

This Day in History

(June 25)

Today is Tuesday; 4th of the Iranian month of Tir 1398 solar hijri; corresponding to 21st of the Islamic month of Shawwal 1440 lunar hijri; and June 25, 2019, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1384 solar years ago, on this day in 635 AD, Emperor Gaozu, founder of the Tang Dynasty of China, died at the age of 69, some 9 years after abdicating the throne in favour of his son, Li Shimin (Emperor Taizong), following 8 years of rule during which he united all of China and carried out reforms, such as equal distribution of lands and lowering of taxes. Born Li Yuan, he served as governor of what is now Shanxi Province under the Sui Dynasty on whose disintegration in 617 he defeated all contenders to establish in 618 the Tang Dynasty that ruled China for three centuries.

1348 lunar years ago, on this day in 92 AH, the Muslim forces, led by Tareq Ibn Ziyad won a decisive victory in the Battle of Guadalete by routing the Visigoth Christian army of King Roderick and rapidly conquering much of southern Spain. Soon all of Spain and Portugal were liberated by the Muslims, who subsequently crossed the Pyrenees Mountains into France. Tareq had earlier, after crossing the Mediterranean from the northwestern African coast, landed on the island known ever since as Gibraltar (corruption of the Arabic “Jabal at-Tareq” – Rock or Mount of Tareq). He was governor of Tangiers under Musa Ibn Nusayr, the conqueror and Emir of the Province of Ifriqiya (western Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco). Tareq was made governor of Spain by Musa, but was called to Damascus by the jealous Omayyad caliph, Walid I, who also relieved Musa of the overall charge of Ifriqiya, Spain and the islands off the coast of France. There are three different accounts of the origins of Tareq given by Arab historians – he was a Persian from Hamedan; he was an Arab of the Sadf tribe; he was a Berber from North Africa. Musa Ibn Nusayr is also said to be the son of an Iranian Christian, according to the historian Tabari; while others say he belonged to the Lakhmid Arab clan who were Sassanid clients.

1086 lunar years ago, on this day in 354 AH, the Iranian Sunni Muslim compiler of hadith, Abu Hatem Mohammad ibn Hibban al-Basti, from Bast in Khorasan, passed away. He was a Shafe’i, and the actual name of his compilation is “*at-Taqasim wa’l-Anwa*”, which is commonly referred to as “*Sahih ibn Hibban*”. Many Sunni scholars regard it next only to the “*Sahihs*” of the two other prominent Iranian Sunni Muslim hadith compilers, Bukhari and Muslim, while the Egyptian scholar, Jalal od-Din Suyuti, places it fourth after Ibn Khuzayma Naishapuri’s “*Sahih*”, and above the hadith collection of the five other Iranian Sunni Muslim authorities – i.e. Ibn Maja Qazvini, Abu Dawoud Sijistani, Abu Isa Tirmizi, Ahmad ibn Shu’ayb Nasai, and Hakem Naishapuri. It is worth noting that despite mentioning some of the unsurpassed merits of the Ahl al-Bayt of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), all these Sunni Muslim hadith authorities, who were Iranians, failed to have any direct contact with the Infallible Imams or their disciples, because of the fears of the Abbasid regime.

197 solar years ago, on this day in 1822 AD, a group of black people in the US whose ancestors were kidnapped by Europeans from Africa and sold as slaves in the America, returned to Africa and settled down in the land which is today known as Liberia. This country was initially administered like one of the US states, but in 1847, it became a republic and its first president was Joseph Roberts, who had been enslaved in the State of Virginia.

143 solar years ago, on this day in 1876 AD, the white racist US administration suffered a severe setback in the Battle of the Little Bighorn that it imposed on native Amerindians in Montana. General George Armstrong Custer, who had vowed to decimate mostly Sioux and Cheyenne tribes as part of Washington’s policy of forcing them into the so-called reservations by seizing more of their ancestral plains, was instead wiped out along with over 250 of his horsemen of the 7th US Cavalry. The US pursues a policy of genocide against Amerindians and black people in addition to indulging in state terrorism on the international scene.

119 solar years ago, on this day in 1900 AD, the Taoist monk Wang Yuanlu discovered the Dunhuang Manuscripts, a cache of ancient texts that are of great historical and religious significance, in the Mogao Caves of Dunhuang, China. Dating from the 5th to early 11th centuries, the manuscripts include works ranging from history and mathematics to folk songs and dance. Most of the religious manuscripts are Buddhist, but other religions including Daoism, Nestorian Christianity and Iranian Manichaeism are also represented. The majority of the manuscripts are in the Chinese and Tibetan languages. Other languages represented are Khotanese, Sanskrit, Sogdian, Tangut, Old Uyghur language, and Hebrew. The manuscripts are a major resource for academic studies in a wide variety of fields including history, religious studies, linguistics, and manuscript studies.

116 solar years ago, on this day in 1903 AD, George Orwell, British novelist, essayist and critic, was born in India as Eric Arthur Blair. He took his pen name in 1932. His books included “*Animal Farm*” (1945) and “*1984*” (1949), which attacked totalitarianism. He died in 1950.

69 solar years ago, on this day in 1950 AD, in the wake of wide-scale provocations by the US, North Korea had no choice but to swiftly advance into the south. A UN resolution, however, not only halted the offensive but provided the US to invade North Korea. The timely entry of the Chinese army led to the retreat of US forces and liberation of North Korea.

56 solar years ago, on this day in 1963 AD, the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), was transferred from holy Qom to the Eshratbad military barracks in Tehran by the notorious intelligence outfit, SAVAK, following the historic mass uprising of 15th Khordad (June 5). Forty days later, the Pahlavi regime exiled him to Turkey, from where a year later he moved to Iraq and took up residence in Najaf near the holy shrine of the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS), before returning to Iran in February 1979 to lead the Islamic Revolution to victory that ended 2,500 years of monarchy.

44 solar years ago, on this day in 1975 AD, Mozambique in southeast Africa became independent from Portuguese rule, after offering tens of thousands of martyrs. Mozambique lies on the Indian Ocean coast of Africa, and shares borders with Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. Muslims account for over 20 percent of the population of Mozambique, which is actually is a Portuguese corruption of the name of the chief Arab trader of the land, Mosa al-Bique.

28 solar years ago, on this day in 1991 AD, Croatia and Slovenia became independent from the Federation of Yugoslavia, or more properly from the Serbs. Croatia and Slovenia are located in the Balkan region, which for several centuries was ruled by the Ottoman Turks. Still a sizeable Muslim minority exists in both the countries.

27 solar years ago, on this day in 1992 AD, Ayatollah Madani Kashani passed away at the age of 93. In addition to grooming numerous scholars, he also shouldered social responsibilities and assisted the needy. He has left behind a large number of compilations, including “*Fara’ez al-Moqaleddin*”, and “*Kashf al-Haqayeq*”.

6 solar years ago, on this day in 2013 AD, Hamad bin Khalifa Aal-e Thani of the Persian Gulf Sheikdom of Qatar, formally handed power to his 33-year son Tamim, following orders from the US, and refusal by Washington to review its decision regarding the client regime in Doha. Hamad himself had seized power from his father Khalifa bin Hamad on 27 June 1995, on the orders of the US, while the latter was in Geneva, Switzerland on a pleasure trip. It is interesting to note that Khalifa who is still alive at 83 years of age, had come to power by deposing his cousin, Sheikh Ahmad bin Ali on 22nd February 1972 while the latter was on a hunting trip in Iran and had favoured since 1960 when his own father, Ali bin Abdullah had abdicated in his favour under British pressure. Qatar is currently facing pressures by Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, and Egypt for pursuing an independent policy and maintaining diplomatic, trade and industrial ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

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

Top Awards Go to ‘Qasr-e Shirin’ at Shanghai Festival



TEHRAN (IFILM) -- ‘Qasr-e Shirin’ (Castle of Dreams) has bagged awards at the Shanghai International Film Festival.

The movie directed by Reza Mirkarimi, grabbed three awards at the 2019 edition of the festival.

The Best Actor Award of the event went to the movie’s star Hamed Behdad, and the director Reza Mirkarimi won the Best Director and the Golden Goblet prize for the film.

Also produced by Reza Mirkarimi, a brief synopsis for ‘Qasr-e Shirin’ reads, “Jalal Moradi, a 42-year-old father of two, kills a family in an accident. In the court of law, the murder is recognized as accidental killing without intent. After getting out of prison, he leaves his wife and kids and moves to another city. Two years later, he must go back to his home town as his wife is brain-dead.”

The starring role of the film has been portrayed by ifilm star of ‘Free Fall’ Hamed Behdad.

Also among the cast are Mohammad Asgari, Zhila Shahi, Akbar Ayin, Azadeh Nobahar, Mohammad Ashkanfar, Youna Tadayyon and Niyousha Alipour.

Founded in 1993, SIFF focuses on awards, markets, forums and film exhibitions so as to build an international platform, and promote the development of the Chinese film festival.

The 22nd edition of the festival was launched on June 15-24, 2019.

Iranian Scientists Use Water Molecule to Produce Clean Energy

TEHRAN (IFP) -- Iranian researchers have managed to produce clean energy and electricity through the use of H2 that exists in the water molecule.

Masoud Mirzaei Shahrabi, a faculty member of Ferdowsi University of Mashhad and a leading researcher in chemistry, says today the issue of the environment is very important in the world and is a challenge in the years to come.

Therefore, he said, it’s better to focus on environmental protection. “As a result, we defined a project aimed at raising the



efficiency of producing H2 gas from the water molecule,” added Mirzaei.

He further mentioned that at the moment, most researchers think of increasing the efficiency of the production of H2 gas from the water molecule. Therefore, many research projects have focused on this topic.

This Iranian researcher went on to say that the use of fossil fuels has been banned in cities such as Venice, due to the presence of statues and monuments. It shows that using fossil fuels is very harmful.

Historian Slams Foolish Content of Hollywood ‘300’

TEHRAN (IFILM) -- In an exclusive report, Iran historian Khosrow Motazed has discussed the way ‘300’ producers distort Iran history by foolish, untrue content.

In a series of programs called Cinema VS History hosted by ifilm, Iran veteran historian Khosrow Motazed sheds light on the reality behind some historical films produced by Hollywood.

In this edition, the historian discusses the ill will of the ‘300’ producers and the company behind them as the root cause for the distortion of Iran great history.

According to the historian, the movie depicts fake picture out of Iranians and their king Xerxes (the fifth king of kings of the Achaemenid dynasty of Persia) by distorting their appearance. The king and the Iranians’ appearance are distorted in two ways. First, the makeup is done in a way to bring about monstrous body shapes out of the members of Iranian army and their king who, in the movie, behaves like people who are far from civilization.

Second, the movie also shows Iranian army as a group of soldiers without any military training who just shed blood of the innocent people and attacked a civilized land. They are shown as soldiers who kill people, burn the cities, and demolish symbols of civilization. The producers also try to show the Iranian army as weak and unsystematic which could not resist the organized army of Greece.

‘Ruba’iyat of Attar’ Rendered Into Arabic

TEHRAN (IBNA) -- ‘Ruba’iyat of Attar’, a Persian poetry collection by the legendary Iranian Sufi mystic Attar, has been translated into Arabic by Egyptian scholar and translator Manal al-Yamini Abdul-Aziz and published in Cairo, Egypt.

According to the public relations department of Iran’s Islamic Relations and Culture Organization, ‘Ruba’iyat of Attar’ features 500 selected Ruba’i-s by Iranian Sufi mystic, poet and hagiographer of the twelfth-century Farid ud-Din Attar Neishabouri. The book has

been released by Afagh Publishing in Cairo.

Manal al-Yamini Abdul-Aziz (PhD) has already translated ‘Tazkirat ul-Awliya’ (Biographies of the Saints) into Arabic is a 72-chapter book written by the Persian poet and mystic Attar about the life of famous Sufis and their miraculous deeds.

‘Ruba’iyat of Attar’ has been translated into English by Paul Smith and released by CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

THE RUBÁIYÁT OF OMAR KHAYYÁM



Picture of the Day



Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) held a special drill for its Search and Rescue (SAR) dogs at Lake Chitgar, west of the capital Tehran, in a bid to keep them ready for wilderness tracking, natural disasters, mass casualty events, and in locating missing people during various missions.

Courtesy: Mehr News Agency