

This Day in History

(June 13)

Today is Thursday; 23rd of the Iranian month of Khordad 1398 solar hijri; corresponding to 9th of the Islamic month of Shawwal 1440 lunar hijri; and June 13, 2019, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1330 lunar years ago, on this day in 110 AH, the well-known interpreter of dreams, Mohammad Ibn Sirin, died at the age of 77. Born in the Iraqi port city of Basra to a bondmaid and a father of Greek-Syrian ancestry, named Sirin, who was given by Caliph Omar Ibn Khattab as a slave to Anas bin Malek – the not so obedient servant of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA) – he was of sharp memory and worked as a cloth merchant. After learning the holy Qur'an and the hadith literature, he led an ascetic way of life and soon established himself as an interpreter of dreams. His sources of narration are rather weak because of his lack of access to the Prophet's blessed progeny, the Ahl al-Bayt.

983 solar years ago, on this day in 1036 AD, Ali az-Zaher, the 7th self-styled caliph of the Ismaili Shi'ite Muslim Fatemid Dynasty of Egypt, North Africa-Syria, died at the age of 31 due to a plague after a 15-year reign. Son of al-Hakim be-Amrillah, his youth and weakness allowed the Turkic slave guards to seize the vizierate, as a result of which the Empire slipped into decadence, although the bid of the Byzantine Christian Empire to encroach upon Syria and Aleppo was thwarted.

694 solar years ago, on this day in 1325 AD, the famous Muslim worldwide traveler, Shams od-Din Mohammad bin Abdullah, popularly known as Ibn Battuta, began his journey, leaving his home in Tangiers for the Hajj pilgrimage to holy Mecca at the age of 24. Born in the northwest African city of Tangiers, which is now in Morocco, after performing the Hajj, he kept on travelling, visiting over a period of thirty years, most of the Islamic world as well as many non-Muslim lands in the three continents of Africa, Asia and Europe. His journeys including trips to North Africa, the Horn of Africa, West Africa, Southern Europe and Eastern Europe in the West, and to West Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, Southeast Asia and China, cover a total of 121,000 km, surpassing by threefold the travels of his near-contemporary Marco Polo of Venice. In Iraq, he visited the holy shrine in Najaf of the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS), and although a Sunni, he has admitted how people from far and near are cured of their ailments on seeking intercession with God through the First Infallible Heir of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA). He then travelled all over Iran, and after visiting the Byzantine Empire, Europe and Russia, he arrived in India, where he was appointed the Qazi of Delhi by Sultan Mohammad bin Tughlaq. On his return to his homeland Morocco, he again served as Qazi. He dictated to scribes the details of his travels in his book titled *"ar-Rehla"*. He died in 1369 in his homeland.

188 solar years ago, on this day in 1831 AD, Scottish physicist, Clerk Maxwell, was born. He showed that electrical, magnetic and optical phenomena were all united in a single universal force, electromagnetism, and formulated electromagnetic theory.

154 solar years ago, on this day in 1865 AD, poet and playwright, William Butler Yeats, was born to an Anglo-Irish family in a Dublin suburb. He is best remembered for his poems titled *"Byzantium"* and *"Easter 1916."* He won the Nobel Prize in 1923. The first volume of his autobiography was *"Reveries over Childhood and Youth"*, published by him in 1915. *"The Lake Isle of Innisfree"* is his best known poem. He died in 1939.

127 solar years ago, on this day in 1892 AD, Grand Ayatollah Shaikh Zain ol-Abedin Mazandarani, passed away at the age of 80 in the holy city of Karbala, where he was based as the "Marja'" or Source of Emulation for Shi'a Muslims worldwide. His books include *"Dhakhirat-al-Ma'ad"*, *"Zinat-al-Ebaad"*, and *"Treatise on Hajj Rituals"*.

113 solar years ago, on this day in 1906 AD, Sinn Fein was established in Ireland by prominent journalist, Arthur Griffith, as the political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), for independence from British colonial rule. Sinn Fein's efforts finally resulted in independence for Southern Ireland in 1921. The party, alongside IRA, continued its political struggle for unity of Northern and Southern Ireland. Finally, after two years of intense negotiations with the British regime and Protestant parties, the leaders of Sinn Fein signed a peace agreement with London on April 10, 1998, according to which Northern Ireland turned into an autonomous region.

98 solar years ago, on this day in 1921 AD, with the influx of the first batch of European Jews, the Palestinians launched their national movement against the Zionists. The British, along with Zionist terrorist bands, brutally suppressed the Palestinian people and continued to bring in hundreds of thousands of illegal Jewish migrants from various parts of Europe that resulted in the illegitimate birth of Israel in 1948.

78 solar years ago, on this day in 1941 AD, the Soviet Union, which had occupied the former Romanian province a year earlier, loaded 22,600 Moldovans on cargo trains bound for Siberia, where the deportees were used for forced labor.

75 solar years ago, on this day in 1944 AD, the first ever surface-to-surface missile was used in warfare, when Nazi Germany targeted Britain with its V-1. Until then, only warplanes would bomb enemy sites. Missiles were cheaper than aircraft and prevented loss of life and machines. In the aftermath of World War II, other countries developed missile technology and built today's advanced intercontinental ballistic missiles.

39 solar years ago, on this day in 1980 AD, the Founder of Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeini (RA), ordered establishment of Cultural Revolution Headquarters for reformation of universities. The message called for plans to evaluate courses based on Islamic culture and values in order to develop Iran's higher education system by removing influences of undesirable western values.

36 solar years ago, on this day in 1983 AD, Iran's lady jurisprudent, mujtaheda, and exegete of the Holy Qur'an, Seyyedeh Bano Nosrat Begum Amin, passed away in Isfahan at the age of 97. Bano Nosrat wrote several books such as the 15-volume exegesis of the Holy Qur'an titled *"Makhzan al-Irfan"* in Persian. She also authored for the moral uplifting of Iranian women the book *"Ravesh Khoshbakhthi va Towsiyeh beh Khaharan-e Imani"* (Methods of Happiness and Prosperity for Sisters-in-Faith). Another of her excellent books is on the unsurpassed merits of the Commander of the Faithful Imam Ali (AS) titled *"Makhzan al-La'ali fi Manaqeb Mawla-al-Mawali, Ali."* She was a staunch supporter of the Islamic Revolution and was held in deep respect by Imam Khomeini (RA).

12 solar years ago, on this day in 2007 AD, at around 9 a.m. local time, a sacrilegious bomb attack was carried out by agents of Global Arrogance at the holy shrine of al-Askariyayn at Samarra, resulting in the destruction of the two ten-story high gold-plated minarets, flanking the earlier destroyed golden dome. This was the second bombing of the holy shrine of Imam Ali al-Hadi (AS) and Imam Hassan al-Askari (AS) – the 10th and 11th Infallible Successors of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA). The first sacrilegious bomb attack had occurred in Samarra on 22nd February 2006, destroying the shrine's magnificent golden dome. The terrorists were on the payroll of Saudi Arabia and the US. The holy shrine is now under construction on a grand scale.

9 solar years ago, on this day in 2010 AD, in the central Philippines a bus rented by Iranian medical students plunged into a ravine while travelling a mountain road, killing 21 people and injuring 26 others.

7 solar years ago, on this day in 2012 AD, Takfiri terrorists, backed by Saudi Arabia and the US, carried out a series of bombings in Shi'a Muslim areas across Iraq, including Baghdad, Hillah, Balad, Taji, and Kirkuk, martyring over a hundred men, women and children, and wounding over 400 others.

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

Iran Award Winning Movie Screened in Athens



TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Iran's cultural week in Greece has screened 'The Painting Pool' by Maziar Miri in Athens.

The film is a remarkable portrait of two people fighting for their right to be a family despite being mentally challenged.

Miri's film is the winner of big awards at several festivals, including the Asia Pacific Screen Awards' Academy and the 31st Fajr Film Festival.

Shahab Hosseini and Negar Javaheriyani, Well-known Iranian actors, are among the cast.

The cultural week of Iran opened in Athens on Tuesday. The event will also screen two other movies, including 'A Cube of Sugar' and 'As Simple as That', both directed by Reza Mirkarimi.

In addition to screening of the mentioned works, a selection of Iran's books, handicrafts and visual arts are also being presented to the cultural week's visitors.

'Parvaneh' Friday Bazaar Just the Thing For Lovers of Persian Handicrafts

TEHRAN (MNA) – If you are tourist in Tehran yearning to see the best and the most of Iranian handicrafts in one place, I suggest you pay a visit to the 'Friday Bazaar' at Parvaneh Parking Garage on Jomhuri Street.

As the name suggests, the bazaar is set up on Fridays only (any other day, it's just an ordinary, multi-floored parking garage jam-packed with cars), open from 8 AM to 4 PM (better to visit in the morning, though, as the place becomes overcrowded and difficult to navigate through as the day progresses). The easiest way to get there is to use the subway. While it is true that being underground deprives you of much sightseeing, Tehran's subway



system is actually pretty decent, very clean and efficient, if only a bit bland in appearance, and it helps you avoid traffic jams and the scorching sun if you made the brave choice of traveling to Tehran during summer. On the

subway, get off at Sa'adi Station on Line 1, and from there, it's a four-minute walk up the Jomhuri St. to your destination.

Over the years, the 'Parvaneh' Friday Bazaar has become an iconic spot for many artists,

artisans and sellers from all across Iran, who gather every Friday in downtown Tehran to put their handicrafts, antique objects, and so many trinkets and weird-looking works of art that you can't find anywhere else, on sale for the interested visitors and tourists.

There is so much to see (and buy!) in this place, so make sure you plan carefully for your purchases (or risk having to go back home on foot and with empty pockets.) But you don't have to worry about buyer's remorse, at least. The things you have bought at the Friday Bazaar (or Jomeh Bazaar, as is said in Persian), rest assured you can't find them anywhere else in the world.

Sleeping With Artificial Light Associated With Obesity in Women

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- Sleeping with a television or light on in the room may be a risk factor for gaining weight or developing obesity, according to scientists.

The research team at the National Institutes of Health, Maryland used questionnaire data from 43,722 women in the Sister Study, a cohort study that examines risk factors for breast cancer and other diseases. The participants, aged 35-74 years, had no history of cancer or cardiovascular disease and were not shift workers, daytime sleepers, or pregnant when the study began. The study questionnaire asked whether the women slept with no light, a small night-light, light outside of the room, or a light or television on in the room.

The scientists used weight, height, waist and hip circumference, and body mass index measurements taken at baseline, as well as self-reported information on weight at baseline and follow-up five years later. Using this information, the scientists were able to study obesity and weight gain in women exposed to artificial light at night with women who reported sleeping in dark rooms.

The results varied with the level of artificial light at night exposure. For example, using a small night-light was not associated with

weight gain, whereas women who slept with a light or television on were 17% more likely to have gained 5 kilograms, approximately 11 pounds, or more over the follow-up period. The association with having light coming from outside the room was more modest.



Picture of the Day



Jolfa, an ancient neighborhood of Isfahan, is known for its traditional arts which make up an important part of the history of handicrafts in Isfahan province. These arts were produced in line with models of medieval Armenian art and in conformity with Ancient Iranian arts.

Courtesy: IFP News