

This Day in History

(February 14)

Today is Wednesday; 25th of the Iranian month of Bahman 1396 solar hijri; corresponding to 27th of the Islamic month of Jamadi al-Awwal 1439 lunar hijri; and February 14, 2018, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1483 lunar years ago, on this day in 45 years before Hijra, Abdul-Muttaleb, the paternal grandfather of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), passed away in Mecca and was laid to rest in the Jannat al-Mu'allah Cemetery – desecrated and destroyed by Wahhabi heretics in 1925. His father was the monotheist Hashem, a direct descendant of the Prophet Abraham's (AS) firstborn son, Prophet Ishmael (AS). Named Shaibah, he was brought to Medina by his uncle Muttaleb, following the death of his father Hashem. When the people of Mecca saw Shaibah with his uncle, they thought he was his slave, and called him Abdul Muttaleb (slave of Muttaleb). Although Muttaleb tried to explain that the boy was his nephew, the name stuck. Abdul Muttaleb took over the duties of Saqaya and Rifada when his uncle died. In the year known as Aam al-Feel (Year of the Elephant) in which his grandson the Prophet of Islam was to be born, a miraculous incident happened, when Abraha, the governor of Abyssinian-occupied Yemen, riding an elephant, marched upon Mecca to raze down the holy Ka'ba and in the process his soldiers seized the camel-herd of Abdul Muttaleb, who boldly approached the invader and demanded the return of his camels. When Abraha mockingly asked him as to why he is not requesting that the Ka'ba should be spared, Abdul Muttaleb said: I am the owner of camels, while the Ka'ba has its own Owner. No sooner did the elephantine army of Abraha tried to storm the city, a swarm of tiny birds appeared overhead by the command of God Almighty, raining death upon men and beasts by dropping pebbles upon them and reducing them to resemble chewed straw, as Surah al-Feel of the holy Qur'an states. To Abdul-Muttaleb goes the credit of rediscovery and unearthing of the spring of Zamzam which God Almighty had caused to burst from under the feet of a thirsty little Ishmael, as his mother Hajar, frantically ran between the hillocks of Safa and Marwa, trying to find water for her seemingly dying son. When grandson Prophet Mohammad (SAWA) was born and the infant soon became orphan with the death of his father Abdullah, the dotting grandfather Abdul-Muttaleb took care of the boy until his own death 8 years later, but before breathing his last, gave custody of the child to his other son, the monotheist Imran Abul Taleb. Abdul-Muttaleb's another son was the valiant Hamzah, who was also a devout Muslim and achieved martyrdom in the Battle of Ohad.

1270 solar years ago, on this day in 748 AD, after years of secret networks and simmering discontent, the Hashemiyya Movement came to surface as the Iranian warlord Vehzaadaan-Pour Vandaad Hormoz, known as Abu Muslim Khorasani, drove out the battle-hardened governor, Nasr ibn Sayyar, to capture Marv, capital of the Omayyad province of Khorasan, marking the consolidation of the Abbasid revolt. With the slogan of restoring to the most worthy descendent of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), the rule of the vast Islamic realm – stretching from Spain in the west till the borders of China and India in the east – the Abbasids attracted the support of both Arabs and Persians to the movement to overthrow the Godless Omayyad regime. Marv became a base for spread of the movement in Khorasan and Transoxiana that resulted in a string of defeats for the Omayyads in Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Egypt, and led to the emergence in 750 of a new dynasty of usurpers. The Abbasids, who claimed descent from the Prophet's uncle Abbas, exploited the sentiments of the Muslim masses to deprive the Imams of the Ahl al-Bayt of their divinely-decreed right of political leadership.

989 lunar years ago, on this day in 450 AH, Abu'l-Abbas Ahmad ibn Ali an-Najashi, passed away in Iraq. He is considered the earliest and among the most authentic Shi'ite Muslim scholars of "Ilm ar-Rijal" (literally "Knowledge of Men"; it refers to a discipline of Islamic religious science in which the narrators of hadith are evaluated). His book "Rijal an-Najashi" has been the most reliable source of information about early ulema and scholars of the School of the Ahl al-Bayt of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA). Born with an inquisitive mind that enabled him to embark on a scrutiny of sources and narrators, he belonged to a family of eminent scholars. His seventh ancestor, Abdullah an-Najashi, the governor of Ahvaz and Fars during the reign of Mansour Dawaniqui (2nd self-styled caliph of the usurper Abbasid regime), was a student of Imam Ja'far Sadeq (AS). He compiled the Imam's answers to his queries under the title "Risalat-Abdullah an-Najashi".

669 solar years ago, on this day in 1349 AD, over a thousand Jews were publicly burned to death by Christian mobs while the remainder of their population was forcibly driven away from the German city of Strasbourg, as part of the pogroms, the Church used to frequently conduct against the followers of Judaism in Europe. The massacre followed the deadly bubonic plague of 1348 which was blamed on the presence of Jews in Christian lands. The practices and behaviour of the Jews was also partly responsible for such massacres, because the Jews played the role of money-lenders and manipulated the economy, which brought about serious problems. European chroniclers report that the Jews were arrogant and unwilling to grant anyone else precedence. Those dealing with them could hardly come to an agreement with them. The Jews' intransigence, coupled with their slandering of Prophet Jesus and his Virgin mother, Mary (SA), were the reason for their frequent massacres by Christians.

535 solar years ago, on this day in 1483 AD, founder of the Moghal Dynasty of South Asia, Zahir-ud-Din Babar, was born in Andijan in the Fergana Valley in what is now Uzbekistan. He accepted Shah Ismail I, the founder of the Safavid Empire of Iran, as suzerain. This alliance enabled him to chalk out an independent kingdom in Kabul, which he used as a base to recapture Samarqand with Safavid help, but soon lost it. Later with his combined Tajik and Turkic military, he conquered the northern parts of the Subcontinent by defeating the Afghan king, Ibrahim Lodhi of Delhi at the Battle of Panipat in 1526 and then routing the huge Rajput-Afghan joint army of Rana Sanga in 1527 to establish the Moghal Empire. He was a poet in both Persian and his Turkic, and was a devotee of the Ahl al-Bayt of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA).

261 lunar years ago, on this day in 1178 AH, the Hadith scholar, Abdul-Karim Ibn Ahmad al-Halabi, passed away. He was from Aleppo as his surname suggests, and though he went blind, he wasn't demoralized and remained a prominent scholar. He has left behind numerous compilations, including "Ad'iyat as-Safar" or supplications to God for safety while on journey.

239 solar years ago, on this day in 1779 AD, Captain James Cook, who is supposed to have discovered Australia, was killed by Hawaiians near Kealakekua on Hawaii Island.

80 solar years ago, on this day in 1938 AD, illegal Zionist migrants from Europe, who formed the Palmach terrorist outfit in British-ruled Palestine, stormed the Palestinian village of Sa'sa, and for two days indulged in the massacre of men, women, and children, killing over 60 Muslims, as part of their ethnic cleansing campaign to create the illegitimate state of Israel.

73 solar years ago, on this day in 1945 AD, Britain and the US jointly conducted the deadliest bombardment of World War 2 by using a total of 1,773 aircraft to flatten German cities and towns. For three continuous days bombs were rained on population centres, turning them into rubble and killing at least 250,000 men, women and children.

29 solar years ago, on this day in 1989 AD, Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), issued the historic death verdict against the Indian-born British apostate, Salman Rushdie, for writing the blasphemous book "The Satanic Verses", days after the devilish novel drew Muslim blood in India and Pakistan. Rushdie, who was commissioned by the Zionists and certain western regimes for writing this sacrilegious book to insult the sanctities of Islam, has been hiding ever since under protection of Britain to escape execution.

7 solar years ago, on this day in 2011 AD, the people of the Persian Gulf island state of Bahrain launched their peaceful uprising against the repressive Aal-e Khalifa minority regime, through a series of mass demonstrations in the capital Manama. The people's demand for democratic changes, including end of discrimination against the long-suppressed Shi'ite Muslim majority, was met with teargas and bullets. The "Maidan Lu'lu" (Pearl Square) soon became the site of peaceful mass protests that were savagely attacked by the regime with the help of Saudi Arabian soldiers who desecrate mosques and Hussainiyahs, and burn copies of the holy Qur'an.

6 solar years ago, on this day in 2012 AD, US filmmaker Sean Christopher Stone embraced Islam in Iran, and added "Ali" to his name. Son of the famous film director, Oliver Stone, he told a news conference, following his conversion: "It's a mistake to believe that Islam is antagonistic towards Judaism and Christianity. What we need is to understand each other's beliefs and to establish dialogue. The most important thing is I hope I can help Americans to understand the true nature of Islam. I feel good when I enter a mosque. I believe there is only one God."

(Courtesy: IRIB English Radio – <http://parstoday.com/en>)

Iran to Expand Cinematic Activities in Asia-Pacific Countries



Iran's Cultural Attaché in China Mohammad Rassoul Almasieh.

TEHRAN (FNA)- Iran took part in an Asia-Pacific meeting in China to expand cinematic cooperation with the regional countries.

The meeting titled 'Film Joint Production and Market' was

also attended by representatives of Thailand, the Philippines, Pakistan, Vietnam and Australia.

Iran's Cultural Attaché in China Mohammad Rassoul Almasieh said that Iran has been always

enthusiastic about expanding cooperation in different fields, including the cinema sector.

Asian countries' rich culture and history has made their cooperation inevitable, Almasieh said speaking about Iran's capabilities in film production.

"Iran is able to train a new generation of filmmakers," he added.

Almasieh said that Iran produces 200 films annually of which some are introduced in film festivals, but still there are many films that do not take part in festivals, but are able to attract viewers.

"Iran's cinema is rooted in its culture, civilization and literature," he said, adding, "That is why it always attracts viewers."

The Asia-Pacific Film Festival has been held annually since 1954 in an Asian country designated

by the Board of Directors of the Federation of Motion Picture Producers in Asia-Pacific.

The federation was renamed Asian Film Producers' Federation in 1957 when membership was enlarged to include South Korea. From 1982, the federation changed its constitution and name to include the Pacific. Today, the Federation of Motion Picture Producers in Asia Pacific (FPA) is the organizing body for the Asia-Pacific Film Festival. Each year, the Board of Directors selects a member as the festival's host city. Participating member cities are Bangkok, Bombay, Hanoi, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Kuwait, Manila, Moscow, Seoul, Singapore, Sydney, Taipei, Tashkent, Tbilisi, Tehran, Tokyo and Wellington.

Iran, Germany Opt for Broadening of Environmental Cooperation

TEHRAN (FNA)- Head of Iran's Department of Environment Issa Kalantari and German Ambassador to Iran Michael Klor-Berchtold in a meeting in Tehran underlined the need for the expansion of mutual cooperation in the field of environment.

"We are facing a lot of environmental problems. Especially in the area of water, our country is facing numerous problems and to tackle these challenges we are required to make serious decisions," Kalantari said during the meeting in the Iranian capital on Monday.

He also touched upon the challenge of polluted air in Iranian megacities and metropolises and ascertained that the Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes technological interaction in the field of manufacturing environmentally-friendly means of public transportation.

Sharing knowledge and experience in the field of environment preservation and conservation was another field Kalantari called for Germans' help.

During this meeting the German diplomat voiced his country's readiness to expand environmental cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Klor-Berchtold also voiced disappointment over US withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, forged in 2015 for nations to band together to slash global carbon emissions.

In relevant remarks in August 2017, Klor-Berchtold voiced his country's eagerness to broaden bilateral ties with Iran in different trade fields.

"Germany likes to develop dynamic relations with Iran in different economic fields," Klor-Berchtold said in a meeting with Governor of Iran's East Azarbaijan Province Esmail Jabarzadeh.

"We are ready to utilize all potentials in Iran's Northwestern province to bolster bilateral ties in different fields, including the pharmaceutical and car manufacturing sectors," German envoy added.

He reiterated that his country maintains dynamic and flexible ties with Iran. Jabarzadeh, for his part, expressed the hope for the facilitation of commuting between Iranian and German citizens and the process of issuing business visas.

He also said that developing ties in the fields of new and renewable energies, environmental issues as well as revival of Urmia Lake were among other topics discussed during his meeting with German ambassador to Tehran.

'Alphabet' Nominated for Best Animation at Norwegian Film Festival

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iranian short animation 'Alphabet' directed by Kianoush Abedi has been nominated for Best Animation Award at 2nd Norwegian International Seagull Short Film Festival.

The nomination comes as Abedi's animated piece recently snatched two awards at the 5th Speechless Film Festival in US

and the 5th Festival Sayulita in Mexico.

The 6-minute animated piece 'Alphabet', directed by Kianoush Abedi, narrates the story of people who have forgotten life and are separated from knowledge and truth. The animation depicts a nation that has forgotten the alphabet to life, cannot see, cannot hear, and cannot speak, but the

words are waiting for them impatiently.

The Norwegian International Seagull Short Film and Game Festival is a IMDB Award Listing Qualifier. 148 films under 60 min and 12 international games are taking part in the second edition of the festival, which is set to run through 16-18 February 2018.

Cancer-Fighting Nanorobots Destroy Tumors

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - scientists have successfully programmed nanorobots to shrink tumors by cutting off their blood supply.

In a major advancement in nanomedicine, Arizona State University (ASU) scientists, in collaboration with researchers from the National Center for Nanoscience and Technology (NCNST), of the Chinese Academy of Sciences

Say they have developed the first fully autonomous, DNA robotic sys-

tem for a very precise drug design and targeted cancer therapy.

"This technology is a strategy that can be used for many types of cancer, since all solid tumor-feeding blood vessels are essentially the same," said Hao Yan, director of the ASU Biodesign Institute's Center for Molecular Design and Biomimetics and the Milton Glick Professor in the School of Molecular Sciences.

The successful demonstration of the technology, the first-of-its-kind

study in mammals utilizing breast cancer, melanoma, ovarian and lung cancer mouse models, was published in the journal Nature Biotechnology.

Nanomedicine is a new branch of medicine that seeks to combine the promise of nanotechnology to open up entirely new avenues for treatments, such as making minuscule, molecule-sized nanoparticles to diagnose and treat difficult diseases, especially cancer.

Picture of the Day



Ganjnameh is located 5 kilometers from southwestern Hamedan (the ancient Ecbatana), west of Iran, which served as the capital of Medes and Achaemenids, in a region called Abbas Abad.

Courtesy: Tasnim News Agency