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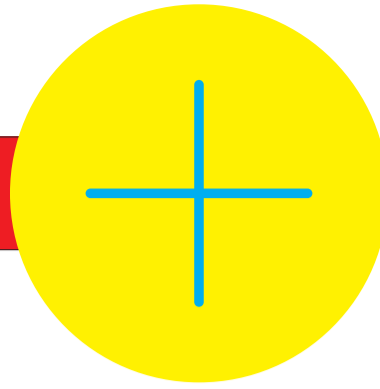
## Klopp 'not too loyal' towards struggling Liverpool players

**THE GUARDIAN** – Jürgen Klopp has denied being too loyal to underperforming players and insisted there will be changes at Liverpool this summer. Liverpool are 10 points adrift of Champions League qualification after back-to-back Premier League defeats at Brighton and Brentford.



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# Great Wall of Gorgan: A Sassanid-Era defensive system



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Walls have always been one of the most important defense elements of any city to block enemies. There are famous walls in the world. The largest defense wall in the world is the Great Wall of China, followed by the White Wall of Germany. The third one is the Great Wall of Gorgan (Iskander's Great Wall, the Red Wall), which is registered as a national monument in Iran. This wall is named Red Snake in old texts. Also, its location has been very strategic. Now, this entire wall is almost gone; only small parts of it have remained,

which are buried under the soil, destinationiran.com reported. The Great Wall of Gorgan has been mentioned in many historical writings.

### Dimensions and sizes

There are various figures on the length of this structure. Some historians have estimated the length of this wall to be one hundred and eighty farsang (old Iranian unit of measurement equal to 6.24km). Many believe that this wall is part of a larger wall. The Great Wall of Gorgan has a length of about 200km, and

a width between two and 10 meters. Also, its possible height was six to eight meters. Its main material is red brick with lime mud mortar, and in some places saruj (traditional Iranian cement). Also, this wall has beautiful decorations with plaster mortar in some places. Along its route, this work has related facilities such as moats, forts connected to the wall, brick kilns, an earthen dam, water supply channel, and the castles of cities adjacent to the wall on the north and south sides of the wall. Also, in terms of fortification and de-

fense structure, it is more advanced than the Great Wall of China.

### Construction materials

There are various estimates about the type of other materials in the wall. Some consider it to be stone and lead; others say brick and lime, brick and plaster, stone and plaster, marble and baked clay. A part of the wall has been unearthed in the village of Gogjeh (north of Kalleh). This part is made of big bricks. Researches by archaeologists

from the universities of Edinburgh and Durham show that tens of millions of bricks were used in the construction of this wall. There were many kilns and brick-making workshops along the wall.

This indicates a very large industrial workshop for the construction of the Great Wall of Gorgan. According to estimates, 30,000 soldiers could be stationed along the wall.

### Reason for its construction

Human life throughout history

has always been affected by accidents.

Therefore, solutions have been devised to deal with these risks. Hundreds of years ago, many hazards of natural or human origin were able to destroy the lives of many people. Also, these dangers could remove signs of life from an area.

Based on this, the need to observe preventive measures to protect people from possible dangers has always been taken into consideration. The Great Wall of Gorgan is one of these arrangements for defense.

## Ancient royal tomb unearthed in Egypt



**AP**— Archaeologists unearthed an ancient tomb in the southern Egyptian city of Luxor, known for its treasures dating back to the pharaohs, authorities said.

Mostafa Waziri, secretary-general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, said an Egyptian-British mission found the royal tomb in an ancient site on the west bank of the Nile River in Luxor, 650 kilometers (400 miles) south of the capital of Cairo. He said initial examinations show that the tomb apparently belongs to the 18th dynasty of Pharaonic Egypt, which spanned from 1550 B.C. to 1292 B.C.



## Centuries-old rock-carved inscription discovered in Naqsh-e Rostam in Fars Province

A researcher announced the discovery of a centuries-old rock-carved inscription in Naqsh-e Rostam, in Fars Province, bearing Middle Persian (or Pahlavi) script. Naqsh-e Rostam is an ancient archaeological site and necropolis located about 12km northwest of Persepolis, according to ILNA. The archeological site had long been the site of various Zoroastrian burials during the Sassanid era. Abolhassan Atabaki added that the burial of the dead in the crevices

of rocks was rooted in the faith that Zoroastrians believed that the world inside the earth was a dark and demonic world, and they also believed that the body of a deceased person was impure; it polluted the "sacredness of the soil," and for this reason they refused to bury the dead in the earth. He announced the discovery of another burial inscription in his investigations, which is related to an ossuary in Naqsh-e Rostam, explaining that the discovery was

used for the "Eternal House" of a Zoroastrian in the late Sassanid period. According to Atabaki, the writer of the discovery tried to carve the text of the inscription on the rock with a sharp object in six lines. He concluded the text of all the newly-discovered inscriptions that we have unearthed in recent years will be presented in conferences and magazines; as well as the book titled, "Burials of Central Fars," written by Najmeh Ebrahimi.



Qasr-e Firouzeh and Shohada women's polo teams hold a friendly match on the occasion of Mother's Day in Iran's capital Tehran.  
● ALI KAVEH/BORNA