

This Day in History

(October 5)

Today is Saturday; 13th of the Iranian month of Mehr 1398 solar hijri; corresponding to 6th of the Islamic month of Safar 1441 lunar hijri; and October 5, 2019, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1441 solar years ago, on this day in 578 AD, Byzantine emperor, Justin II, died at the age of 58, four years after abdicating the throne in favour of Tiberius because of mental breakdown. He had succeeded his maternal uncle Justinian I and ruled for eleven years till 574 during which he was embroiled in a devastating war with the Sassanid Empire of Iran in Syria and what is now Turkey. Justin had suffered a shattering defeat at the hands of the Iranian Emperor, Khosrow I Anushiravan. The Romans agreed to pay 45,000 gold coins to Iran as war reparations.

805 solar years ago, on this day in 1214 AD, Alfonso VIII of Castile died at the age of 59. An avowed enemy of Muslims, in 1195 at the Battle of Alarcos in Spain he and his 300,000 strong army had suffered a disastrous defeat at the hands of the al-Muwahidin ruler, Abu Yusuf Ya'qub al-Mansur Ibn Tifshin. It resulted in the retreat of the Christian forces to Toledo while the Muslims liberated the occupied regions of Trujillo, Montanez and Talavera. Alfonso VIII took advantage of the al-Muwahidin ruler's death and assembled Christian mercenaries from different parts of Europe to attack and harass the Spanish Muslims once again. In 1212 he launched a fresh aggression on Spanish Muslim territories, and at the Battle of Las Navas de Tolosa near Santa Elena, he defeated the Mohammad an-Nasr of Granada

745 solar years ago, on this day in 1274 AD, Syrian scholar and historian, Shams od-Din Mohammad bin Ahmad bin Qaymaz at-Turkumani ash-Shaf'i, popular as Ibn adh-Dhahabi (son of goldsmith) was born in Damascus. Among his works mention could be made of "Tarikh al-Islam al-Kabir" (History of Islam in 50 volumes), and "Siyar A'laam an-Nubala" (Lives of Notable Figures) in 28 volumes.

569 solar years ago, on this day in 1450 AD, Jews were expelled from Lower Bavaria by order of Louis IX, Duke of Bavaria. Throughout history Jews have been severely persecuted by the Christians because of their indulgence in usury and blaspheming of the spotlessly pure personalities of Prophet Jesus and his mother, the Virgin Mary (peace upon them).

437 solar years ago, on this day in 1582 AD, although a normal date for most of the world still using the Julian calendar, in the Catholic countries of Italy, Portugal, Spain and Poland, Friday October 5 was the first of ten days that were skipped with the introduction of the Gregorian calendar. In these four countries, Thursday 4 October 1582 was the last day the Julian calendar was used, and the next day became 15 October as per the decree of Pope Gregory XIII, who introduced this change to realign the calendar with the spring and autumn equinoxes. Britain and its colonies resisted this change by the Catholic Pope, and used the Julian calendar for more than a century and a half until 2 September 1752, while Russia used it till 1918. The Islamic solar hijri calendar which starts on the exact time of the spring equinox and is in use in Iran, Afghanistan and the peoples of neighbouring countries, is far more perfect than the Gregorian calendar that was imposed by the colonial powers on the rest of the world after World War I.

206 solar years ago, on this day in 1813 AD, Tecumseh, Native American leader of the Shawnee and a large tribal confederacy, known as Tecumseh's Confederacy, which opposed expansionism of the United States of America and strove to set up an independent Amerindian State, was treacherously killed by the US regime at the age of 45, a year after he had successfully helped Britain seize Detroit in the War of 1812.

155 solar years ago, on this day in 1864 AD, the French chemist, industrialist and inventor, Louis Jean Lumiere was born.

155 solar years ago, on this day in 1864 AD, the Indian city of Calcutta was almost totally destroyed by a cyclone originating from the Bay of Bengal, resulting in the death of at least 70,000 people.

104 solar years ago, on this day in 1915 AD, the strategic port of Salonika in northeastern Greece was seized by Axis Powers during an important military operation of World War I. Britain, France, and Russia suffered defeat at the hands of the Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian Empires, losing half of their forces. World War I was eventually won by the Allied Powers resulting in the loss of huge territories for the Ottoman Turks.

71 solar years ago, on this day in 1948 AD, a massive earthquake devastated Eshqabad city, the capital of what is now the Republic of Turkmenistan, resulting in the death of at least 110,000 people.

54 solar years ago, on this day in 1965 AD, The Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), after 11 months in the Turkish city of Bursa, following his exile from Iran by the British-installed and US-supported Pahlavi regime, left for Iraq. He first arrived in Samarra to a warm welcome by the Iraqi people and paid his respects at the holy shrines of Imam Ali Naqi (AS) and Imam Hasan Askari (AS) – the 10th and 11th Infallible Heirs of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA). He then went to holy Karbala, to a grand welcome from the ulema and the people, and after a week's stay and pilgrimage to the holy shrine of the Chief of Martyrs, Imam Husain (AS), he left for his rendezvous, holy Najaf. The next 14 years, he lived in the proximity of the blessed shrine of the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS), providing guidelines to the people of Iran for the eventual victory of the Islamic Revolution. On February 2, after a 4-month stay near Paris on a visit visa to France, he returned to Iran on February 1, 1979, and was welcomed home by millions of people.

41 solar years ago, on this day in 1978 AD, the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), left Iraq for Paris on a visit visa, following the refusal of the Kuwaiti authorities to allow him entry despite his holding of valid visa.

37 solar years ago, on this day in 1982 AD, French archaeologist Claude-Frédéric-Armand Schaeffer, who was the first excavator at Ras Shamra in Syria, died at the age of 84. The site, Ugarit (Minet el-Beida), dates back to the sixth or seventh millennium BC nestled in the shadow of the Jebel al-Aqra (Mount Sanpanu) by the Mediterranean Sea, 10-km north of present-day Syrian port, Latakia.

19 solar years ago, on this day in 2000 AD, the Serbian dictator and perpetrator of the gory Balkan wars, Slobodan Milosevic, was ousted following months of public protests and international sanctions. He was president of Serbia from 1990 to 1997 before becoming Yugoslav president. During the Bosnian war, he was an accomplice in the crimes of the Serbs against humanity, including ethnic cleansing and genocide. Nine months after his ouster, he was handed over to the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, but died in prison amid the sluggish progress of his prosecution.

12 solar years ago, on this day in 2007 AD, US occupation forces backed by attack aircraft indiscriminately killed more than 30 men, women, and children, of Iraq's Shi'a Muslim majority, north of Baghdad. The US is responsible for the direct or indirect death of at least 1.2 million Iraqis during its decade-long occupation of Iraq.

8 solar years ago, on this day in 2011 AD, American inventor and entrepreneur, Steven Paul Jobs, who in 1976 co-founded Apple Inc. with Steve Wozniak to manufacture personal computers, died at the age of 56.

8 solar years ago, on this day in 2011 AD, a kangaroo court set up by the repressive Aal-e Khalifa minority regime in Bahrain, sentenced 19 more peaceful protestors to prison, raising to 81 the total number of persons imprisoned in the sham trial.

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

Portugal Crowns 'Isolated' As Best Short Film



TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Iranian short 'Isolated' has been awarded at the 5th edition of the Figueira Da Foz International Film Festival (Film Art 2019) in Portugal.

Directed by Mohammad Ahmadiania, 'Isolated' succeeded to win best short film award at the Portuguese event.

Ahmadiania's short experienced its first international screening at the Figueira Da Foz.

'Isolated' narrates the story of a traditional shoemaker who decides to move to Tehran and change profession due

to not making enough profit from his current job.

The Portuguese festival is an independent film event, committed and dedicated to showcase emerging and established, national and international filmmakers' works, within the world of independent cinema.

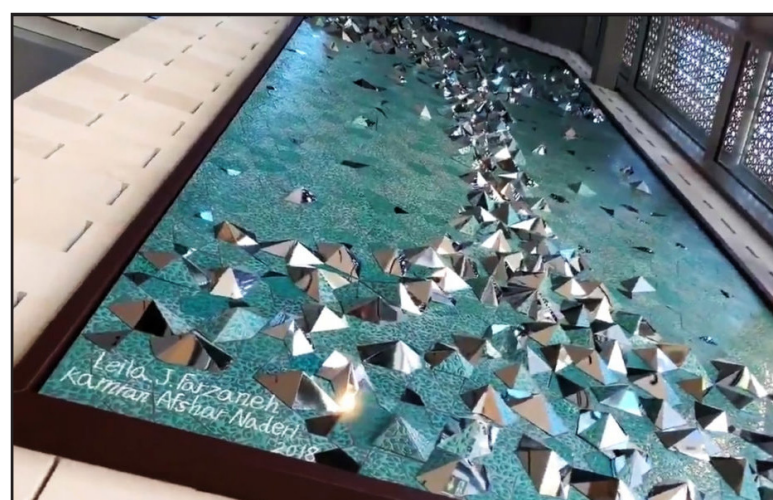
The 5th edition of the festival has been held in Figueira da Foz city in Portugal on September 5-15, 2019.

French Institute Showcases Iranian Artwork

TEHRAN (IFP) -- The Tree of Life, a conceptual work of art created by two Iranian artists, is on display at the French Institute of Muslim Civilization (IFCM) in Lyon.

The artwork is a joint project by Kamran Afshar-Naderi and ceramist and calligrapher Leila Farzaneh.

The unveiling ceremony was attended by high-ranking French officials, including the interior minister, the mayor of Lyon, representatives of the embassy of the



Islamic Republic of Iran and the ambassadors of Islamic countries.

According to Honar On-

line, "Tree of Life" with its impressive dimensions attracted a lot of attention and praise at the opening

of the exhibition, as French Interior Minister Christophe Castaner tweeted part of a film showing this work to announce the opening of the institute.

"To better understand Islamic cultures, everyone should be allowed to understand the diversity of viewpoints and have a chance for sharing their views: IFCM can be a bridge between civilizations and philosophies, and somehow it can be an opportunity and a success," reads his tweet.

Aspirin May Cut Air Pollution Harms

NEW YORK (Dispatches) -- A new study is the first to report evidence that nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like aspirin may lessen the adverse effects of air pollution exposure on lung function.

The team of researchers from the Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, Harvard Chan School of Public Health, Boston University School of Medicine analyzed a subset of data collected from a cohort of 2,280 male veterans from the greater Boston area who were given tests to determine their lung function. The average age of participants was 73 years. The researchers examined the relationship between test results, self-reported NSAID use, and ambient particulate matter (PM) and black carbon in the month preceding the test, while accounting for a variety of factors, including the health status of the subject and whether or not he was a smoker. They found that the use of any NSAID nearly halved of the effect of PM on lung function, with the association consistent across all four weekly air pollution measurements from same-day to 28 days prior to the lung function test.

Because most of the people in the study cohort who took NSAIDs used aspirin, the researchers say the modifying effect they observed was mainly

from aspirin, but add that effects of non-aspirin NSAIDs are worthy of further exploration. While the mechanism is unknown, the researchers speculate that NSAIDs mitigate inflammation brought about by air pollution.

"Our findings suggest that aspirin and other NSAIDs may protect the lungs from short-term spikes in air pollution," says first and corresponding author Xu Gao, PhD, a post-doctoral research scientist in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences at



the Columbia Mailman School. "Of course, it is still important to minimize our exposure to air pol-

lution, which is linked to a host of adverse health effects, from cancer to cardiovascular disease."

Picture of the Day



As many as 1,700 centuries-old clay tablets, which have been recently returned to Iran from the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute, are put on display at the National Museum of Iran.

Courtesy: Mehr News Agency