

This Day in History

(October 16)

Today is Tuesday; 24th of the Iranian month of Mehr 1397 solar hijri; corresponding to 6th of the Islamic month of Safar 1440 lunar hijri; and October 16, 2018, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1042 solar years ago, on this day in 976 AD, Hakam II, the 2nd self-styled Omayyad caliph of Cordoba (al-Andalus or Muslim Spain), died at the age of 61 after a 15-year reign, during which he established Muslim supremacy over the Christian states of Navarre, Castile and León and utilized the peace to develop agriculture, irrigation works, urban development scholarly pursuits to the extent that books were procured from Damascus, Baghdad, Basra, Constantinople, Cairo, Mecca, Medina, Rayy, and Bukhara. His status as a patron of knowledge brought him fame across the Muslim world to the point that even books written in Iran, which was under Abbasid control, were dedicated to him. He undertook a massive translation effort and many books were translated from Latin and Greek into Arabic. He formed a joint committee of Muladi Muslims and Mozarab Catholics for this task. His personal library was of enormous proportions. Of special importance to him was history, and he himself wrote a history of Islamic Spain. The mathematician Lubna of Córdoba was employed as his private secretary and the famous physician, surgeon and scientist, Abu-Qasim az-Zahrawi (Abulcasis) flourished at his court.

288 solar years ago, on this day in 1730 AD, Ottoman Grand Vizier, Nevshahirli Damad Ibrahim Pasha, after twelve years of service during which he successfully demarcated the border in the Caucasus with the advancing Russian Empire, was sacrificed to the fury of the public and troops in Istanbul by Sultan Ahmed III in order to save himself from his failure in the war in Anatolia against Shah Tahmasp II of the Safavid Empire of Iran. The Grand Vizier, who was married to the sultan's sister, had earlier received a letter from Moghal Emperor Farrukhsiyar, apprising the Ottomans of the victories of (kingmaker) Seyyed Hassan Ali Khan of Barha against the Rajput and Maratha rebellions.

260 solar years ago, on this day in 1758 AD, American lexicographer, textbook pioneer, English spelling reformer, political writer, editor, and prolific author, Noah Webster was born. He has been called the "Father of American Scholarship and Education." His blue-backed speller books taught five generations of American children how to spell and read. His name became synonymous with "dictionary," especially the modern Merriam-Webster dictionary that was first published in 1828 as An American Dictionary of the English Language. In 1806, Webster published his first dictionary, titled "A Compendious Dictionary of the English Language". In 1807 he began compiling an expanded and fully comprehensive dictionary, titled "An American Dictionary of the English Language"; it took eighteen years to complete. To evaluate the etymology of words, Webster learned twenty-six languages, including Old English (Anglo-Saxon), German, Greek, Latin, Italian, Spanish, French, Hebrew, Arabic, and Sanskrit. He hoped to standardize American speech, since Americans in different parts of the country used different languages. They also spelled, pronounced, and used English words differently. His book contained seventy thousand words, of which twelve thousand had never appeared in a published dictionary before.

225 solar years ago, on this day in 1793 AD, during the French Revolution, Queen Marie Antoinette was beheaded. Prosecutors claimed she had financially abused the French Monarchy. Her husband, Louis XVI had been guillotined the previous January. At the time of her execution, she was clad in rags, with her once-dazzling locks shorn by the executioner's assistant.

203 solar years ago, on this day in 1815 AD, the second and final exile of French Emperor, Napoleon Bonaparte, started with his arrival as a British captive on Saint Helena Island, off the coast of South Africa, following his defeat at the Battle of Waterloo. Napoleon died in exile in May 1821 AD.

73 solar years ago, on this day in 1945 AD, FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) was set up by the United Nations in Quebec City, Canada, before being moved to Washington, US. It leads international efforts to defeat hunger. In 1951 it was shifted to its permanent headquarters in Rome, Italy. It serves both developed and developing countries and helps them modernize and improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries, in order to ensure good nutrition and food security for all. As of 8 August 2013, FAO has 194 member states, along with the European Union (a "member organization"), and the Faroe Islands and Tokelau, which are associate members. Every year on October 16 it organizes World Food Day in member countries.

71 solar years ago, on this day in 1946 AD, the Nuremberg Tribunal handed death sentences to nine senior German Nazi officials as war criminals, including air force commander, Hermann Goering, who committed suicide a few hours prior to his execution. The Nuremberg Tribunal also slapped long term prison terms on nine other senior Nazi officials and acquitted three others. The representatives of the victorious countries, that is, the US, Soviet Union, Britain, and France, presided over the trial, which started on September 30, 1946.

67 solar years ago, on this day in 1951 AD, Pakistan's first Prime Minister, Liaqat Ali Khan, died at the age of 56, after being shot twice in the chest by an assassin at a public meeting in Rawalpindi. Born in an aristocratic family in Karnal, East Punjab of undivided India (presently in Haryana), he claimed descent from Iran's pre-Islamic Sassanid emperor Noushervan. He was educated at the Aligarh Muslim University and at the Oxford University in Britain. Trained as lawyer, on his return to India, he rose to prominence as an influential member of the Muslim League led by Mohammad Ali Jinnah. On the birth of Pakistan in 1947, he became the prime minister.

66 solar years ago, on this day in 1952 AD, the famous Indo-Pakistani lawyer, political activist, poet and literary figure, Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Bhik Nairang, passed away in Lahore at the age of 76. Born in Ambala in a family that had migrated to India from Tirmiz in Greater Khorasan, he studied law and joined the All-India Muslim League. He was a close friend of the Philosopher-Poet of the East, Allamah Mohammad Iqbal Lahori, and was active in the political and social fields. On the creation of Pakistan he settled in Lahore. In addition to his poetical composition "Kalaam-e Nairang" he was a regular contributor to prestigious Urdu magazines such as "Zamana", "Makhzan", "Humayun", "Aligarh Old Boys", and his own "Tableegh". His articles on political, national and literary topics also appeared in the prominent newspapers of those.

54 solar years ago, on this day in 1964 AD, China detonated its first atomic bomb, and became the fifth country with nuclear arms after the United States (1945), Great Britain (1953), the Soviet Union (1961), and France. It was exploded in the vicinity of Lop Nor, a lake in a remote area of Central Asia. The Chinese Government stated "This is a major achievement of the Chinese people in their struggle to increase their national defence capability and oppose the US imperialist policy of nuclear blackmail and nuclear threats."

43 solar years ago, on this day in 1975 AD, Rahima Banu, a two-year old girl from the village of Kuralia in Bangladesh, became the last known person to be infected with naturally occurring smallpox. An estimated 300-to-500 million deaths occurred during the 20th century because of smallpox. As recently as 1967, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that 15 million people contracted the disease and that two million died in that year. After vaccination campaigns throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, the WHO certified the eradication of smallpox in 1979.

40 solar years ago, on this day in 1978 AD, while the people of Kerman in southeastern Iran were commemorating at the city's Jame' Masjid or Main Mosque, the traditional 40th day of the martyrs of the Tehran uprising against the despotic regime of the Shah, Pahlavi agents attacked the mourners, martyring and injuring scores of them. This led to development of a new wave of protests against the British-installed and American-backed regime, resulting in chain demonstrations throughout the country that eventually led to the victory of the Islamic Revolution under the guidance of Imam Khomeini (RA).

29 solar years ago, on this day in 1989 AD, the prominent Iranian musician, Morteza Hananeh, passed away at the age of 67. He was one of the founders of Tehran Symphonic Orchestra. He also produced movie scores and compiled several books, including: "How to Make a Melody"

23 solar years ago, on this day in 1995 AD, the million-man-march was staged in Washington in front of the White House, by the oppressed Afro-American community, in coordination with the Nation of Islam, in protest to the inhuman policies of US administrations. For the first time, the cry of Allah-o Akbar echoed on the streets of the US, as the various speakers, urged the people to unite in self-help and self-defense against economic and social ills plaguing the Afro-American community.

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

Brazil Film Festival Screens Iranian Titles



TEHRAN(MNA) – Three Iranian titles, including "Empty View" by Ali Zare and "Tanafos" by Farshid

Ayoubnejad, have been accepted Festival of Nova Friburgo, FRICIN, in into the competition program of 13th Brazil. International SocioEnvironmental Film Two animations by Iranian

filmmaker Ali Zare Ghanatnawi, "Empty View" and "Essence", as well as a short film, "Tanafos" directed by Farshid Ayoubnejad will represent the Iranian cinema at the 13th International SocioEnvironmental Film Festival of Nova Friburgo FRICIN, in Brazil.

"Empty View" is the story of a mother waiting for her son to come back home from war. "Essence" has been inspired by the music of German composer Richard Strauss, with a focus on depicting human beings as an endless galaxy in the universe.

The International SocioEnvironmental Film Festival of Nova Friburgo, also known as FRICINE SOCIOAMBIENTAL, was founded in 2006, with an aim to "promote films, capable of stimulating the public's perception of environmental questions, and stressing the urgency of preserving nature and the ecological, cultural and touristic values of the Atlantic Rain Forest in the region of Nova Friburgo."

The 13th edition of the festival will be held on October 30 to November 4, 2018, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Austria Festival Chooses Iranian Director As Jury



TEHRAN(IFILM)-Iranian director farnoush Samadi has been selected to become a jury member at the Linz International Film Festival in Austria.

The award-winning Iranian screenwriter and filmmaker Farnoush Samadi is to sit shoulder to shoulder with other jury members of the Austrian film event.

Other jury members are Romanian director Sorin Dorian Dragoi and Italian animator Lucia Bulgheroni.

They are to judge more than 100 short films in different sections of the festival including animation, documentary and experimental.

Samadi's latest work, the short film 'Gaze', premiered this summer in the 70th edition of the Lorcano Festival in Italy. The film also won the Grand Jury Award for best live action short film in the 31st edition of the American Film Institute Festival this November.

Linz International Short Film Festival is the first international short film festival in Linz, Austria, which is a unique film event for short filmmakers and film lovers to network and discover future short film trends on a worldwide level.

The event was established for showcasing and celebrating the best independent short films from already established filmmakers as well as great work from new upcoming talents and artists from all around the world and for assisting in building a shared artistic experience.

The 2018 edition of the event is slated for October 11-14, Austria. It is currently underway.

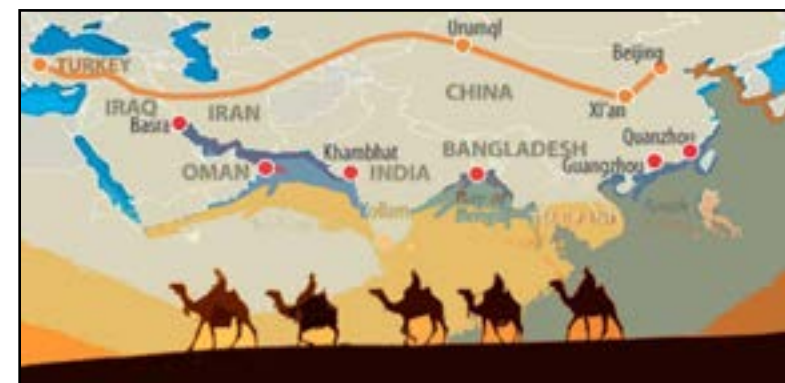
Iran to Host First Silk Road Festival

TEHRAN (IFP)-The Iranian capital of Tehran is to host the first edition of Silk Road festival as one of the largest international, cultural, artistic, tourist, economic, trade and scientific festivals in the world.

Organized by Iran's Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHTO), the event is to be attended by representatives from leading countries of the world including those located along the Silk Road.

The main goal of the event is to promote Iranian products and create an appropriate ground for the activities of Iranian and foreign producers in the country.

The festival is also expected to provide Iranian producers with a chance to promote Iranian arts and culture and exchange scientific and technological products with the foreign participants of the



international event.

The event is slated to be started on November 25 with the main theme of World Peace. It will be attended by the ambassadors of the countries of the Silk Road as well as those of the Mediterranean region.

Executives from various economic organizations, members of Tehran and Iran chambers of commerce, people from Iran and other countries' joint chambers of

commerce, top Iranian exporters and producers, domestic and foreign investors, great artists from Iranian cinema, TV, and theatre as well as foreign guests from private sector involved in export and import are also invited to take part in the international event.

Sarvinsadat Serry is the secretary of the Silk Road Festival which is to be held in Tehran's Sa'dabad Palace.

Picture of the Day



A drill was held at Baqiyatallah Hospital of Tehran on Oct. 15, 2018 to confront a chemical attack.