

## This Day in History

(January 10)

Today is Thursday; 20<sup>th</sup> of the Iranian month of Dey 1397 solar hijri; corresponding to 3<sup>rd</sup> of the Islamic month of Jumadi al-Awwal 1440 lunar hijri; and January 10, 2019 of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

**947 solar years ago**, on this day in 1072 AD, Muslim rule ended on the island of Sicily, with the surrender of the capital, Palermo to the Norman invader Robert Guiscard, although Islamic culture and Arabic language continued to linger in Sicily for over a century-and-a-half, influencing arts and sciences.

**925 solar years ago**, on this day in 1094 AD, the 8th self-styled caliph of the Fatimid Ismaili Shi'ite Muslim Dynasty of Egypt-North-Africa-Syria-Hijaz, Abu Tamim Ma'ad al-Mustansir-Billah, passed away in his capital Cairo, at the age of 65, after a reign of 58 years, having succeeded his father, Abu'l-Hassan Ali az-Zahir as a 7-year boy. During the early years of his rule, his mother administered state affairs.

**687 lunar years ago**, on this day in 753 AH, Malik Maqbool Telangani was made minister in Delhi by Sultan Mohammad Tughlaq and bestowed the title of Qawwam ul-Mulk. Born as Kattu Yugandhar in a noble Hindu family of Warangal in the Deccan, and made commander of the Kakatiya Kingdom with the title Ganna Nayaka by King Prataparudra, he was captured in battle by the army of the Delhi Sultanate, and embraced the truth of Islam. Because of his sincerity and loyalty he won the confidence of Sultan Mohammad Tughlaq and was appointed governor of Multan (in today's Pakistan). His administrative abilities in the Punjab won praise and he was later sent to his native Deccan to deal with the rebellion of his former overlords, the Kakatiyas. On return to Delhi he rose rapidly in ranks to the extent that the next king, Feroze Shah Tughlaq, made him finance minister and then vizier (prime minister) with the title Khan-e Jahan. He mastered the Persian language and accompanied the Sultan on the expedition to Gujarat and successfully subdued the rebels. Feroz Shah would refer to him as "my brother" and during the Sultan's six-month absence in Sindh, Khan-e Jahan Telangani ably administered Delhi. He never exceeded his powers, and had a strong desire to perform the Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca, which he couldn't undertake because of state responsibilities. He built several mosques in and around Delhi and on his death his son, Jauna Khan, inherited his position as vizier. Built in 1388 AD, his tomb adjacent to the Sufi shrine of Seyyed Nizam od-Din Awliya, was the first octagonal mausoleum in Delhi. The only other octagonal mausoleum predating it in the Subcontinent is the Sufi shrine of Shah Rukn-e Alam in Multan.

**544 solar years ago**, on this day in 1475 AD, in the Battle of Vaslui (also known as the Battle of Racova), Stephen III of Moldavia in alliance with other Christian powers, inflicted a defeat on Suleiman Pasha, the Ottoman Governor of Rumelia, in what is now Romania.

**366 solar years ago**, on this day in 1653 AD, the world's first newspaper, named "Gazeta", was published in Venice, Italy. Since the price of each copy was one Gazeta, the Venetian currency, the daily was given the same name, which was later used for papers published in other countries. In English it became "Gazette."

**195 solar years ago**, on this day in 1824 AD, cement was made for the first time by the English chemist, Joseph Aspdin, and in this manner a major development took place in the construction and development fields.

**103 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1337 AH, prominent Islamic scholar, Seyyed Ismail Sadr, passed away in the holy city of Kazemain in Iraq. He became the leading marja' or source of emulation. Seyyed Ismail Sadr is the ancestor of the well-known and respected Sadr family spread over Iran, Iraq, and Lebanon. His elder son, Sadr ad-Din Sadr was the father of Seyyed Imam Musa as-Sadr of Lebanon, who was imprisoned in 1978 and later martyred by Mo'amar Qadhafi of Libya, while his second son, Haider as-Sadr, was the father of Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Baqer as-Sadr, who was martyred by Saddam in April 1980. His fourth son, Mohammad Mahdi as-Sadr was the grandfather of Iraqi religious-political leader, Seyyed Moqtada as-Sadr.

**99 solar years ago**, on this day in 1920 AD, The League of Nations started its work in Geneva, Switzerland, following its formation after World War I on the basis of a 16-article charter. Initially, the newly formed Soviet Union did not join it, while France and Britain only supported it from outside.

**80 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1360 AH, the prominent Islamic scholar and poet, Ayatollah Mirza Abu-Abdullah Shaikh al-Islam Zanjani, passed away at the age of 51. He was a product of the Islamic seminaries of Isfahan and Najaf, and settled in his hometown Zanjan. He travelled to Syria, Palestine, and Egypt, where the famous al-Azhar Academy appreciated his scholarship, and printed some of his works on the holy Qur'an in Arabic.

**68 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1372 AH, Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Hujjat Kuhkamara'i passed away in holy Qom at the age of 62 and was laid to rest in a room adjacent to the mosque of Hujjatiyya School which he had built. Ayatollah Kuhkamara'i built the Hujjatiyya Seminary in Qom, which was architecturally designed by his student the famous exegete of the holy Qur'an, Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Hussain Tabataba'i. His other students include: Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Muhaqqiq Damad, Ayatollah Mirza Hashem Amoli, Ayatollah Mohammad Ali Qazi Tabataba'i, Ayatollah Lotfollah Safi Golpayegani, and Ayatollah Ja'far Sobhani. Among the books he compiled is "*Mustadrak al-Mustadrak fi Istidrak ma faat 'an Saheb al-Mustadrak*": in which he has mentioned hadiths missed by Mohaddith Noori in "*Mustadrak al-Wasa'el*"

**56 solar years ago**, on this day in 1963 AD, the electronic watch was invented by two Swiss industrialists, Solvil and Titus, after twelve years of hard work, by joining hundreds of precise tools. In such a watch, the electrons automatically move the hour and minute hands, without the need to wind or rewind it.

**47 solar years ago**, on this day in 1972 AD, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman returned to newly independent Bangladesh as president after spending over nine months in prison in Pakistan. As a Bengali Muslim activist, he spear-headed the campaign for independence of East Pakistan from the domination of West Pakistan, which lay over a thousand miles away across the vast expanse of India. Mujib, as leader of the Awami Party, won the 1970 general elections, but was deprived of becoming prime minister of the whole of Pakistan by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who demanded that his People's Party be included in the government. Talks failed and the demand for independence intensified, resulting in a brutal crackdown in East Pakistan by military ruler, President Agha Mohammad Yahya Khan. Mujib was arrested and taken to West Pakistan as political prisoner. Pakistan's defeat by India in the December 1971 war resulted in the collapse of Yahya Khan's government in the wake of the surrender of East Pakistan to the Indian military and its emergence as independent Bangladesh. Mujib was released and returned home via London and New Delhi as Bangabandhu (Father of the Nation). During Mujib's tenure as leader, Muslim religious leaders and politicians in Bangladesh intensely criticized his adoption of state secularism. He alienated nationalists and those in the military who feared Bangladesh would become too dependent upon India. They worried about becoming a satellite state by taking extensive aid from the Indian government and allying with that country on many foreign and regional affairs. Mujib's imposition of one-party rule and suppression of political opposition also alienated large segments of the population. On August 15, 1975, a group of army officers invaded the presidential residence with tanks, killed Mujib and overthrew his government for what they perceived as treachery. His daughter Sheikh Hasina Wajed who was visiting West Germany, survived. She is the current head of state of Bangladesh.

**37 solar years ago**, on this day in 1982 AD, parliament member, Seyyed Mohammad Khamenei, survived an assassination attempt by the MKO terrorists as part of their campaign to eliminate the leading figures of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Seyyed Mohammad, the brother of the then president and current leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, was on his way to the Majlis (parliament) when he was targeted.

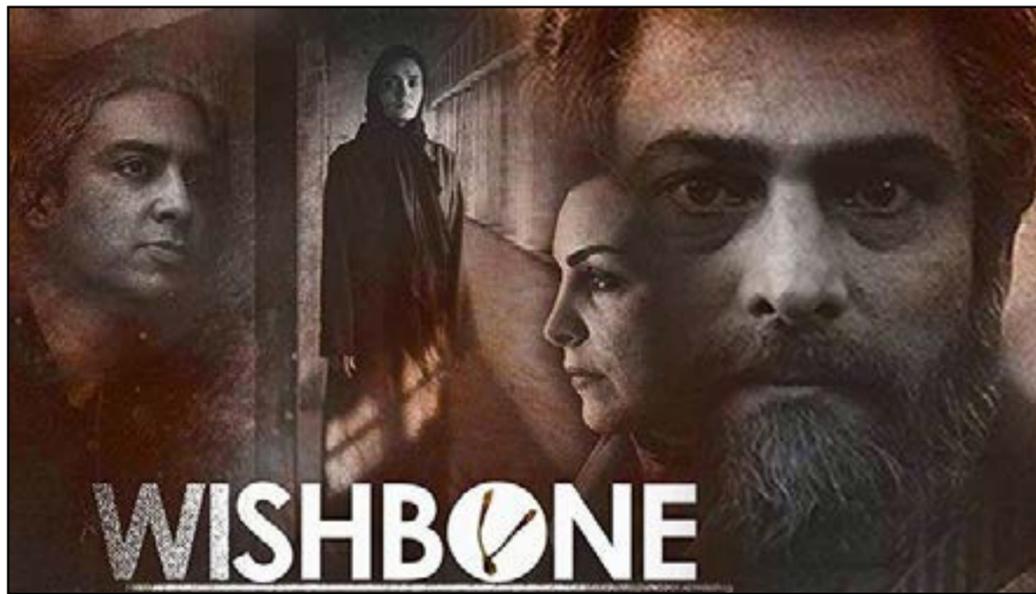
**18 solar years ago**, on this day in 2001 AD, Lebanon's prominent religious leader, Ayatollah Sheikh Mohammad Mahdi Shams od-Din, passed away in Beirut at the age of 65. He authored several books including "*Ansar al-Husain*" or "*Companions of Imam Husain martyred in Karbala*", and "*Thawrat al-Husain fi'l-Wujdan ash-Sha'bi*", which means "*The Revolution of Imam Husain and its Impact on the Consciousness of Society*".

**8 solar years ago**, on this day in 2011 AD, Iran's intelligence services announced the arrest of culprits who carried out the assassination a year earlier of nuclear physicist Masoud Ali Mohammadi, in a months-long covert operation that also led them to penetrate the notorious Mossad spy agency of the illegal Zionist entity.

**2 solar years ago**, on this day in 2017 AD, Iranian academic and educationist, Dr. Ali Shariatmadari, passed away at the age of 93.

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

# 'Wishbone' Goes to New York NuKhuFest



TEHRAN (IFILM) - Iranian feature "Wishbone" has been selected to go on

screen at the 1st edition of the NuKhuFest in the U.S.

relationship several years ago.

Some of the film's accolades include the awards for best feature film and best director of the year at the WIND International Film Festival in the U.S. and Best Cinematic Film at the 3rd

London Independent Filmmakers Association Festival in the UK.

It was also nominated for the Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Editing, Best Supporting Actor Male and Best Cinematography awards at the WIND International Film Festival and received six nominations at the International Filmmaker Festival of World Cinema Berlin in Germany.

"Wishbone" has gone on screen at a number of global events, including the 5th Darbhanga International Film Festival in India, the 2018 Out Of The Can Film Festival in the UK, the 35th Fajr Film Festival in Iran, and the 2018 Switzerland International Film Festival.

The film's cast includes Mitra Hajjar, Hossein Yari, Mahchehreh Khalili, Azadeh Mehdizadeh, Bita Atshani, Maziar Fallahi and Khashayar Rad among the others.

Slated for October 12-17, 2019, the NukhuFest is a media festival and marketplace that offers an online sale opportunity to filmmakers for their short films, feature films, and music videos.

## Fasting Could Improve Obese Women's Health



SYDNEY (Dispatches) - Research shows that obese women lost more weight and improved their health by fasting intermittently while following a strictly controlled diet.

Research carried out at the University of Adelaide involved a sample of 88 women following carefully controlled diets over 10 weeks.

"Continuously restricting their diet is the main way that obese women try to tackle their weight," says Dr Amy Hutchison, lead author from the University of Adelaide and the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI).

"Unfortunately, studies have shown that long-term adherence to a restricted diet is very challenging for people to follow, so this study looked at the impact of intermittent fasting on weight loss.

"Obese women who followed a diet in which they ate 70% of their required energy intake and fasted intermittently lost the most weight.

"Other women in the study who either fasted intermittently without reducing their food intake, who reduced their food intake but did not fast, or did not restrict their diet at all, were not as successful in losing weight," says Dr Hutchison.

The study also checked the effect of the different diets on the women's health. Women who fasted intermittently as well as restricting their food improved their health more than those who only restricted their diet or only fasted intermittently.

## Iranian Animations Compete at Fajr Film Festival

TEHRAN (FNA) - Three Iranian animated films, "Sunny Night", "The Last Fiction", and "Benyamin", have found their way to the final part at the 37th edition of Fajr Film Festival, racing for the best award of the event.

"Sunny Night" by Ali Madani, "The Last Fiction" by Ashkan Rahgozar and "Benyamin" by Mohsen Enayati, are vying to win the Special Jury Prize of the 37th edition of Fajr Film Festival.

Madani's 90-minute film is suitable for kids and teens.

"The storyteller's box, which is a source for the city's calm and order, is stolen by jackals from the neighboring land. The Sun replaces the Moon. The night vanishes and the city's order collapses. A number of children accidentally get involved in the incidents and help the detective to return the casket to the city," the synopsis of the 3D animation reads.

Meanwhile, "The Last Fiction" is the story of an evil figure in Iranian mythology, Zahhak. It is a free adaptation of a story from Iran's classic literature. The film won recognition and



was presented as one of the best ongoing projects at the Annecy International Animation Film Festival in France.

The third animation 'Benyamin' is about a boy named Benyamin in ancient Egypt. According to the film's director, all characters in the film are imaginary.

"The soldiers of Pharaoh have arrested the mother of Benyamin. In order to release her, they want a valuable thing from Benyamin. Benyamin will be

forced to undertake a dangerous voyage to get that valuable thing," according to the summary of the plot.

Iranian cinema made great progress in the years after the victory of the Islamic Revolution of 1979, to that extent that many Iranian films bring home numerous international awards every year and Iranian directors and their films are well known in all cultural venues across the globe.

## Picture of the Day



Kebar dam, the world's oldest arch dam, has been built on a river with the same name in southwest of the central city of Qom, Iran. The dam is said to have been built around 400 to 700 years ago.

Courtesy: Mizan News Agency