

## This Day in History

(April 23)

Today is Tuesday; 3rd of the Iranian month of Ordibehesht 1398 solar hijri; corresponding to 17<sup>th</sup> of the Islamic month of Sha'ban 1440 lunar hijri; and April 23, 2019, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

**2497 solar years ago**, on this day in 478 BC, the Delian League was founded by Greek city-states, numbering between 150 to 173 under the leadership of Athens, whose purpose was to continue fighting the mighty Persian Empire after the Greek victory in the Battle of Plataea at the end of the Second Persian invasion of Greece by the Iranian Achaemenid Emperor Xerxes, who due to resistance, decided to withdraw after conquering almost all of Greece and destroying Athens. The League's modern name derives from its official meeting place, the island of Delos, where congresses were held in the temple and where the treasury stood until Pericles moved it to Athens in 454 BC. Shortly after its inception, Athens began to use the League's navy for its own purposes. This behaviour frequently led to conflict between Athens and the less powerful members of the League. By 431 BC, Athens' heavy-handed control of the Delian League prompted the outbreak of the Peloponnesian War. The League was dissolved upon the war's conclusion in 404 BC.

**1716 solar years ago**, on this day in 303 AD, the devoted Palestinian-Syrian monotheist, Jirjis, known to the West as Saint George, attained martyrdom at the hands of the Roman Emperor Diocletian for refusing to worship the idols of the Roman pantheon. Almighty Allah had chosen Jirjis to preach monotheism in parts of Syria. He was noted for his bravery, and regarded Jesus as a Prophet of God, refusing to believe in the perverted concept of trinity forged by Paul the Jew, the founder of Christianity. Jirjis was also a firm believer in the coming of the last and greatest of divine messengers, Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), and has nothing to do with myths spun around him by the medieval Europeans. In some supplications to God Almighty, as bequeathed by the Imams of the Ahl al-Bayt, the name of Jirjis is mentioned. His shrine and the adjoining mosque near Mosul in Iraq was desecrated and blown through explosives by Takfiri terrorists, supported by the US, Saudi Arabia, the Zionist entity, and Turkey.

**1082 lunar years ago**, on this day in 358 AH, the Egyptian capital Fostat was conquered by the Fatimid Ismaili Shi'a Muslim general, Jowhar as-Saqali, ending the rule of the Ikhshid Turkic governors of the Abbasid caliphate of Baghdad.

**819 solar years ago**, on this day in 1200 AD, Chinese philosopher Zhu Xi or Chu His, died at the age of 69. He lived during the Song dynasty as the most influential rationalist Neo-Confucian. His contributions to Chinese philosophy including his assigning special significance to the Analects, the Mencius, the Great Learning, and emphasis on the investigation of things that formed the basis of Chinese bureaucracy and government for over 700 years. He has been called the second most influential thinker in Chinese history, after Confucius. He termed Buddhist principles to be darkening and deluding the original mind as well as destroying human relations.

**623 lunar years ago**, on this day in 817 AH, Central Asian Turkic conqueror, Amir Timur died, while on an expedition against China, after conquering all the lands from the Mediterranean coast of Syria to River Ganges in India, and from the Persian Gulf in the south to Moscow in the north. He was of ferocious nature and at times destroyed entire cities and massacred whole populations, but at the same time patronized arts and literature, including the Persian language. He is buried in his capital Samarqand in what is now the Republic of Uzbekistan in a beautiful mausoleum called Gur-e Amir.

**403 solar years ago**, on this day in the year 1564 AD, the English poet, playwright, and author, William Shakespeare, died.

**169 solar years ago**, on this day in 1850 AD, English poet, William Wordsworth, died at the age of 80. He was a major English Romantic poet who, with Samuel Taylor Coleridge, helped to launch the Romantic Age in English literature with the 1798 joint publication of "Lyrical Ballads". Wordsworth's magnum opus is generally considered to be "The Prelude", a semi-autobiographical poem of his early years which he revised and expanded a number of times. It was posthumously titled and published, prior to which it was generally known as the poem "To Coleridge". Wordsworth was Britain's Poet Laureate from 1843 until his death seven years later.

**161 solar years ago**, on this day in 1858 AD, the physicist, mathematician, and presenter of Quantum Theory in Physics, Max Planck, was born in Germany. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1918, and was one of the staunch opponents of Nazi dictator, Adolf Hitler. He conducted extensive studies on theoretical physics, thermodynamics, heat, radiation and light, writing books in these fields. Planck's Quantum Theory revolutionized understanding of atomic and subatomic processes.

**79 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1361 AH, Gnostic Islamic scholar, Ayatollah Shaikh Hassan-Ali Nokhodaki Isfahani, passed away at the age of 82. He was a product of the famous Islamic seminary of holy Najaf in Iraq, and on completing his studies took up residence in holy Mashhad in northeastern Iran for the rest of his life. He was an expert in mathematics, astronomy, and medicine, but his fame is mainly due to his ethical virtues and spiritual powers, some of which have been cited in a book, compiled by his son.

**39 solar years ago**, on this day in 1979 AD, Sepahbod (General) Mohammad Vali Qarani was martyred at the age of 66 by the terrorist grouplet Forqan, within months of being appointed Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces. He joined the army during the days of the Pahlavi regime and earned steady promotion for his dedicated service to the country. He was, however, shocked by rampant corruption and immorality prevailing among the military. In 1957, he was accused of plotting a coup and was imprisoned. He was released, but again imprisoned in 1963 on charges of close contacts with the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), during the 15th of Khordad (June 5, 1963) uprising. For the next 15 years he was in prison and was released on the eve of the victory of the Islamic Revolution. Following the establishment of the Islamic Republic he was appointed to the highest ranking military post, but was martyred in a few months by the enemies of Iran and Islam.

**25 solar years ago**, on this day in 1993 AD, Eritreans voted for independence from Ethiopia in a United Nations-monitored referendum.

**23 solar years ago**, on this day in 1995 AD, the World Book and Copyright Day was initiated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to promote reading, publishing and copyright. The 23rd of April is the anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare and several other prominent authors.

**21 solar years ago**, on this day in 1997 AD, Ayatollah Mirza Ali Gharavi Alyari Tabrizi, passed away in his hometown Tabriz at the age of 96 and was laid to rest in the holy shrine of Hazrat Ma'soumah (peace upon her) in Qom. He wrote several books, including a commentary in 15 volumes on "al-Orwat-al-Wosqa".

**8 solar years ago**, on this day in 2010 AD, Takfiri terrorists backed by Saudi Arabia, the US and Israel, carried out a series of bomb blasts in Baghdad, martyring 72 Shi'a Muslims, of whom 25 achieved martyrdom near the office of an Iraqi religious scholar strongly opposed to the US occupying forces. Two years earlier on this same date, Takfiri terrorists had martyred 88 Shi'a Muslims in Baghdad and Muqaddiyah, including pilgrims from Iran.

**7 solar years ago**, on this day in 2011 AD, the repressive Aal-e Khalifa minority regime of the Persian Gulf island state of Bahrain, demolished 16 mosques and several hussainiyahs, over the past two months in a bid to crush the popular uprising of the long-suppressed Shi'a Muslim majority.

**Ordibehesht 3rd** is marked in Iran as National Day for the celebrated Islamic scholar and scientist of the Safavid era Baha od-Din Mohammad al-Ameli, popularly known as Sheikh Baha'i.

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

# Legendary Dutch Director Judges at Fajr International Film Festival



Dutch director Mike van Dime.

TEHRAN (IFILM) - Oscar-winning director Mike van Dime has been invited as a juror in the 37th edition of Fajr International Film Festival in Iran's capital city of Tehran.

Well-known Dutch film director Mike van Dime who received Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film for the film 'Character' (Dutch: Karakter) attends the 37th FIFF competition section as a juror.

Mike van Dime was born on January 12, 1959 in Sittard, Limburg, Netherlands. He is a director and writer, known for Character (1997),

The Surprise (2015), and Tulipani: Love, Honour and a Bicycle (2017). Supervised by Iran's Ministry of Culture, Fajr International Film Festival hosts veteran directors and new filmmakers from Iran and across the world every year.

The 37th edition of the Iranian film event will screen films in five categories including the International Competition, Eastern Vista, Festival of Festivals, Popular Genre Films and Burn Olives which is a window to the changes in the world of Islam today. The festival will be held April 18-26, 2019 in Tehran, Iran.

## Scientists Produce Livestock Embryo in Lab

TEHRAN (IFP) - A group of Iranian researchers has managed to produce livestock embryo in laboratory in order to get better results from cattle breeding and freezing them for use in the required conditions.

Consuming milk and dairy products and putting it in one's diet is important from birth to adolescence, youth, middle age and old age periods. Therefore, human beings have always been trying to add to the amount of production and diversity of these products, but the main issue before dairy production is the livestock's health.

On this basis, experts and health professionals began to concentrate on edible milk products by ensuring the health of livestock and poultry.

A knowledge-based company in Iran has been producing livestock embryo in lab in large



quantities. The CEO of this knowledge-based company, Jamshid Jalilnejat Hallajian says using this technology is aimed at improving the livestock reproduction process in case of thermal stress and in controlling of the transmission of some diseases.

He reiterated the improvement of quality and quantity is one of the most important aims of the production of embryos.

"With the production of the embryo, it is possible to quickly test the samples of a female animal and decrease the gap between generations."

Jalilnejat also added that these embryos have been exported to Azerbaijan Republic adding that the company has been able to increase its milk production from 120 to 170 tons per day in 2014.

## 'Family Tales From Tehran' Translated Into English

TEHRAN (IBNA) - The English book 'Family Tales from Tehran' by Iranian author Manijeh Badiozmani offers 46 vignettes chronicling the author's childhood in Iran and visits back to Tehran over the years.

According to Villages News, the book which has been published in 186 pages features the memories of Badiozmani from her grandfather's comfortable house in Tehran, near the Big Bazaar, where three generations of her extended family lived together, including her parents and uncle – her father's brother.

Growing up in Tehran, in the 1940s-50s, Manijeh Badiozamani came to the United States on a scholarship for her senior year of high school. Although she spoke basic English, the nuances of the language frequently eluded her.

Manijeh returned to Tehran after high school, completed a master's degree in English literature, married Koz, her husband of 54 years, and eventually found herself back in the U.S. as Koz attended Northwestern University, completing his Ph.D. in geology.

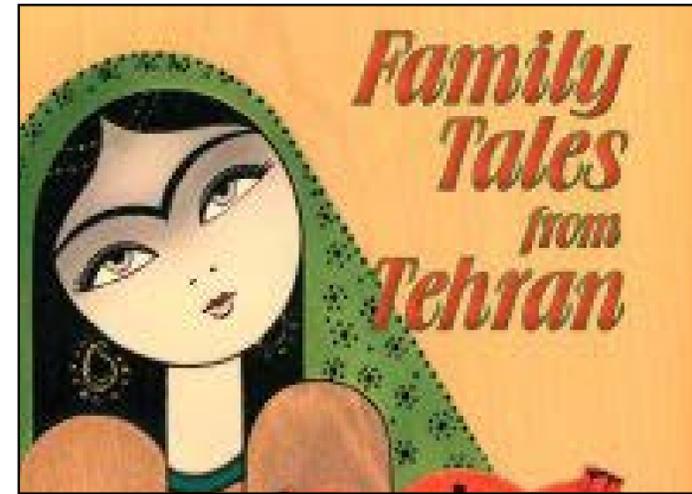
After a career in business and teaching, Manijeh compiled a book of vignettes describing her childhood in Tehran with her many relatives and family friends, as well as her subsequent visits for family events and emergencies.

"Family Tales from Tehran" describes life in a city from another time and culture by an author whose own life is a blend of American and Iranian cultures. The book is available on Amazon.

In her book, Manijeh chronicles a day with her mother where they manage to complete two activities in one day – and congratulate themselves on such a success.

Villager Manijeh Badiozmani grew up in Tehran, the capital of Iran, and says traffic in the city is 'horrendous,' making it difficult to do more than one activity a day outside of neighborhoods.

Manijeh and her family still celebrate some of the Iranian holidays. The latest was Nowruz, Persian New Year, celebrated on March 20. With a history going back 3,000 years, it is held on the first day of spring in the northern hemisphere. The symbols include green sprouts of grain or lentil grown in a dish, surrounded by seven Persian foods beginning with the same letter as spring. One of the stories in Manijeh's book is about her large family celebrating the 13th day of Norwuz at Uncle Razmi's big house and gardens. Traditionally, the grain sprouts are discarded and everyone enjoys a great feast.



## Picture of the Day



Every year on April 21, Iranians commemorate the National Day of Sa'di of Shiraz, a highly revered 13th-century poet, who is known both in and outside Iran for his enticing choice of word, ethical and social teachings and deep expressive poetry. Sa'di of Shiraz (1210-1292) is widely recognized as one of the greatest masters of the classical literary tradition. He is also known as 'the master orator'.

Courtesy: Mehr News Agency