

This Day in History

(January 9)

Today is Saturday; 20th of the Iranian month of Dey 1399 solar hijri; corresponding to 25th of the Islamic month of Jamadi al-Awwal 1442 lunar hijri; and January 9, 2021 of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1378 lunar years ago, on this day in 64 AH, Mu'awiyah, the son of the tyrant Yazid ibn Mu'awiyah, died under suspicious circumstances in Damascus, Syria, at the age 19, a month after abdicating the caliphate. He was installed as ruler of the usurper Omayyad regime following the death by divine wrath of his accused father – the perpetrator of the heartrending tragedy of Karbala – and immediately distanced himself from Yazid's crimes against Islam, especially the slaying of Imam Husain (AS), the younger grandson of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA). After only a month and eleven days in power, he relinquished the caliphate by delivering a sermon that exposed as sinners and usurpers, both his father and grandfather Mu'awiyah ibn Abu Sufyan, who had seized the caliphate from the Prophet's elder grandson Imam Hasan Mojtaba (AS) in 41 AH to establish the illegal Omayyad regime. The young Mu'awiyah, who unlike his blasphemous father and grandfather, was an upright person, went on the pulpit of the main mosque of Damascus, and with eyes full of tears, recounted the evil and sacrilegious deeds of his father, Yazid, in martyring Imam Husain (AS), in imprisoning the Prophet's household; in desecrating the Prophet's Mosque and Shrine in Medina following the massacre of Muslims at Harrah, and in profaning the sanctity of the holy Ka'ba. He also recounted the evil deeds of his grandfather Mu'awiyah ibn Sufyan, the accursed founder of the Omayyad dynasty, in revolting against the rule of justice of Imam Ali (AS), in seizing the caliphate from the Prophet's elder grandson Imam Hasan al-Mojtaba (AS), and in shedding the blood of Muslims. According to historical accounts, he said: *The caliphate is from Allah. My grandfather fought the person who was more entitled to it, i.e. Imam Ali. He [Mu'awiyah ibn Abu Sufyan] committed acts that you are all aware of, and for which he is suffering in his grave. Then my father Yazid assumed the caliphate even though he was not deserving of it. He fought the Prophet's grandson and is suffering in the grave on account of his sins. It is a terrible thing that we are fully aware of Yazid's bad deeds: he slaughtered the Prophet's family, he deemed alcohol permissible, and set fire to the holy Ka'ba. I don't need this rule.*

1340 solar years ago, on this day in 681 AD, the Twelfth Council of Toledo was initiated by King Erwig of the Visigoths of Spain, and enacted twenty-eight laws against the Jews.

894 solar years ago, on this day in 1127 AD, during the Jin-Song Wars, invading Jurchen soldiers of the Jin dynasty besieged and sacked Bianjing (Kaifeng), the capital of the Song dynasty of China. They abducted Emperor Qinzong of Song and others, ending the Northern Song dynasty.

739 solar years ago, on this day in 1282 AD, Spanish Muslim scholar, Sa'eed ibn Hakam al-Qurashi, who was also ruler of the Mediterranean Balearic island of Minorca (Manurqa in Arabic), passed away at the age of 77.

672 solar years ago, on this day in 1349 AD, the Jewish population of Basel, Switzerland, believed by the residents to be the cause of Black Death, was rounded up and incinerated by Christians, who are notorious for their frequent bloody persecution of the followers of Judaism throughout history.

504 lunar years ago, on this day 938 AH, the great Islamic scholar of what is now Lebanon, Shaikh Ali bin Abdul-Aali al-Maysi al-Ameli, passed away. Known as "**Muhaqqiq**" (Researcher) for his outstanding abilities, he was a teacher of the famous scholar Shaikh Zayn od-Din al-Juba'i, known as "**Shaheed Thani**" (Second Martyr) for his tragic martyrdom in Syria.

261 solar years ago, on this day in 1760 AD, the Afghans defeated the Marathas in the Battle of Barari Ghat, in one of a series of victories to gain control of the decaying Moghal Empire, which gave the crafty British time to consolidate their power in Bengal, after they had contrived with traitors to defeat Nawab Siraj od-Dowlah (of Iranian ancestry) in 1757. At Barari Ghat on the banks of River Jamna, 16 km north of Delhi, the Maratha chief Dattaji Sindhia, retreating from the Punjab before the army of Ahmad Shah Durrani, was surprised by Afghan troops who, concealed by high reeds, crossed the river. Dattaji was killed and his army routed. His defeat opened the way to the Afghan occupation of Delhi. The next year, Ahmad Shah as a veteran general of Nader Shah Afshar of Iran, completely broke the power of the Marathas by his resounding victory in the 3rd Battle of Panipat.

229 solar years ago, on this day in 1792 AD, a peace agreement was signed between the Ottoman and Russian Empires to end the wars that had started in August 1787, because of the Russo-Austrian plot to break up the power of the Turks in Europe. At the end of the war, Russians occupied vast lands of the Ottoman Empire, including the Crimea Peninsula in what is now Ukraine.

169 solar years ago, on this day in 1852 AD, the highly efficient Iranian Prime Minister, Mirza Taqi Khan Amir Kabir, was killed on the orders of the Qajarid king, Nasser od-Din Shah in the "hammam" (bathhouse) of the famous garden-pavilion of Feen in the city of Kashan, where he was exiled, after dismissal from his post, following court intrigues by local agents of foreign powers, on loss of their illegal interests, because of his political and administrative reforms.

103 solar years ago, on this day in 1918 AD, the Battle of Bear Valley, the last battle of the three centuries-long wars against the native Amerindian people by the white-skinned Anglo-Saxon occupiers from Europe, took place. The Battle of Bear Valley was a small engagement between a group of Yaquis and a detachment of the US Army in Arizona near the Mexican border as part of Washington's genocidal policy to wipe out the native Amerindian people.

101 solar years ago, on this day in 1920 AD, Hakeem Mohammed Saeed, Pakistani Islamic medicinal expert, scholar and philanthropist, was born in Delhi, British India, to a family of herbal medical practitioners, who had established the Hamdard Waqf Laboratories. He was killed by terrorists in 1998 at the age of 78.

99 solar years ago, on this day in 1922 AD, Guinea's first president, Ahmed Sekou Toure, was born in an aristocratic family of the Mandinka ethnic group in what was then French Guinea. He imprisoned or exiled his strongest opposition leaders. It is estimated that 50,000 people were killed under his regime.

74 solar years ago, on this day in 1946 AD, noted Kashmiri historian, Dr. Mohammad Ishaq Khan, was born in a hotelier family. His most widely read book is "**Kashmir's Transition to Islam: The Role of Muslim Rishis**", which has been described as an authoritative and seminal work on the social dimension of Islam in Kashmir. His last work, published posthumously is "**Merited Invocation**", which is an English translation along with notes and annotations of the Persian book "**Awraad-e Fathiyya**" of the famous Iranian missionary, Mir Seyyed Ali Hamedani, to whom goes the credit of spreading Islam in Kashmir.

57 solar years ago, on this day in 1964 AD, in protest to the US control over the Panama Canal region, disturbances broke out, leading to the death and injury of a number of people at the hands of the US troops.

39 solar years ago, on this day in 1982 AD, parliament member, Seyyed Mohammad Khamenei, survived an assassination attempt by the MKO terrorists as part of their campaign to eliminate the leading figures of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Seyyed Mohammad, the brother of the then president and current leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, was on his way to the Majlis (parliament) when he was targeted.

10 solar years ago, on this day in 2011 AD, Iran's intelligence services announced the arrest of culprits who carried out the assassination a year earlier of nuclear physicist Masoud Ali Mohammadi, in a months-long covert operation that also led them to penetrate the notorious Mossad spy agency of the illegal Zionist entity.

4 solar years ago, on this day in 2017 AD, Iranian academic and educationist, Dr. Ali Shariatmadari, passed away at the age of 93.

'Zen' Crowned Best Drama at China's Media Festival



A still from Iranian short film 'Zen'.

TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Iranian short film 'Zen' has won an

award at a Chinese film festival.

The short directed by Mohamadreza Golpour, grabbed the best drama award at the 2020 edition of the New Media Short Film Festival in China.

Profilm company is responsible for the international distribution of Golpour's latest directorial experience.

Other details of the award-winning short are yet to be released.

Launched in 2010, "the mission and objectives of New Media Short Film Festival are to en-

courage the creation of outstanding new media short films across the globe, to seek and support young film and television talents, to incubate high-quality film and television creative projects, to promote the integrated development of Film & Television Industry and New Media Industry, and to enhance cultural communication, exchange, and cooperation internationally," the official website of the festival says.

The 11th CSFF was held on December 24, 2020 in Shenzhen.

Greece Produces Documentary on Martyr Soleimani

TEHRAN (IFILM) --- Lamprini Thoma, a foreign correspondent of the independent Greek news portal the Press Project, has made a documentary named 'Farewell to the Hero' about Iran's anti-terror commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani.

Produced with contributions from Iran's Cultural Office in Athens, 'Farewell to the Hero' begins with the voice of the commander announcing the end of Daesh. The Greek TV channels' cov-



Commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani's Funeral.

erage of Soleimani's assassination comes next. It goes

on with reports prepared by Thoma.

Thoma traveled to Tehran during the funeral ceremony of IRGC Quds Force chief Soleimani, who was assassinated during a U.S. airstrike in Baghdad on January 3, 2020 on the instruction of U.S. President Donald Trump.

The demonstration of people in front of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran in protest against the martyrdom of the Commander in addition to the images of his funeral are also included in the documentary.

Indian Festival Grants Commendation Plaque to Iran's 'Cooler'

TEHRAN (MNA) - Iranian short film, 'Cooler', directed by Iman Sedigh received the commendation plaque and the statuette for the best short film of Indi-

an Sprouting Seed International Short Film Festival.

The film is produced by Manouchehr Hadi and narrates a love story.

Sprouting Seed International Short Film Festival is the largest film event in India around the world.

It aims to draw attention to and raise the profile of films and, in doing so, contributes to the development of cinema and boost the film industry internationally.



New Drug Form May Help Treat Osteoporosis



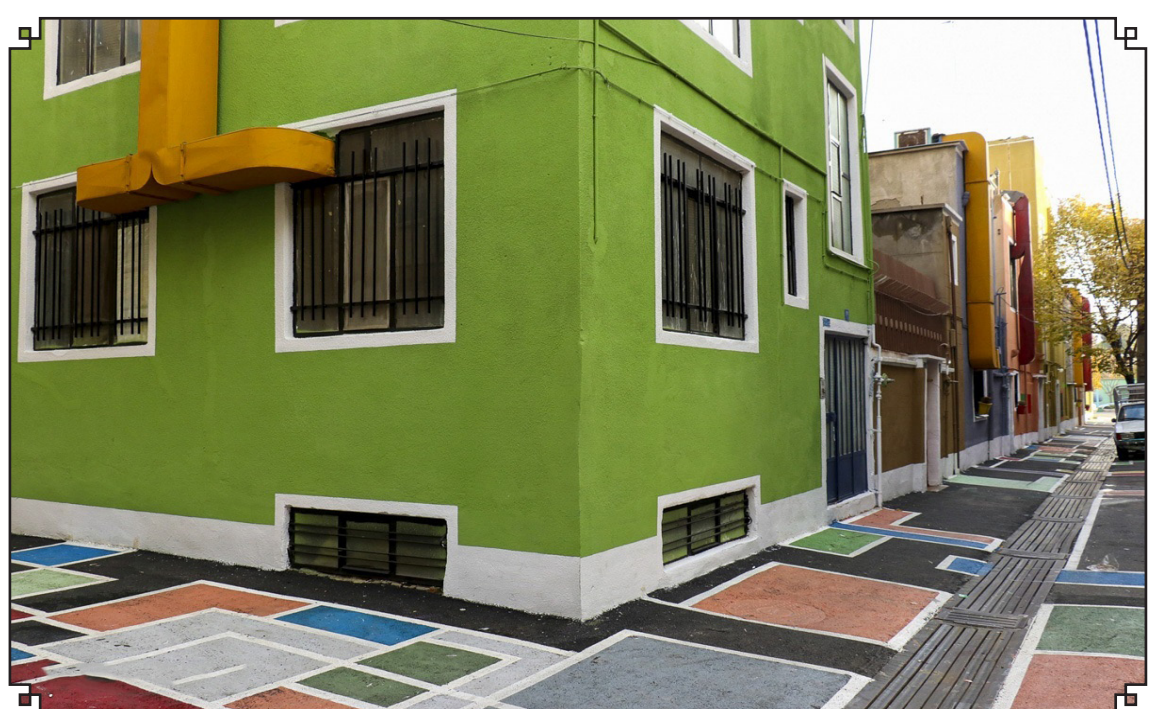
WASHINGTON (Dispatches) -- A novel form of a drug used to treat osteoporosis that comes with the potential for fewer side effects may provide a new option for patients.

Purdue University innovators developed a stabilized form of human calcitonin, which is a peptide drug already used for people with osteoporosis. Researchers at Purdue created a prodrug form of the peptide hormone to increase its effectiveness as an osteoporosis treatment.

In humans, calcitonin is the hormone responsible for normal calcium homeostasis. When prescribed to osteoporosis patients, calcitonin inhibits bone resorption, resulting in increased bone mass.

To decrease the fibrillation propensity and increase the therapeutic benefit of human calcitonin, Purdue researchers phosphorylated specific amino acid residues.

Picture of the Day



The 'Colourful Alley' is a project that seeks to breathe new life into the old alleys of the Iranian capital Tehran in collaboration with local residents.

Courtesy of Young Journalists Club