

This Day in History

(October 22)

Today is Sunday; 30th of the Iranian month of Mehr 1396 solar hijri; corresponding to 2nd of the Islamic month of Safar 1439 lunar hijri; and October 22, 2017, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1318 lunar years ago, on this day in 121 AH, Zayd bin Ali, a son of Imam Zain al-Abidin (AS) – Prophet Mohammad's (SAWA) great-grandson and 4th Infallible Successor – was martyred near Kufa in Iraq by the Godless Omayyad regime. His mother was a virtuous lady from Sindh in what is now Pakistan, and he rose up against the tyranny of Hesham Ibn Abdul-Malik, the 10th self-styled caliph of the usurper regime, in order to safeguard the achievements of the uprising of his Grandfather, Imam Husain (AS). Deserted by the Kufans, he bravely fought until he was martyred. His son Yayha buried him in the riverbed of the Euphrates by briefly diverting the waters and then restoring his normal flow, but the Omayyads bribed turncoats to find the location. They took out his corpse, decapitated it, and hung it on the gallows for four years. Zayd's martyrdom was foretold by the Prophet of Islam who had said: "O Husain, it will not be long until a man will be born among your descendants. He will be called Zayd; he will be killed as a martyr. On the day of resurrection, he and his companions will enter heaven." Zayd's body was later buried, and his head which had been sent to Damascus was, after the fall of the hated Omayyads, buried in Karak in Jordan, which was then part of Syria. The Zaydi Shi'ite Muslims of Yemen revere Martyr Zayd as an Imam, although he never claimed the imamate, and was obedient to his elder brother, Imam Mohammad Baqer (AS), and after him to his nephew, Imam Ja'far Sadeq (AS).

1276 solar years ago, on this day in 741 AD, Charles Martel, the Frankish military leader who was de facto ruler of Francia, died. An illegitimate son of German chief, Pepin, he was notorious for his barbaric nature as marauder of the frontiers of the Roman Empire. He took advantage of the infighting amongst the Muslims to lead the Christians to victory in the Battle of Tours, southwest of Paris, where in 732 the Omayyad forces were defeated and their commander, Abdur-Rahman al-Ghafiqi, killed. In 737, he again crushed an Omayyad army at Arles in southern France. He then took the city by a direct and brutal frontal attack, and burned it to the ground. He then moved swiftly and defeated a mighty host outside of Narbonne at the River Berre, but failed to take the city. Many historians, including Edward Creasy, believe that had Martel failed at Tours, the Muslims would probably have overrun Gaul, and perhaps the remainder of Western Europe.

1172 lunar years ago, on this day in 257 AH, a person of obscure origin and said to be a descendant of slaves, who went by the name of Ali bin Mohammad and styled himself Sahib az-Zanj or Leader of the black-skinned people of East African origin, was finally killed in southern Iraq after having unleashed a great sedition and destruction. A Godless person, he lived for a while in the Abbasid capital, Samarra, where he mixed with some of the influential slaves of Caliph Muntansir and saw the deep financial discrimination among Muslims as a result of state policy. He moved to the Persian Gulf island of Bahrain, where he pretended to be Shi'a Muslim in order to rouse the people into rebellion against the caliphate. His followers grew so large that land taxes were collected in his name, but the rebellion failed, and he relocated to the Iraqi port city of Basra, where he claimed himself to be a Kharijite or renegade from Islam and started collecting around him the bonded labourers of the marshlands. Soon, supported by Bedouin Arabs and black-skinned people, he styled himself Emir and embarked on plunder, death and destruction. He launched a general massacre of the populace, burning entire localities including the Jame' Mosque, where he killed the eminent grammarian Abbas bin Faraj Riyyashi while in prayer. His rebellion, which coincided with the secession of Egypt by Ahmad ibn Toloun and of the uprising in Iran of Yaqoub bin Laith Saffar, lasted 14 years, during which he seized southern Iraq up to Wasset and parts of Iran's Khuzestan, defeating several armies sent by the Abbasid caliphs, until he was defeated and killed. He left a trail of destruction and famine, with agricultural lands desolate and as many as half-a-million people killed. The Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali (AS), had prophesied the revolt of Saheb az-Zanj two centuries earlier, citing Prophet Mohammad (SAWA) as source of information, as is evident from the following passage in Sermon 127 of Nahj al-Balagha:

"O' Ahnaf! It is as though I see him advancing with an army which has neither dust nor noise, nor rustling of reins, nor neighing of horses. They are trampling the ground with their feet as if they are the feet of ostriches."

1111 solar years ago, on this day in 906 AD, Ahmad ibn Kayghalagh, a Turkic general of the Abbasid regime, joined by the governor of Tarsus, the Iranian Rustam ibn Baradu al-Farghani, led a deep raid into the Byzantine Empire, defeating Eastern Roman armies and seizing large booty, including some 5,000 prisoners. Some of the local Greek commanders surrendered to the Muslims and embraced Islam. Rustam, on several occasions supervised the exchange of prisoners with the Byzantines. Ahmad ibn Kayghalagh was appointed governor of Syria and of Egypt, but on being deposed and defeated by the Abbasid regime, he defected to the Fatemid Shi'a Ismaili Muslim Dynasty of North Africa and Sicily that would soon conquer Egypt, Syria and Hijaz.

694 lunar years ago, on this day in 745 AH, Spanish Muslim scholar, Mohammad Ibn Yusuf Ibn Ali al-Barbari, known as Abu-Hayyan al-Ghamati, passed away. Born in Granada (Ghamata), he travelled widely to acquire knowledge, before moving to Ceuta in what is now Morocco. He traveled through Tunisia, Egypt, Ethiopia, and reached Mecca for the Hajj. He wrote "al-Bahr al-Muheet" on linguistic meanings of the holy Qur'an. A master of Arabic grammar, he considered himself a student of the school of the Iranian grammarian of Arabic language, Sibwayih of Shiraz.

677 lunar years ago, on this day in 762 AH, Muslim astronomer, mathematician, and theologian, Ali Ibn Mohammad Ibn ad-Durayhim, passed away. He lived mostly in Syria and Egypt and is considered the pioneer of the science of cryptanalysis. He was the first to analyze the various capabilities of substitution for cipher (zero), and to present what is called today the Vigenere Table. He formulated this table more than two centuries before Blaise de Vigenere, who actually copied it from Islamic sources. His book is titled "Clear Chapters Goals and Solving Ciphers".

523 solar years ago, on this day in 1494 AD, the second expedition of the Italian sailor, Christopher Columbus, started from Spain with the assistance of Spanish Muslims, who very well knew the sea routes of the Atlantic Ocean including what the Europeans later called the American continent. Columbus landed on the Antilles islands in the Caribbean Sea.

310 solar years ago, on this day in 1707 AD, a naval disaster occurred as four warships of a British fleet sank near the Isles of Scilly off the southwestern tip of the Cornish peninsula of Britain, in severe weather, resulting in the death of 1,550 sailors, along with Admiral Cloudesley Shovell.

227 solar years ago, on this day in 1790 AD, Chief Little Turtle of Miami defeated US troops in what is now Fort Wayne, Indiana. The next year, he again defeated a US army at St. Clair, killing about 1,000 soldiers. President George Washington ordered General "Mad" Anthony Wayne to attack the natives, and in 1794 at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, a large number of natives were brutally massacred, and forced to cede extensive territory, including much of present-day Ohio. The US unleashed genocide to eliminate the race and culture of the native Amerindian people.

121 solar years ago, on this day in 1896 AD, US biochemist, Charles Glen King, who discovered vitamin C, was born. He extracted components from lemon juice, and in 1932 isolated vitamin C. Vitamin C is found in citrus fruits and green vegetables.

106 solar years ago, on this day in 1911 AD, in violation of Iran's sovereignty, the British sent a joint English-Indian force to police the southern parts of Iran. The weak Qajarid government had already succumbed to Russian pressure to set up a similar force of Qazzaqs in the northern parts.

106 solar years ago, on this day in 1911 AD, Ayatollah Mullah Ali Zanjani passed away. He strove to solve the problems of people and was a prolific author, who wrote "Jawame' al-Usoul".

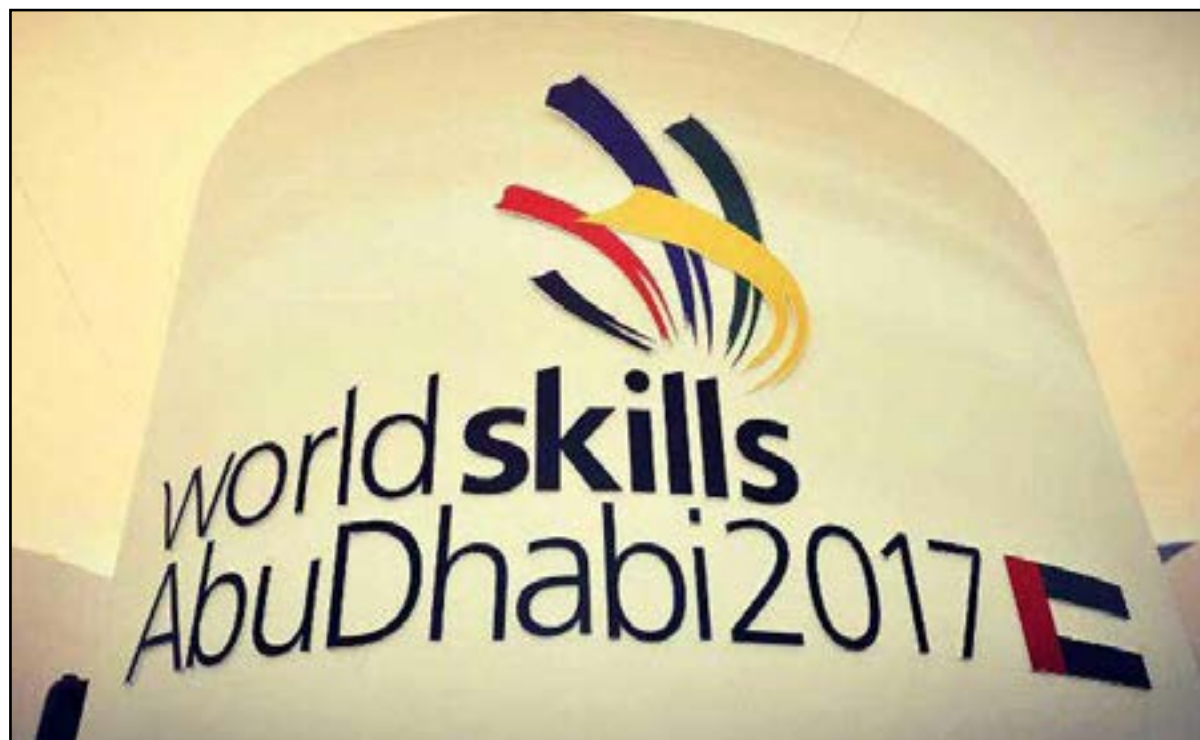
65 solar years ago, on this day in 1952 AD, Iranian foreign minister, Dr. Hussein Fatemi, announced severance of political ties with Britain, following the decision by Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddeq after a vote from the parliament.

42 solar years ago, on this day in 1975 AD, British historian, Arnold Toynbee, died. His 12-volume analysis of the rise and fall of civilizations, titled "A Study of History" is a synthesis of world history. He was a strong opponent of the Zionist entity, and supported the Arab cause.

38 solar years ago, on this day in 1979 AD, the US regime, allowed the deposed Shah to come to New York – on the excuse of medical treatment – a provocative move that led revolutionary students to take over the US embassy in Tehran, which was already in violating diplomatic norms.

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

Iranian Team Wins WorldSkills Medals



TEHRAN (IRNA) – Iranian national team of skills won one bronze medal and five medallions in WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017.

Nima Hosseinpour was awarded the bronze in plumbing and heating. Ali-Reza Abdulkarimi, Hamid Reza Najafi and Amirhossein Behzadfar, Ali-Reza Badri, Mohammad Hosseini-Raad, Esmaeel Feizollahi received medallions of honor in, respectively, electronics, mobile robotics, welding, web design and development, and electronics.

Abdulkarimi came fourth in 23 countries.

Iranian team had 24 members, and became 29th in team ranking.

The 44th skills competitions were held in Abu Dhabi on October 14-19 with participation of 58 countries.

'After My Death,' 'Blockage' Win Competition at Busan Festival

SEOUL (Dispatches) - Films from South Korea and Iran were announced Saturday as joint winners of the 2017 Busan Film Festival's main competition section.

Kim Ui-seok's "After My Death" and Mohsen Gharaei's "Blockage" won the New Currents competition which focuses on first and second features by filmmakers from Asia.

The jury chaired by American director Oliver Stone said that "both films were tightly

scripted, and displayed vivid detail and excellent craftsmanship."

"After My Death" is the story of a girl who is suspected of having provoked another schoolgirl into killing herself and "Blockage" depicts the overwhelming chaos that happens to a vicious, despicable temporary worker.

The 22nd Busan International Film Festival was held from Oct. 12 - Oct. 21, 2017 in the South Korean city of Busan.



A scene from the movie 'Blockage'.

Walking Levels Linked to Lower Mortality Risk

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - Regular walking, even if not meeting the minimum recommended levels, is associated with lower mortality compared to inactivity, according to a new study.

The study published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, says that walking has the potential to significantly improve the public's health.

Investigators led by Alpa Patel, Ph.D., looked at data from nearly 140,000 participants in the Cancer Prevention Study II Nutrition Cohort. A small percentage (6-7%) in the study reported no moderate to vigorous intensity physical activity at baseline. Among the rest, about 95% reported some walking, and nearly half walked as their only form of moderate-vigorous physical activity.

After correcting for other risk factors, including smoking, obesity, and chronic conditions, the study found walking-only for less than 2 hours per week was associated with lower all-cause mortality compared to no activity. Meeting 1 to 2 times the minimum recommendation (2.5-5 hours/week) through walking-only was associated with 20% lower mortality risk. Results for those exceeding recommendations through walking-only were similar to those who met recommendations.

Walking-only was most strongly associated with respiratory disease mortality, with approximately 35% lower risk comparing more than 6 hours/week of walking to the least active group. Walking-only was also associated with about 20% less risk of cardiovascular disease mortality and with about 9 percent less risk of cancer mortality.

"Walking has been described as the 'perfect exercise' because it is simple, free, and convenient, doesn't require any special equipment or training, and can be done at any age," said Dr. Patel.

'No Date, No Signature' Wins Gold Hugo at Chicago Film Festival

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iranian drama 'No Date, No Signature' directed by Vahid Jalilvand has won the Grand Prize of 2017 Chicago International Film Festival.

Winners of the 2017 edition of Chicago International Film Festival were announced on Friday evening with Vahid Jalilvand's No Date, No Signature winning the Hold Hugo, the festival's grand prize for the best film.

The drama narrates the story of a forensic pathologist Dr. Kaveh Nariman (played by Amir Aghaei), a principled

and virtuous man, who has an accident with a motorcyclist (Mohammadzadeh) and his family, and injures his 8-year-old son. He pays compensation to the man and offers to take the child to a clinic nearby. The next morning, he finds out that the same little boy has been brought in for an autopsy. Dr. Nariman faces a dilemma now: is he responsible for the child's death due to the accident or he died of food poisoning according to other doctors' diagnostic?

Also, the other Iranian film, A Man Of Integrity (Lerd) by Mohammad

Rasoulof, won the prize for the best film script.

In Lerd, Tehran-native Reza moves to the countryside to establish a goldfish farm, but in the dusty town where he settles, a powerful corporate entity calls the shots—and has designs on his property.

The Chicago International Film Festival is an annual film festival held every fall. Founded in 1964 by Michael Kutza, it is the longest-running competitive film festival in North America.

Picture of the Day



Shevi waterfall is located in Khuzestan Province, southwestern Iran. It is the biggest natural waterfall in the Middle East (100 meters long and 50 meters wide) and flows over the Zagros Mountains.

Courtesy: IRNA