

This Day in History

(September 11)

Today is Wednesday; 20th of the Iranian month of Shahrivar 1398 solar hijri; corresponding to 11th of the Islamic month of Muharram 1441 lunar hijri; and September 11, 2019, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1380 lunar years ago, on this day in 61 AH, a day after Ashura, the survivors of the heartrending tragedy of Karbala, mostly women and children of the noble household of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), including Imam Zain al-Abidin (AS), the son and successor of Imam Husain (AS), were chained and fettered as ordinary captive by the Godless hordes of Omar ibn Sa'd and taken to Kufa to the court of the tyrant's Yazid's ungodly governor, Obaidollah ibn Ziyad, who tried to mock them. The Prophet's granddaughter, Hazrat Zainab (SA) delivered a memorable sermon unmasking the hypocrisy of the Omayyads and their bloodthirsty nature. The people of Kufa, who had deserted the cause of the Ahl al-Bayt, wept and felt remorse, which alarmed Ibn Ziyad and made him quickly dispatch the caravan of captives to Damascus in Syria, but through unfrequented routes so as to avoid the anger and indignation of the people of the towns that lay in the way.

1162 lunar years ago, on this day in 279 AH, the renowned Iranian Sunni Muslim authority on hadith, Mohammad ibn Eisa Tirmizi, passed away. Tirmizi, who became blind in the last two years of his life, is the author of the "*al-Jame' as-Sahih*", popularly called "*Sunan at-Tirmizi*", one of the six canonical hadith compilations of Sunni Muslims. He has included in his compendium authentic narrations on the unrivalled merits of the blessed household of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), and has said that the term Ahl al-Bayt as used by God in the holy Qur'an and by the Prophet in several hadith, is exclusive for Imam Ali (AS), Hazrat Fatema Zahra (SA), Imam Hasan (AS) and Imam Husain (AS), and does not include the Prophet's wife, as some allege. Tirmizi's grave is in Sherabad, 60 km north of Tirmiz, where he is called Tirmiz Baba.

1136 solar years ago, on this day in 883 AD, the famous Greek Muslim admiral, Damian of Tarsus, known by his Islamic name of Ghulam Yazman al-Khadim, decisively routed a large Byzantine invasion army by a carrying out a lightning night attack at Bab Qalamyah, some 12 km from Tarsus that resulted in the death of tens of thousands of Roman soldiers, including their commander-in-chief, Kesta Styppiotēs – an ethnic Slav who had recently replaced Andrew the Scythian on his defeat by Muslim armies.

722 solar years ago, on this day in 1297 AD, Battle of Stirling Bridge, during the First War of Scottish Independence resulted in a decisive defeat for the English by the Scots jointly-led by William Wallace and Andrew Moray.

454 solar years ago, on this day in 1565 AD, Ottoman forces lifted the Great Siege of the Island of Malta in the Mediterranean Sea during the period when the Mediterranean Sea had virtually turned into a Turkish Lake. The Turks, however, continued to raid Malta and coast of Italy and Spain in order to check the ambitions of Christian powers.

410 solar years ago, on this day in 1609 AD, Philip III issued expulsion order for the Moriscos of Valencia, at the instigation of the Duke of Lerma and the Viceroy of Valencia, Archbishop Juan de Ribera. Hundreds of thousands of Spanish who under compulsion outwardly appeared as Catholics but inwardly were Muslims, had to leave Valencia in hundreds of thousands. This was the beginning of the expulsion of all Moriscos from Spain by the year 1614, and led to the migration of over a one million Spanish Muslims to North Africa. They were ordered to depart "under the pain of death and confiscation, without trial or sentence... to take with them no money, bullion, jewels or bills of exchange... just what they could carry." The charge against them was that they were secretly planning to facilitate the invasion of Spain by the Ottoman Turks from the sea and by the Huguenots or Protestant Christians of France from the northern land route.

322 solar years ago, on this day in 1697 AD, the Battle of Zenta was fought in Serbia, on the east side of the Tisa River, resulting in a victory for the Austrians and decisive defeat for the Ottoman Turks. While the Ottoman army was in the process of crossing the river, the Austrians launched a surprise attack and massacred at least 30,000 Turkish Muslims. As a result, the Ottoman Empire lost control over Bosnia, and so demoralized was Sultan Mustafa II that he signed the Treaty of Karlowitz in 1699, giving away large parts of Central Europe including Hungary.

227 solar years ago, on this day in 1792 AD, the Hope Diamond was stolen along with other French crown jewels when six men broke into the house where they were stored. It is a large, 45.52-carat deep-blue diamond, now housed in the Smithsonian Natural History Museum in Washington, D.C. It is valued at 250 million US dollars.

224 solar years ago, on this day in 1795 AD, in the Battle of Krtsanisi in the Caucasus, the Iranian army demolished the joint forces of the Kartl-Kakheti kingdoms, as Heraclius II of Georgia fled and Agha Mohammad Khan Qajar took possession of the Georgian capital, Tbilisi. The cause of the war was the alliance of Heraclius with the Russian Empire, despite the fact that for the past two millenniums Georgia had intermittently been part of the various Iran-based empires.

216 solar years ago, on this day in 1803 AD, the British troops decisively defeated the Marathas in the Battle of Delhi, thereby strengthening their rising control over India.

71 solar years ago, on this day in 1948 AD, the Founder of Pakistan, Mohammad Ali Jinnah, passed away in his hometown Karachi. Born in an Ismaili Shi'ite Muslim family, later in life, he became an Ithna Ash'ari or Twelver Shi'ite. Educated in London and a lawyer by profession, he was a brilliant orator who was one of the founders of the Muslim League of India for the struggle against colonialism and a separate homeland for Muslims of the Subcontinent, after being dissatisfied with the Hindu-oriented policy of the Indian National Congress, of which he was initially a member. For this reason, he was affectionately called all over India, and later after the birth of Pakistan, as Qa'ed-e-Azam or the Great Leader. Following the birth of Pakistan on August 14, 1947, he became Governor-General.

8 solar years ago, on this day in 1981 AD, the prominent scholar, Ayatollah Seyyed Asadollah Madani, was martyred by MKO terrorists in the northwestern Iranian city of Tabriz, while leading the Friday Prayer at the age of 67.

25 solar years ago, on this day in 1994 AD, Iranian researcher and Qur'anic scholar, Dr. Mohammad Ramiyar, passed away. Born in the holy city of Mashhad, after mastering Islamic sciences, he studied law and travelled to Britain, where he obtained a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Edinburgh. On his return to Iran, he served as Dean of Faculty of Theology and Islamic Teachings of Tehran University, grooming numerous students. Among his books, mention can be made of "*History of Qur'an*", and "*Kashf al-Mataleb*".

18 solar years ago, on this day in 2001 AD, two US aircraft plowed through the twin-towers of the 110-storey World Trade Center in New York. The huge building collapsed, not as a result of the impact of the supposedly hijacked aircraft but through implosions, because of the explosives planted in their basement by FBI and Mossad agents. The US blamed its own agent, Osama bin Laden of al-Qaeda, for what it called "terrorist" attacks, when in fact the real terrorist was the US regime itself. As things turned out, the Twin-Tower incidents were to part of an elaborate plot by the US to let loose a wave of Islamophobia in the West and to attack and occupy one of the weakest and most backward Muslim countries, that is, Afghanistan. Later in 2003 on the same pretext, the US invaded and occupied Iraq, where over the next few years it directly or indirectly killed 1.2 million men, women, and children. At the same time, the US has used the 9/11/2001 incidents as a pretext to suppress civil liberties at home, especially the rights of the fast growing Muslim community, while increasing its military budget to terrorize the free world.

12 solar years ago, on this day in 2007 AD, Russia tested the largest conventional weapon ever, the Aviation Thermobaric Bomb of Increased Power (ATBIP), nicknamed the Father of All Bombs. It is bomber-delivered weapon of massive power, which is supposed to evaporate all living things within its radius.

6 solar years ago, on this day in 2013 AD, Iran's Islamic scholar Abdul-Mohammad Ayati, mostly known for his translations of the Holy Qur'an and the Nahj-ul-Balagha, passed away in Tehran at the age of 87. Born in Boroujerd, he was attached to Islamic issues since high school, and in 1946 came to the capital and started studying philosophy at Tehran University. He later began a teaching career that continued for over 30 years. He was a member of the Iranian Academy of Persian Language and Literature. He wrote many books and articles on Persian literature and philosophy.

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

Award of Excellence Goes to 'Golnesa' in U.S.



Iranian feature 'Golnesa'.

TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Iranian feature 'Golnesa' has received Award of Excellence at the Accolade Global Film Competition in the U.S.

Directed by Sattar Chamani-Gol and written by Vida Salehi, the fea-

ture brought the award to the director and the writer at August 2019 edition of the US event.

The Iranian movie tells the story of a young Afghan couple, Golmammad and Golnesa, who are il-

legal immigrants in Iran.

Working in a traditional brick kiln in the suburbs of Tehran, they have to deal with challenges of illegal immigration as well as various types of routine life hardship.

Saeed Dakh, Saqi Zinati, Yeganeh Rajabi, Ali-Mohammad Radmanesh and Masoud Mohammadi are among the cast.

The film has taken part at some global cinematic events, including the 51st WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival and the 21st Brooklyn Film Festival in the US, the 3rd R.E.D International Film Festival in Norway, the 3rd Slemani International Film Festival in Iraq, as well as the 17th Dhaka International Film Festival in Bangladesh.

'Golnesa' has grabbed two awards at the 14th Kazan International Festival of Muslim Cinema in the Republic of Tatarstan in Russia,

Best Feature Film award at the 7th Global Nonviolent Film Festival in the US, award for best screenplay at the 2nd Sinema Zetu International Film Festival in Tanzania, and best feature film award at the 3rd Phenicien International Film Festival in France.

Established in 2003, the Accolade Global Film Competition is an avant-garde worldwide competition that strives to give talented directors, producers, actors, creative teams and new media creators the positive exposure they deserve.

It discovers and honors the achievements of filmmakers who produce high quality shorts and new media. The Accolade promotes award winners through press releases to over 40,000 filmmakers, industry contacts and additional international media/distribution outlets.

Mirkarimi's Feature to Compete in Georgia

TEHRAN (MNA) -- Iranian feature 'Castle of Dreams', directed by Reza Mirkarimi, has made it into the competition program of 13th Batumi International Art-House Film Festival (BIAFF) in Georgia.

In its third international screening, Reza Mirkarimi's feature "Castle of Dream" will take part at the international competition section of the 13th edition of Batumi International Art-House Film Festival (BIAFF) in Georgia.

The festival, slated for September 15 – 22, focuses on art-house cinema. BIAFF festival's major sections include - International Competition (Feature, Doc and Short sections), Retro-



A still from Iranian feature 'Castle of Dreams'.

spectives, Meet the Jury, Master Collection, etc. Beside film screenings, the festival program includes various workshops,

master classes and industry events.

"Castle of Dream" has recently won three top prizes in

its first international screening at the 22nd Shanghai International Film Festival in China, including the Golden Goblet prize for best film, best director prize for Reza Mirkarimi, and the best actor award for Hamed Behdad, which he shared with Chang Feng for 'The Return' (China).

The feature is about a 42-year-old man, Jalal, who murders a family in a car crash. The murder, however, is considered as involuntary manslaughter in court.

Mirkarimi's film will next take part at the 38th Vancouver International Film Festival in Canada, slated for September 26 - October 11, 2019.

Occasional Naps Linked to Lower Stroke Risk

BERN (Dispatches) -- A daytime nap taken once or twice a week may lower the risk of having a heart attack/stroke, finds new research.

The impact of napping on heart health has been hotly contested. Many of the published studies on the topic have failed to consider napping frequency, or focused purely on cardiovascular disease deaths, or compared regular nappers with those not opting for a mini siesta, say the researchers.

In a bid to try and address these issues, they looked at the association between napping frequency and average nap duration and the risk of fatal and non-fatal cardiovascular disease 'events,' such as heart attack, stroke, or heart failure, among 3462 randomly selected residents of Lausanne, Switzerland.

And they reported more daytime sleepiness and more severe obstructive sleep apnea -- a condition in which the walls of the throat relax and narrow during sleep, interrupting normal breathing.

During the monitoring period, there were 155 fatal and non-fatal cardiovascular disease 'events'.

Busan Festival Screens Iran's 'African Violet'

TEHRAN (FNA) -- The 24th Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) in South Korea announced that it will screen Iranian feature "African Violet" directed by Mona Zandi Haqiqi in October.

Iranian movie "African Violet" directed by Mona Zandi

Haqiqi will be screened in the 24th Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) early October.

The event is slated to be held in Busan Cinema Center on October 3-12, 2019.

The movie narrates the story of Shoukouh and Reza, her second husband who has de-

cidated to bring Shoukouh's first husband home from retirement home.

"The 24th edition starts up with director Yerlan Nurmukhambetov and Lisa Takeba's opening film, The Horse Thieves," the BIFF official website said.

Picture of the Day



Mourning ceremonies in commemoration of Imam Hussein (PBUH) have become a tourist attraction across Yazd, a historic city in central Iran that has been already inscribed on the UNESCO's World Heritage List. Foreign tourists from around 30 countries have visited mosques and husseiniyas to observe the performance of rites since the beginning of Muharram.

Courtesy: Tasnim News Agency