

# This Day in History

(22-3-1398)

Today is Wednesday; 22<sup>nd</sup> of the Iranian month of Khordad 1398 solar hijri; corresponding to 8<sup>th</sup> of the Islamic month of Shawwal 1440 lunar hijri; and June 12, 2019, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

**1223 solar years ago**, on this day in 796 AD, Hisham I, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Omayyad emir of Muslim Spain died at the age of 40 after eight years of rule.

**1068 lunar years ago**, on this day in 372 AH, the greatest ruler of the Iranian Buwaihidi dynasty of Iran-Iraq-Bahrain-Oman, Adhud od-Dowla Daylami, passed away in Baghdad and was laid to rest in holy Najaf in the mausoleum of the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS). He embellished Baghdad with several buildings including the famous public hospital known as **"Bimaristan-e Adhudi"**, where the great Iranian physician Zakariyya ar-Raazi used to practice.

**875 solar years ago**, on this day in 1144 AD, the Iranian Sunni Muslim exegete of the holy Qur'an, narrator of hadith, and linguist, Abu'l-Qasim Mohammad Ibn Omar Zamakhshari, died at the age of 72 in the city of Gurganj in the ancient Iranian land of Khwarezm, which today is divided between the Central Asian republics of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. He wrote both in Persian and Arabic, and is best known for **"al-Kashshaaf"**, a commentary on the holy Qur'an, which is famous for its deep linguistic analysis of the ayahs. Another of his famous books is **"Rabi al-Abraar"**, a voluminous reference work in which he has exposed the dubious parentage of Mu'awiyah ibn Abu Sufyan. He has recorded many of the God-given merits of the Ahl al-Bayt of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA) and their superiority over all Muslims.

**779 solar years ago**, on this day in 1240 AD, an inter-faith debate, known as the **"Disputation of Paris"**, started between a Christian monk and four rabbis, on the orders of King Louis IX of France.

**638 solar years ago**, on this day in 1381 AD, The Peasants' Revolt occurred in England. Also known as Tyler's Rebellion, it was not only the most extreme and widespread insurrection in English history but also the best-documented popular rebellion to have occurred during medieval times.

**483 solar years ago**, on this day in 1534 AD, the Turkish navy led by Khair od-Din Barbarossa allowed Giulia Gonzaga to kidnap people and plunder Naples in Italy.

**479 solar years ago**, on this day in 1540 AD, the country known as Chile in South America was occupied by the Spanish invaders, after earlier defeats at the hands of the indigenous Mapuche people. The Spanish brutally suppressed the Amerindians and plundered the rich resources of the land. In 1817, the Argentinean commander, Jose de San Martin, attacked the Spanish and liberated Chile in the following year.

**469 solar years ago**, on this day in 1550 AD, the city of Helsinki, Finland – belonging to Sweden at the time – was founded by King Gustav I of Sweden.

**116 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1324 AH, the first issue of daily **"Majlis"** was published in Iran by Constitutional Movement activist Mirza Seyyed Mohammad Sadeq Tabatabai. Following announcement of the freedom of press, several papers were published in different Iranian cities, but **"Majlis"** was the first daily circulated after opening of Iran's first parliament. It focused in detail on debates during parliamentary sessions.

**105 solar years ago**, on this day in 1914 AD, the first experiment for harnessing of solar thermal energy took place on the outskirts of the Egyptian capital, Cairo. It was conducted by American physicist, Frank Schuman, who managed to run a 50 horse-power steam engine by harnessing the sun's rays. This test shaped the basis of the solar-powered driving engines.

**100 solar years ago**, on this day in 1819 AD, English novelist, Charles Kingsley was born in Holne, Devon, Britain. He was a prolific writer and his works include, such famous classics as **"Westward Ho!"**, **"The Water-Babies"** and **"Madam How and Lady Why"**.

**96 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1344 AH, Wahhabi brigands from the desert region of Najd desecrated the sacred Jannat al-Baqie Cemetery of Medina, destroying the tombs of venerable Islamic figures including the majestic holy shrine that housed the tombs of four of the 12 Infallible Successors of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), that is, Imam Hasan Mojtaba (AS), Imam Zain al-Abidin (AS), Imam Mohammad Baqer (AS), and Imam Ja'far Sadeq (AS). The Chief Wahhabi Judge, Sheikh Abdullah bin Balhid, issued the blasphemous decree for destruction of the sacred and historical shrines of Medina. The brigands wanted to destroy the Prophet's shrine as well, but were prevented by the people. These seditious elements also destroyed in the same year the tomb of the Prophet's uncle, Hazrat Hamza (AS) and the other martyrs of the Battle of Ohad, as well as the holy mausoleums in the sacred Jannat al-Mu'alla Cemetery of Mecca, where repose in eternal peace, the Prophet's loyal wife, the First Lady of Islam, Omm al-Momineen or Mother of True Believers Hazrat Khadija (SA), the Prophet's infant son, Hazrat Qassem, the Prophet's uncle and guardian, Hazrat Abu Taleb, the Prophet's grandfather, Hazrat Abdul-Mutalib and other members of the monotheistic Bani Hashem clan (peace upon them).

**93 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1347 AH, the prominent jurisprudent, Ayatollah Mohammad Hussain Shabzindehdar, was born in Jahrom, Fars Province, southern Iran. He wrote several books on different subjects, including Annotations on the exegeses of the holy Qur'an such as Allamah Tabarsi's **"Majma' al-Bayan"** and Allamah Seyyed Mohammad Hussain Tabataie's **"al-Mizan"**.

**59 solar years ago**, on this day in 1960 AD, the renowned Islamic scholar, Mirza Mohammad Hussein Fazel Touni, passed away in Tehran at the age of 82. Born in the northeastern Iranian town of Ferdows, he was a polymath in theology, principles of theology, philosophy, mysticism, mathematics, astronomy, and Arabic literature. He later served as a professor at Tehran University's Faculty of Literature, teaching Arabic language and literature as well as philosophy. Among his books are **"Hekmat-e Qadim"**.

**28 solar years ago**, on this day in 1991 AD, the first free presidential polls were held in the Russian Federation after the disintegration of the Soviet Union and resulted in the election of Boris Yeltsin as president.

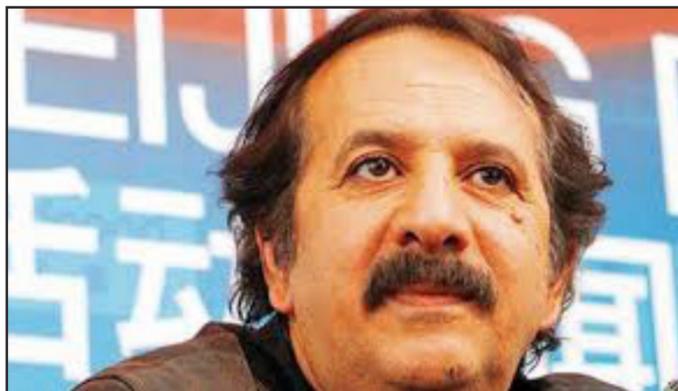
**24 solar years ago**, on this day in 1995 AD, Ayatollah Mirza Kazem Dinawari, passed away at the age of 93. A product of the Islamic seminary of holy Najaf in Iraq, on return to Iran, he was engaged in teaching and grooming students.

**8 solar years ago**, on this day in 2011 AD, the repressive Aal-e Khalifa minority regime of the Persian Gulf island of Bahrain, sentenced 20-year old university girl student, peace activist, and budding Arabic poet, Ayat Hassam Mohammad al-Qurmezi, to imprisonment on absurd charges, including inciting hatred, after some two-and-a-half months of torture following her kidnapping from her home at gunpoint, for reciting poems critical of the regime.

**3 solar years ago**, on this day in 2016 AD, Hamid Sabzevari, the father of revolutionary poetry in Iran, passed away at the age of 91 at a Tehran hospital and was laid to rest in his hometown, Sabzevar, in Khorasan Province, northeastern Iran. In 1979, during the days leading to the victory of grassroots Islamic movement of the Iranian people, he composed the famous poem **"Khomeini, O Imam!"** in praise of the Father of the Islamic Revolution. The poem was performed and recorded by a group of students, weeks before the victory of the Islamic Revolution. He is the composer of **"USA, USA, Shame on Your Deceits"**, which was performed by a chorus following the capture of the den of spies that the US embassy in Tehran had turned into. Another of his famous poem is **"This Is the Call of Freedom from the Orient"**.

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

# Legendary Director Takes Shot at New Film 'The Sun'



TEHRAN (IFILM) -- 'The Color of God' director Majid Majidi has set to venture upon a new artistic adventure titled 'The Sun'.

Directed by internationally acclaimed director Majid Majidi, 'The Sun' has gained production permit. The screenplay for the new cinematic project has been co-developed by the creator of 'The Song of Sparrows' and Nima Javidi who is also a distinguished and award-winning writer and helmer.

Early on his artistic career, Majidi experienced his hand on starring in some movies such as 'Justification', 'Two Sightless Eyes' and 'Boycott'.

He then quit acting and directed a few short films. His first feature film 'Badoo' won him a Crystal Simorgh at the Fajr International Film Festival.

In 1999, 'Children of Heaven' was the first Iranian film nominated to receive an Academy Award. 'Children of Heaven' lost the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, but it won many other international prizes.

For getting a better perception of how the great maestro's career path has gone, click here.

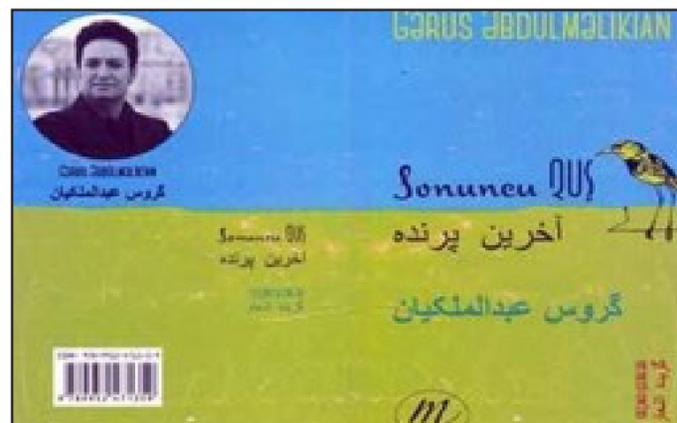
While these days, Javidi has his second feature film 'The Warden' on Iranian screens, his first film 'Melbourne' won his a plethora of nominations and awards including the Best Film Script award from the 2014 Asia-Pacific Film Festival.

## Iranian Contemporary Literature Available in Baku

TEHRAN (IBNA) -- A selection of works by Iranian poet Garous Abdol-Malekian titled 'The Last Bird' has been published in a bilingual Azeri-Persian edition and released in Baku, Azerbaijan.

According to the public relations department of Iran's Islamic Culture and Communication Organization, the publication of the book which is in the style of modern Iranian poetry (Sh'e-re no) is aimed at introducing Iranian contemporary literature to the Azeri readership.

The 95 pages book which has been translated into Azeri by Masih Agha-Mohammadi, Omid Najjari and Salim Bab



Allah-Oghloo is also the result of cooperation between Iran's Cultural Attaché to Azerbaijan and the Center for Translation

and Literary relations of Azerbaijan's Writers Union. Garous Abdol-Malekian (1980) is an acclaimed young

Iranian poet. He is the author of four poetry books that have been reprinted several times: 'Hollows' (2011), 'Lines Change Places in the Dark' (2008), 'The Faded Colors of the World' (2005) and 'The Hidden Bird' (2002).

He is also the recipient of the Karnameh Poetry Book of the Year Award (2003) and the winner of the Iranian Youth Poetry Book Prize (2006). Abdolmalekian has also participated in International poetry events, such as the Voix Vives poetry festival in France (2011). His poems have been translated into Arabic, French, German, Kurdish and Spanish.

## Researchers Uncover Indoor Pollution Hazards

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- A team of researchers has found surprisingly high levels of pollutants, including formaldehyde and possibly mercury, in carefully monitored homes, and that these pollutants vary through the day and increase as temperatures rise.

In a new study of indoor air quality, a team of Washington State University (WSU) researchers has found that air pollution, whether inside or outside, has a significant impact on people's health, including their heart, lungs, brain, and neurological health. But, while the government has increased regulation of outdoor air pollution over the past 40 years, there is little regulation of the air in people's homes. Building laws generally require that homes are structurally sound and that people are comfortable -- with minimal impacts from odors and humidity.

These emissions come from

a variety of sources, such as building materials, furniture, household chemical products, and from people's activities like cooking.

One of the ways to clear out harmful chemicals is with ventilation to the outdoors. But, with increased concern about climate change and interest in reducing energy use, builders are trying to make homes more airtight, which may inadvertently be worsening the problem.

In their study, the researchers looked at a variety of homes -- meant to reflect the typical housing styles and age in the U.S. They found that formal-



dehyde levels rose in homes as temperatures increased inside -- between three and five parts per billion every time the temperature increased one degree

Celsius. The work shows how heat waves and changing regional climate might affect indoor air quality in the future.

## Picture of the Day



Directed by Mosayyeb Zarei, new play Peace is on stage at Iran Tamasha Theater until 13 June.

Courtesy: Honaronline

## Russia's Unknown Festival Screens Iranian Short Films

TEHRAN (MNA) -- Three Iranian films, including 'The City of Honey' and 'The Snail', have made it into the competition program of the 2nd Unknown Film Festival in Russia.

Unknown Film Festival, a platform for amateur filmmakers around the world, has selected two Iranian shorts, 'The City of Honey' by Moein Ruholamini, and 'The Snail' by Mohammad Torivarian, to vie at its short competition section.