

# This Day in History

(October 9)

Today is Wednesday; 17<sup>th</sup> of the Iranian month of Mehr 1398 solar hijri; corresponding to 10<sup>th</sup> of the Islamic month of Safar 1441 lunar hijri; and October 9, 2019, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

**1127 solar years ago**, on this day in 892 AD, 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). He has said 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 wives, as some allege. Tirmizi's grave is in Sherobod, 60 km north of Tirmiz, where he is called Tirmiz Baba.

**1112 lunar years ago**, on this day in 329 AH, the Iranian statesman and historian, Abu Ali Mohammad Amirak Bal'ami, passed away. Born in Lashjerd near the Khorasani city of Marv (presently in Turkmenistan), he was the son of Abu'l-Fazl Bal'ami (also called Bal'am-e Buzurg or the Elder), and was appointed vizier of the Iranian Samanid Empire during the reign of Amir Abdul-Malik I. He kept holding the office under the next ruler, Mansour I. His most famous work is *"Tarikh-e Bal'ami"*, which is a Persian translation of the famous Iranian historian Abu Ja'far Mohammad bin Jarir Tabari's monumental Arabic work *"Tarikh ar-Rusul wa'l-Mulook"* (History of Prophets and Kings). It contains supplementary material, some of which is found nowhere else. It is the oldest Persian prose work after the *Shahnamah* of Daqiqi.

**745 solar years ago**, on this day in 1264 AD, the Spanish Muslim Ta'efa of Jerez (Sheresh in Arabic) in southern Spain, along with its capital of the same name, was occupied by Christian mercenaries of the kingdom of Castile after over five-and-a-half centuries of Muslim rule. In the 12th and 13th centuries Jerez underwent a period of great development, building its defense system and setting the current street layout of the old town.

**438 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1003 AH, the famous Persian poet and scholar of India, Shaikh Abu'l-Faiz, known by his penname "Faizi", died from asthma at the age of 49. He was the *"Malik-ush-Shu'ara"* (Poet Laureate) of the court of the Moghal Emperor Jalal od-Din Akbar Shah, and was elder brother of the equally famous court historian Abu'l-Fazl. He composed significant poetic works in Persian and his Divan comprising *"qasida"* (eulogy), *"ghazal"* (lyric), *"rubai"* (quatrain), and *"marthia"* (elegy), is entitled *"Tabashir as-Subh"*. In pursuance of the literary practice then in vogue, he produced *"Panj Ganj"* (Five Treasures) in the *"khamasa"* style of poetry in imitation of the celebrated Iranian poet Nizami Ganjavi. He thus wrote *"Nal va Daman"*, *"Markaz ul-Advaar"*, *"Sulaiman va Bilqis"*, *"Haft Kishvar"* and *"Akbnamah"*.

**425 solar years ago**, on this 1594 AD, a 20,000-strong army of the Portuguese Empire was annihilated by the Kingdom of Kandy in Sri Lanka, bringing an end to the Campaign of Danture, and marking a turning point in the indigenous resistance to Portuguese colonialism. The Portuguese, led by Pedro Lopes de Sousa, invaded Kandy on 5 July 1594, and after three months, severely depleted by guerilla warfare, the Portuguese army was completely annihilated by the forces of King Vimaladharmasuriya. With this victory, the Kingdom of Kandy emerged as a major military power; it was to retain its independence until 1815, against Portuguese, Dutch, and British armies.

**311 solar years ago**, on this day in 1708 AD, Sweden was decisively defeated by Peter the Great at the Battle of Lesnaya in Belarus when it attacked Russia. Given the freezing weather and shortage of food, over half of the Swedish soldiers lost their lives.

**279 solar years ago**, on this day in 1740 AD, Dutch colonists and various slave-trading groups began massacring ethnic Chinese in Batavia, eventually killing 10,000 and leading to a two-year-long war throughout Java.

**259 solar years ago**, on this day in 1760 AD, Austrian and Russian troops entered Berlin and began burning structures and looting during the "7-Year War" that involved most of the big powers of the time and affected Europe, North America, Central America, the West African coast, India, and the Philippines.

**178 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1263 AH, prominent Iranian author, Mullah Ja'far Shariatmadar Astarabadi passed away in Tehran at the age of 66 and his body was taken to holy Najaf in Iraq for burial. He was a product of the famous Najaf Islamic seminary. He left for Iran during the siege of the holy city of Karbala by the Ottoman General Davoud Pasha. He was an expert on Arabic literature and an accomplished poet. Among his books is *"al-Masabih"* on principles of Islamic Jurisprudence.

**59 lunar years ago**, on this day in 1382 AH, Source of Emulation, Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Abdul-Hadi Shirazi, passed away at the age of 77 in Kufa and was laid to rest in the mausoleum of the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS). Born in holy Samarra to the scholar Seyyed Ismail Shirazi, he completed his higher religious studies in the famous Najaf Seminary where his teachers included Ayatollah Mohammad Kazem Akhond Khorasani and Ayatollah Shaikh ash-Shari'ah Isfahani. He attained ijtehad and issued a famous fatwa against communism, which was spreading in Iraq. He was teacher to such famous students as Ayatollah Mohammad Taqi Ja'fari, Ayatollah Hussain Wahid Khorasani and Ayatollah Mohammad Reza al-Muzaffar. He wrote several books, including *"Dar al-Islam"*.

**57 solar years ago**, on this day in 1962 AD, Uganda gained independence after 74 years of British rule. Over 15 percent of the population of Uganda is Muslim. Situated in East Africa, the Republic of Uganda covers an area of almost 235,880 sq km and shares borders with Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Its capital is Kampala.

**55 solar years ago**, on this day in 1964 AD, prominent Iranian researcher, writer and translator, Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Ayati, passed away at the age of 50 in what was described as a road accident. Born near Birjand in Khorasan, he studied in holy Mashhad under prominent scholars, such as Adib Naishapuri, Shaikh Hashem Qazvini, and Shaikh Mojtaba Qazvini, and for a decade taught and preached in his hometown. He then enrolled at Tehran University, obtained PhD in philosophy and for years taught at the same university. As a conscious religious scholar, aware of the political conditions of the time, he became a close assistant of two of the prominent ulema of the era - Ayatollah Seyyed Mahmoud Taleqani, and Ayatollah Shaikh Morteza Motahhari. Dr. Ayati, who played a key role in the monthly journal *"Gofar"*, has left behind valuable works, such as *"A Probe into the History of Ashura"*, and *"History of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA)"*. He also edited the exegesis of the holy Qur'an written by Sharif Lahiji, in addition to translating several books into Persian.

**53 solar years ago**, on this day in 1966 AD, South Korean forces, operating under US command in South Vietnam, massacred hundreds of Vietnamese men, women and children, in two separate incidents in the regions of Dien Nien and Phuoc Binh. In Dien Nien, the massacre lasted two days and as many as 280 unarmed civilians were killed in cold blood in Tinh Son village of Quang Ngai Province. In Phuoc Binh hamlet, the victims of the massacre were mostly 180 children and elderly women who were butchered in a schoolyard. The South Koreans acted upon the orders of the US.

**52 solar years ago**, on this day in 1967 AD, prominent Latin American revolutionary, physician, author, and military theorist Ernesto Che Guevara of Argentina, was executed by the US-installed regime of Bolivia, along with many of his comrades at the age of 39.

**38 solar years ago**, on this day in 1981 AD, Palestinian revolutionary Majed Abu-Sharaar was martyred in Italy by agents of the illegal Zionist entity. The usurper state of Israel pursues a policy of terrorism against Arabs and Muslims around the world in a vain bid to prolong its illegal existence on the soil of Palestine.

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

# Iranian Handicraft on Display in Ankara



TEHRAN (MNA) – Iran's cultural-tourism exhibition opened in Ankara on Sunday, in collaboration with the Cultural Counselor of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Turkey. Iranian handicrafts, cultural engravings and miniatures, as well as pictures of cultural, historical, and tourist attractions in Iran have been presented in

this exhibition with the aim of introducing Iranian culture and ancient civilization to other nations.

The exhibition is held in cooperation with the municipality of Altındağ Ankara and will wrap up on Sunday 13 October.

Emphasizing the importance of holding such events to introduce Iran's culture and attractions to Turkish people, the Cultural Counselor of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Ankara Mahmoud Sedqizadeh expressed hope that Iran and Turkey to strengthen their relation by such kind of activities

## 'Short Wave' Star Sharifi Honored at U.S. Rendezvous Festival

TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Rendezvous Film Festival in U.S. has awarded Pedram Sharifi for his role in 'Short Wave'.

Sharifi won the best short film actor award for Mohammad Esmaeeli's 'Short Wave' at the 12th edition of the event.

Written and directed by Mohammad Esmaeeli, 'Short Wave' is adapted from a story written by Gholam-Hossein Saedi.

The film tells the story of a man who is struggling with



Pedram Sharifi in 'Short Wave'.

the annoying sound of his environment and attempts to silence it.

'Short Wave' received a Special Mention at the 5th Alexandria Short Film Festival in Greece and won one of the best film awards at the 6th Durham Film Festival in the UK.

The short film also grabbed the Best Experimental/Art Film award at the 15th Annual West Chester International Short Film Festival in the U.S.

## Infants With Fever at Risk of Serious Infections

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – Infants with a high fever may be at increased risk for infections, according to research from Penn State College of Medicine.

In the study, researchers determined that for an infant less than eight weeks old, having a fever was associated with a doubled risk for developing serious bacterial infections, including meningitis and infections of the blood or urinary tract. Based on the findings, the researchers encourage parents of infants younger than eight weeks old to seek immediate care if their child develops a fever -- a temperature more than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.

The findings of the study are an exception to the traditional teaching in medical education that the height of a fever doesn't necessarily correspond to the likelihood of infection. This exception to the rule only applies to infants younger than 2 months old.

## Japanese Photographer Works on View in Tehran

TEHRAN. (HONARONLINE) – Veteran Japanese photographer says he was surprised to see that so many historical houses in Iran were renovated with a small budget.

A selection of photos by U.S. based Japanese photographer Kenro Izu are on view in an exhibition at Tehran's Nabshi Center until 1 November. The collection includes photos from his series Sacred Places, Still Life and Blue.

Izu was born in Osaka, Japan. He moved to New York in 1970 to study photography, and subsequently decided to stay and work there.

In 1979, Izu made his first trip to Egypt, which inspired him to begin his series Sacred Places, an exploration that is still in progress. As he continued his series, Izu traveled to Egypt, Syria, Jordan, England, Scotland, Mexico, France and Easter Island (Chile) to capture the



Japanese photographer Kenro Izu.

sacred ancient stone monuments in their natural settings.

Izu has been the recipient of the New York Foundation for Arts grant in 1985, the Catskill Center for Photography Fel-

lowship in 1992, the Lou Stouman Award in 1999, a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2001, the Vision Award from the Center for Photography at Woodstock in 2005 and a Lucie Award in 2007.

## Picture of the Day



The Shokouh Gallery is hosting a painting exhibition by Hojjatollah Cheragh until 9 October. Courtesy: Honaronline