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Overview

Exiled Iranian Crown Prince Ready to Return: Exiled Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi today declared his readiness to lead Iran's transition to democracy, saying, "I am ready to return to Iran."

Tehran Crackdown Intensifies: The Islamic Republic executed Mohammad Amin Mahdavi Shayesteh on "espionage" charges this morning and arrested 33 more Iranians for online dissent in the past 24 hours.

Israeli Strikes Hit Evin Prison Gates: Israeli airstrikes targeted significant IRGC and security installations, including the gates of the notorious Evin Prison, which has held political prisoners for decades; casualties are still unclear.

"Very Weak Response" to U.S. Strikes: The Islamic Republic launched what President Trump characterized as a "very weak response" to U.S. strikes on its nuclear facilities, targeting U.S. base Al-Udeid in Qatar. Trump further thanked the Islamic Republic for providing "early notice" for its retaliatory attack.

Oil Prices Plunge: Oil markets reacted to the regime's limited retaliation, with Brent crude falling 6%.

Exiled Crown Prince of Iran: "I Am Ready to Return"

Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi announced today that he is stepping forward to lead Iran's transition away from the Islamic Republic, saying "I am stepping forward to lead this national transition—not out of personal interest but as a servant of the Iranian people." He outlined a plan centered around territorial integrity, individual freedom and equality, and the separation of religion and state.

Critically, he announced the creation of a direct channel for Iranian military, security, and police personnel seeking to defect from the regime to contact him and his team. Emphasizing unity, he said, "To my compatriots: This is our moment. I am with you. Let us build this new Iran together."

Pahlavi continued, "I will convene a national unity summit. This gathering will include activists, dissidents, and groups from across the ideological spectrum…it will not be limited just to political groups but business leaders, professionals, experts and other groups…across Iranian society.

This summit's objective will be to agree on a roadmap for democratic transition and reconstruction.

Islamic Republic Oppression Escalates

This morning, state media announced the execution of Mohammad Amin Mahdavi Shayesteh on charges of "espionage and cooperation with Israel." This is the third such case of execution since the initiation of Israel's strikes in Iran on June 13.

Over the past 10 days, Islamic Republic authorities have arrested 363 individuals on security-related charges, including 277 for social media posts about the conflict and 33 in only the last 24 hours.

A UN Fact-Finding Mission warned that the ongoing regime-imposed internet shutdown severely endangers millions attempting to flee Tehran.

Meanwhile, Tehran municipal officials shut down 130 bakeries, accusing them of unauthorized closures during heightened tensions with Israel. The Islamic Republic controls bakery closures due to its provision of subsidized grain to these bakeries.

Israeli Targets Expanded

Today, the Israeli military carried out extensive airstrikes against critical IRGC and regime facilities, including Evin Prison's entrance gate and administrative sections, Sarallah Base, Basij Headquarters, Seyyed al-Shohada IRGC, Alborz IRGC, and Headquarters of the Law Enforcement Command.

Over 50 fighter jets participated in operations spanning North, West, and East Tehran, as well as Karaj and Shahr-e Rey, resulting in significant power outages.

Reports regarding Evin Prison remain conflicting; Israel claims no prisoners were harmed, but sources indicate one inmate was killed and another injured under unclear circumstances. It is unclear whether the casualties were from the strike or prison guards' gunfire during escape attempts.

Israel also confirmed strikes on six airports throughout Iran.

IRGC Members Rebranded as Athletes

On June 13, following initial Israeli strikes, the Islamic Republic Olympic Committee secretly directed all sports federations to match IRGC casualties with names from their athlete rosters, aiming for international sympathy.

Notable examples include Abbas Eshaghi, presented as a shooting champion but identified as an IRGC colonel; Rouhollah Salek Kharaman, described as a kickboxing coach but revealed as an IRGC Aerospace officer; and Rouhollah Giyahdusti, described as a karate trainer and praised by regime media as a "revolutionary martyr."

Quotes of the Day

Islamic Republic Foreign Minister **Abbas Araghchi**, upon arrival in Moscow: "We and Russia have always shared common concerns, worries, and enemies, and we have consistently engaged in close consultation, coordination, and cooperation to confront shared challenges and threats..."

The head of Russia's **Rosatom** stated, "The security situation at the Bushehr power plant has not changed…We are ready to evacuate the first group of personnel and to switch to a more restricted work schedule. However, in our opinion, there is no need for that at this time."

In response to U.S. strikes on the Islamic Republic's nuclear plants, Russian President **Vladimir Putin** issued a statement warning against the dangers of non-regional actors getting involved in the Middle East, saying, "The modern international situation is changing dynamically. We can see that the situation in the Middle East has sharply worsened. Non-regional powers are also being drawn into the conflict. All this is bringing the world to a very dangerous point."

Crown Prince **Reza Pahlavi** at today's press conference: "Today, I have a direct message for Ali Khamenei: Step down. And if you do, you will receive a fair trial and due process of law. Which is more than you have ever given any Iranian. To other senior regime officials: those of you whose hands are soiled with the blood of the Iranian people, you too will have to face justice. But we will not repeat the mistakes made in other failed transitions. To those of you who are loyal to the Iranian nation, and not the Islamic Republic: there is a future for you in a democratic Iran, if you join the people now. The choice is yours to make…"

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