

This Day in History

(August 11)

Today is Saturday; 20th of the Iranian month of Mordad 1397 solar hijri; corresponding to 28th of the Islamic month of Zil-Qa'dah 1439 lunar hijri; and August 11, 2018 of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

5132 solar years ago, on this day in approximately 3114 BC, the Mesoamerican Long Count calendar, used by several pre-European civilizations of the Americas, notably the Mayans, began. The natives of Central and South America had a flourishing civilization that was destroyed by the Spanish invaders.

4510 solar years ago, on this day in 2492 BC, the Babylonian tyrant, Bel, was defeated by Hayk the progenitor and founder of the Armenian nation. Descended from Japheth, the son of Prophet Noah (PuH), he originally lived in Mesopotamia – in present day Iraq – from where he migrated to the Caucasus with his kinsmen to escape oppression, and founded the nation of Armenia.

1079 lunar years ago, on this day in 360 AH, the Sunni scholar Abu'l-Qassem Sulaiman ibn Ahmad at-Tabarani died in Isfahan, Iran, at the age of one hundred years. Born in the Palestinian city of Tabariyya (Tiberias), he traveled widely to record hadith. He groomed a large number of students and wrote three books, titled "al-Mu'jam al-Kabeer" in 25 volumes, as well as "al-Mu'jam al-Awsat", and "al-Mu'jam as-Sagheer". He has recorded several hadith on the unrivalled merits of the Ahl al-Bayt or blessed household of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA).

787 lunar years ago, on this day in 652 AH, the Syrian physician, Asad ibn Halwan Dameshqi, died at the age of 59. He was also well-versed in literature, logic, and mathematics, and wrote books in each of these courses.

759 solar years ago, on this day in 1259 AD, Mongke Khan, the 4th Khaqaan or Great Khan of the Mongol Empire died of cholera at the age of 51 in Chongqing in China after a reign of 8 years during which western Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Anatolia – in present day Turkey – were overrun and incursions made into what is now Pakistan. Son of Tolui and grandson of the bloodthirsty Chengiz Khan, he carried out administrative reforms of the vast empire by employing Chinese, Muslim, and Uyghur officials. Nine of his 16 provincial executive chiefs were Muslims, such as Mahmoud Yalavach in China, Masoud Beg in Turkestan, and Argun Agha in Iran. He ordered his brother, Hulagu Khan exterminate the Ismailis of Alamut in Iran (in 1256) and sack Baghdad (in 1258) if the Abbasid caliph refused to personally submit. Despite his unsuccessful plan to forge an alliance with Christian Europe for attacking Syria and Egypt, he favoured Muslim perceptions. He and Hulagu made the people of the holy city of Najaf an autonomous tax-exempt ecclesiastical polity. He exempted clerics, monks, doctors, churches, mosques and monasteries from taxation.

545 solar years ago, on this day in 1473 AD, the decisive Battle of Otlukbeli took place in central Anatolia in what is now Turkey resulting in the victory of the Ottomans over the Aq Qoyunlu or White Sheep Dynasty – appointed as governors of Diyarbakr and the adjoining regions by the Turkic conqueror, Amir Timur, following his victory over and capture of the Ottoman Sultan, Bayezid I in the Battle of Ankara in 1402. The Ottomans were led by Sultan Mohammad II – the Conqueror of Constantinople and the Byzantine Empire in 1453 – while the Aq Qoyunlu were led by Uzun Hassan, who had recently expanded his dominions eastward by defeating the rival Qara Qoyunlu or Black Sheep Dynasty to annex Iraq and western Iran in 1467 and then routed the army of his nominal overlord, Sultan Abu Sa'eed of the Samarqand-based Timurid Empire in 1469. The power of the Aq Qoyunlu who were goaded by the Venetians to start hostilities with the Ottomans to divert the attention from Italy of Mohammad II, was not completely destroyed until the rise of Shah Ismail I of Iran in 1501 and his founding of the Safavid Empire.

391 solar years ago, on this day in 1627 AD, the last Battle of La Rochelle broke out between the French Catholics and Protestants. The battle was the result of instigations by England. The Catholics, under command of Cardinal Richelieu emerged victorious in the battle of La Rochelle in western France.

93 solar years ago, on this day in 1925 AD, the jurispudent, Ayatollah Shaikh Abdun-Nabi Noori, passed away in Tehran. He was a product of the seminary of holy Najaf, in Iraq, where he attained ijthad under guidance of leading ulema such as Mirza Mohammad Hassan Shirazi of the anti-tobacco movement. On his return to Iran, he taught at the Tehran seminary, grooming several scholars.

75 solar years ago, on this day in 1943 AD, former Pakistani president, Pervez Musharraf was born in New Delhi. Four years later with the partition of the Indian Subcontinent, his family migrated to Pakistan, where on growing up he joined the army and was gradually promoted to the rank of general. In 1999 he seized power through a bloodless military coup by ousting Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. On 18 August he had to resign amidst threats of impeachment for the many corruption cases against him and his government.

66 solar years ago, on this day in 1952 AD, Ethiopian Emperor, Haile Selassie, with the connivance of the UN General Assembly, annexed Eritrea, which had been occupied by Italy in 1890 and seized by Britain in 1941 during World War 2. The people of Eritrea opposed the move and stepped up their struggle for freedom. The Eritrean Liberation Front took up arms in 1960, and in 1993, the struggle bore fruit with formal declaration of independence, following an UN-supervised referendum. Eritrea is situated near the Horn of Africa, with a coastline on the Red Sea. It maintains an important geographical position and shares borders with Ethiopia, Sudan, and Djibouti. Almost half of the population of Eritrea is made up of Muslims including tribes from Arabia.

58 solar years ago, on this day in 1960 AD, Chad gained independence from French colonial rule. It was occupied in the late 19th century and early 20th century AD. Over 60 percent of the people are Muslim. The 25-percent odd Christian population is the result of forced conversion by the French. Chad covers an area of 1.28 million sq. km. It is situated in central Africa and shares borders with Libya, Cameroon, Sudan, Central Africa, Nigeria, and Niger.

25 solar years ago, on this day in 1993 AD, the acclaimed Iranian miniaturist and illustrator, Ahmad Ra'ez, passed away. Born in Isfahan, he became familiar with arts and illustration under prominent masters. His works which were displayed at the Brussels International Exhibition were ranked second and won prizes. He spent nearly 50 years drawing miniatures and enameling, in addition to grooming numerous students. He produced more than 145 works of miniature.

9 solar years ago, on this day in 2009 AD, the 6th round of confrontations broke out between the Yemeni army and Shi'a Muslims of the Sa'dah region of northern Yemen, who are led by the founders of the popular Ansarullah Movement, the al-Houthi Zaydi clan. In this phase of the struggle, Saudi Arabia, which is in occupation of vast areas of Yemen, deployed its ground and air forces to help the Yemeni army suppress the revolutionary people, but it failed and retreated in humiliation. In this round of confrontations, hundreds of Yemeni Shi'as were martyred and nearly 200,000 people were made homeless. Currently Yemen is reeling under the aerial bombardment of Saudi Arabia, which over the past year and four months has martyred more than 10,000 men, women and children, in addition to wounding tens of thousands of others, and destroying the infrastructure.

6 solar years ago, on this day in 2012 AD, in northwest Iran hundreds of villages were flattened by twin earthquakes (magnitude 6.4 and 6.3), leaving 306 dead and 3,037 injured. Around half the 600 villages located in the zone were damaged or destroyed.

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



Maral Yazerloo.

Iranian Woman Tours Across World on Motorbike

TEHRAN (IFP)-The first Iranian woman tourist travelling on a motorcycle has entered Iran on the last leg of her globe-trotting adventure, which started two years ago.

Maral Yazerloo is the first Iranian tourist who obtained a permit to enter Iran on a motorbike to end her journey around the world which kicked off two years ago. The 36-year-old tourist travels alone. She worked in the fashion designing and branding business in India for 14 years. She intends to clock up 100,000

kilometres across 45 countries. She travels on an 800-cc BMW motorcycle.

Yazerloo holds the Middle East and Asia's record by having travelled across 64 countries in the seven continents in one and a half years. Having travelled 110,000 kilometres in different countries on her own, Yazerloo showed the capabilities of an Iranian woman to the whole world, and wound up her tour of the world by coming to Iran and travelling along the roads and towns of her motherland.

'Whole to Part' Awarded at Italian Festival

TEHRAN.(MNA) - Iranian short flick "Whole to Part" won the Best Film Award at the Lucania Film Festival in Italy.

Directed by Vahid Hosseini-Nami, the film competed with 14 other films at the main competition section.

The 12-minute short film tells the story of a dictator's iron statue. While they topple the statue and melt into smaller objects, it still exists among people after the icon's metamorphosis.

'Whole to Part' has previously won the best experimental film award at the 34th Tehran



International Short Film Festival (TISFF).

The Lucania Film Festival presents the best works of the independent cinema and wants to recognize new film talents.

The sections of the festival include Fiction and Animation; Audio Live Drama; Lucania Filmmakers; 48 teeth Corticomici (comedy); War News (film, reportage, photography and documentary); and Documentary Films.

The 2018 edition of the event was held on August 1-5.

Average Salt Consumption Safe for Heart Health

ONTARIO (Dispatches)-New research shows that for the vast majority of individuals, sodium consumption does not increase health risks except for those who eat more than five grams a day, the equivalent of 2.5 teaspoons of salt.

The large, international study also shows that even for those individuals there is good news. Any health risk of sodium intake is virtually eliminated if people improve their diet quality by adding fruits, vegetables, dairy foods, potatoes, and other potassium rich

foods.

The research, published today in The Lancet, is by scientists of the Population Health Research Institute (PHRI) of McMaster University and Hamilton Health Sciences, along with their research colleagues from 21 countries.

The study followed 94,000 people, aged 35 to 70, for an average of eight years in communities from 18 countries around the world and found there an associated risk of cardiovascular disease and strokes only where the average intake is greater than five grams of sodium a day.

China is the only country in their study where 80 per cent of communities have a sodium intake of more than five grams a day. In the other countries, the majority of the communities had an average sodium consumption of 3 to 5 grams a day (equivalent to 1.5 to 2.5 teaspoons of salt).



"The World Health Organization recommends consumption of less than two grams of sodium -- that's one teaspoon of salt -- a day as a preventative measure against cardiovascular disease, but there is little evidence in terms of improved health outcomes that

individuals ever achieve at such a low level," said Andrew Mente, first author of the study and a PHRI researcher.

He added that the American Heart Association recommends even less -- 1.5 grams of sodium a day for individuals at risk of heart disease.

Iran, Turkey Screen 'Beautiful Jinn' Same Time



TEHRAN (IFILM) - Iranian film 'Beautiful Jinn' is scheduled to be screened in Iran and Turkey at the same time.

Mehrdad Farid, the movie's producer told the media that 'Beautiful Jinn' will be screened in autumn in Iran and Turkey.

Directed by Bayram Fazli, the film has recently received the credit for Iran screening.

'Beautiful Jinn' is a social drama with comic traits. Yesilçay plays the role of a character named 'Delaram', who is deaf and dumb due to some past trauma.

Produced by Mehrdad Farid, the flick uses less music in the movie and instead makes the drama concentrate on sounds.

Starring Turkish actress Nurgul Yesilçay, the movie is co-produced between agents in Iran and Turkey.

Picture of the Day



A handicraft exhibition is being held in northeastern Province of Northern Khorasan, Iran.

Courtesy: IRNA