Putin Asks for Expansion of Constructive Cooperation with Iran



TEHRAN (FNA)- Russian President Vladimir Putin in a message on Tuesday congratulated Nowruz to his Iranian counterpart President Hassan Rouhani, and stressed the need for further development of ties and constructive cooperation between the two countries.

"Accept sincere congratulations on the occasion of Nowruz," Putin said in his message.

"Iran-Russia relations are based on the traditions of warm friendship, good neighborliness, and mutual respect. I am confident that the expansion of constructive cooperation in all areas is in favor of our nations as well as strengthening regional stability and security," he added.

Putin wished good health for Rouhani and success for the Iranian nation.

Nowruz, which coincides with the first day of spring on the solar calendar (this year to start on March 21), is mostly celebrated in Iran, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan,

India, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Pakistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

The International Day of Nowruz was registered on the UNESCO List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity on February 23, 2010.

For Iranians, Nowruz is a celebration of renewal and change, a time to visit relatives and friends, and pay respect to senior family members.

Iranians welcome the New Year by wearing new clothes and setting the Haft Seen, a table containing seven items starting with the letter 'S'; Sabzeh (freshly grown greens), Samanu (sweet wheat paste), Senjed (jujube), Seeb (apple), Seer (garlic), Serkeh (vinegar) and Somaq (sumac).

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