

This Day in History

(September 22)

Today is Saturday; 31st of the Iranian month of Shahrivar 1397 solar hijri; corresponding to the 12th of the Islamic month of Muharram 1440 lunar hijri; and September 22, 2018, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1379 lunar years ago, on this day in 61 AH, survivors of the heartrending tragedy of Karbala, mostly women and children of the noble household of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), including Imam Zain al-Abedin (AS), the son and successor of Imam Husain (AS), entered the city of Kufa as captives, along with the severed heads of the martyrs, gruesomely mounted on lances. They were taken to the court of the ungodly governor, Obeidollah ibn Ziyad, whose attempt to ridicule the Prophet's family and to kill Imam Zain al-Abedin (AS), were thwarted by the bold remarks of Hazrat Zainab (SA), who praised God Almighty for enabling the Ahl al-Bayt to successfully pass the tests of martyrdom and sufferings. When the tyrant thought of disgracing the noble captives by parading them in the city, again Hazrat Zainab (SA) jolted the conscience of the masses through her eloquent sermons that drew tears from the people of Kufa and made them regret their lethargy in failing to assist the Prophet's grandson against the regime. Ibn Ziyad, fearing a public revolt quickly ordered dispatch of the caravan of captives to the Omayyad capital Damascus in Syria, but through unfrequented routes so as to avoid the anger and indignation of the people of the towns that lay in the way.

1345 lunar years ago, on this day in 95 AH, according to an account, Imam Zain al-Abedin (AS), the Survivor of the heartrending tragedy of Karbala, and the 4th Infallible Heir of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), was martyred through poisoning at the age of 57, exactly 34 years after the tragic martyrdom of his father, Imam Husain (AS). He was victim of the hatred of the Prophet's family by Walid Ibn Abdul-Malik, the 6th self-styled caliph of the usurper Omayyad regime. Born in Medina in 38 AH, his mother was the Iranian princess, Shahrano. It was his ill-health as a youth of 23 years in Karbala that prevented him from joining the jihad in which almost all male members of the Prophet's family were martyred. His jihad was of a different kind, but not with the sword. Through his sermons in the court of the Godless Yazid, he made the message of his father triumphant, thus unmasking the hypocrisy of the Omayyad regime. Following release from captivity, for the next three decades, he enlightened the Ummah through prayers, supplications and definition of individual and social rights, including the rights of our own bodily parts upon us. He groomed a large number of scholars and scientists who spread the teachings of the Prophet's Ahl al-Bayt in different lands.

807 solar years ago, on this day in 1211 AD, the famous biographer of Kurdish origin, Shams od-Din Abu'l-Abbas Ahmad Ibn Mohammad Ibn Khalikan was born in Arbil in northeastern Iraq. His most renowned work is the biographical dictionary entitled "*Wafayaat al-Ayyan wa-Anba Abna az-Zamaan*" (Deaths of Eminent Men and Accounts of the Sons of the Epoch), which took eighteen years to complete.

705 lunar years ago, on this day in 735 AH, the celebrated Gnostic and ancestor of the Safavid Emperors of Iran, Safi od-Din Ardabili, passed away at the age of 84 and laid to rest in his hometown Ardabil, northwestern Iran. Named Seyyed Ishaq at birth, he was the son of Seyyed Amin od-Din Musavi – a descendent of Imam Musa al-Kazem (AS), the 7th Infallible Heir of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA). With acquisition of knowledge he acquired the epithets Abu'l-Fath, Shams od-Din and Safi od-Din. A disciple, spiritual heir and son-in-law of the prominent Gnostic, Shaikh Zahed Gilani of Lahijan, he founded the Safaviyya Order, which earned respect from the rulers of the day, including the ferocious Central Asian conqueror, Amir Timur. Over the following 170 years, the Safaviyya Order gained political and military power, finally culminating in the foundation of the Safavid dynasty by Shah Ismail I that lasted for almost two-and-a-half centuries.

498 solar years ago, on this day in 1520 AD, the Ottoman sultan, Selim I, died at the age of 55 after a reign of 8 years, some 3 years after seizing Syria and Egypt from the Mamluk rulers and declaring himself caliph, although he had no right or legitimacy even from the Sunni point of view.

479 solar years ago, on this day in 1539 AD, the founder of the Sikh religion, Guru Nanak, passed away at the age of 70 in Kartarpur in what is now Pakistan's Punjab province.

229 solar years ago, on this day in 1789 AD, the Battle of Ramnic took place in Wallachia, near Ramnicu Sarat, during the Russo-Turkish War of 1787-1792. Russian general Alexander Suvorov, acting together with the Habsburg general Prince Josias of Coburg, attacked the main Ottoman army under Grand Vizier Hassan Pasha to inflict a crushing defeat.

227 solar years ago, on this day in 1791 AD, British physicist, Michael Faraday, was born near London. He initially worked in a bookshop, where he studied scientific works.

158 solar years ago, on this day in 1860 AD, war broke out between China and a joint invasion force of the French and British. The poorly-equipped Chinese suffered defeat and the British-French force plundered Beijing. China was forced to sign a treaty giving numerous concessions to Britain and France to monopolize Chinese seaports.

146 solar years ago, on this day in 1872 AD, Vladimir Dal, Russian lexicographer and linguist, died in Moscow at the age 71.

137 solar years ago, on this day in 1881 AD, Qajarid Iran was forced to officially recognize Russia's annexation of the ancient Iranian land of Khwarezm in Central Asia through the Treaty of Akhal. Following Iran's defeat in 1860, and with the increasing occupation of its territories in the southern Caucasus by Russia, and eastern Khorasan by Britain and the Afghans; Moscow stepped up its campaign to take full control of Central Asia. Forces led by Generals Mikhail Skobelev, Ivan Lazarev and Konstantin Kaufman led the campaign, while Iran was unable to react. The immobilized Naser od-Din Shah sent foreign secretary Mirza Sa'eed Khan Mo'tamen ol-Mulk to meet Ivan Zinoviev and sign the treaty, by virtue of which Iran would henceforth cease any claim to all parts of Transoxiana, setting the Atrak River as the new boundary. Three years later in 1884, the historical Iranian cities of Merv, Sarakhs, Ishqabad, and the surrounding areas were transferred to Russian control, and are now part of the modern republic of Turkmenistan. Khwarezm is a large oasis region on the River Oxus delta in West-Central Asia, bordered to the north by the Aral Sea, to the east the Qyzylkum Desert, to the south the Qarakum Desert and to the west the Ustyurt Plateau. Its famous capitals where Iranian scholars and scientists flourished were Kath, Gurganj and from the 16th century onwards Khiva. Today Khwarezm is divided among the republics of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan.

58 solar years ago, on this day in 1960 AD, the northwest African country of Mali gained independence from French colonial rule.

53 solar years ago, on this day in 1965 AD, the second Indo-Pakistani War (also known as the Second Kashmir War between India and Pakistan over Kashmir, ended after the UN called for a ceasefire. India's Prime Minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri, suffered a fatal heart attack soon after the declaration of the ceasefire, during the peace talks in Tashkent with Pakistan's president, General Ayyub Khan, under the auspices of the Soviet Union.

39 solar years ago, on this day in 1979 AD, Indian-Pakistani Islamic scholar and journalist, Abu'l-Ala Maududi, passed away at the age of 76 in Buffalo New York State, US, where he was undergoing medical treatment. His numerous works were written in Urdu and included the analytical book titled "*Khilafat va Muloukiyat*" (Caliphate and Monarchy), in which he has strongly criticized Osman ibn Affan, the 3rd self-styled caliph, as incompetent and unworthy.

38 solar years ago, on this day in 1980 AD, Saddam of the repressive Ba'th minority regime of Baghdad, six days after tearing in front of TV cameras the 1975 Algiers Accord, launched an unprovoked invasion of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the behest of his masters in London and Washington, by air, land and sea. He occupied vast parts of southwestern and western Iran. In response the Iranians started the holy defence that thwarted all plans of the occupier and his eastern and western backers. For 8 years, the Iranian Muslims defended their homeland and managed to drive out the Ba'thist forces from almost all occupied Iranian territory. The US and Saddam, fearing the impact of the Islamic Revolution had resorted to wanton war, but as is clear today by the friendly ties between the Iranian and Iraqi people, they failed miserably. Every year Iran commemorates the Holy Defence Week to promote and preserve its egalitarian values.

17 solar years ago, on this day in 2001 AD, the Islamic Republic of Iran opened in Tehran the First Universal Exhibition of Holy Culture and Defense with the theme of the Islamic Revolution and the 8-year war imposed by the US (1980-88) through Saddam of the repressive Ba'th minority regime of Baghdad.

12 solar years ago, on this day in 2006 AD, Lebanon's legendary anti-terrorist movement, the Hezbollah celebrated "Divine Victory" over the illegal Zionist entity, in a massive demonstration in Beirut, following Israel's shattering defeat in its 33-day unprovoked war.

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

Iranian Film Critic Joins ‘Zero Plus’ Jury Panel



Iranian film critic Hamed Soleimanzadeh.

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iranian film critic Hamed Soleimanzadeh has joined the international jury panel of the 5th edition of Zero Plus Film Festival in Russia.

Iranian Film critic Hamed Soleimanzadeh who holds a PhD in film studies and heads the International Department of the international film festival for children and youth (ICFF), has joined the jury panel of the international competition of educational, documentary and popular science films at the 5th Zero Plus Film Festival in Russia.

Zero Plus, according to the festival's website, aims to provide children, adolescents and families with an access to the films and cartoons

worldwide, which are oriented to the human development, transmit common human values and put forward the best human qualities. The festival stresses the value of teaching a meaningful watching that implies the ability to analyze perceived visual information, reveal particular values put in it, and define personal benefits of the watched films.

The fifth edition of the event will be held on 1-7 October 2018.

Soleimanzadeh has recently taken part as part of the jury panel for the first edition of Children's Television Festival 'Dytiatko' hosted by Ukraine on 5-8 September.

‘The Faithful Day’ “Most Impressive Film” on Ashura

TEHRAN (IFILM) - A review describes ifilm weekend flick “The Faithful Day” as “the most notable film” on the sad religious occasion of Ashura.

According to the review, while the flick directed by Shahram Asadi was made almost fifteen years ago, no film has ever proved to be as impressive as ‘The Faithful Day’.

The title which grabbed the best film award at Fajr Film Festival boasts a string of stars such as the male lead Alireza Shoja-Nouri and mega actor Ezzatollah Entezami with the latter passing away a while back.



The review lauded Shoja-Nouri's performance who played the role of a newly converted Muslim hearing Imam Hussein's (AS) call for help at the Battle of Karbala.

The male actor was quoted by the rave review as saying, “I have seen so many people telling me they watched the film more than a hundred times.”

The actor also said he himself caught the film so many times with every time feeling a drastic change of mood.

“This work is not in religious or historical genre and the audience can relate to it.”

High Gluten Diet Linked to Increased Risk of Diabetes in Children

COPENHAGEN (Dispatches)-A new study suggests that a high gluten intake by mothers during pregnancy

is associated with an increased risk of their child developing type 1 diabetes.

Gluten is a general name for the proteins found in wheat, rye, and barley and is suggested to affect the development of type 1 diabetes. In animal studies, a gluten free diet during pregnancy almost completely prevented type 1 diabetes in offspring, but no intervention study has been undertaken in pregnant women.

To better understand the nature of this association, researchers led by Julie Antvorskov at the Bartholin Institute in Denmark in collaboration with researchers at Denmark's Statens Serum Institut, set out to examine whether gluten intake during pregnancy is associated with subsequent risk of type 1 diabetes in children.

They analysed data for 63,529 pregnant women enrolled into the Danish National Birth Cohort between January 1996 and October



2002.

After taking account of potentially influential factors, such as mother's age, weight (BMI), total energy intake, and smoking during pregnancy, they found that the child's risk of type 1 diabetes increased proportionally with the mother's gluten intake during

pregnancy (per 10 g/day increase).

For example, children of women with the highest gluten intake (20 g/day or more) versus those with the lowest gluten intake (less than 7 g/day) had double the risk of developing type 1 diabetes over a mean follow-up period of 15.6 years.

Picture of the Day



A host of foreign tourists annually attend Muharram mourning ceremonies in Yazd province. Some of them reportedly come to Iran and Yazd province exclusively for viewing these processions.

Courtesy: Mehr News Agency