

This Day in History

(August 14)

Today is Monday, 23rd of the Iranian month of Mordad 1396 solar hijri; corresponding to 21st of the Islamic month of Zil-Qa’dah 1438 lunar hijri; and August 14, 2017, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

**1435 solar years ago**, on this day in 582 AD, Emperor Tiberius II Constantine of Byzantine (Eastern Roman Empire), died after an 8-year reign during the war he had restarted with the Sassanid Empire of Iran, in Syria, Iraq, Turkey and Armenia. The seesaw struggle was a strategic blunder by Tiberius, who on becoming ruler had concluded a deceitful 3-year truce with Khosrow Anushirvan, the 22nd Sassanid Emperor, in order to buy time for renewal of the war that had started two years earlier in 572 by his predecessor Justinian, and was to last 19 years till 591. The almost four centuries of inconclusive warfare between the Sassanids and Byzantines (heirs of the warring Parthian and Roman empires), sapped the energy of the two superpowers and led to their collapse as Arab Muslim armies swept across the region to completely change the destiny of the region, in which Iran soon emerged as a powerful Islamicized pole with far greater influence on the region and beyond than in pre-Islamic eras.

**751 lunar years ago**, on this day in 687 AH, the physician and Shafei jurisprudent, Ala od-Din Abu’l-Hassan Ali ibn Abi-Hazm al-Qarshi ad-Dimashqi, known as Ibn an-Nafees, passed away in Egypt. He was the first to describe the pulmonary circulation of the blood, three centuries before the European scientist, Miguel Sereto. Born in Damascus, at the age of 23 he moved to Egypt, where he served as chief of physicians. His most voluminous book is “ash-Shamil fi’t-Tibb”, which was planned to be an encyclopedia comprising 300 volumes, but was not completed as a result of his death. His book on ophthalmology is also an original work. Another of his famous books on the effects of diet on health is titled “Kitab al-Mukhtar fi’l-Aghziya”.

**736 solar years ago**, on this day in 1281 AD, during the second Mongol attempt to conquer Japan, a fleet sent by Kublai Khan disappeared in a typhoon. A Mongol army of 45,000 from Korea, joined an armada of 120,000 men from China to land at Hakozaki Bay. The typhoon destroyed the fleet. Survivors ended up as slaves.

**602 solar years ago**, on this day in 1415 AD, Henry the Navigator of Portugal, taking advantage of the weakening of Muslim rule in Spain and northwest Africa, launched a surprise attack on the Maranid Dynasty of Morocco and occupied the port city of Ceuta in the battle of the same name. He mercilessly slaughtered Muslim defenders in what is known as “baptism of blood”.

**425 solar years ago**, on this day in 1592 AD, the naval Battle of Hansan Island, also known as the Battle of Hansando, occurred near the Korean island of Hansan, and was one of the most important battles of the Imjin War. Admiral Yi Sun-sin destroyed 47 Japanese ships and captured 12. It is considered the third largest naval battle in world history, after the Battle of Salamis between the Greeks and Persia, and the Battle of Gravelines between England and Spain.

**419 solar years ago**, on this day in 1598 AD, during the 9-Year War, in the Battle of the Yellow Ford, Irish forces under Hugh O’Neill, Earl of Tyrone, defeated an English expeditionary force.

**175 solar years ago**, on this day in 1842 AD, during the genocidal conflicts waged by the US against the native Amerindians, the Second Seminole War ended, and the Seminole people were forcibly relocated to Oklahoma from their ancestral homes in Florida. The US has a very black, bleak, and bloody record of genocide and persecution of the native Amerindians.

**174 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1264 AH, a year after his ascension to the Peacock Throne, the 16-year old Naser od-Din Shah Qajar appointed his chief tutor Vazir-e Nizam (army commander) Mirza Mohammad Taqi Khan as Prime Minister (Shakhs-e Awwal-e Iran), with the supplementary titles of Amir-e Kabir and Atabak. Amir Kabir, who rose from humble origin because of his great talents, had earlier served the country in diplomatic capacity with distinction during the prolonged negotiations in Erzurum in what is now Turkey for delineation of the long Iran-Ottoman border. As Prime Minister, his achievements included the vaccination of Iranians against smallpox; economic development of the fertile Khuzestan province; foundation in Tehran of the Dar ol-Fonoun Academy (for teaching medicine, surgery, pharmacology, natural history, mathematics, geology, and natural sciences to train the civilian and military staff); cancellation of the one-sided treaties with the Russians and the British; launching of a newspaper; crackdown on the seditious Babi-Bahai plot against Islam and the country; and execution of the heretic Mohammad Ali Bab. The intrigues of local agents of foreign powers because of the loss of their vested interests made them poison the ears of the hardly 20-year old Shah to dismiss this efficient servant of state from his post in 1268 AH after hardly four years as Prime Minister. He was exiled to Kashan where on the orders of Naser od-Din Shah he was killed while in the “hammam” (bathhouse) of the garden-pavilion of Feen.

**113 solar years ago**, on this day in 1904 AD, the cattle-herding Hereros, a tribe of Southwest Africa (later Namibia), became the first genocide victims of the 20th century, when the German occupiers launched a brutal massacre. General Lothar von Trotha, sent by Kaiser Wilhelm II to put down the native uprising, drove the Hereros into the desert and issued a formal “extermination order” (Schrecklichkeit) authorizing the slaughter of all who refused to surrender. Out of some 80,000 Hereros, 60,000 were killed. Of the 15,000 who surrendered, half of them died in prison camps, while some 9,000 escaped to neighboring countries.

**72 solar years ago**, on this day in 1945 AD, Japan surrendered during World War II and was occupied by the US, which a few days earlier had committed crimes against humanity by destroying the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with atomic bombs.

**70 solar years ago**, on this day in 1947 AD, Pakistan was born as an independent Muslim country on division of the Subcontinent by the British on the eve of their departure from India. It was the result of the long struggle against colonial rule by the Muslim League led by Mohammad Ali Jinnah – an Ismaili Shi’a Muslim who later became Athna Ash’ari (Twelver). The new country was made up of West Pakistan – on the borders of Afghanistan and Iran – and East Pakistan on the borders of Myanmar. In 1971, the eastern part seceded and became Bangladesh.

**65 solar years ago**, on this day in 1952 AD, French Economist, Alfred Sauvy, first used the term “Third World”, in an article in the French magazine L’Observateur to describe underdeveloped countries. He was paraphrasing a remark by Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyes in 1789, who had said the Third Estate is everything, has nothing, but wants to be something.

**46 solar years ago**, on this day in 1971 AD, Britain ended its physical presence in Bahrain by declaring it independent, after reaching a deal two years earlier with the Pahlavi regime of Iran against reclaiming it, since for ages it was part of successive Persian Empires. For the past six-and-a-half years, Bahrain is the scene of public protests by the vast majority of people against the repressive rule of the minority regime of Aal-e Khalifa – originally pirates from Khor Abdullah waterway between Kuwait and Iraq’s Basra, who had occupied Bahrain by taking advantage of Iran’s weakness, and then sought British protection in the 19th century.

**43 solar years ago**, on this day in 1974 AD, following massacre of 125 Muslims in Cyprus, Turkey sent troops to take control of the northern area of this island, which for centuries was part of the Ottoman Empire until Britain imposed the Cyprus Convention in 1878 to take over the Mediterranean Sea’s 3rd largest and most populous island that had a Muslim majority. The British changed demographic patterns. Today two-thirds of Cyprus is administered by Greeks, while the rest is called the “Turkish Republic of Cyprus”.

**31 solar years ago**, on this day in 1986 AD, the exegete of the holy Qur’an, Ayatollah Ali Najafi Kashani, passed away in his hometown Kashan. A product of the famous seminary of holy Najaf in Iraq, where he attained the status of Ijtihad, on return to Iran, he took up teaching in Kashan. Among his books is “Sincerity, the Greatest Merit”.

**11 solar years ago**, on this day in 2006 AD, following of UN Security Council Resolution 1701 and its acceptance by Lebanon’s Hezbollah, the 33-day Zionist-imposed war ended. The war was a US-Zionist plot, backed by reactionary Arab regimes, to try to destroy Lebanon’s legendary anti-terrorist movement. But people’s resistance, coupled with the military prowess of the Hezbollah, shattered the myth of invincibility of Israel whose tanks, ships and aircraft reduced to junk.

**10 solar years ago**, on this day in 2007 AD, in Iraq, Takfiri terrorists blew up through remote control four explosive-laden trucks in Qahataniya killing over 800 Kurds of the non-Muslim Izadi creed. Two years back, the Takfiris had uprooted nearly 50,000 Izadis from the Sinjar area of Iraq near the Syrian border. Several thousand Izadi girls and women are being held as sex slaves by the Takfiris – with the tacit approval of the US and Arab reactionary regimes.

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

Father of Fuzzy Logic Passes Away



Professor Lotfi Aliasker Zadeh

TEHRAN (Press TV) - **The founder of fuzzy logic and University of Tehran graduate Lotfi Aliasker Zadeh has passed away.**

Mathematician and artificial intelligence scientist Lotfi Zadeh passed away on Saturday several days after it was reported that his health was severely deteriorating. He was born in 1921 in

Baku to an Iranian Azerbaijani father from Ardabil and a Russian Jewish mother, who was also an Iranian citizen.

In 1931, when he was 10 years old, he and his family moved to Tehran, where he studied at the Alborz College for eight years.

He emigrated to the U.S. in 1943 after graduating from the University

of Tehran with a degree in electrical engineering.

He was a professor emeritus of computer science at the University of California, Berkeley, and the director of the Berkeley Initiative in Soft Computing.

He is best known for proposing the fuzzy mathematics in the 1960s.

Iran to Host 2019 World Blood Donor Day

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – **Representative of World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for the eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) has suggested Iranian Blood Transfusion Organization, due to its capabilities and its international achievements, to host 2019 World Blood Donor Day.**

Every year on June 14, countries around the world celebrate World Blood Donor Day (WBDD).

The event, established in 2004, serves to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products, and to express

thanks blood donors for their voluntary, life-saving gifts of blood.

World Blood Donor Day is one of eight official global public health campaigns marked by the World Health Organization (WHO), along with World Health Day, World Tuberculosis Day, World Immunization Week, World Malaria Day, World No Tobacco Day, World Hepatitis Day, and World AIDS Day.

Iran blood donation index is 27 people out of 1000 people.

Over 2 million people donate blood in Iran annually to help those who need.

‘Autumn Memories’ Goes to Indian Film Festival

TEHRAN (MNA) – **Three-nation effort ‘Autumn Memories’ directed by Iranian filmmaker Ali Fakhr Mousavi, will compete at the 1st Lake View Film Festival in Punjab, India.**

Jointly produced by Iran, Czech Republic and Ukraine, ‘Autumn Memories’ has been accepted into the main competition section of the first edition of Lake View Film Festival in the Indian city of Punjab.

The festival is annually held on August 28 for ten consecutive days.

For the first run of the festival, 60 countries had submitted films to the main competition category, and 17 titles including Fakhr Mousavi’s production succeeded in being accepted into the screening program.

‘Autumn Memories’ is an anti-war love story about a girl whose family and home come under terrorist attacks. The girl goes through displacement, loss of

eyesight and even loss of speech, but manages to find love and peace in another corner of the world among the people who have also been affected by war.

Fakhr Mousavi’s film has so far won a number of international awards from various festivals and was the opening film for Rivne International Film Festival ‘Dream City’ 2016 in Ukraine.

Quran Contest for Expatriates Kicks Off in Tehran

TEHRAN (IQNA) – **The provincial stage of a Quran competition for expatriates living in Iran started in Tehran on Sunday.**

Nearly 200 expatriates living in different cities, towns and villages of Tehran province are taking part in the competition. It has been organized by the

Expatriates Department of Tehran Province’s Governor’s Office.

Fatemeh Ahmadi, a cultural expert with the department, told IQNA that 500 individuals took part in the contests’ cities and towns level, of whom 200 made it to the provincial round.

She said the women’s section is being held on Sunday and

Monday and men will compete on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Quran memorization, Tarteel and Tahqiq recitation and Quranic concepts are the four categories of the competition, she noted.

Ahmadi went on to say that top winners of this round will make it to the final round, which will be held at the national level.

Iran to Be Biggest Radio-Medicines Producer in Southwest Asia

TEHRAN (IRNA) - **Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran Ali Akbar Salehi (AEOI) said on Sunday that Iran is going to be the biggest producer of radio-medicines in the Southwest Asia and an exporter of the medicines in the coming four years.**

Salehi said, “Our top priority is to follow the nuclear industry activities in all of its dimensions as strongly as possible.”

President Hassan Rouhani in a decree on Thursday reappointed Ali Akbar Salehi as vice president and head of the AEOI.

Picture of the Day



Mahdi Taromi, the top soccer player in the Iran’s Premier League, donated his golden ball to the Astan Quds Razavi Central Museum in Mashhad, Khorasan Razavi province.

Courtesy: Mehr News Agency