

This Day in History

(Nov 16)

Today is Thursday; 25th of the Iranian month of Aban 1396 solar hijri; corresponding to 27th of the Islamic month of Safar 1439 lunar hijri; and November 16, 2017, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1230 lunar years ago, on this day in 209 AH, Iranian Sunni Muslim compiler of Hadith, Mohammad Ibn Majah al-Qazvini, was born in Qazvin. He travelled widely through Iran, Iraq, Syria, Hejaz, and Egypt, to gather hadith and compiled his book "Sunan", which contains 4000 hadith. Although later this compilation was included in the "Sihah as-Sitta" or the Six Primary Books of Hadith of Sunni Muslims, it is still regarded as the weakest one. Perhaps for fear of the Abbasid regime, Ibn Majah failed to collect genuine information about the Sunnah and Seerah of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA) from the main sources of his time, i.e. Imam Ali al-Hadi (AS) and Imam Hasan al-Askari (AS), the 10th and 11th Infallible Imams of the Ahl al-Bayt respectively. Like his Iranian compatriots before him, such as Bukhari, Muslim Naishapuri, Tirmizi, and Abu Dawoud Sijistani, he also did not seek the company of the disciples and companions of the blessed progeny of the Prophet to ascertain whether the hadith he had gathered were really genuine. Ibn Majah died in 273 AH in his hometown Qazvin at the age of 64.

485 solar years ago, on this day in 1532 AD, Francisco Pizarro and his Spanish marauders ambushed and captured Inca Emperor Atahualpa at the great plaza of Cajamarca in what is now Peru, killing counsellors, commanders and thousands of unarmed attendants. Pizarro, who was born out of wedlock, treacherously executed Atahualpa despite receiving ransom for release of the Inca emperor that filled a room with gold and two rooms with silver, which he split amongst his closest associates after setting aside a share for the Spanish king. The Spaniards indulged in the mass rape of Inca women, and Pizarro forced Atahualpa's wife to become his mistress, while distributing among his men women of the Incan nobility. Atahualpa's death effectively ended the Inca resistance, empire and the flourishing native culture.

374 solar years ago, on this day in 1643 AD, Jean Chardin, French jeweler who frequented the courts of Iran and India, was born in Paris. In 1665, he traveled to Iran and India. At Isfahan, he enjoyed the patronage of Shah Abbas II and learned Persian. He visited the Deccan or southern India at the court of King Abdullah Qotb Shah in Golkandeh-Hyderabad, where awed by the diamond mines. On returning to France in 1670, he published his eyewitness account of the coronation of Shah Soleiman Safavi, titled "Le Couronnement de Soleiman Troisième". Towards the end of 1671 he again set out for Iran by traveling through Turkey, Crimea, and the Caucasus. He reached Isfahan nearly two years later. He remained in Iran for four years, revisited India, and returned to France in 1677. His ten-volume book in English "The Travels of Sir John Chardin" is regarded as one of the finest works of early Western scholarship on Iran and the Subcontinent. He died in London at the age of 70.

133 solar years ago, on this day in 1884 AD, William Wells Brown, African-American abolitionist lecturer, novelist, playwright, and historian, died in Massachusetts at the age of 70. His novel "Clotel", published in 1853, is considered the first novel written by an Afro-American.

120 solar years ago, on this day in 1897 AD, Choudhry Rahmat Ali, who created the name Pakistan, was born in Punjab. In 1933 AD, the name Pakistan was coined by him and accepted by the Muslims of the northwestern parts of the Indian Subcontinent who campaigned for a separate country. He is the author of the famous 1933 pamphlet titled "Now or Never; Are We to Live or Perish Forever," also known as the "Pakistan Declaration". In a subsequent book, Rahmat Ali discussed the etymology in further detail, saying: "PAKISTAN is both a Persian and an Urdu word. It is composed of letters taken from the names of all our South Asia homelands; that is, Punjab, Afghanistan (or Pashtun-speaking areas of the Subcontinent), Kashmir, Sindh and Balochistan. It means the land of the Pak - or the spiritually pure and clean."

104 solar years ago, on this day in 1913 AD, Sattar Khan, one of the leading activists of Iran's Constitutional Movement, who earned the title "Sardar-e Melli" (National Commander), passed away. He was one of the leaders of the revolutionaries who marched upon Tehran from Tabriz and forced Mohammad Ali Shah Qajar to abdicate. His warm reception by the people of Tehran alarmed the colonialist powers, Britain and Russia. After a short while, intense clashes erupted between the revolutionaries and agents of the regime. As a consequence, several freedom-seekers were killed. Sattar Khan, who was severely wounded, succumbed to his injuries on this day.

72 solar years ago, on this day in 1945 AD, in the wake of French colonial troops' bid to reoccupy Vietnam after the Japanese defeat in World War 2, the struggle for independence of the Vietnamese people began under Ho Chi Minh, who in 1954 inflicted a major defeat on French forces. Later the US interfered and messed up matters in Vietnam, until it was defeated and driven out in 1976, after massacring hundreds of thousands of innocent people.

71 solar years ago, on this day in 1946 AD, artificial rain was invented by US meteorologist, Dr. Craig by impregnating clouds with chemical components.

37 solar years ago, on this day in 1980 AD, Iran's southwestern border town of Susangerd witnessed the courageous resistance against the invading forces of Saddam. Two hundred personnel of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), led by Defence Minister Mostafa Chamran and assisted by lightly-armed Basijis, held back enemy tanks and liberated Susangerd.

25 lunar years ago, on this day in 1414 AH, Source of Emulation, Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Abdul-'Ala Musawi Sabzevari, passed away at the age of 86 in Najaf. Born in Sabzevar in Khorasan, he was groomed in Islamic studies and Arabic literature by his father and uncle, before moving to holy Mashhad where for 8 years he benefited from prominent scholars. At the age of 22, he went to Iraq for higher studies, and while only 36 year old, he began teaching advanced jurisprudence courses. He became head of the Najaf Seminary and Marja' of world Shi'a Muslims, on the death of Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Abu'l-Qasim Khoei, but passed away after a year - believed to be poisoned by Saddam, since he was active in political and social spheres, firmly supporting the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini. In 1991, he issued a fatwa in support of the uprisings of the Iraqi people, and never compromised with the Ba'th regime, as a result of which his house was besieged several times. His major work is the exegesis in 30 volumes titled "Mawahib al-Rahman fi tafsir al-Qur'an".

19 solar years ago, on this day in 1998 AD, the philosopher and theologian, Allamah Mohammad-Taqi Ja'fari, passed away. Born in Tabriz, after elementary studies he moved to Tehran and then to holy Qom, where after a few years of study, he left for holy Najaf, where he spent 11 years attending the classes of great ulema. Of sharp and inquisitive mind, he had attained ijtehad at the young age of 23. On returning to Iran, he continued to study the new waves of thought and intellectualism that were rapidly spreading throughout the world. This dominated his 60-year academic career, and he entered into lively discussions and debates with leading European intellectuals such as Bertrand Russell and Jean Paul Sartre. Allamah Ja'fari wrote many books on a vast variety of fields, the most prominent of which are his 15-volume "Interpretation and Criticism of Mathnavi", of the famous Iranian Poet Mowlana Jalal od-Din Roumi's poetical masterpiece, and his unfinished, 27-volume "Translation and Interpretation of the Nahj al-Balagha". These two major works contain his most important thoughts and ideas in fields like anthropology, sociology, moral ethics, philosophy and mysticism.

17 solar years ago, on this day in 2000 AD, the prominent researcher and writer, Hojjat al-Islam Dr. Mohammad Hadi al-Amini, passed away at the age of 69. Born in Tabriz, he migrated to Iraq in his childhood along with his celebrated father, Allamah Abdul-Hussain Amini, the author of the famous book "al-Ghadeer". He studied at the seminary of holy Najaf, before graduating from Baghdad University, and went on to obtain PhD from Egypt's al-Azhar University in Arabic literature. In 1971, he returned to his homeland Iran where he taught at the university, in addition to research and writing of books. Works authored by him include "E'taam Nahj al-Balagha", "Mu'jam Rijal Fikr wa'l-Adab", "Itrat dar Qur'an", and a highly researched work on Hazrat Fatema Zahra (SA), the Immaculate Daughter of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA).

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

'Limit' Wins 3 More Awards at Intl. Film Festival



TEHRAN (MNA) - Iranian short 'Limit' by Javad Daraei has scooped three more awards from two film festivals in the United States.

'Limit' is an 8-minute narrative of the life a man in a quiet neighborhood who asks for help from people whom he is seeing, until someone suddenly enters his home. Daraei's second film deals with protecting the rights of people with disability 'Limit' won an award at the 7th edition of the St. Cloud Film Fest which took place from November 4-11, 2017, in a historic theatre on the banks of the Mississippi River in the United States. The short film also won Best Performance Award for Davoud Moeini Kiya and 2nd place Suspense Short Film certificate at the 2nd edition of Miami FearFest in the U.S.

Miami FearFest is an indie horror, suspense, or sci-fi short film competition made by filmmakers. The 2nd edition of the event was held in Miami, US, on November 10-11, 2017.

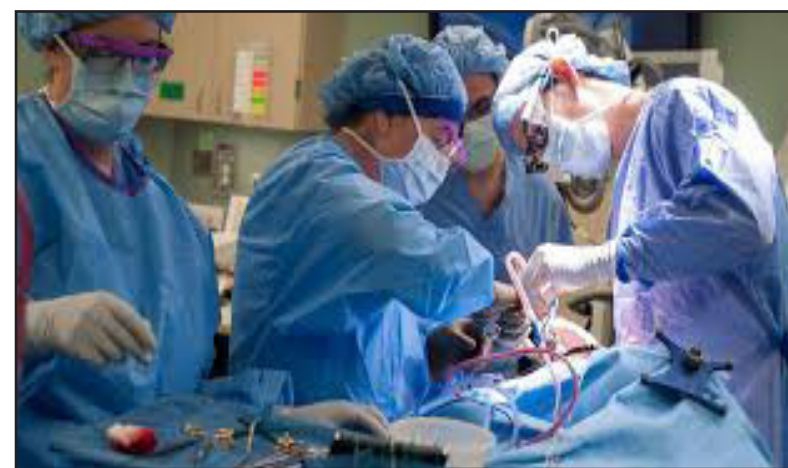
1st Int'l Congress of Neurosurgery Begins in Orumiyeh

ORUMIYEH (Dispatches) - The 1st International Congress of neurosurgery started in the city of Orumiyeh in the West Azarbaijan Province, Iran on Wednesday.

Neurosurgeons from Italy, Finland, Turkey, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan are to participate in the event to exchange experience in various subjects of neurosurgery in adults and children.

The main topics of the congress include: Tumor, trauma, vertebral column (spine), neurovascular, pediatrics and peripheral nerves.

One hundred forty papers have



been received from leading domestic and foreign figures after publishing the call for papers for the conference and one hundred thirty one of them were finally chosen. Forty five works will be

presented in the main hall of the 3-day conference and eighty six other articles are scheduled to be presented in a panel during the event.

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pers from leading domestic and foreign figures have been chosen out of the One hundred forty sent to the conference. Forty five works will be presented in the 3-day conference and eighty six other articles are scheduled to be presented in a panel during the event.

The conference takes place from November 15 to 17, 2017 in the Conference Hall of Imam Khomeini Educational Center in Orumiyeh, West Azarbaijan.

Neurosurgery is a very challenging surgical specialty where techniques and technologies are constantly developing.

Eat Nuts to Cut Heart Disease Risk

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) - People who regularly eat nuts, including peanuts, walnuts and tree nuts, have a lower risk of developing cardiovascular disease or coronary heart disease, according to a new study.

According to a study published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, researchers found a consistent inverse association between total nut consumption and total cardiovascular disease and coronary heart disease. Also, after looking at individual nut consumption, eating walnuts one or more times per week was associated with a 19 percent lower risk of cardiovascular disease and 21 percent lower risk of coronary heart disease. Participants who ate peanuts or tree nuts two or more times per week had a 13 percent and 15 percent lower risk of cardiovascular disease, respectively, and a 15 percent and 23 percent, lower risk of coronary heart disease, respectively, compared to those who never consumed nuts.

Participants who consumed five or more servings of nuts a week had a 14 percent lower risk of cardiovascular disease and a 20 percent lower risk of coronary heart disease than participants who never or almost never consumed nuts. The results were similar when accounting for consumption of tree nuts, peanuts and walnuts individually. Researchers found no evidence of an association between total nut consumption and risk of stroke, but eating peanuts and walnuts was inversely associ-

ated with the risk of stroke. Peanut butter and tree nuts were not associated with stroke risk.

"Our findings support recommendations of increasing the intake of a variety of nuts, as part of healthy dietary patterns, to reduce the risk of chronic disease in the general populations," said Marta Guasch-Ferre, PhD, lead author of the study and research fellow at the department of nutrition at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.



Picture of the Day



An Iranian woman grieves the loss after a powerful earthquake in western Iran.

Courtesy: Tasnim News Agency