

This Day in History

(August 19)

Today is Monday; 28th of the Iranian month of Mordad 1398 solar hijri; corresponding to 17th of the Islamic month of Zil-Hijjah 1440 lunar hijri; and August 19, 2019, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

2006 solar years ago, on this day in 14 AD, the first Roman Emperor, Augustus Caesar, died in Rome at the age of 77 after a 41-year reign, during which his greatest achievement was conclusion of a treaty with Emperor Farhad IV (Phraates) of Iran's Parthian Empire that ensured peace in what are now Palestine, Syria, and Turkey; in addition to return of the Roman Eagle Standards lost by Crassus to the Iranians in the Battle of Carrhae in 53 BC.

1137 lunar years ago, on this day in 303 AH, Ali ibn Abdallah titled Saif od-Dowla (Sword of the State), the founder of the Hamdanid empire of Aleppo which included northern Syria and western parts of Iraq, was born in Iraq to Abdullah Abi'l-Hayja, the ruler of Mosul. Saif od-Dowla is famous for his military exploits against the Byzantine Empire, and is considered the epitome of the Islamic-Arab chivalrous ideal.

952 lunar years ago, on this day in 488 AH, the famous Spanish Muslim scholar, Mohammad Ibn Nasr al-Andalusi al-Humaydi, passed away in Baghdad at the age of 68. An outstanding scholar in hadith, history, Arabic grammar and lexicography, he wrote several books. Among his works is the biography of the notables of Islamic Spain, entitled "*Jadhwat al-Muqtabis*", which is a mine of information on scholars who frequently travelled between the furthest points of the Islamic east and the west.

934 solar years ago, on this day in 1085 AD, the Iranian Shafei jurisprudent and theologian, Ziya od-Din Abdul-Malik ibn Yusuf al-Juwayni, passed away at the age of 57 in Naishapur.

876 solar years ago, on this day in 1153 AD, Baldwin III of the usurper Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem occupied the city of Ascalon (Asqalan in Arabic) in Palestine near Gaza, which was a strong bastion of Egypt's Fatimid Shi'a Muslim dynasty and a site of pilgrimage, since it had a mausoleum, believed to be the site of burial of the holy head of the Martyr of Karbala, Imam Husain (AS).

661 lunar years ago, on this day in 779 AH, Mujahid Shah, the 3rd ruler of the Bahmani Sultanate of the Deccan (southern India) was assassinated at the age of 22 in his capital Gulbarga after a rule of only three years, by his jealous uncle, Daud Shah, who in turn was killed a month later on the orders of his niece Rouh Parwar Agha (sister of the deceased Mujahid Shah) and replaced by her younger brother, Mohammad Shah II. The court language of the Bahmanis, who traced their origin to the pre-Islamic Iranian hero Bahman, was Persian, and they promoted Iranian culture, art and architecture.

357 solar years ago, on this day in 1662 AD, French author and mathematician, Blaise Pascal, the innovator of calculation devices, died at the age of 61. In the last years of his life, he wrote a book on Christianity titled "*Provincial Letters*".

165 solar years ago, on this day in 1854 AD, the First Sioux War began when US soldiers killed Lakota chief 'Conquering Bear'. These wars were part of the genocidal policies to exterminate the native Amerindians, and lasted till 1891, resulting in the massacre of thousands of 'Red Indians'.

148 solar years ago, on this day in 1871 AD, American aviator Orville Wright, who with his elder brother Wilbur, invented the first powered airplane, Flyer, capable of sustained, controlled flight (17 Dec 1903), was born in Dayton, Ohio.

143 solar years ago, on this day in 1876 AD, British Assyriologist, George Smith, died at the age of 36 of dysentery in Syria, on his way home from a 3rd trip to Mesopotamia (Iraq). In 1874, Smith had completed the translation of the complete Epic of Gilgamesh – the Chaldaean account of the Great Flood – one of the oldest-known written works of literature which he discovered at Nineveh.

127 solar years ago, on this day in 1892 AD, prominent Iranian calligrapher, Mirza Reza Kalhor, passed away at the age of 64 in Tehran. Born in Kalhor, near Kermanshah in western Iran, he was an expert in horse riding and archery before coming to Tehran and learning the art of calligraphy from Mirza Mohammad Khwansari, whom he outshone. His fame attracted the attention of the Qajarid king, Nasser od-Din Shah, who appointed him as his tutor in calligraphy. Kalhor who never took advantage of his ties with the royal court, led a simple life by subsisting from the earnings he received in copying books and manuscripts.

100 solar years ago, on this day in 1919 AD, the British occupation of Afghanistan ended as per the Treaty of Rawalpindi, following the end of the 3rd Anglo-Afghan war. The term Afghanistan was used for the first time in 1857 as official name of a country, although the local tribes were known as 'Afghans' for centuries.

96 solar years ago, on this day in 1923 AD, Vilfredo Federico Damaso Pareto, French-Italian sociologist, economist and philosopher, died at the age of 75. In 1906 he made the famous observation that 20% of the population owned 80% of the property in Italy. This was later generalized by Joseph M. Juran and others into the so-called Pareto principle – also termed the 80-20 rule. Pareto also popularized the term "elite" in social analysis.

89 solar years ago, on this day in 1930 AD, Russian orientalist, Vasily Vladimirovich Bartold also known as Wilhelm Barthold, died at the age of 61. His works include: "*Ulugh-Beg*", "*Turkestan Down to the Mongol Invasion*", "*Mussalman Culture*", "*A Short History of Turkestan*", and "*An Historical Geography of Iran*".

66 solar years ago, on this day in 1953 AD, the US staged a coup in Iran to overthrow the legal government of Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Mosaddeq in retaliation for nationalization of the oil industry and returned to the Peacock Throne the fugitive British-installed Pahlavi potentate, Mohammad Reza. The coup plotters mobilized a number of thugs to take to the streets and attack government centres with the assistance of mercenaries in the security forces. General Fazlollah Zahedi, a US pawn, announced the collapse of the Mosaddeq administration and his own appointment as the premier through the radio network. The consequence of the coup was Washington's total domination over Iran's sources, which continued until the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979.

41 solar years ago, on this day in 1978 AD, an arson attack on Cinema Rex in Abadan, southwestern Iran by SAVAK, the notorious state-terrorism tool of the Pahlavi regime, resulted in a massive blaze that burned to death beyond recognition at least 470 Iranian men and women. Agents of the Shah locked the doors and doused the place with gasoline before setting it on fire in a vain bid to put the blame on the Iranian Muslim people during the events leading to the triumph of the Islamic Revolution. The crime shocked the world.

35 solar years ago, on this day in 1984 AD, prominent Iranian physician and bacteriologist, Mrs Azar Andami, passed away at the age of 58. Born in Rasht, she dedicated her life to the promotion of medical sciences in Iran, and won international acclaim. A crater on Venus has been named in her honour as "*Andami*" by the International Astronomers Union (IAU).

28 solar years ago, on this day in 1991 AD, a group of the Soviet Union's army commanders staged a coup against President Mikhail Gorbachev to end his policy of reforms, while he was holidaying in the Crimean Peninsula on the Black Sea. However, Boris Yeltsin, the President of the Russian Federation, foiled the coup. The ensuring developments speeded up the end of the suffocating, anti-religious and totalitarian Soviet Union in December 1991 and led to the emergence as independent republics of many of the lands occupied by Czarist Russia.

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

Isfahan Youth Film Making Olympiad Opens



Iranian filmmaker Poursan Derakhshandeh.

TEHRAN (IFILM) -- The 32nd edition of the International Film Festival for Children and Youth (ICFF) in Isfahan has opened the third edition of the Youth Film Making Olympiad.

The Olympiad is part of a program annually arranged on the sidelines of the ICFF.

Set to run until August 21, the Olympiad has been launched as a special competition section for 3-minute films made by 9 to 16-year-old children.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the director of the festival Alireza Tabesh said the organizers aim to discover young talents in film-

making through the program.

Veteran animator Abdollah Alimorad and filmmakers Iraj Tahmasb, Poursan Derakhshandeh, Abolfazl Jalili, Kambozia Partovi, Marzieh Boroumand, Ali-Akbar Qazi-Nezam and Vahid Nik-Khah-Azad will share knowledge and experience with the participants during the program.

In his brief words, Alimorad said learning animation does not mean that they will become professional animators.

He also noted that "We intend to grow your talents. If you are deeply in love with this art you will surely reach the highest levels, since doing animation is a difficult job."

Boroumand recommended the participants to read more books, adding "Any individual who reads books will be much more successful in a job he or she would choose in the future. Turning into good

people with high morality is much more important than only becoming big filmmakers when you grow up."

According to the 32nd ICFF website, the event aims to enhance the cinematic products of this age bracket and introduce the top works in national and international arenas.

The festival aims to promote ethical values such as family unity, appropriate lifestyle, respect for humanity, self-esteem, social responsibility, environmental protection and it also seeks to create awareness of the uprising future challenges.

The ICFF is organized annually by the Iranian Organization of Cinema and Audiovisual Affairs, Farabi Cinema Foundation and the Municipality of Isfahan.

The 32nd ICFF is slated for August 19-26, 2019 in the Iranian historic city of Isfahan.

Researchers Produce Device to Improve Limbs Motor Functions

TEHRAN (IFP) -- A group of Iranian researchers have devised a new product that helps improve patients' motor functions.

The product is, in fact, limbs developed during the course of a research project at the University of Tehran which are used for rehabilitation purposes.

The rehab limbs have been developed based on a new control model capable of explaining how the balance of humans' torso should be maintained.

Accordingly, the torso could be controlled by establishing a link between the waist and the force exerted along legs. In this research



project, the control-based approach of the said model was used to design and control passive rehabilita-

tion limbs.

The project was basically aimed at producing passive rehab limbs

in order to reduce energy consumption and increase strength in healthy people. Given the nature of the survey which is based on developing a product for rehabilitation and improving motor functions, its applications can be extended to such areas as the evaluation of the method proposed to design the product in order to rehabilitate patients and improve motor skills in healthy individuals, production of scientific know-how in the domain of rehab limbs, and setting the stage for the extension of this approach to other domains related to human motor skills such as the movement of the torso (e.g., hands).

World's Top-Notch Universities Set up Branches in Iran

TEHRAN (MNA) -- The Deputy Minister of Science, Research and Technology Hossein Salar Amoli said on Sun. that top universities and academic centers in the world will establish branch offices in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

He revealed the bylaw ratified by the Cabinet of Ministers for setting up university, faculty and also research centers in Iran in cooperation with world's top universities jointly.

Turning to the launch of branch of domestic universities in abroad periodically, he added, "currently, branch offices of nationwide universities, Payam-e Noor (distance learning) and Azad universities have been set up abroad, some of which are busy active in relevant field."

He further pointed to the launch of 18 joint branches in abroad and added, "about 18 independent branches of domestic universities have been set up in abroad jointly, the issue of which is one of the policies followed up by the Ministry of Science."

He once again reiterated that the bylaw for setting up university, faculty and re-

search centers with world's top universities jointly has been approved at the Cabinet of Ministers, adding, "We hope that relevant Working Group will be launched within the next month."

Currently, representatives from different responsible organizations have been introduced for this purpose, he added.



Iran's Deputy Minister of Science, Research and Technology Hossein Salar Amoli.

Picture of the Day



The statue of Iranian actor, Ezatollah Entezami, who passed away at the age of 94 last year, has been unveiled in the presence of some Iranian artists. Entezami is best known for acting in Dariush Mehrjui's acclaimed movie 'The Cow', which made him the first-ever Iranian actor to win an international award.

Courtesy: Mehr News Agency