the unhindered entry of aid. Highlighting the importance of halting the dangerous escalation in the occupied West Bank and the attacks on Muslim and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem, King Abdullah stated that Jordan rejects and condemns attempts to occupy or annex lands in Gaza and the West Bank, or to displace Palestinians. During the meeting, in the presence of King Abdullah and President Mirziyoyev, 9 cooperation agreements, 3 memoranda of understanding, and 2 cooperation protocols were signed between the governments of the two countries. The signed documents cover areas including higher education, tourism, visa exemption, investment, customs, agriculture, air transport, religious affairs, and extradition of wanted persons.

Former EU Ambassadors Call for Sanctions on Israel in Joint Letter

Two hundred and six former ambassadors from the European Union (EU) and its member states have published a joint letter calling for urgent and concrete measures against Israel’s “unlawful actions” in Gaza and the West Bank.

The 206 former ambassadors from EU countries signed the letter ahead of the informal “Gymnich” format EU Foreign Ministers Meeting, scheduled for 29–30 August. Addressed to the leaders of EU institutions and the 27 member states, the letter stressed that Israel has openly violated international law in Gaza since 7 October 2023, and that the EU’s silence in the face of these violations constitutes a “moral and political failure.” The letter drew particular attention to the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza, alleging that the Israeli government is carrying out a plan to forcibly displace one million Palestinians from Gaza and its surroundings to the south, followed by mass deportation to third countries. Referring to data published on 22 August by the UN-backed Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), the letter noted that the south of Gaza is now experiencing a “man-made famine,” with around 500,000 people facing hunger, poverty, and risk



of death, and 132,000 children under severe threat of malnutrition. The letter also highlighted that “since 28 July, more than 2,600 Palestinians have been killed, over 12,000 injured, more than 60 children have died of hunger, Israel has obstructed UNRWA and over 100 international NGOs from delivering aid to Gaza, more than 200 local journalists have been killed, international media have been denied access to Gaza, approval has been given for 3,400 new illegal housing units in the E1 area – a blatant move to undermine the two-state solution – and rising settler violence in the West Bank has led to the killing of renowned human rights defender Odeh Hathalin.”

Humanitarian Access and Reconstruction Aid for Gaza Pointing to the worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza, the letter called on EU countries to apply diplomatic pressure to ensure full and unhindered humanitarian access to the region. It underlined that since 2 March, Israel has blocked UNRWA and more than 100 international NGOs from delivering aid, replacing it with aid distributed through armed groups, thereby endangering civilian lives. The letter stressed that hundreds of thousands of civilians suffering from hunger are unable to meet their basic needs, and urged the launch of

an independent and transparent EU-led initiative for Gaza’s reconstruction.

Formal Recognition of the State of Palestine The letter defined the formal recognition of the State of Palestine as an urgent diplomatic step to preserve lasting peace in the region and the two-state solution perspective. It emphasized that Israel’s settlement policies and attempts at territorial annexation are making a two-state solution practically impossible, and argued that only the international recognition of Palestine can reinvigorate this solution. The ambassadors noted that recognition of Palestine by EU member states, either individually or collectively, represents both a legal responsibility and an expectation of European public opinion.

A Nine-Point Action Plan for the EU The letter presented a nine-point concrete action plan for EU member states to respond to Israel’s violations of international law in Gaza and the West Bank. The former ambassadors emphasized that until a common EU-level position is adopted, member states could act individually or in like-minded groups. The letter first called on member states to unilaterally suspend or revoke all arms export licenses to Israel under their national export control laws. It also urged withdrawal from joint projects with Israeli institutions under EU-funded research programs such as

Horizon Europe if there is reasonable evidence that these funds support violations of international law. The ambassadors stressed that public universities and other research institutions should immediately end cooperation with Israeli institutions accused of committing war crimes. They further recommended applying national sanctions such as visa bans and asset freezes on Israeli officials on the basis of human rights violations and counterterrorism legislation.

The letter called for temporary national import bans on goods and services linked to illegal settlements until an EU-wide ban is enforced. It also argued that companies connected to illegal settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories should be excluded from public tenders, state investments, and sovereign wealth funds, and demanded that ships and aircraft transporting arms and ammunition to Israel be barred from using European ports and airspace. The letter stressed that member states must prosecute war crimes suspects if they enter their territories, and recalled that all EU states are obliged to cooperate with the International Criminal Court (ICC) regarding arrest warrants and investigations. Finally, the letter called for a ban on data centers and digital platforms in Europe from receiving, storing, or processing data related to Gaza and the occupied territories on behalf of the Israeli government or Israeli commercial entities.

Russia and Iran discussed the "nuclear program"

Russian President Vladimir Putin, in a phone call with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, discussed the situation surrounding Iran's nuclear program as well as developments in the South Caucasus region.



Russian President Vladimir Putin held a telephone conversation with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. According to a statement from the Kremlin, during the talks Vladimir Putin informed Iranian President Pezeshkian about the main results of the Russia-U.S. summit held in Alaska. Masoud Pezeshkian expressed his support for diplomatic efforts aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the Ukraine crisis. The statement noted that the leaders discussed some urgent bilateral issues between the two countries, particularly in the

energy and transportation sectors, adding that "the situation surrounding Iran's nuclear program as well as developments in the South Caucasus region were also discussed."

Vladimir Putin and Masoud Pezeshkian confirmed their willingness to further strengthen cooperation between Russia and Iran in various fields. The two leaders agreed to hold a bilateral meeting at the next Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit to be held in China.



Bitter in Taste, Profound in Effect: Wormwood

Dear Readers,

Today, at the request of a very dear reader, I am writing to you about wormwood, one of nature's bitter yet powerful gifts.

Its taste is sharp, its aroma dominant. At the first sip, it leaves a bitter mark on the palate. Yet wormwood is one of the most valuable remedies nature offers through bitterness. For centuries, this plant has held a place in both folk medicine and traditional healing, and it is now once again in the spotlight of modern phytotherapy.

The scientific name of wormwood is *Artemisia absinthium*. Thanks to its content of absinthin, artemisinin, thujone, and various flavonoids, it exerts diverse effects on the body. Its most well-known properties are its ability to regulate the digestive system, stimulate bile secretion, and cleanse against intestinal parasites.

Wormwood is especially notable in cases of sluggish digestion, indigestion, loss of appetite, and bloating. It supports liver enzymes, increases bile flow, and helps stimulate the pancreas to secrete digestive enzymes. In this way, it contributes to the entire digestive chain.

Another important feature is its antimicrobial and antifungal effects. Its essential oils and bitter compounds form a defense against harmful microorganisms. Traditionally, wormwood has been used against intestinal worms, tapeworms, and certain fungal species. Today, these effects have also been confirmed by laboratory studies.

Wormwood also has a role in promoting mental clarity. With its mild stimulating effect, it can enhance attention levels. Although folk observations suggest it may have antidepressant effects, controlled clinical data in this regard are still limited. However, since ancient times, wormwood has been described as a plant that sharpens the mind and invigorates the body.

Dear readers,

Wormwood is powerful, but this strength



requires careful use. In particular, long-term and high-dose use of products containing high amounts of thujone is not recommended. Therefore, moderation and balance are the key principles in using wormwood. It can be consumed as a tea when dried, but it is advised to use it only in 7–10 day courses.

Wormwood is nature's bitter teacher. Its bitterness is, in fact, a message to the body to "awaken." It stimulates digestion, activates the liver, and shakes up the internal system, calling it back to balance.

This underappreciated plant may not always find a place on store shelves, but it continues to grow quietly in nature. For those who wish to understand, it is there. When used consciously, it becomes a powerful ally.

Preparation:

- Add 1 teaspoon of dried wormwood to 1 cup of boiling water.
- Let it steep for 5 to 7 minutes. Do not over-brew.
- Drink once a day, preferably 15–20 minutes before meals.
- Course duration: 7 days of use, followed by a 1-week break. Continuous use is not recommended.

Warnings:

- Should not be used during pregnancy or breastfeeding.
- Not suitable for people with epilepsy or high blood pressure.
- Not suitable for children.
- Excessive consumption may cause dizziness, nausea, and adverse effects on the nervous system.

Let us remember: every plant is a language. Wormwood speaks to us through bitterness, but within it lies a deep call for balance. For those who can hear its voice, it quietly opens the door to healing.





Hasan Yiğit

The Tree We Live in the Shadow Of: National Heritage from Past to Present

National heritage is a nation speaking with its own inner voice. Amid the daily hustle, the loudness of the era, and the noise of crowded cities, this voice sometimes turns into a whisper. But once heard, it is never forgotten. Because this voice is the prayer of a grandfather setting out on a journey on horseback, the mark left by a stonemason in a mihrab, the path hidden within a grandmother’s story told to her grandchild. Sometimes it is written, sometimes it is carried only in the heart. But it is always there. It remains, lives, waits. Its form may change over generations, but its essence does not. Because it is the heritage of belonging, not of time. The first trace of national heritage begins in the first words a child hears from their mother. Language is the first bond a nation forms with itself. The unique melody of Turkish, its metaphors, proverbs, and idioms... These are not merely tools of communication but ways of thinking. A nation that says, “Water sleeps, the enemy does not,” has learned to live with vigilance. A society that says, “Stretch your foot according to your quilt,” sees thrift not only as a calculation but as a moral principle. Within these words lies not just knowledge but experience. They are the distilled form of lived reality passed down to the present.

A nation is as connected to its past as it loves its language. Forgetting the language means losing memory. That is why the first line of defense of national heritage is language. It is not what is taught in schools but what is spoken at home that truly matters. Heritage breathes not in written texts but in words passed from mouth to mouth. But language alone is not enough. Everything language touches becomes heritage. A folk song is not merely a melody; it is the voice of a land. In Kars, slow and deliberate; in the Aegean, lively; in the Black Sea, fierce... Because the shape of the mountain, the color of the sea, shapes the human soul as well. That shape permeates the strings of a saz, the skin of a drum, the sound of a zurna. And it lives in a different form in every region. The people who sing these songs do so not just for entertainment but to remember, to tell, and to transmit. One cries with a song, one loves with a song. Weddings begin with song, soldier farewells end with song. That is why music is one of the carriers of

national heritage. It flows like a history without notes.

And it is the feet walking along historical paths that carry it. The Turkish nation was nomadic first. A tent was home, the road was hope. That is why they learned to carry, to move, and to hold on. A pattern on a carpet was not just decoration; it was a sign on the road. A glance could reveal the tribe and region of the person. Weaving a carpet was not merely livelihood; it was remembering. In those motifs were the lament for the departed, the prayer of the remaining, the patience of those who waited. National heritage, therefore, is not only visual but emotional. The patience embedded in handwork or the trace of a needle conveys the spirit of a society. Quietly but deeply. Like an architectural structure. Mosques, madrasas, inns, and baths in Anatolia are not just buildings. They are the solidified form of a way of thinking in an era. Not merely for worship, but a search for aesthetics. The coolness, silence, and simplicity that greet you in a mosque courtyard tell the spirit of the nation. The limit of decoration, the power of silence, and the rhythm flowing slowly through time... These are the material and spiritual faces of national heritage. They are the work of masters who pray with stone. And each is a kind of thanks to the past.

National heritage belongs not only to masters but also to the people. A nation’s clothing is heritage. Every piece worn carries meaning. The way a headscarf is tied, the color of a belt—every detail is a message. For those who understand, every garment is a sentence. Clothing worn during ceremonies is not merely decoration; it is a way to remember. The clean clothes worn on the morning of a holiday, the excitement felt taking the first step, the moments of going door to door collecting sweets... These are not just traditions; they are habits that keep the spirit alive. Because national heritage is lived not only on great occasions but also in ordinary days. A holiday becomes a holiday through the meaning given to that day.

The history of a nation is written not only by wars but by the way of life. The construction of a home, the layout of a garden, table manners... These may seem like trivial details to outsiders, but they are the nation’s inner voice.

Elders begin meals first, etiquette is observed at the table, and guests are treated with care... These are not merely manners but transmitted heritage. And of course, fairy tales. The endless chain of stories told by our grandmother and repeated by our grandmother... Each is a lesson, a warning, a guide. In tales, goodness always prevails because society demands it. The savior is often a poor or wise person because the people value justice over strength. The stories told by Dede Korkut are not only heroic tales of the past but compasses for today. In those stories, there is loyalty to family, fidelity to friends, courage against enemies, but above all, adherence to custom. Custom here is not just a rule; it is a way of life. The weight of words, a sworn oath, a held hand... These are the misty yet sharp contours of national memory.

National heritage is sometimes written in stone. Stone has a language; it is silent but speaks. Gravestones scattered across Anatolia define not only the dead but the living. The motifs, the style of writing, the dates convey the spirit of an era. Seljuk monumental gates, Ottoman complexes, wooden ceiling carvings, fountains in mosque courtyards... Each is not just architecture; it is the shell of the spirit. They are observed not with mere aesthetic appreciation but with deep respect because they are the memory of the land. Yet national heritage is not only about buildings. The deeper part is the bundle of emotions embedded in words. Language is the spirit of a nation. And that spirit is woven into proverbs, idioms, and epics. The stories told by Dede Korkut are not just tales; they are a way of life. Family, heroism, loyalty, and custom are not abstract concepts but behaviors. A brave man not bending when giving his word, a mother sending her son to the front without showing tears, an elder greeting a passerby... These are the unspoken but felt face of national heritage. But national heritage is not lived only in the past. It is indeed a past, but it is also a present that shapes today. And it is a door to the future. A nation can only move forward as far as it can carry its past. A nation without memory loses its way. Therefore, heritage is not only for remembering but for living. If traditional handicrafts are kept alive

today, it is not merely to preserve a craft but to continue a way of thinking. Making tiles, doing marbling, working with copper... These are not just handiwork; they are the materialized form of patience. And patience is the nation’s greatest trait. It grows with patience, waits with patience, protects with patience. Protection is part of heritage. Possession is not enough. One must care for it. Heritage must be kept alive not only in museums but also in the streets. Restoring an old fountain, singing a forgotten folk song, reviving a nearly lost game... These are not just nostalgia; they are ways of guiding the future.

Because new generations grow with love for the past, they develop a sense of belonging. Those who belong take ownership. Those who take ownership protect. Those who protect sustain. In this cycle, national heritage endures. Otherwise, every lost tradition is a broken bond. And when bonds break, the nation disperses. Time passes, centuries change. Geographies shift, maps are redrawn. But a nation’s memories, rooted deep like the trunk of a tree, remain upright. Those memories stretch from the shadows of tents to palace walls, from feelings woven in felt to stories etched in marble. Because national heritage is not only what has been lived; it is what is meant to be kept alive. It is not just from the past; it is preserved for the future. The state’s duty is not only to protect the constitution but also this invisible yet powerful bond. A nation’s strength lies not only in its weapons but in its music, words, prayers, and tales. A state aware of this shapes cultural policies with the soul as well as the economy in mind.

And the duty of individuals is not merely to live. Every individual, along with their identity, is part of this heritage. When they take a pen, sing a melody, draw a picture, or raise a child... They transmit that identity. This text is a small part of that transmission. To speak the unspoken, to remind the forgotten, to gather what has fallen aside. Because we are a tree we live in the shadow of. That tree is called the nation. Its roots are in history, its trunk is today, its branches are tomorrow. And every leaf of that tree tells a story.



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