

This Day in History

(June 22)

Today is Thursday; 1st of the Iranian month of Tir 1396 solar hijri; corresponding to 27th of the Islamic month of Ramadhan 1438 lunar hijri; and June 22, 2017, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

2234 solar years ago, on this day in 217 BC, the seesaw Battle of Raphia took place in what is now Gaza, Palestine, in which Ptolemy IV Philopator of Egypt defeated Antiochus III the Great of the Seleucid Empire that spanned Iraq, Iran and parts of Turkey. It was fought near modern Rafah as one of the largest battles between the two Hellenistic kingdoms, the successor states of Alexander of Macedon’s short-lived empire, for control of Syria, and hence known as the Syrian Wars of the ancient world.

1101 solar years ago, on this day in 916 AD, Amir Saif od-Dowla, the Hamdanid ruler of Aleppo and most of Syria, was born. Named Ali, he was the son of Abu’l-Hayja Abdullah bin Hamdan, and was a staunch follower of the Prophet’s Ahl al-Bayt. He was the younger brother of Nasser od-Dowla the Amir of Mosul. He distinguished himself in battles against the Byzantines and could be called the Warden of the Marches of the Islamic frontier of those days by checking the bid by the Christians to plunder Syria. Saif od-Dowla was a man of letters and surrounded himself with prominent intellectual figures, notably the great Arabic poets, al-Mutanabbi and Abu Firas Hamdani, as well as the noted Iranian Islamic philosopher Abu Nasr Farabi. Saif od-Dowla himself was a poet; his delicate short poem on the rainbow shows high artistic ability.

878 lunar years ago, on this day in 560 AH, the famous Spanish Muslim philosopher and Gnostic, Mohi od-Din bin Mohammad Ibn al-Arabi was born in Andalusia, southern Spain.

588 solar years ago, on this day in 1429 AD, the eminent Iranian astronomer and mathematician, Ghiyas od-Din Jamshid Kashani, died under suspicious circumstances in Samarqand at the age of around 50.

490 solar years ago, on this day in 1527 AD, Fathollah, the Muslim general of the Sultan of Demak drives away the Portuguese occupation forces from Sunda Kelapa, and renames the town Jayakarta, which now known as Jakarta is the capital of Indonesia. Fathollah is a national hero in Indonesia.

479 lunar years ago, on this day in 959 AH, the prominent theologian, Hassan bin Zain od-Din, was born in Lebanon to Shaikh Zain od-Din al-Jubai Shaheed Thani (Second Martyr). He was a product of the Najaf Seminary in Iraq and wrote the famous book “Ma’alem al-Usool”. On returning to his homeland he groomed numerous students and passed away in 1011 AH.

424 solar years ago, on this day in 1593 AD, the Battle of Sisak or Kulpa Bozgunu in Turkish, was fought in Croatia on the confluence of the Rivers Sava and Kupa between Ottoman regional forces of Hasan Pasha Predojevic, a notable commander of the Eyalet of Bosnia, and a combined Christian army from the Habsburg lands, mainly the kingdom of Croatia and Austria.

384 solar years ago, on this day in 1633 AD, Italian astronomer, mathematician, and physicist, Galileo Galilei, was forced to renounce his scientific remarks and beliefs before the Church officials. Influenced by the Latin translations of the Arabic works of Islamic scientists, such as Iran’s Abu Rayhan Berouni, he wrote a book in the year 1632 in rejection of Ptolemy’s beliefs on the solar system, supporting the fact that the Earth orbits around the Sun. A year later, the Pope summoned him to Rome and termed his writings as blasphemous, and gave him the option of denying what he said or death.

328 lunar years ago, on this day in 1110 AH, the prominent Islamic scholar, Allamah Mohammad Baqer Majlisi, passed away in his hometown Isfahan and was laid to rest beside his equally renowned father, Mullah Mohammad Taqi Majlisi the First. His grandfather, Maqsood Ali was also a theologian and the genealogy of the family is traced back to the famous scholar, Abu Nu’aym Ahmad bin Abdullah Isfahani, the author “Hulyat-al-Awliya” and “Zikr-e Akhbar-e Isfahan.” By the age of 25, he gained certification of “riwayah” from the famous philosopher Mullah Sadra to teach. He was appointed Shaikh ol-Islam (Chief Religious Leader) by the Safavid King, Shah Sultan Hussain. During his 84-year lifespan, he wrote and compiled as many as 600 volumes of books and treatises, including the famous encyclopedic work “Bihar al-Anwaar” on hadith. His books are considered as the most important reference books for Muslims. He also popularized the Friday Prayers and guided tens of thousands of people towards the school of Prophet Mohammad’s (SAWA) Ahl al-Bayt.

212 solar years ago, on this day in 1805 AD, Giuseppe Mazzini, Italian politician and activist for the unification of Italy, was born. His efforts helped bring about an independent and unified Italy in place of the several separate states, many dominated by foreign powers that existed until the 19th century.

82 lunar years ago, on this day in 1356 AH, Ayatollah Seyyed Hassan Modarris was martyred through poisoning by agents of the despotic British-installed Pahlavi ruler, Reza Khan, in the city of Kashmar, Khorasan, at the age of 68, for his untiring efforts to safeguard freedom and liberties in Iran.

77 solar years ago, on this day in 1940 AD, France formally surrendered to Nazi German leader, Adolf Hitler, by signing a treaty, according to which Marshal Henri Petain was instated as the premier of France with Germany’s support. But, General Charles de Gaulle, with the support of French troops overseas, formed the French government in exile to continue the struggle for liberation of France.

76 solar years ago, on this day in 1941 AD, during World War II, Germany launched Operation Barbarossa against the Soviet Union, after occupying several east European countries. German troops advanced till the outskirts of Moscow, but were bogged down with the arrival of the winter. The Soviets also resolutely resisted and gradually forced the German troops to retreat.

72 solar years ago, on this day in 1945 AD, the World War II battle for Okinawa officially ended. It was the bloodiest battle of the Pacific War Theater resulting in the death of 12,520 Americans and 90,000 Japanese soldiers, plus 130,000 civilians killed in the 81-day campaign.

36 solar years ago, on this day in 1981 AD, the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (God bless him), formally dismissed Abol-Hassan Bani Sadr from the president’s post, a day after the Majlis (parliament) impeached him for his political incompetency and dalliance with anti-revolutionary groups, with 177 affirmative votes, 12 abstentions, and 1 negative vote. Earlier on June 10, the Imam had relieved him of the post of Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces because of his failure to check the advance of the Ba’thist forces. The Iranian nation hailed the move. Upon Bani Sadr’s deposal, his friends, the MKO terrorists, stepped up subversive activities, including the terrorist explosions of 27 June that led to the martyrdom of Chief Justice Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Hussaini Beheshti and 72 officials. On July 29, Bani Sadr, with his mustache shaved off and disguised as a chador-wearing woman, fled the country for France, along with MKO terrorist ringleader, Masoud Rajavi, aboard an aircraft piloted by an anti-revolutionary.

36 solar years ago, on this day in 1981 AD, on the instructions of the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), the Islamic Propagation Organisation was established for enlightening people at home and abroad with the dynamism of Islam, through preaching, publishing of books, holding of seminars, and related ideological and cultural work to strengthen the beliefs of the people.

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

NASA Discovers 10 More Life Supporting Planets



The system, called KOI-961, hosts the three smallest exoplanets known so far. (Photo by NASA)

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - NASA’s planet-hunting telescope has found 10 new planets outside our solar system that are likely the right size and temperature to potentially have life on them.

Iranian Cartoonist Wins 2nd Prize at Turkish Contest

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iranian cartoonist Shahram Rezaei has won second prize at the 34th Aydın Doğan International Cartoon Competition in Turkey.

The first prize went to Ross Thomson from UK, and the third to Raimundo Rucka from Brazil. All three top cartoons focused on the problems of refugees and immigration.

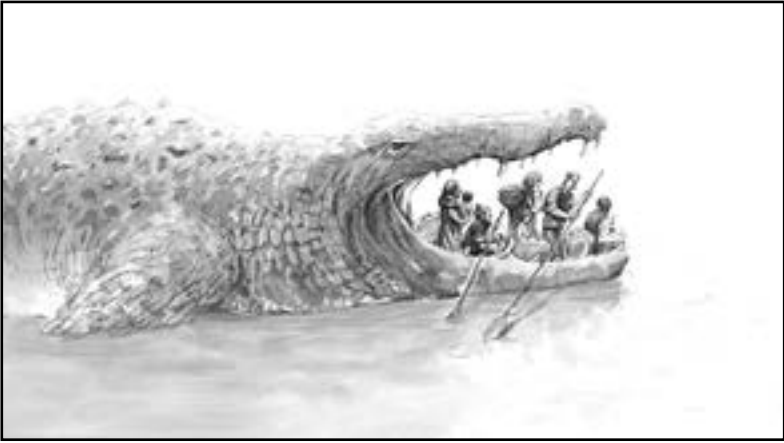
Two other Iranian cartoonists, Dokhshid Qodratipour and Ehsan Ganji, also won the contest’s special prize.

The selection committee, including Iranian artist Mohsen Nouri Najafi,

evaluated the 261 caricatures of 187 artists from the forefront of 40 countries.

Shahram Rezaei is a designer, painter and cartoonist, and holds 175 national and international awards. He teaches design and illustration at university.

The 34th edition of the Aydın Doğan International Cartoon Contest, which is titled as the “number one cartoon contest in the world”, is a competition of works that shed light on world agenda. The award ceremony of 34th Aydın Doğan International Cartoon Competition will be organized in November 2017 in Istanbul.



Remains of Achaemenid Child Discovered in Southern Iran

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Remains of the skull and upper part of the body of a child with bronze earrings and two clay containers on top of head together with a few opal and faience beads were discovered near the city of Ramhormoz in the southwestern Province of Khuzestan, it was reported on Wednesday.

The discovered items date back to the Achaemenid era of the Neo-Elamite. They were discovered in archeological explorations in the ancient area of Jubaji which is located near the city of Ramhormoz in the southwestern Province of Khuzestan.

According to the Public Relations Office of the Research Institute of Cultural Heritage and Tourism (RICHT), head of the exploration team Arman Shishegar said on Tuesday that explorations of the second season in Jubaji were conducted in parts of the area about 50 meters southeast of the Neo-Elamite tomb.

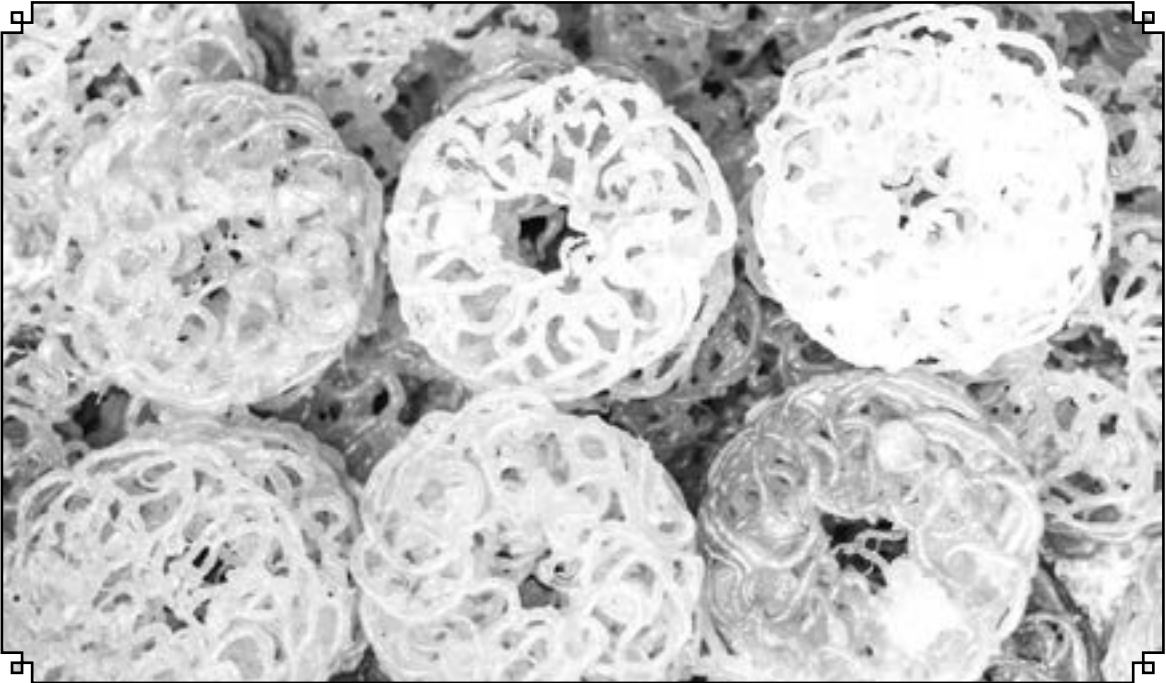
The tomb which was discovered in the course of the first exploration season in 1386 (2007-2008), belongs to the two Elamite princesses of the house of King Shutur-Nahunte, son of Indada, among the last kings of the

Neo-Elamite period (about 585 to 539 BC), he added.

He considered presence of the structures and remains of two stoves with an approximate diameter of about 50 and 60 cm, querns and heel of the stone door as the signs of the settlement of migrant people in that location which might have belonged to the Achaemenid period.

The remains of the adobe walls, which are probably related to the Neo-Elamite era and parts of which have been identified in the survey of the area, he said.

Picture of the Day



Zulbia and Bamiyeh, popular sweets of Ramadan, are found in every home in Iran during the holy month and are made by deep-frying a mix of flour, yoghurt, sugar and rose water.

Courtesy: Mehr News Agency