

## This Day in History

### This Day in History (July 22)

Today is Monday; 31<sup>st</sup> of the Iranian month of Tir 1398 solar hijri; corresponding to 19<sup>th</sup> of the Islamic month of Zil-Qa'dah 1440 lunar hijri; and July 22, 2019, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

**1181 solar years ago**, on this day in 838 AD, the Muslims inflicted a shattering defeat on the Byzantine Christian army and its allies, the Kurdish and Persian Khurramites, in the Battle of Anzen – also known as Dazimon – which was fought in Anatolia in what is now Dazman in Turkey. The hostilities were started by Byzantine emperor, Theophilos, the previous year when he raided and occupied several Muslim border towns. In retaliation, a Muslim army of Arabs, Persians and Turks, was sent from Abbasid Baghdad under command of the Iranian general, Afshin Khaydar bin Kavous who a year earlier as governor of Azarbaijan and Armenia had crushed the rebellion of Babak Khorramdin and captured him. The Muslim plan was to seize Amorion (Ammuriye in Arabic), one of the largest cities of the Eastern Roman Empire. Emperor Theophilos personally led a huge Christian army that included Asian and European contingents, the elite “Tagmata” regiments, and a regiment called the “Persian Tourma” made up of Iranian and Kurdish apostates under Nasr, who along with 16,000 had converted to Christianity and baptized himself as Theophobos. In the initial stages, the Byzantine force was successful, but it broke ranks and fled when General Afshin’s horse-archers launched a fierce counter-attack. Emperor Theophilos and his guard were besieged on a hill, before managing to flee all the way to the capital Constantinople. It was one of the most disastrous blows the Byzantines had suffered, and a few weeks later the Muslims captured Amorion – whose ruins are located near the village of Hisarkoy, Turkey.

**563 solar years ago**, on this day in 1456 AD, Ottoman Sultan, Mohammad II, suffered a defeat during his siege of Belgrade, three years after his capture of Constantinople that ended the Byzantine Empire. Hungarian warlord, John Hunyadi, led the counterattack on the Turks in which the Sultan was wounded and forced to retreat. This stopped the Muslim advance towards the heart of Christian Europe for 70 years until the fall of Belgrade to the Turks in 1521, although in the preceding years, the Ottomans continued to tighten their hold on the Balkans.

**406 solar years ago**, on this day in 1613 AD, with the coronation of Mikhail Romanov, the second and last imperial dynasty of Russia until the February 1917 Revolution that abolished the monarchy, began its rule. The later history of this dynasty is referred to as the House of Holstein-Gottorp-Romanov, since the direct line of the Romanovs ended with Peter II, and after an era of dynastic crisis, the throne of Russia went to Peter I’s maternal grandson, the son of the German Duke of Holstein-Gottorp – a cadet branch of the House of Oldenburg – who in 1762 ascended the Russian throne as Peter III. The repressive rule of the Czars worsened the plight of the Russian people, resulting in political and economic problems that led to the uprising that deposed Nicolas II in 1917. Later that year, the uprising of the Russian people was hijacked by the communists led by Vladimir Lenin, who established the far more repressive socialist regime that collapsed in 1991. From the 18th century, expansionist Russia continued to attack and occupy large parts of the Ottoman and Iranian empires, in addition to occupation of the Muslim lands of Central Asia.

**371 solar years ago**, on this day in 1648 AD, Some 10,000 Jews of Polannoe in Poland were killed by forces of the Cossack Bogdan Chmielnicki, for their treason against Christianity and their slandering of Prophet Jesus and the Virgin Mary.

**280 solar years ago**, on this day in 1739 AD, an Ottoman army defeated the Holy Roman Emperor’s troops at the Battle of Crocyka in the Balkans and proceeded to retake Belgrade. The Austrians were forced to cede northern Serbia and part of Romania to the Turks.

**73 solar years ago**, on this day in 1946 AD, Zionist terrorists that included Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir – later to become premiers of the usurper state of Israel – blew up a wing of the King David Hotel in Bayt ol-Moqaddas, which housed British administrative offices. Over 90 people were killed, including 28 Englishmen, Arabs and Jews. The terrorists were members of a Zionist outfit called Lehi (Lohamei Herut Israel), earlier known as the Stern Gang.

**58 solar years ago**, on this day in 1961 AD, France landed 7,000 troops on Bizerte, in Northeast Tunisia, following the blockade of this port city by the Tunisian army and navy, after the French refused to evacuate it. Due to Bizerte’s strategic location on the Mediterranean Sea, France had kept control of Bizerte even after Tunisia gained its independence in 1956. The three day battle resulted in over 700 dead and 1,300 wounded. The French military finally abandoned Bizerte on 15 October 1963.

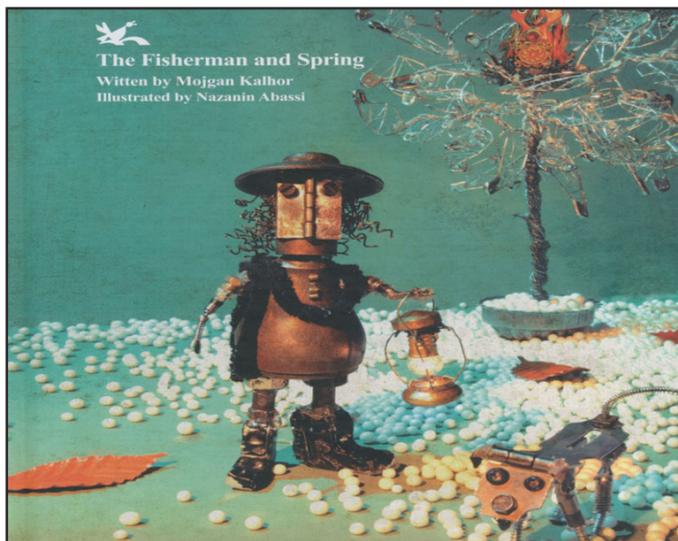
**21 solar years ago**, on this day in 1998 AD, Iran conducted a successful Shahab 3 missile test with a medium-range of 1,250 km as part of efforts for self-sufficiency in the defence field.

**17 solar years ago**, on this day in 2002 AD, while Palestinian women and children were asleep at night, Zionist aircraft attacked the Gaza Strip with F-16 jetfighters, martyring Commander of the armed wing of the Hamas Movement, Sheikh Salah Shahadeh, along with 16 civilians, while over 150 others sustained injuries. Nine innocent children were among the martyrs of this air raid. Sheikh Salah Shahadeh, who was martyred in this terrorist attack along with his wife and daughter, had spent a total of 12 years in the Zionist regime’s dungeons and was tortured on several occasions.

**16 solar years ago**, on this day in 2003 AD, Uday and Qusay, the two bloodthirsty sons of Saddam, the ousted brutal dictator of the Ba’th minority regime of Iraq, were gunned down in the vicinity of the northern Iraqi city of Mosul by their own former benefactors, the Americans, while trying to flee the country along with other officials. Uday and Qusay were involved in many of the heinous crimes committed by Saddam against the Iraqi people and maintained important portfolios while their father was in power.

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

# Iranian Animations Make It to Finals at Italian Festival



TEHRAN (MNA) – Two Iranian animations made it on the list of award finalists at the 35th edition of Cartoon Club festival in Italy.

Two Iranian short animated pieces, ‘Jebeer’ directed by Reyhane Mirhashemi, and ‘The Fisherman & Spring’ by Fatemeh Mohseni have been selected as award finalists at the 35th edition of Cartoon Club – International Festival of Animation Cinema, Comics and Games, in Italy.

Other Iranian animations participating at the festival included ‘Am I a Wolf?’ by Amir Houshang Moein, ‘Wish I Had a Brother’ by Nahid Shamsdoust, and ‘The Cyling Wind’ by Nazanin Sarbandi.

Cartoon Club – International Festi-

val of Animation Cinema, Comics and Games, with its 35 years of existence, is one of the best-known festivals in the Italian scene. According to the event’s website, it is a remarkable window for animation works, short films in particular – fiction, educational, experimental, computer graphic – and with a whole section solely dedicated to comics: Riminicomix.

The award will be granted to those works whose beauty and artistic sensitivity leave a trace in the audience and that consequently deserve to emerge and be awarded as winners of a contest, the festival says.

Its 35th edition was held on 13-21 July 2019 in Rimini, Italy.

## Russian Festival Screens ‘Simin’

TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Iran’s feature ‘Simin’ has been set to participate at this year’s edition of the Baikal International Film Festival “PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT” in Russia.

The 2019 edition of the film festival “PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT” will screen ‘Simin’ in the following autumn.

Directed by Morteza Atash-Zamzam, ‘Simin’ is about the reasons behind the drying up of Zayandeh Rood, the largest



A still from Iran’s feature ‘Simin’.

river of the Iranian Plateau in central Iran, and its impacts on people, especially the farmers.

The film is participating at the 10th edition of the Jagran Film Festival which is underway in India.

The film festival “PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT” aims at raising environmental awareness by means of cinematography.

The next edition of the event will take place on September 19-23, 2019.

## Shahr Festival Signs MoU With Netherland’s Architecture Festival

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iran’s Shahr International Film Festival and Netherlands’ Architecture Film Festival Rotterdam (AFFR) have signed an MoU on cultural cooperation.

The MoU was signed on the sidelines of the ongoing 7th Shahr International Film Festival by the event’s director Hashem Mirzakhani and the director of Architecture Film Festival Rotterdam, Jord den Hollander.

Under the MoU, the Shahr International Film Festival will dedicate a section to Dutch cinema in its future editions; likewise, the Architecture Film Festival Rotterdam will dedicate a section to the screening of Iranian films.

The 7th Shahr International Film Festival, as Iran’s most important cinematic event of urban management in setting and promotion of appropriate urban and industrial life patterns, is currently underway in Tehran, and will run until July 22.

More than 4,000 titles from 114 countries have been submitted to the 7th International Shahr (Urban) Film Festival this year, according to the event’s PR department.

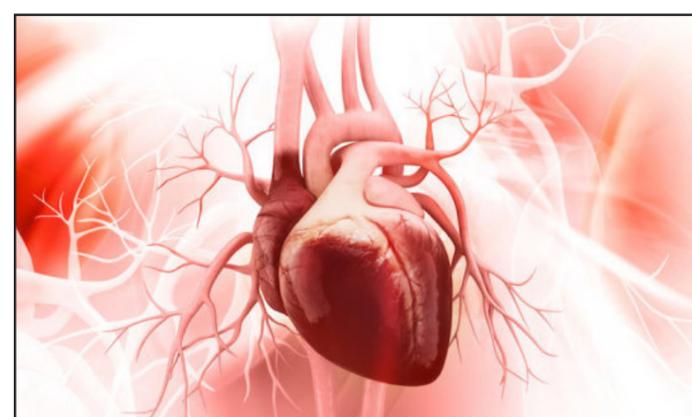
Shahr Film Festival aims at identifying creative and innovative cinematic works of urban life and creating a platform for exchanging of ideas and experiences among world cities.

Architecture Film Festival Rotterdam (AFFR) is a biannual film festival screening films, shorts, animations and documentaries about architecture, urban development and city culture.

## Researchers Discover New Cell That Can Heal Hearts

TORONTO (Dispatches) -- University of Calgary researchers have discovered a previously unidentified cell population in the pericardial fluid found inside the sac around the heart. The discovery could lead to new treatments for patients with injured hearts.

The Kubes lab, in collaboration with the Fedak lab, found that a specific cell, a Gata6+ pericardial cavity macrophage, helps heal an injured heart in mice. The cell was discovered in the pericardial fluid (sac around the heart) of a mouse with heart injury. Working with Fedak, a cardiac surgeon and incoming Director of the Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta, the same cells were also found within the human pericardium of people with injured hearts, confirming that the re-

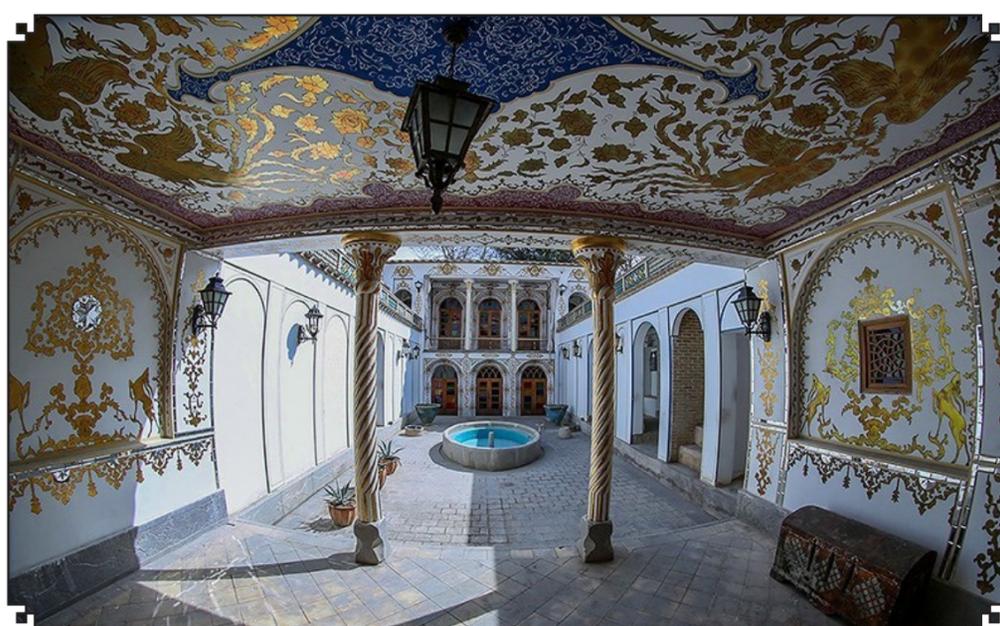


pair cells offer the promise of a new therapy for patients with heart disease.

Working together and bringing expertise across disciplines the basic researchers working with the cardiac

surgeon, clinician researcher, have identified the cell in less than three years. A relatively quick time frame to move research from the lab and animal models to people.

## Picture of the Day



The historic Motamedi or Mollabashi house is one of the most famous tourist attractions of Isfahan which dates back to the Zandieh and Qajar eras and is registered on the National Heritage List. Courtesy: Tasnim News Agency