

Iran's regional standing better thanks to Raisi

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There are critical unanswered questions surrounding Iran's regional standing during the tenure of the late Iranian president Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi: Did his government's policies usher in greater stability in the region? What impact did the True Promise Operation against Israel have on Tehran's position? To discuss these issues, we turned to the expert insights of Amir Mousavi, a specialist in regional and strategic affairs.



IRAN DAILY: How did Iran's regional position change during the three-year period of president Raisi's government? Did it move towards strengthening or weakening?

MOUSAVI: The reaction of the world's government to the news of the unexpected martyrdom of the president and his foreign minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian proved that the Islamic Republic had turned a corner and was no longer isolated on the global stage. A tidal wave of condolence messages and delegations poured in, paying their respects to the president and his companions on the crashed helicopter. The United Nations and the Security Council also responded with respect, further showing that the government of the late president was successful in improving the country's international standing. This outpouring of support

really riled up the regime's opponents, leaving them fuming. After the United States backed out of the JCPOA, the general consensus was that Tehran would see much tougher days and would have to back down from its stance. However, president Raisi's government rolled with the punches and used all the cards they had to stand up to the harsh sanctions and meet domestic needs. They implemented a resistance economy, keeping the economic cycle going and factories running. Currency fluctuations caused a few hiccups but didn't deal a knockout blow to Iran. In fact, Iran's resilience in the face of these external pressures gave the Islamic Republic a real boost in credibility and reputation. President Raisi was able to iron out some disagreements with regional countries tactfully and rationally in their diplomatic interactions, helping to calm the waters and pro-

mote stability. He even managed to keep relations afloat with European countries while strengthening ties with the Axis of Resistance and maintaining support for the Palestinian people. By following the leader's recommendations and creating internal coordination, president Raisi's government steered through crises and solidified Iran's regional standing.

From all these measures, the rapprochement agreement between Iran and Saudi Arabia really stood out. Do you think this deal and the subsequent warming of ties had a calming effect on the region?

Yes, it surely did. But it's worth pointing out that two factors prompted Saudi Arabia and other regional countries to dial down the tension and iron out their differences with Iran. The first factor was realizing that the president