

This Day in History

(March 6)

Today is Saturday; 16th of the Iranian month of Esfand 1399 solar hijri; corresponding to 22nd of the Islamic month of Rajab 1442 lunar hijri; and March 6, 2021, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1389 solar years ago, on this day in 632 AD, which was 9th of Zi'l-Hijjah in the year 10 AH, Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), during his Farewell Hajj Pilgrimage (*Hajjat-al-Weda*) delivered a historic sermon on the plain of Arafat from Jabal ar-Rahma (Mount Mercy), exhorting Muslims to adhere to the principles of Islam he had expounded to them in the course of his 23-year universal mission, and to hold fast to the holy Qur'an and his progeny the Ahl al-Bayt. In his sermon which over a hundred thousand pilgrims listened, he directed his speech to all humanity for all time, as is evident by his use of the terms **"O People"** and **"O Mankind"**, rather than "O Muslims" or "O Believers". His intention was to address all people, regardless of their creed, colour of skin, class distinction, ethnicity, languages spoken, eras, and geographical locations around the world (until the Day of Judgement). This sermon, recorded in all reliable books of hadith and history by all denominations of Islam, consists of a series of general exhortations to be followed after him, especially his emphasis on the **"Hadith Thaqaalayn"**. He said in clear words: **"O People! I have been summoned (to God's presence from the mortal world) and am leaving behind among you the Thaqaalayn (Two Weighty Things); the Book of Allah (holy Qur'an) and my progeny the Ahl al-Bayt. Hold fast to them and you will never go astray, for you will be questioned regarding your attitude to them, since the two never part with each other even when they return to me at the Fountain (of Kowsar on the Day of Judgement)."**

1382 lunar years ago, on this day in 60 AH, the Omayyad tyrant, Mu'awiyah, died in Damascus at the age of 80, nineteen years after usurping the caliphate from the Prophet of Islam's elder grandson, Imam Hasan Mojtaba (AS), whom he martyred through poisoning in 50 AH in violation of the terms of the treaty signed in 41 AH. Of doubtful paternity and born to the lecherous Hind, the wife of Abu Sufyan, he grew up to become a staunch opponent of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA) – having been brought up by two of the most spiteful enemies of Islam. In 8 AH when Mecca surrendered to the Muslims, two-and-a-half-years before the passing away of the Prophet, he reluctantly paid lip service to Islam to escape execution. During the caliphate of Omar ibn Khattab, he was surprisingly appointed as governor of the newly conquered vast province of Shaam (made up of today's Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and the illegal Zionist entity Israel), a position he held for almost 20 years despite his dismissal by the Commander of the Faithful Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS) against whom he came out into open armed rebellion at the War of Siffeen. During the almost 40 years he had entrenched himself in the mostly Christian Levant (Shaam), Mu'awiyah did not spare any effort to distort the teachings of Islam, oppress, torture, and kill Muslims, and indulge in all cardinal sins. On his deathbed, contrary to the terms of the treaty with Imam Hasan (AS), he named as caliph his libertine and openly infidel son, Yazid – born of an adulterous affair with a Christian Bedouin woman – a criminal decision that led to three of the most heinous crimes in history. The Godless Yazid, in the first year of his reign brutally martyred at Karbala the Prophet's younger grandson, Imam Husain (AS). In the subsequent two years of his evil rule, he desecrated the sanctity of the Prophet's shrine and mosque in Medina by ordering a general massacre, rape and plunder of Muslims; and next ordered the sacrilegious storming of the holy Ka'ba in Mecca, during the midst of which he died, thereby ending the rule of the house of Mu'awiyah – while another branch of the Omayyads, the Marwanids, continued the evil work of terrorizing the Muslim ummah for some 70 more years before they were thrown into the dustbin of history.

1060 solar years ago, on this day in 961 AD, Byzantine Greek forces occupied the Muslim island of Crete in the Aegean Sea, thus ending the nearly 135-year rule of the Islamic emirate founded by Spanish Muslim migrants under Abu Hafs after their eviction in 827 from the Egyptian port city of Alexandria by the Abbasid Iranian general, Abdullah ibn Taher Khorasani, who equipped them with ships and supplies for the expedition to Iqritish – as the island was called in Arabic.

752 lunar years ago, on this day in 690 AH, Muslims liberated from Crusader occupiers the city of Beirut – the capital of what is now Lebanon. The campaign was led by the Mamluk sultan of Egypt and Syria, al-Ashraf Khalil Qalawun, a Qipchaq Turk, who went on to liberate the other cities, thus completely ending the 200-year Crusader presence in the Levant.

546 solar years ago, on this day in 1475 AD, Italian painter, sculptor, architect, and poet, Michelangelo, was born in Caprese near Arezzo, Tuscany.

469 solar years ago, on this day in 1552 AD, the second major battle between the Christian sects of Catholics and Protestants in Europe ended with another failure for the latter, following their defeat six years earlier.

242 solar years ago, on this day in 1779 AD, Karim Khan Zand, the founder of the Zand Dynasty of Iran, passed away in his capital Shiraz at the age of 74 after a reign of 29 years, during which he restored stability to the country in the chaotic aftermath of Nader Shah Afshar's assassination in 1747, ruling almost all of Iran, along with Basra and parts of the Caucasus, except for Greater Khorasan.

196 lunar years ago, on this day in 1246 AH, the prominent Iranian Islamic scholar Mullah Ali bin Jamshid, known as Akhound Noori, passed away in Isfahan. Mullah Ali Noori's famous works is **"Hawashiy-e Asfaar"** on the famous Safavid-era philosopher, Mullah Sadra's work **"al-Asfaar al-Arba"**.

121 solar years ago, on this day in 1900 AD, German inventor, Gottlieb Daimler, died at the age of 64. His profession was making guns. His industrial activities led to invention of the motorcycle. He set up the auto industry and built a type of bus.

68 solar years ago, on this day in 1951 AD, British agent, Ali Razmara, whom the British-installed Mohammad Reza Pahlavi had appointed prime minister for his anti-Islamic views, was executed in a revolutionary manner by Khalil Tahmasebi, a carpenter by profession and member of the Fedaeen-e Islam organization.

64 solar years ago, on this day in 1957 AD, Ghana became the first sub-Saharan country to gain independence.

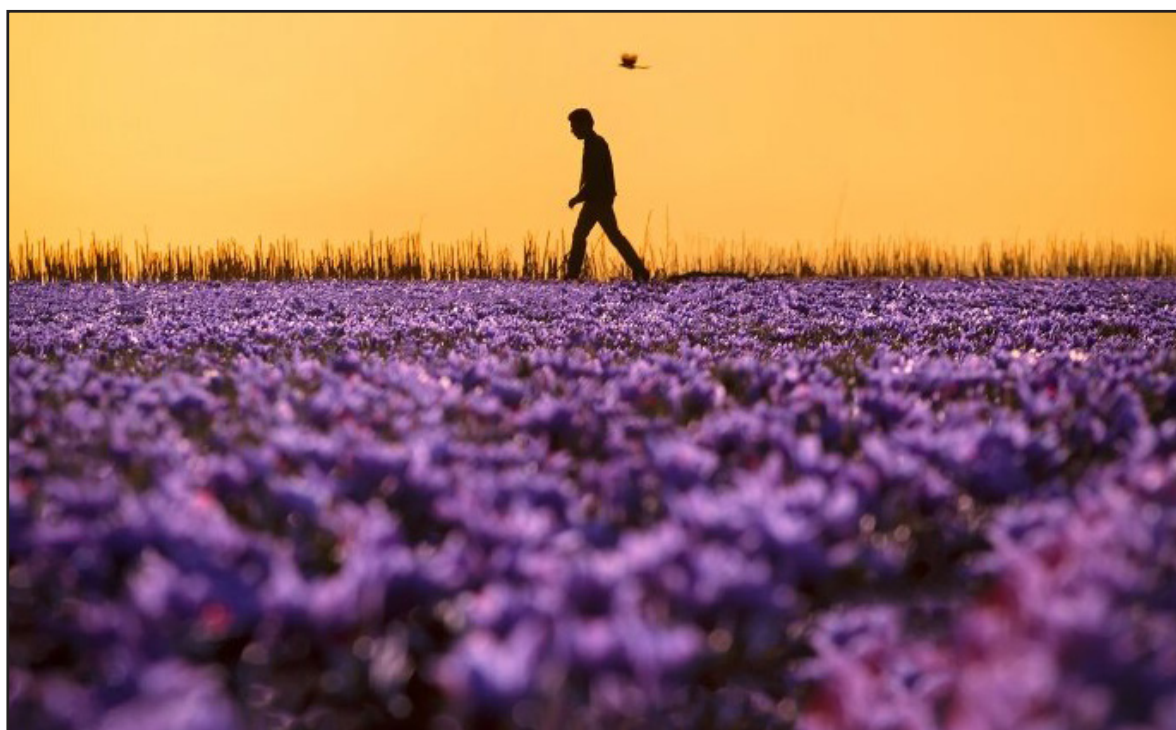
57 solar years ago, on this day in 1964 AD, Afro-American boxing champion, Cassius Clay, embraced Islam, and officially changed his name to Muhammad Ali. His spectacular winning of numerous world titles and his refusal, as a Muslim, to be drafted by the US regime in the Vietnam War made constant headlines.

46 solar years ago, on this day in 1975 AD, the Algiers Accord was inked in the Algerian capital for resolution of the Iran-Iraq border dispute regarding the Shatt al-Arab/Arvand Rood waterway. It ended the Shah's support for Iraqi Kurds, while Baghdad agreed to fix the southern border of the two countries in the middle of the waterway. In Algiers, the signatory was vice president of the Ba'th minority regime, Saddam, who five years later in September 1980 tore the accord in front of TV cameras to launch his invasion of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Saddam's US-backed 8-year war ended in 1988 without any victory for him, and two years later in 1990, he had to eat the humble pie and officially admit the validity of the Algiers Accord.

14 solar years ago, on this day in 2007 AD, Saudi-backed Takfiri terrorists blew up through remote control two unsuspecting persons to whom they had given bag full explosives in the midst of pilgrims converging on a shrine in Hillah, southern Iraq, resulting in the martyrdom of some 150 Shi'a Muslim men, women, and children, and wounding of over 200 others.

9 solar years ago, on this day in 2010, Iran announced that it has started a new production line of highly accurate, short range cruise missiles, which adds a new element to the country's already imposing defence arsenal.

Iranian Photographer Granted Gold Medal in Tajikistan



"Saffron Land" by Hadi Dehqanpur.

TEHRAN (IFILM) -- The 2nd Pamir International Salon of Photography in Tajikistan has bestowed the FIAP Gold Medal upon

'Saffron Land' captured by Iranian photographer Hadi Dehqanpur. 'Saffron Land', which took home the FIAP medal from the

open color section of the event, portrays a man passing through a farm covered with saffron flowers.

Iranian saffron known as the "red gold" is a magical ingredient in Persian culture, from aromatic foods and colorful deserts, to the physical and spiritual medicine. The expensive spice has long been a high-demand commodity.

Iranian Saffron tour is an opportunity to experience and visit Saffron farms and farmers.

The Federation Internationale de l'Art Photographique (FIAP) and the Photographic Society of America (PSA) organized the event in the six categories of open monochrome, open color, people, landscape, nature and travel.

Ebrahim Bahrami, Vahid Babei and Saeid Arabzadeh were the members of the jury at the exhibition.

A selection of the accepted images and winning photos will be showcased for the public in an exhibit at the Roudaki Photo Club in Dushanbe on April 26.

London Lift-Off Festival Hosts Iran's 'A Man Escaped'

TEHRAN (MNA) – A Man Escaped by Ali Ameri has managed to enter the competition section of the London Lift-Off Film Festival.

Directed by Iranian filmmaker Ali Ameri, the short film A Man Escaped or The Wind Bloweth Where It Wants has managed to compete at London Lift-Off Film Festival at First-Time Filmmaker Sessions category held in February 2021, which is currently underway online.

The film is centered on a man who is ensnared in a dungeon



(whether objective or subjective), and tries to endure the pains and sufferings of imprisonment as well as his loneliness, but...

The film's cast and crew include Screenwriter, Director and Production Designer: Ali Ameri, Actor, and Line Producer: Iman Hamidi; Director of Photography and Lighting: Sam Solaimani; Editor: Farshad Shahla'ei; Music: Franz Schubert - Piano Sonata No. 20, Andantino (1828); Running Time: 13:20 minutes.

Hydrogel Injection to Help Heal Heart

DUBLIN (Dispatches) -- International researchers have developed an injectable hydrogel that could help repair and prevent further damage to the heart muscle after a heart attack.

The project involved the development and testing of an elastin-based hydrogel derived from a naturally occurring biomaterial in the human body

The hydrogel is based on a family of unique biomaterials, called elastin-like recombinamers, that BIO-FORGE-UVa had developed in the search for advanced hydrogels for regenerative medicine. It was developed to mimic the environment around the heart following an infarction and then customised to have the ability to protect and promote regeneration of the cardiac tissue

The international research team, which included researchers from Ireland, Spain, Sweden, France and Italy, were able to show that if their hydrogel was in-

jected into the heart muscle shortly after a heart attack, it resulted in less fibrosis (scarring of the cardiac tissue) and an increase in the generation of new blood vessels in the area.



Picture of the Day



The "Little Iran Park" that represents the cultural diversity of various Iranian ethnic groups was inaugurated by President Hassan Rouhani along with some other projects nationwide via video-conferencing.

Courtesy of Mehr New Agency