

This Day in History

(February 28)

Today is Sunday; 10th of the Iranian month of Esfand 1399 solar hijri; corresponding to 16th of the Islamic month of Rajab 1442 lunar hijri; and February 28, 2021, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

2223 solar years ago, on this day in 202 BC, the coronation ceremony of Liu Bang as Emperor Gaozu of Han took place, initiating four centuries of the Han Dynasty's rule over China.

1465 lunar years ago, on this day, 23 years before hijra, three days after the birth of Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS) inside the holy Ka'ba, the miracle of the parting and closing of a section of the wall of the symbolic House of God again occurred to the bewilderment of the pagan Arabs of Mecca, as the monotheist lady of the Hashemite Clan, Fatema bint Asad, emerged with the radiant infant in her arms, while her husband Abu Taleb and his nephew Prophet Mohammad (SAWA) eagerly waited outside in anticipation. As the 30-year old Prophet smilingly stepped forward to take his first cousin in his arms, the newborn opened his eyes for the first time since birth and with a smile on his tender lips saw the radiant visage of the Seal of Messengers. This occasion is celebrated all over the Muslim world with festivities.

1393 solar years ago, on this day in 628 AD, the 22nd and last great Sassanid Emperor, Khosrow II, was executed by Mihr Hormozd on the orders of his own son Qobad II (Kavadh), three days after being deposed in the rebellion of the nobles, in the wake of a string of defeats suffered in Egypt, Syria, Turkey, Armenia, and Iraq towards the end of the 26-year long war against Byzantine or the Eastern Roman Empire. Khosrow II titled Pervez, during his 38-year long rule had executed the father of Mihr Hormozd, also made the fatal mistake of tearing the letter of invitation to Islam sent to him from Medina by Prophet Mohammad (SAWA).

903 lunar years ago, on this day in 539 AH, the hadith scholar of Spanish Muslim origin, Mohammad ibn Abdul-Malik ibn Khayroun, passed away. Among his extant works is the book "al-Miftah".

775 solar years ago, on this day in 1246 AD, the Siege of the Spanish Muslim emirate of Ja'en ended in the surrender of the city of the same name to Ferdinand III of Castile after decades of resistance against the encroachment by Christian mercenary forces. It ended over five centuries of glorious Muslim rule that produced scholars and scientists, and brought the Christians closer to the Emirate of Granada, the last bastion of Spanish Muslims which was occupied in 1492.

496 solar years ago, on this day in 1525 AD, the Aztec king, Cuauhtemoc, was treacherously executed by the Spanish occupier of Mexico, Hernan Cortes, the mass murderer of the Amerindian people.

488 solar years ago, on this day in 1533 AD, French statesman and moralist Michel de Montaigne, was born near Bordeaux, France. He created the personal essay. His famous expression is: "nothing is so firmly believed as what we least know."

338 solar years ago, on this day in 1683 AD, French entomologist and academic, René Antoine Ferchault de Réaumur, was born in La Rochelle. He contributed to many different fields, especially the study of insects. He introduced the Réaumur Temperature Scale and died in 1757 at the age of 74.

336 solar years ago, on this day in 1685 AD, French composer, George Frideric Handel, was born. In 1713, he took up residence in England, where he created most of his works. His songs carry religious themes and include such works as "Messiah", and "Samson". He died in 1759.

302 solar years ago, on this day in 1719, Farrukhsiyar, the 9th Moghal Emperor of the Subcontinent, was deposed, blinded and strangled to death at the age of 33, after a 6-year reign, because of plotting against the Seyyed Brothers - Mir Hassan Ali Khan and Mir Husain Ali Khan - whose support had been instrumental in his defeat of his uncle Jahandar Shah and his crowning as king. An exceptionally handsome person, he was devoid of administrative skills, lacked character, and was easily swayed by evil advisors. Although, he checked the Maratha insurgency, because of Mir Husain Ali Khan's prowess, and crushed the rebellion of the Sikhs in the Punjab, it was during his reign that the outlying provinces started the drift towards autonomy - Bengal under Murshid Quli Khan, the Deccan under Asef Jah Nizam ul-Mulk, and Sindh under Noor Mohammad Kalhoro.

124 solar years ago, on this day in 1897 AD, Queen Ranavalona III, the last monarch of Madagascar, was deposed by a French military force two years after France forcibly declared this large island of the coast of southeast Africa to be a protectorate.

99 solar years ago, on this day in 1922 AD, the British were forced to recognize the independence of Egypt, because of the resistance of the Egyptian people against colonial domination. In 1882, the British had occupied the port city of Alexandria and declared weakened Egypt as their protectorate.

74 solar years ago, on this day in 1947 AD, some 30,000 civilians were massacred in Taiwan by the Republican government in one of the worst massacres.

68 solar years ago, on this day in 1953 AD, James Watson and Francis Crick announced to friends that they have determined the chemical structure of DNA.

58 solar years ago, on this day in 1963 AD, India's first president, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, died in office in Delhi at the age of 79 after serving the country as head of state for 13 years.

42 solar years ago, on this day in 1979 AD, the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (God bless him), returned to his seat of learning, holy Qom, after over 14 years in exile abroad, and 28 days after landing in Tehran to lead the people's grassroots movement to victory. In 1964, after his critical speech in Qom against the injustices and anti-Islamic policies of the British-installed and US-backed Pahlavi regime, especially the disgraceful capitulation bill granting immunity to American criminals, he was arrested, brought to Tehran, and forced into exile - first to Turkey and then to holy Najaf in Iraq. On his return this day to Qom, where he had first moved in 1921 and stayed for the next 44 years to learn and then emerge as a leading Marja' or Source of Emulation, he took up residence in a modest house. Several months later, responsibilities of supervising the smooth functioning of the Islamic Republic system in the face of internal and external plots, made him take up residence in Tehran for the remaining ten years of his fruitful life.

35 solar years ago, on this day in 1986 AD, Olof Palme, 26th Prime Minister of Sweden, was assassinated in Stockholm. He was shot to death in central Stockholm. In 1996 South African former police officer Eugene de Kock said that Craig Williamson, a South African spy, was involved in the murder. In 1997 lawyer Pelle Svensson said that his client, Lars Tingstrom, wrote a statement on his deathbed in prison in 1993 that he had committed the killing. The family was convinced that Christer Pettersson, a drug addict and alcoholic, was the killer.

33 solar years ago, on this day, in 1988 AD, following repeated defeats of the Ba'hist invaders at the Iranian borders, Saddam unleashed cowardly missile attacks on residential areas of Tehran and other cities. These US-supported dastardly missile attacks continued for almost 45 days, but failed to break the resistance of the Iranian people. As many as 16 missiles hit Tehran this day. It was the 4th time during the 8-year imposed war that Saddam had attacked Iranian cities.

29 solar years ago, on this day in 1991 AD, ceasefire was declared by the US against Iraq, thereby ending the 40-day war against the Ba'hist forces of Saddam for their occupation of Kuwait.

18 solar years ago, on this day in 2002 AD, Hindu mobs in Gujarat state of India massacred at least 96 Muslims as they burned shops and attacked residences in Ahmadabad. A mob descended on the Gulberg Society, a cluster of homes in Ahmadabad, brutally killing 68 people including former member of the Indian parliament, Ahsan Jafari. In 2007 videotaped confessions showed Hindu activists acknowledging their roles in the killings and detailing blatant state collusion. In 2011 a court sentenced 31 Hindus to life imprisonment for killing dozens of Muslims by setting a building on fire in a village in Mehsana district. Some 33 Muslims, including 20 women who had taken shelter there, were burned alive.

'Tiles and Kashan' on Display at France's Chirac Museum



Kashan Tiles and Architectural Design in Iran, c. 1200-1330.

TEHRAN (Honaronline) - The Anthropological Museum of Paris, 'Quai Branly Jacques Chirac', has added eight pieces of tiles from the collection of "tiles and Kashan" by Abbas Akbari in two separate panels of five and three.

The works found in this museum from the 'Tiles and Kashan' collection are a reflection of cultural metamorphosis, which is engraved on the body of Shamse (a solar abject in Iranian art) and Chalipa (cross tile or lines in Iranian

artsy forms) by the Zarrinfam (golden glaze) technique. The display of these metamorphoses on the tile body, although with the medieval Islamic pottery techniques of Kashan, reflects part of the situation affecting contemporary life; A situation reminiscent of today's environmental and cultural crises using the artistic techniques of past centuries.

The Jacques Chirac Museum is the result of the idea and efforts of the former and late French President, whose fascination with the art of various communities was the main reason for the construction of such a museum near the Eiffel Tower. The museum was first headed by Louis Strauss, a world-renowned mythologist.

Abbas Akbari is a faculty member of the Architecture and Art School of the University of Kashan. He was chosen as the first representative of Iran for the membership of the international academy and, last August, received the bronze medal in Ceramic Exhibition of Croatia and his 4th international prize in recent years.

Recently, works by Akbari with an improvisational writing approach have attracted the attention of the Oxford, Victoria, and Albert Museums in London and made those works way to the permanent section.

Iranian Feature En Route to Indian Festival

TEHRAN (IFILM) --- The Pune International Film Festival (PIFF) in India has been set to host Iranian feature 'No Choice'.

The movie will be among the competition titles at the 19th edition of the Indian fest, to be held online due to the coronavirus pandemic.

'No Choice' is a movie on women and their issues in the society.

The film has a famous cast list that includes Parsa Pirouzfard, Negar Javaherian, Fatemeh Motamed-Arya, Parivash Nazariyeh, Homayoun



Iranian actor Parsa Pirouzfard in a scene from the film 'No Choice'.

Ershadi, Reza Behboudi, and Pardis Ahmadih.

It has already taken part in various global events such as the Tokyo International Film Festival in Japan, the Chennai International Film Fest in India, and the Asiatica Film Festival in Italy.

The PIFF aims to create a healthy film culture in Pune which is a city in the Indian state of Maharashtra.

The festival brings the best of the global cinema to the city and sparks a cultural exchange.

The 19th edition of the event is slated for March 4-11, 2021.

Director Interested in Joint Film Production With Turkey

TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Acclaimed Iranian female director Narges Abyar has shown her eagerness to direct a joint movie in Turkish cinema.

In a media interview with Turkey-based Anadolu Agency, the director said, "I want to have a joint project in the Turkish cinema. In recent years, Turkish cinema has also made good progress and I follow Turkish filmmakers' works.

She considered Turkish and Iranian cinema more advanced than other neighboring countries, adding, "Women filmmakers have recently emerged in Afghanistan, but the movement is still young. We do not see a significant cinematic work from female directors in Pakistan as well. In the Middle East, Turkey and Iran have female directors working in cinema.

Ifilm has aired three mov-

ies by the director that include 'Track 13', 'Breath' and 'When the Moon Was Full'. All these titles have received awards at national and international festivals.



Iranian filmmaker Narges Abyar is keen on cinematic collaboration with Turkey.

Picture of the Day



Niloufar Fallahfar's latest collection of paintings is being showcased in an exhibition at Bavan Gallery. The exhibit will continue until March 12.

Courtesy of Honaronline