

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the Iranian flag. It features the green, white, and red horizontal stripes, with the red emblem (Khatam Anbar) in the center and the Persian motto 'Allah, Akbar' written in white on the green and red bands.

Radio in Iran

- *DX-Parlamentet, Ullared, 13th to 15th June 2025*
- *Discover Iran for the DXer*
- *How you can listen to radio from Iran on medium wave*
- *What is the best time for listening to Iran from Scandinavia and Europe?*
- *Lecture by Bjarke Vestesen, longtime DXer, Denmark*



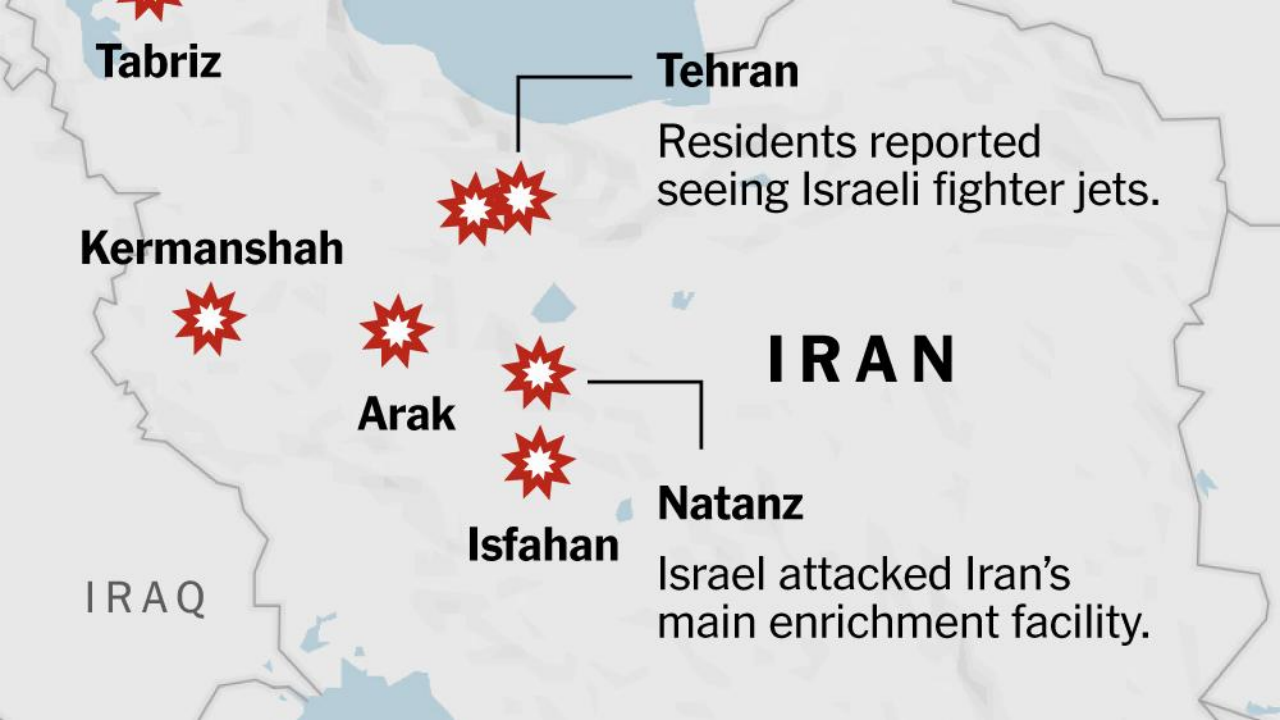
Crime reporter, longtime DXer and tour leader

- Crime news reporter at Danish tabloid newspaper Ekstra Bladet (like Expressen and Aftonbladet in Sweden)
- Tour leader for Danish travel agency since 1998 in Iran, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, Saudi-Arabia, Egypt, Morocco, Algeria, Central Asia and Balkan
- Have been up to 60-75 times in Iran since 1997 both as tour leader and on private visits. Spent almost three month in Iran in 2018
- University degree in contemporary middle eastern history from University of Southern Denmark
- DXer since 1978 – for the last 20 years mostly on medium wave with The Middle East as main interest

Iran's past, present and future

- Prejudices on Iran
- Iran in numbers
- Don't go to Iran
- Iranian provinces regarding radio listening
- How to listen to Iran on medium wave
- Identifications, national anthem and announcements
- Best time for listening
- How I listen to Iran on radio
- Questions





Iran always in headlines: Israel-attack on Iran



Iran makes headline

- Custom arrests of foreigners
- The death of Mahsa Amini in 2022 in the custody of the morality police
- Large demonstrations following her death
- Iran's support for Hamas and Islamic Jihad in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon
- Constantly accusations on Iran from Israel and USA
- War with Israel and The West
- Close relations to Russia, China, Turkey etc.





This is also Iran,
you haven't seen

Iran in numbers

- 90 million inhabitants
- Iran is 3,7 times larger than Sweden, or 4,6 times larger than Germany
- Teheran is capital with 16 million inhabitants
- Run by the shah up to 1979
- Islamic republic since the revolution in 1979
- President since July 2024 is reformist Masoud Pezeshkian



The background of the slide features three large, semi-transparent portraits of Iranian religious leaders. On the left is Ayatollah Khomeini, in the center is Ayatollah Khamenei, and on the right is Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The portraits are set against a dark, textured background that appears to be a wall or a large banner. The title "How we all know Iran" is overlaid on the left side of the slide, partially covering the portrait of Ayatollah Khomeini.

How we all know Iran

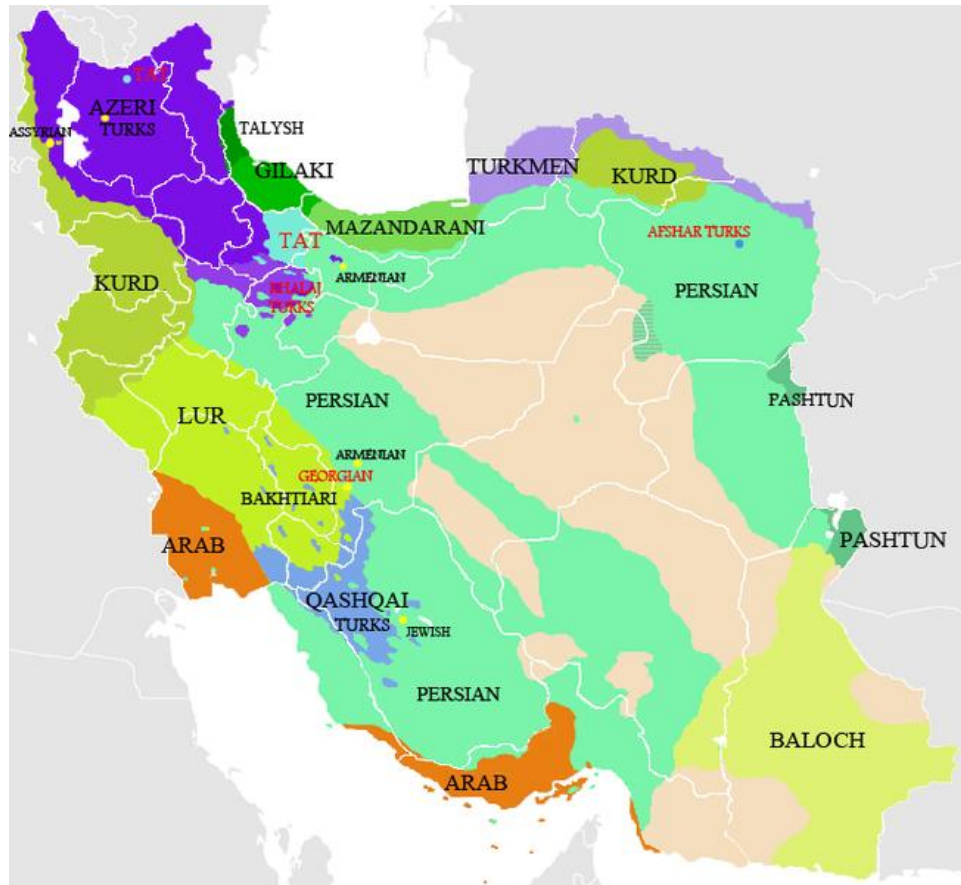
- Medieval
- Ultra religious
- Dangerous
- Producing nuclear weapons
- Supporting terrorist movements
- No democracy
- Women are covered
- Westerners are held hostage
- Alcohol is banned
- Just don't go to Iran

31 Iranian provinces – all with radio stations

- All provinces are different in ethnic groups and ethnic languages
- Most of them have programmes on national and provincial radio stations
- Most local stations have local identifications at xx.30 and specially around Iranian midnight (22.30 Scandinavian summer time)



Minority groups in Iran

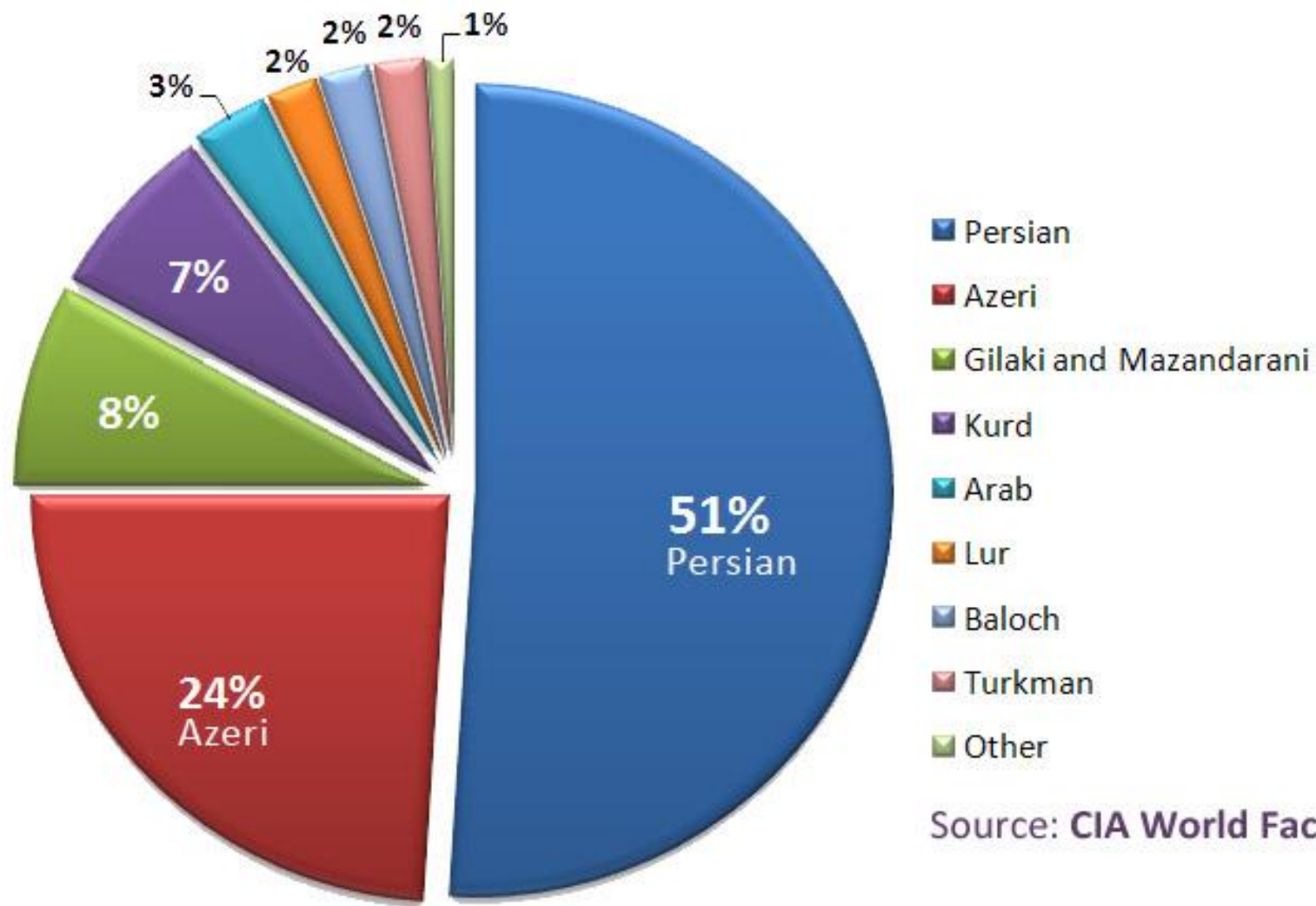


Minority groups all over Iran



Minority groups in Iran

Major Ethnic Groups in Iran



Source: CIA World Fact Book



The modern Farsi/ Persian language

- Indo-European language family related to Latin, Greek, Slavic, and Germanic
- About half of Iran's population has Persian as their mother tongue
- In music, poetry, and art, Persians see themselves as the nation's leading force
- Persian dominates in Iran's major cities
- Persian is an ancient language developed through three historical periods
- Modern Persian dates from the year 900 – influenced by Arabic in the region. Today, Persian is both a literary and everyday language.

SHAHNAMEH

THE EPIC OF THE
PERSIAN KINGS

ABOLQASEM FERDOWSI

Iranian exile radio and television

- Only focus here on official IRIB radio stations broadcasting from Iran
- No unofficial radio in Iran
- This is not part of the lecture:
- Radio Farda previous transmitting on MW and SW, future uncertain after closing down due to Trump decree
- Radio Iran International based in London, previous on SW

The logo for Radio Iran International is set against a blue background with a subtle grid pattern. It features a red rectangle on the left containing the Persian word 'ایران' (Iran) in white, and a blue rectangle on the right containing the word 'IRAN' in white. Below these rectangles, the word 'INTERNATIONAL' is written in white, spaced-out capital letters.

ایران IRAN
INTERNATIONAL



Radio and television in Iran

- IRIB – Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting
- Monopoly on all broadcasts on radio and television in Iran
- According to itself, it is independent of the Iranian government
- Nevertheless the supreme leader of Iran, Ali Khamenei, is head of broadcasting – actually he is head of everything in Iran, including the religious establishment as well as politically



Radio and television in The Islamic Republic of Iran

- IRIB Radio Iran is the main national radio on mediumwave offering a wide range of services
- They include the main IRIB Radio Iran channel on 558 kHz transmitted nationwide from Teheran, part of provincial stations, IRIB World Service and special services during religious festivals and holiday
- More than 180 domestic and international radio-television channels
- English-spoken Press TV terrestrial in Iran, on satellite and internet

IRIB provincial stations on mediumwave

- Provincial stations all over Iran produce programmes in Farsi and dialects like Azeri, Kurdish and Gilaki
- Locally programmes usually during daytime 06.00-20.00 local time (02.30-16.30 UTC)
- Usually relay of nationwide programme at night, therefore many stations in parallel, but with local ID often at xx.30.
- Most provincial stations broadcasts a 90-minute programme "Shabhaya Iran" (which means "Iran Nights"), produces by each station in turn
- Often traditional Iranian music and reading of poems from famous poets like Rami, Ferdowsi, Khayam, Saadi and Hafez (illustrated left)





IRIB World Service

- IRIB World Service, also known as Pars Today, is the official broadcasting network of Iran
- It operates on several mediumwave frequencies for listeners in The Middle East, West Asia, Caucasus and Central Asia
- It has broadcasts in Arabic, Kurdish, Azeri, Turkish, Tajik, Dari (dialect of Farsi), Pashto and Turkmen
- It also has many broadcasts on shortwave – with English twice a day a.o.

dxguides.info

Radio and television in Iran

- How to find the frequencies:
- World Radio TV Handbook
- Tony Rogers lists on British DX Clubs homepage – unfortunately not available at this time, but promised to return asap

The Middle East and Caucasus on Mediumwave



**Guide to mediumwave
broadcasting in the
Middle East and Caucasus**

June 2024

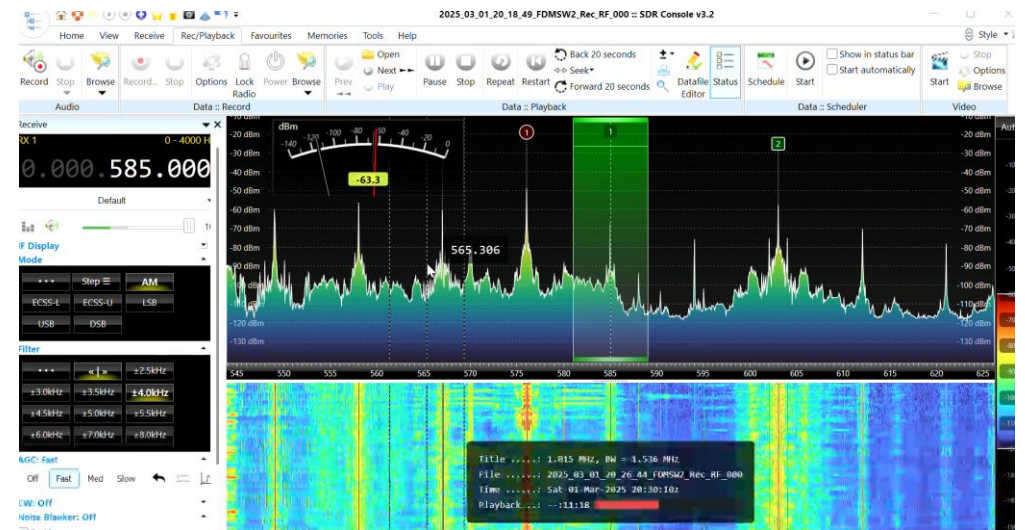
WORLD RADIO TV HANDBOOK
WRTH
THE DIRECTORY OF GLOBAL BROADCASTING

2025

The World's Most
Comprehensive and
Up-to-Date Guide
to Broadcasting

Radio stations for different subjects

- **Radio Farhang** (Radio Culture) broadcasts Islamic talk, education and information, and includes live broadcasts from parliament. It is on **585 kHz**.
- **Radio Quran** broadcasts religious programmes, including Quran recitations and interpretations. It is on **900 kHz**.
- **Radio Ma'aref** (Radio Education) broadcasts prayers and programmes on religion and ethics from studios in Qom. It is on **1071 kHz**.
- **Radio Payam** (Radio Message) is based in Tehran and broadcasts news, talk and music. It is on **1188 kHz**.
- All of them heard on medium wave in Denmark usually after sunset and around midnight Scandinavian time



All IRIB- stations on MW and FM

- **IRIB Radio Iran** – the oldest and most established radio station, started in 1940
- **IRIB Radio Farhang** – culture and society
- **IRIB Radio Payam** – Information and entertainment
- **IRIB Radio Quran** – religious programmes
- **IRIB Radio Maaref** – religious education
- **IRIB Radio Javan** – youth channel
- **IRIB Radio Varzesh** – sport
- **IRIB Radio Salamat** – health matters
- **IRIB Radio Eghtesad** – economy and business
- **IRIB Radio Ava** – music
- **IRIB Radio Goftogoo** – Interviews and talks
- **IRIB Radio Namayesh** – art and drama
- **IRIB Radio Talavat** – quran reading
- **IRIB Radio Monasebati** – religious celebrations
- **IRIB Radio Ziarat** – religious pilgrimage (hajj to Mecca)

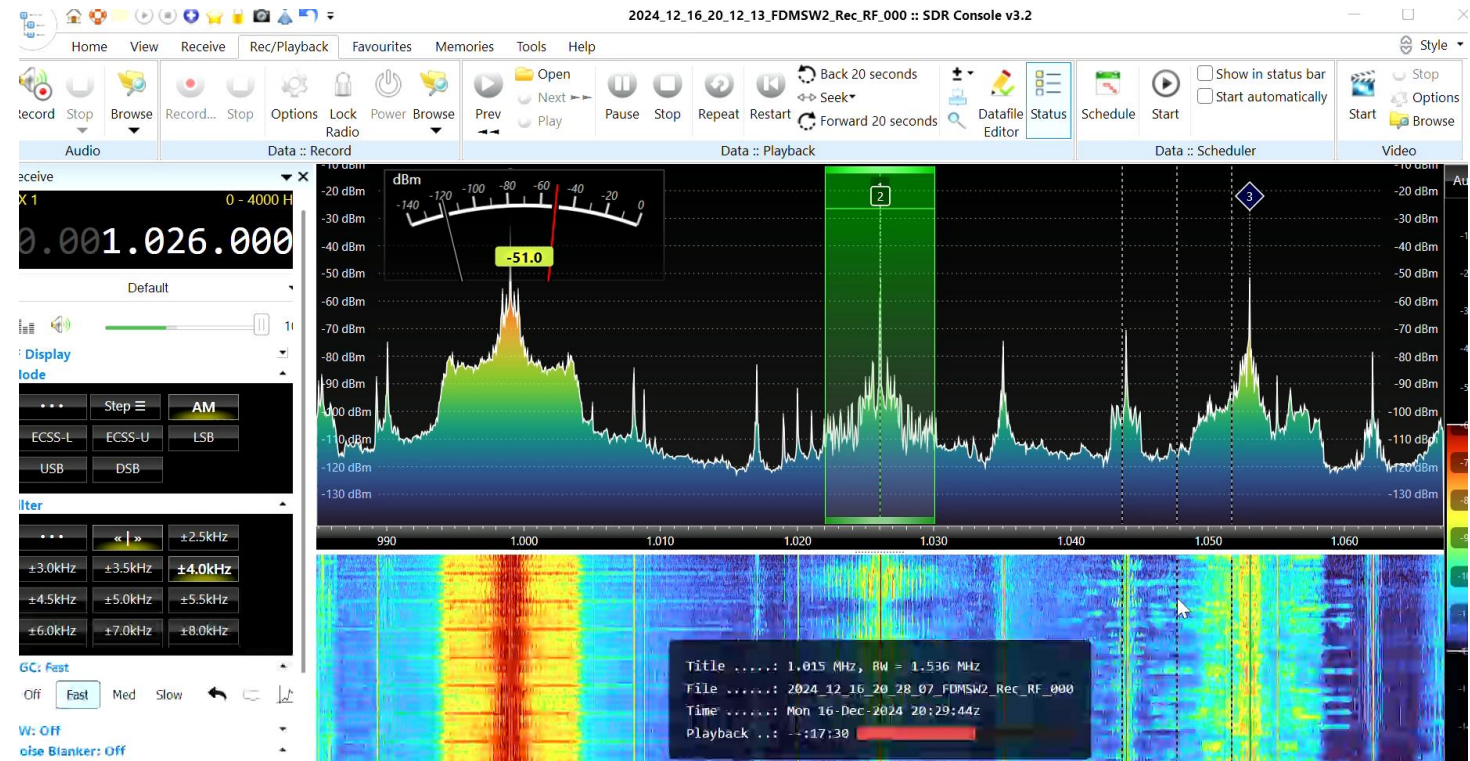
Iranian National Anthem

- Iranian National Anthem
- Often played around midnight local Iranian time (20.30 UTC)
- Played usually on almost all radio stations on Medium Wave
- More common is another anthem introduced after revolution



Identification of Iranian MW-stations

- Best listening time is midnight Iranian time (20.30 UTC)
- Three typical bell rings
- It is 24 midnight (bisto charhar)
- Here is Tabriz, provincial radio station, Eastern Azerbaijan.
- Anthem composed right after Islamic revolution in 1979 for radio and television. Mostly played at xx.00 local time
- Followed by news bulletin
- Detailed news at 14.00, 20.00, 22.00 and 24.00 local time



Help for identifikasi

- When you listen in real time, find parallel listening on apps and webpages
- I usually use the following:
- IRIB websites (google it)
- Online Radio Box (both as web page and app – but seems that Iranian stations have disappeared from app)
- Google station name and find streaming online

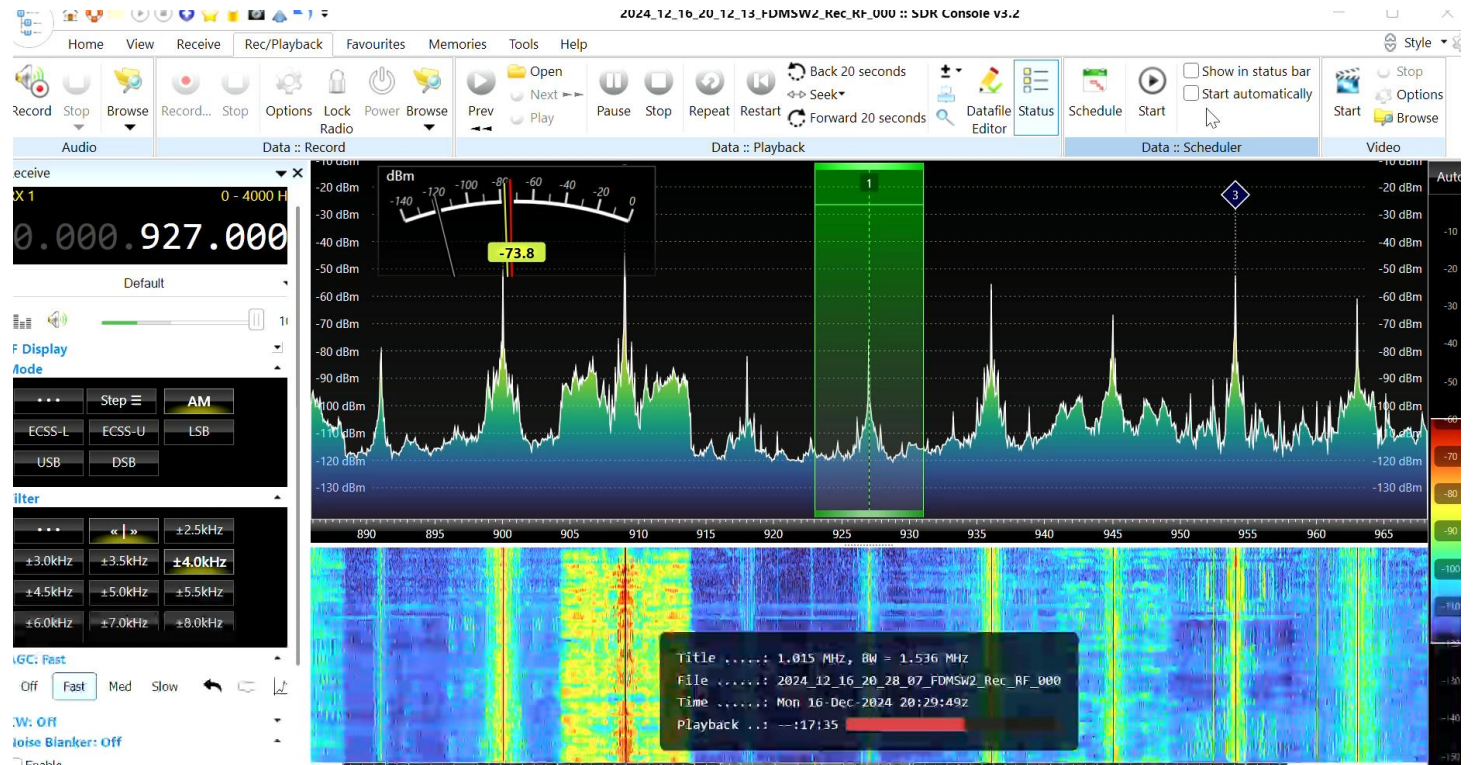


How ID sounds

- Inja (capital) ast. Sedaye Jomhuriye Islamiye Iran, shabakeye ostaniye (province)
- Usually after the ring bells and before revolutionary anthem, followed by news bulletin
- Left photo: Radio shop in downtown Teheran with a large variety of radios – also wellknown brands like Tecsun
- Iranians often watch BBC Farsi on hidden satellite dishes as it is forbidden by law

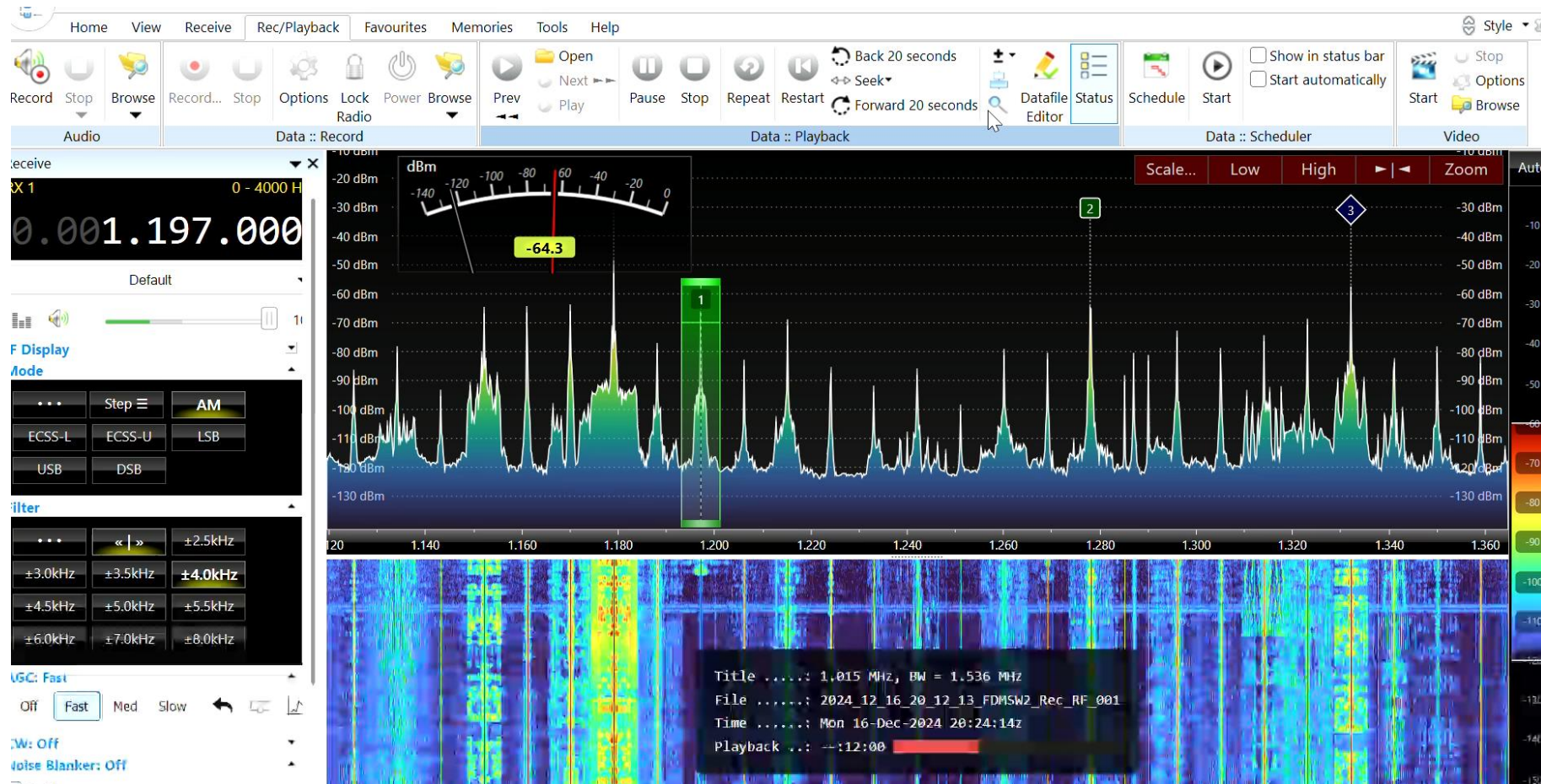


Always listen for bells and anthem

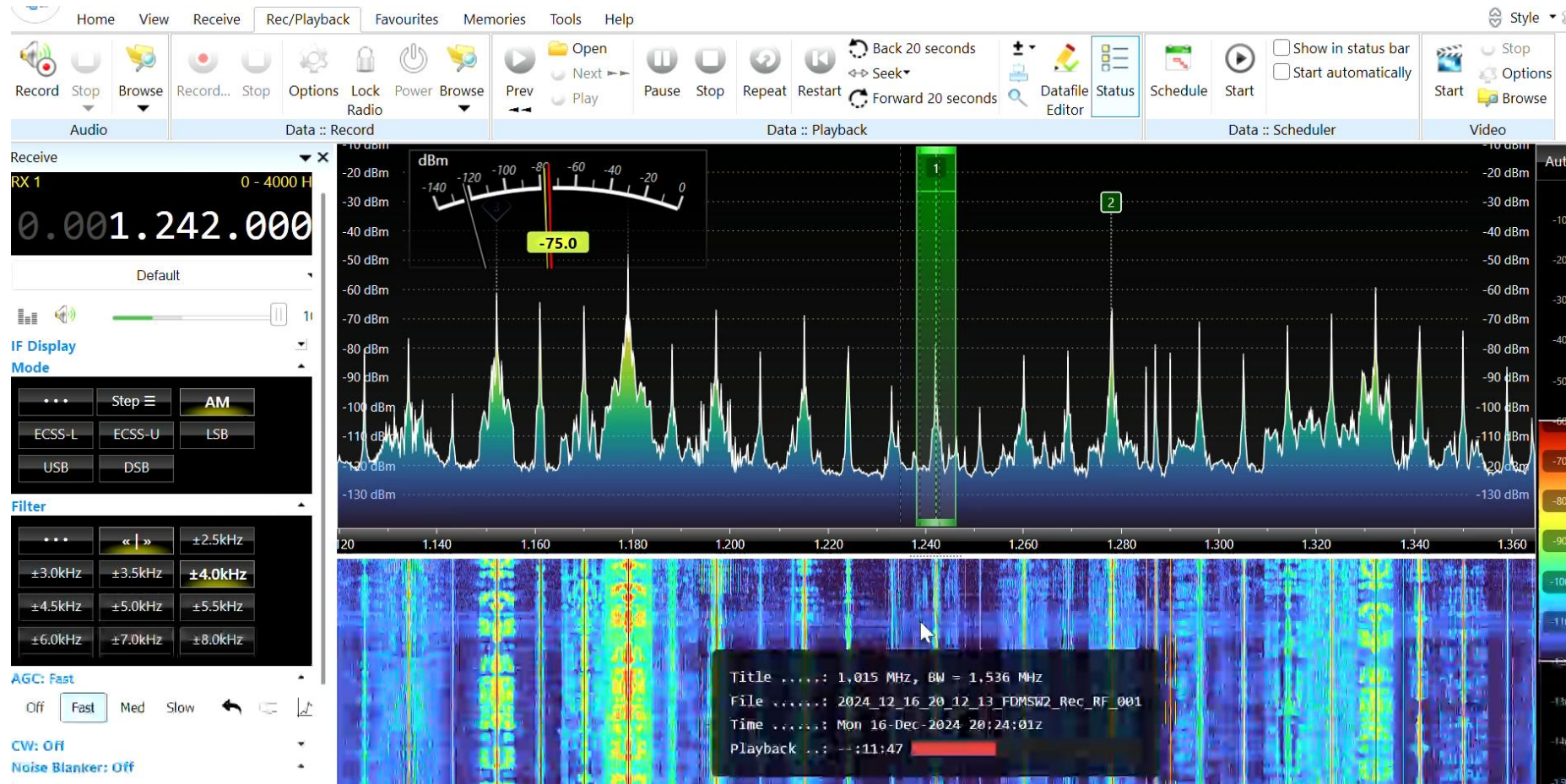


- 927 kHz – a mix of Power 927 from Italy and IRIB Radio Lorestan (clear ID for ‘bisto charhar’ and ‘Lorestan’)
- Always listen for the bells and anthem

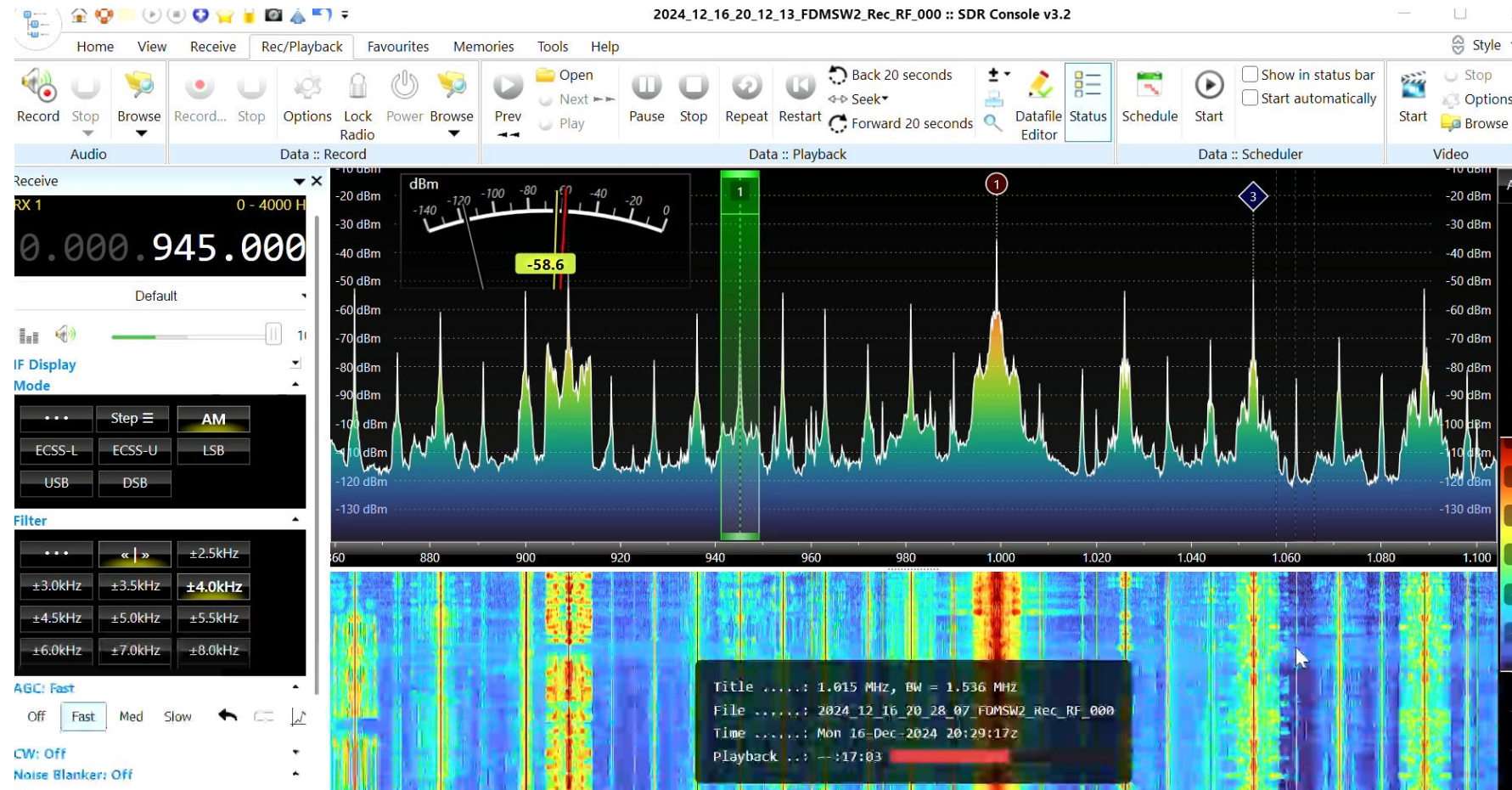
Farsi (1197 kHz IRIB Radio Ardabil)



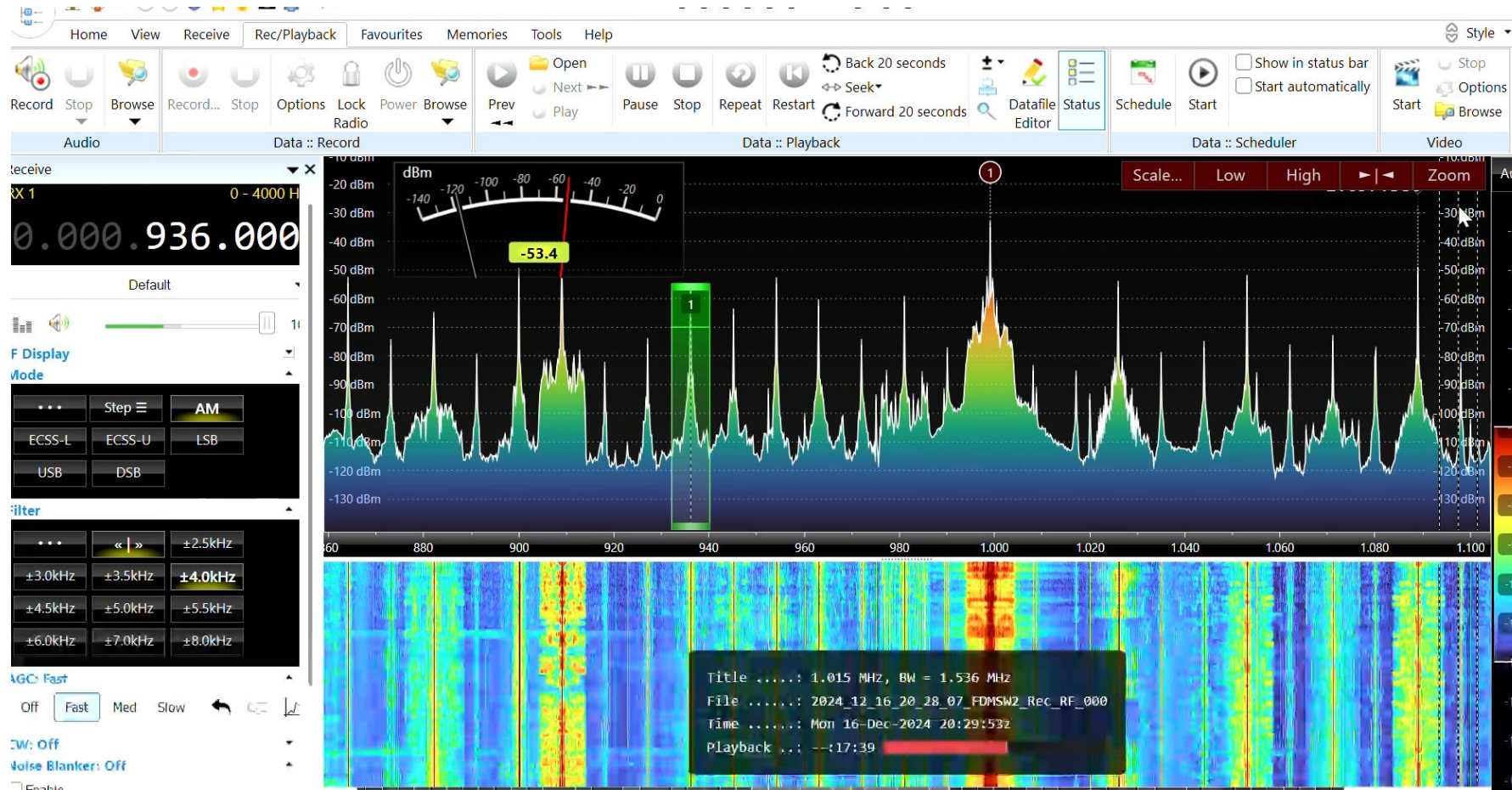
Arabic (1242 kHz Radio Sultanate Oman)



Hebrew heard on 945 kHz (Galei Zahal and a surprise at 00:54)

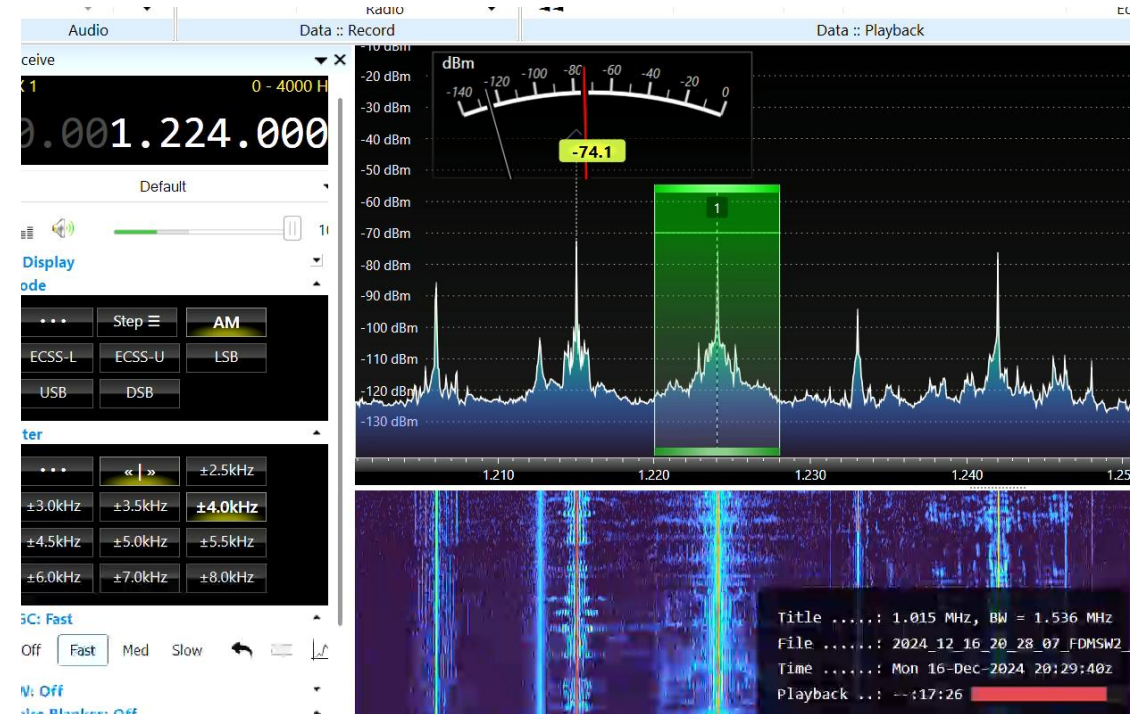


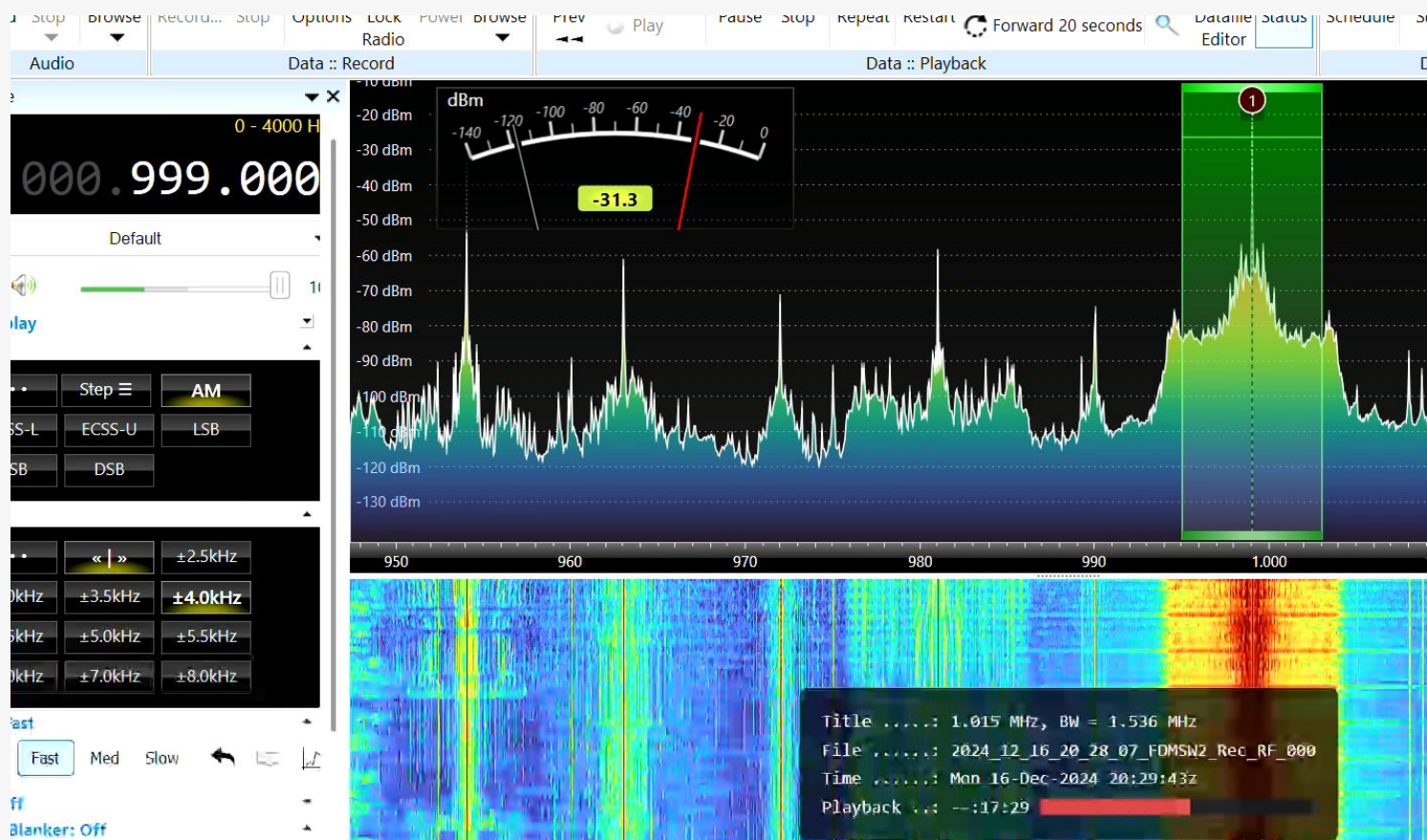
Typical ID from IIRB-stations (936 kHz Radio Chichest, Miandoab)



Arabic 1224 kHz (IRIB World Service, Kish)

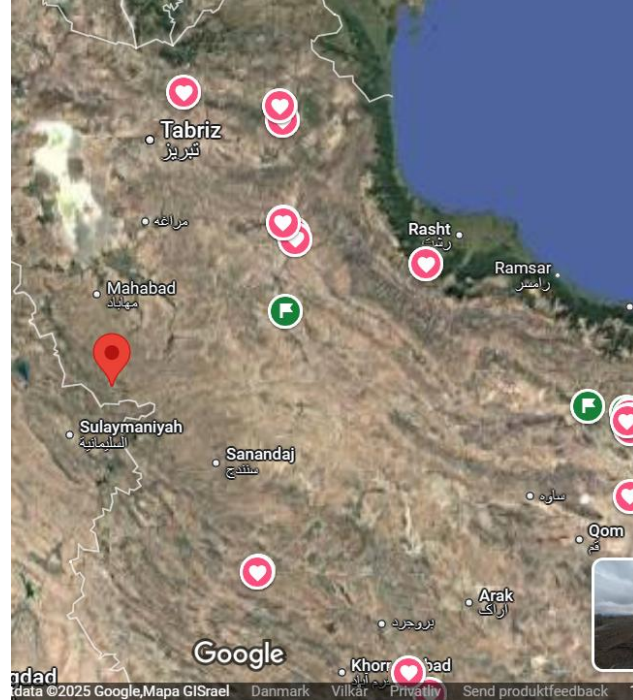
- 1224 kHz
- Transmitter site: Kish Island, Hormozgan, Iran - 300 kW.
- 24 hours Daily Arabic Persian Gulf countries and Southern Iraq





999 kHz IRIB Radio Kordestan, Baneh, West Iran

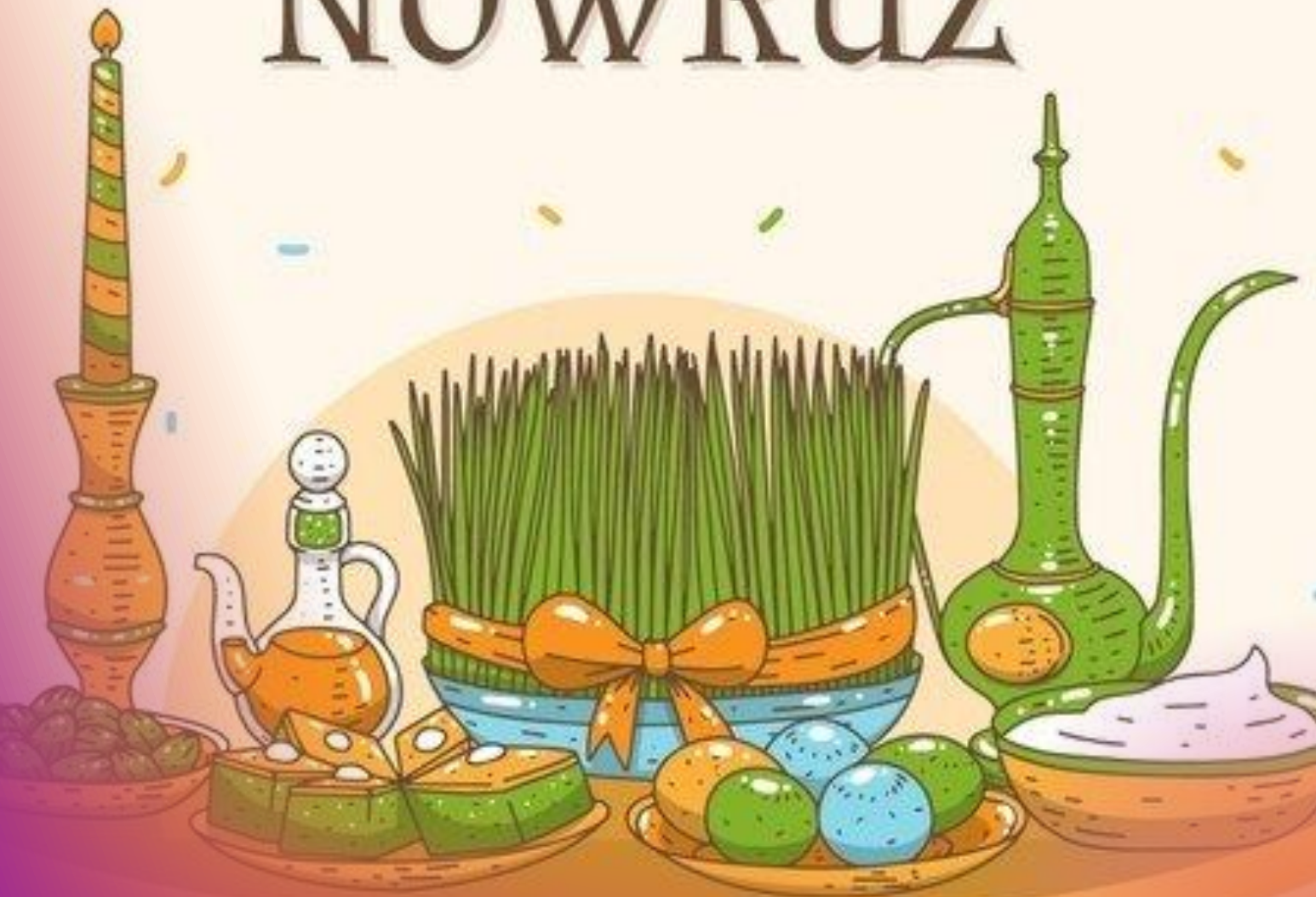
- First heavy strong signal from Radio Rossii
- Audio stop, suddenly sign off by transmitter
- Clear ID from IRIB Radio Kordestan, Baneh in West Iran.
- Language is Kurdish, almost similar to Persian



Use Google Maps for cities and locations



happy NOWRUZ

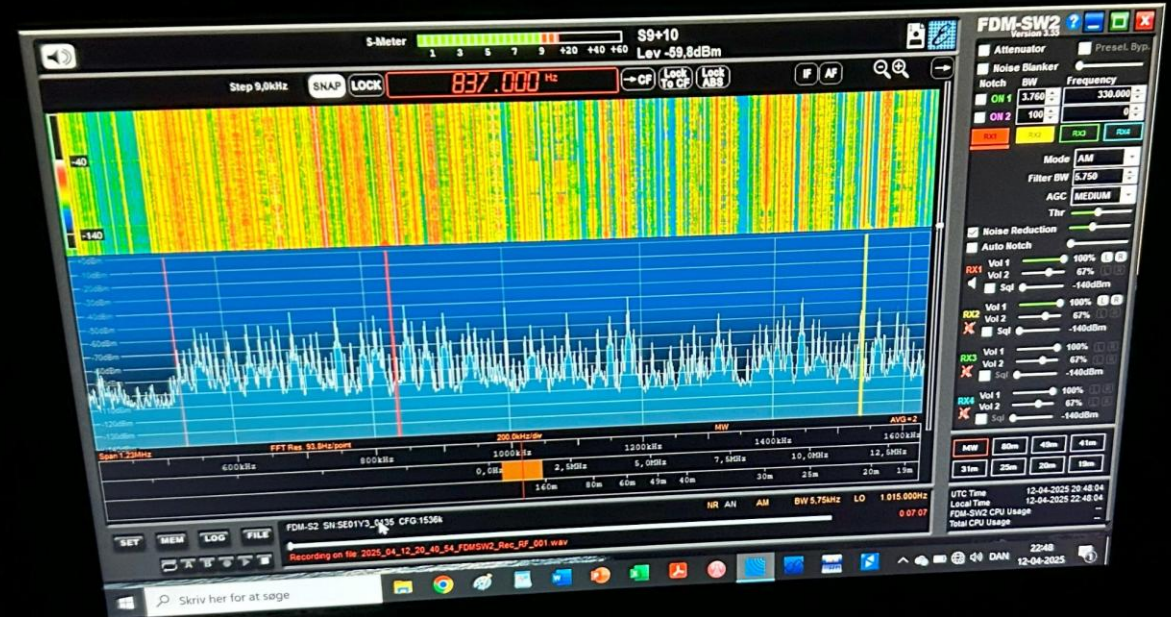


Best time for listening to Iran

- Wintertime, early spring and late autumn
- Always after local sunset
- Midnight in Iran – time difference is 1,5 hours from Scandinavian summertime (20.30 UTC)
- Extra broadcasts heard during holidays and Islamic religious holidays:
- Nowruz (new year): 20/3 2026
- Ramadan: 17/2-19/3 2026
- Muharram: 27/6-26/7 2025
- Ashoura: 5/7-6/7 2025

Recommended frequencies

- 585 kHz Radio Farhang
- 657 kHz Radio Gilan
- 837 kHz Radio Isfahan
- 936 kHz Radio Chichest
- 1026 kHz Radio Tabriz
- 1188 kHz Radio Payam
- 1512 kHz Radio Ardabil



How I listen to Iran on short DXpeditions

- Elad FDM-S2 SDR-radio
- 100-meter wire on ground in southeast direction towards Middle East
- Short time DXpedition in my car on southern part of Amager, few hundred meters from Oresund, close to Malmö and Skåne
- Recordings usually at 20 UTC and 20.30 UTC (midnight in Iran)
- Listening to recordings afterwards usually on Elad-software and SDR-Console



Questions and comments

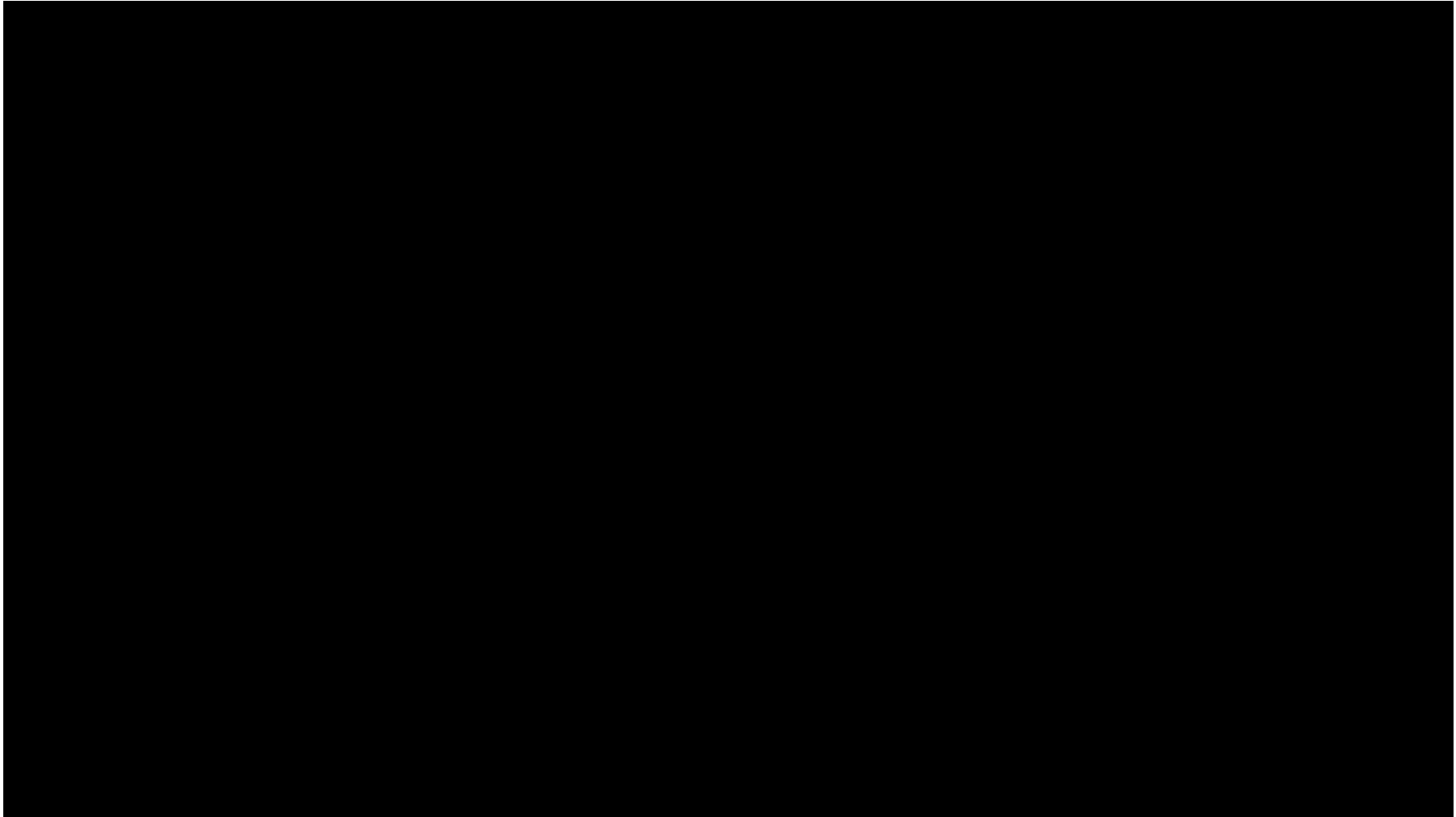
Bjarke Vestesen
vestesen@gmail.com



**In Iran more than
60 times since 1997**



Iran for the tourists





Thank you
and good DX-
hunting for Iran

