

This Day in History

(September 13)

Today is Thursday, 22nd of the Iranian month of Shahrivar 1397 solar hijri; corresponding to 3rd of the Islamic month of Muharram 1440 lunar hijri; and September 13, 2018, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

Over 3,505 lunar years ago, on this day, Prophet Joseph (Yusuf), while an under-teen boy, was rescued from the well into which his brothers had thrown him, after initial deliberation to kill him, because of their jealousy towards him for the deep love and affection of their father Prophet Jacob (Ya'qub) for this pious and extremely handsome son. Joseph was sold as a slave and ended up in Egypt, where Divine Providence, after having again tested his firm faith, patience, and wisdom, through ordeals that included a lengthy prison term, granted him a lofty ministerial rank in the court of the monotheistic Pharaoh. Surah Yusuf of the holy Qur'an details his interesting account – including the magnanimity he showed to his brothers – and calls it *"Ahsan al-Qasas"* (the Most Excellent of Accounts).

1487 solar years ago, on this day in 531 AD, Khosrow I (Chosroes to the Greeks, Kasra to the Arabs) started his 48-year reign as the 22nd Emperor of the Sassanid Empire on the death of his father Qobad I who reigned for 41 years. He is known as Anoushirvan the Just and is the epitome of the philosopher-king in Iranian history. It was in his era that the Almighty's Last and Greatest Messenger, Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), was born in Mecca.

1433 lunar years ago, on this day in 7 AH, the Almighty's Last and Greatest Messenger, Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), sent letters to the world's kings and emperors, officially inviting them to the truth of the universal religion of Islam. According to historians he sent some twenty-six letters to the then world leaders spread across the face of the earth, including the emperors of Rome, Iran, and China. Obviously, the Prophet's approach in this regard shows that Islam speaks with logic and reasoning in its invitation to righteousness. A few years following these official invitations, Islam spectacularly spread across the major part of the known world.

1379 lunar years ago, on this day in 61 AH, the Omayyad commander, Omar ibn Sa'd arrived in Karbala with a force of 4,000 armed men to surround the small band of Imam Husain (AS), the grandson of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA). Omar was sent by the oppressive governor of Kufa, Obaidullah ibn Ziyad, to demand oath of allegiance from the Prophet's grandson for the ungodly rule of Yazid, or bring him to his court. The Imam refused to yield to injustice, and for the next few days thousands of more forces converged on Karbala. Finally, on the 10th of Moharram, Imam Husain (AS), bravely courted martyrdom in an unequal battle that has made his stand and cause immortal, inspiring people in every age against oppression.

1232 solar years ago, on this day in 786 AD, Abdullah al-Ma'mun, the 7th ruler of the usurper Abbasid dynasty, was born to Marajil, the Iranian concubine of the tyrant Haroun ar-Rashid. On growing up he was made governor of the eastern lands extending from Iran to Central Asia, with Marv in Khorasan as the seat of power. In 813, five years after Haroun's death, Ma'mun sent an army to Baghdad to attack and kill his profligate elder step-brother, Amin, and proclaimed himself caliph. He ruled for 20 years and died in Tarsus in what is now Turkey, a horrible death of unquenchable thirst despite drinking gallons of cool water. Crafty and articulate, Mamoun's greatest cardinal sin was the martyrdom of Imam Reza (AS), the 8th Infallible Heir of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), through a fatal dose of poisoned grapes, after inviting him to Khorasan and forcing him to accept being his heir, although the Imam was almost twenty years his senior.

789 solar years ago, on this day in 1229 AD, Ogedei Khan was proclaimed the second Khaqaan (Great Khan) of the Mongol Empire in Kodoe Aral, Mongolia, following the death of his father, the bloodthirsty Buddhist tyrant Genghis Khan.

697 solar years ago, on this day in 1321 AD, Italian poet, Dante Alighieri, known as the 'Father of Italian Language', died at the age of 56, and was buried in Ravenna. Born in Florence, he is famous for his book titled *"Commedia"*, which at times, although anti-Islamic and blasphemous, shows extensive borrowings from Islamic eschatological sources. It later came to be known as *"Divine Comedy"* for its Christianization of the themes.

581 solar years ago, on this day in 1437 AD, the Battle of Tangier resulted in a crushing defeat for the Portuguese invasion force led by Prince Henry the Navigator, Duke of Viseu at the hands of Moroccan army led by the Marinid vizier, Abu Zakariya Yahya al-Wattasi of Fez.

444 solar years ago, on this day in 1574 AD, the Ottoman fleet led by Ulugh Ali Raecis liberated Tunis from Spanish occupation after decisively defeating the combined naval forces of Spain, Portugal, France, and the papal states of Italy.

420 solar years ago, on this day in 1598 AD, Philip II of Spain died at the age of 71 after a 42-year reign, during which he was constantly embroiled in naval battles with the Ottoman Turks, who inflicted a number of defeats upon him except for the Battle of Lepanto which he won in 1571 and briefly occupied Tunis.

199 lunar years ago, on this day in 1241 AH, the second Russo-Iranian war started. The cause was the continued hostility of Russia that had seized the northwestern territories of Iran in the Caucasus. Despite the courage displayed by Prince Abbas Mirza, who achieved initial success and pushed back the Russians, the Iranian army was defeated because of lack of supply and support from Tehran, where King Fath-Ali Shah was immersed in inefficiency and pleasures. The disgraceful Turkmenchai Treaty was forced upon Iran, which had to cede to Russia the region of Daghestan west of the Caspian Sea, and areas north of the River Aras, including what is now called the Republic of Azerbaijan.

136 solar years ago, on this day in 1882 AD, the Battle of Tel al-Kabir took place during the Anglo-Egyptian War. After discontented Egyptian officers under Ahmad Urabi revolted, the British on the pretext of protecting their vested interests in the country, and in particular the Suez Canal, attacked the Egyptians and defeated them with the help of 7,000 Indian mercenary troops.

133 solar years ago, on this day in 1885 AD, Portuguese author, Aquilino Ribeiro, was born. Following the completion of his studies, he turned into a political activist and was imprisoned for a while. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in the year 1961. He died in 1963.

118 solar years ago, on this day in 1900 AD, Filipino fighters defeated the invading US army in the Battle of Pulang Lupa, during the US-Spanish War.

96 solar years ago, on this day in 1922 AD, the Great Fire of Izmir, started four days after the Turkish forces liberated Izmir from Greek occupation, and raged for 10 days until extinguished on September 1922, destroying much of the port city. An estimated 10,000-100,000 Greek and Armenian invading troops are said to have perished in the fire while fleeing after their defeat that effectively ended the Greco-Turkish War and the 3-year occupation of Izmir.

70 solar years ago, on this day in 1948 AD, invasion of the Muslim kingdom of Haiderabad-Deccan by the Indian Army started a day after the death of the Founder of Pakistani, Mohammad Ali Jinnah. The invasion code-named "Operation Polo" was ordered by hardline Deputy Premier, Vallabhbhai Patel, to forcibly annex Deccan to India, despite the fact that following the British withdrawal from the Subcontinent in August 1947 and the birth of India and Pakistan, the landlocked kingdom, which was the size of France, had chosen to remain independent, and had even sent a representative to the UN for membership. Britain also betrayed the ruler, Osman Ali Khan Nizam ol-Mulk Asef Jah VII, conveniently forgetting the tens of millions of pound-sterling given by him as aid during the First and Second World Wars, as well as the pacts and treaties with his ancestors at the start of colonial rule. The Indian army invaded from four points and after several days of resistance, sensing the situation hopeless, the ruler negotiated surrender to avoid any further bloodshed of Muslims, thereby ending 224 glorious years of the rule of his dynasty founded by Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb's general of Central Asian Persian stock, Qamar od-Din Khan Nizam ol-Mulk Asef Jah. Some 200,000 mostly Muslim civilians were slaughtered by the Indian army during "Operation Polo" which was so named because of the large number of polo grounds in Haiderabad-Deccan – 17 in all.

25 solar years ago, on this day in 1993 AD, Yasser Arafat betrayed the Palestinian cause by signing an accord with Zionist premier, Yitzhak Rabin, to accept the illegal existence of the Israel in return for recognition of his Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The Zionist entity, after gaining several concessions from Arafat, made the false promise of granting statehood to the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, but has never kept its words till this day.

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

Iran Computer Scientists Awarded 4 Medals in Japan



TEHRAN (MNA) – Iran's brightest young competing at the 2018 International Olympiad in computer scientists took home four medals after Informatics in Japan.

The 30th edition of International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) was held in Tsukuba, Japan, from September 1 to September 8. Over 900 participants from 85 countries took part at the event.

Iran's team of four finished the competitions with four medals. Mohammad Mahdavi snatched the gold medal of the event, while Keivan Rezaei and Mehrdad Saberi bagged silver each. Seyed Mahd Sadegh Shobeiri settled for the bronze medal.

The International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI), the second largest Olympiad after International Mathematical Olympiad, is an annual competitive programming competition for secondary school students.

The previous edition of the event was hosted by Iran, during which the Iranian team finished in fourth place after Japan, China, and Russia with one gold medal and three silver medals.

The IOI 2019 will be held in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

'Mediterranean' to Begin European Stage Tour

TEHRAN. (HONARONLINE) – Ali Shams says his new play *The Mediterranean* will soon begin its European tour.

Speaking to Honaronline, he said

Smiling Doesn't Always Mean You're Happy



LONDON (Dispatches)-Smiling does not necessarily indicate that we are happy, according to new research.

It is widely believed that smiling means a person is happy, and it usually occurs when they are engaging with another person or group of people. However, a new study at Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) and led by body language expert Dr Harry Witchel, Discipline Leader in Physiology at BSMS, shows this is not always the case.

Dr Witchel claims that the way people often behave during one-to-one Human-Computer-Interaction (HCI) is as if they were socially engaged.

His research involved asking 44 participants aged 18-35 to play a geography quiz game consisting of nine difficult questions so that they often got the answer wrong.

Seated participants interacted with a computer alone in a room while their faces were video recorded.

After the quiz, the participants were asked to rate their subjective experience using a range of 12 emotions including 'bored', 'interested' and 'frustrated'.

Meanwhile, their spontaneous facial expressions were then computer analysed frame by frame in order to judge how much they were smiling based on a scale of between 0 to 1.

Dr Witchel said: "According to some researchers, a genuine smile reflects the inner state of cheerfulness or amusement. "However, Behavioural Ecology Theory suggests that all smiles are tools used in social interactions; that theory claims that cheerfulness is neither necessary nor sufficient for smiling.

the play will go on stage by Bahar Katouzi, Maral Farjad and Parisa Nazari.

The director says he seeks to highlight the catastrophic consequences of war and the suffering of the people through the show. This includes the victory of far-right groups in European elections, the refugee and migrant crisis after the Arab Spring, and

many other issues that have become a serious concern for Europeans.

He says he was asked to stage the play and his European tour will soon begin.

He went in to explain: The play is about the migrant crisis. The main focus is on those who lost their lives trying to reach Europe through the Mediterranean Sea.

The sea has become a graveyard for refugees. Of 18 refugees one drowns almost every day trying to reach Europe from the Middle East and Africa.

The writer and director added: The play is in the English language. We will begin the tour on October 15 from Italy. We will then go to Budapest, Sweden and German for further performances.

Iranian prof. Awarded With Japanese 'Order of the Rising Sun'

TEHRAN (MNA) – 'The Order of the Rising Sun' along with flower motif was awarded by the Japanese government to Prof. Reza Yousefi Faculty Member of Sharif University of Technology for his outstanding cultural and scientific activities.

The award-granting ceremony was held in Japanese Embassy to the Islamic Republic of Iran on Tuesday, based on which, 'The Order of the Rising Sun' was awarded to Reza Yousefi Assistant Professor in Tutorial Workshops Center of Sharif University of

Technology.

The Order of the Rising Sun was awarded to Prof. Reza Yousefi in April 2018. Prof. He is the first Iranian who managed to win 'The Order of the Rising Sun' along with flower motif (Kyoko Jitsu Shujushu).

Prof. Yousefi holds different positions, including the head of Japan Graduates Association in Iran, which is the association that has been set up for continuation of study of Iranians who have received scholarship of Japanese government.

Moreover, he is cultural and scientific attaché of embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Japan.

The Order of the Rising Sun is a Japanese order, established in 1875. The Order was the first national decoration awarded by the Japanese government, created on 10 April 1875 by decree of the Council of State. The badge features rays of sunlight from the rising sun. The design of the Rising Sun symbolizes energy as powerful as the rising sun in parallel with the "rising sun" concept of Japan ("Land of the Rising Sun").

Picture of the Day



The first tunnel aquarium in Iran, Isfahan Aquarium, habitat to more than 6500 aquatic animals of 350 aquatic species from five continents, is located in Nazhvan Forest Park of Isfahan.

Courtesy: Tasnim News Agency