

This Day in History

(August 1)

Today is Saturday; 11th of the Iranian month of Mordad 1399 solar hijri; corresponding to 11th of the Islamic month of Zil-Hijjah 1441 lunar hijri; and August 1, 2020, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

2050 solar years ago, on this day in 30 BC, Roman general Octavian (later Emperor Augustus Caesar), entered Alexandria, Egypt, bringing it under control of the Roman Republic, after defeating his rival Marcus Antonius, who committed suicide.

2050 solar years ago, on this day in 30 BC, Roman general and politician, Marcus Antonius (Mark Antony) committed suicide in Egypt at the age of 53 on being defeated by his former friend and now rival Octavian (Augustus Caesar). Antony was a confidante and military commander in the conquest of Gaul (France) of the famous Roman dictator, Julius Caesar, on whose assassination in 44 BC, he formed a triumvirate with Marcus Lepidus and Octavian (Caesar's maternal grandnephew and adopted son) to defeat the assassins – who were supported by the Parthian Empire of Iran.

1493 solar years ago, on this day in 527 AD, Justin I became the sole ruler of the Byzantine or Eastern Roman Empire.

1416 lunar years ago, on this day in 25 AH, the famous Dua Sabah or the Morning Supplication to God Almighty, which is a treasure-trove of spiritual, philosophical, theological and related values, was written by the Commander of the Faithful, Prophet Mohammad's (SAWA) divinely-designated Heir, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS). According to a narration in Allamah Majlisi's encyclopedic work *"Behar al-Anwaar"*, a leather scroll written in Kufic style of calligraphy bearing the signet of Imam Ali (AS). Over the centuries several commentaries have been written on this Supplication and the mysteries of monotheism it contains.

1234 lunar years ago, on this day in 207 AH, the well-known Muslim historian and narrator of hadith, Abu Abdullah Waqedi, died in Baghdad. It is said that he copied the works of Ibrahim bin Mohammad bin Abi Yahya, a disciple of the Prophet's 6th Infallible Heir, Imam Ja'far as-Sadeq (AS), by attributing them to himself. Among his works is the book titled *"al-Maghazi"* on the campaigns of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA). He is the author of another renowned work, *"Akhbar al-Makkah"* or the History of Mecca.

1118 solar years ago, on this day in 902 AD, Taormina, the last Byzantine stronghold on the island of Sicily off the coast of Italy, surrendered to Muslims led by the Aghlabids, the Abbasid governors of the Province of Ifriqiyya, whose forces had already established themselves in Sicily since 827. The first Muslims to arrive in Sicily were Syrians, way back in 652.

1074 solar years ago, on this day in 946 AD, Ali Ibn Isa Ibn Da'ud al-Jarrah, the famous Iranian vizier of the Abbasid dynasty, died at the age of 87. Descended from a family with long history of service at the Abbasid court, he served as vizier from 913-to-917, 918-to-923, and 927-to-928.

372 solar years ago, on this day in 1648 AD, the independence of Switzerland was recognized by the Treaty of Westphalia following the end of the 30-Year War in Europe. Landlocked Switzerland covers an area of 41293 sq km and is situated in Central Europe. It shares borders with Germany, Italy, Austria, and Liechtenstein.

356 solar years ago, on this day in 1664 AD, Ottoman forces were defeated in the battle of Saint Gotthard in what is now western Hungary by an army of Austrian and allied forces, resulting in the Peace of Vasvar that lasted for almost 20 years until the Second Siege of Vienna by the Turks in 1683.

276 solar years ago, on this day in 1744 AD, French biologist and naturalist, Jean-Baptiste Lamarck, was born. He catapulted to fame with his book on plants of France titled *"Flore Francaise"*. His next book was a scientific lexicon. He conducted research on live invertebrates and fossils, and wrote the book, titled: *"Zoological Philosophy: Exposition with Regard to the Natural History of Animals"*. He died in 1829.

201 solar years ago, on this day in 1819 AD, Herman Melville, US novelist, short story writer, and poet, was born in New York. His best known work is his whaling novel *"Moby-Dick"* (1851), in which he drew his own experiences as a sailor.

126 solar years ago, on this day in 1894 AD, the First Sino-Japanese War erupted between Japan and China over Korea.

111 solar years ago, on this day in 1909 AD, Ayatollah Shaikh Fazlollah Noori was martyred in Tehran through hanging by agents of colonial powers. He strove to promote justice in society, playing a leading role in the Constitutional Movement against the despotism of the Qajarid kings. After formation of the first national parliament and drafting of the Constitution, he voiced his protest to some of its clauses which were contrary to Islam. He staged a sit-in at the shrine of Hazrat Abdul-Azim al-Hassani in Ray, south of Tehran, along with other leading activists, ending the protest when parliament promised not to contradict the shar'ia. Colonial agents plotted against him and martyred him on trumped up charges.

106 solar years ago, on this day in 1914 AD, with Germany's declaration of war against Russia, World War I broke out.

97 lunar years ago, on this day in 1344 AH, the great Gnostic, Ayatollah Mirza Jawad Maliki Tabriz, passed away. His works include *"al-Muraqabaat"*, *"Asraar as-Salaat"* and *"Risalay-e Liqaollah"*.

86 lunar years ago, on this day in 1355 AH, prominent Islamic scholar of India, Seyed Abu'l-Hassan Ali, titled Mumtaz ul-Ulema, passed away in his hometown Lucknow. Son of the scholar Seyed Ibrahim Shams ul-Ulema, for higher studies he went to holy Najaf in Iraq, where his teachers were such leading scholars as Ayatollah Seyyed Kazem Yazdi, Akhund Mullah Mohammad Kazem Khorasani, Sheikh Zain ol-Abedini Mazandarani, and Ziya od-Din Iraqi. On his return to India he spent his time in teaching, and writing books, such as *"Ithbat an-Nubuwwa"* on Prophethood.

60 solar years ago, on this day in 1960 AD, Benin in West Africa declared its independence from French colonial rule that had started in 1892. Called Dahomey by the French, Benin has a coastline on the Atlantic Ocean and covers an area of over 112,000 sq km, sharing borders with Nigeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Togo.

60 solar years ago, on this day in 1960 AD, newly built Islamabad was declared capital of Pakistan, replacing nearby Rawalpindi. Following partition of the Subcontinent, the port city of Karachi had initially served as capital.

32 solar years ago, on this day in 1988 AD, the UN fact-finding team to Iran and Iraq, published two reports, announcing that the repressive Ba'ath minority regime of Saddam had used chemical weapons against Iran several times during the 8-year US-imposed war. This was the first admission of the UN about the wide-scale use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi army against Iran. Nonetheless, the UN Security Council did not issue any resolution against Saddam's use of internationally banned chemical weapons against Iran. During the imposed war, Saddam frequently attacked both Iranian combatants and civilians with toxic weapons, but the West which had equipped him with these illegal arsenal, turned a blind eye to his crimes against humanity. For this reason, hours after release of reports by the UN probe team, Iraqi jetfighters chemically bombarded the western Iranian city of Oshnavieh, injuring 2,400 civilians. The UN fact-finding team also confirmed the occurrence of the Iraqi attack that took place after acceptance of ceasefire by Iran.

30 solar years ago, on this day in 1990 AD, prominent Iranian musician, Morteza Nay-Davoud, died at the age of 90. A student of Gholam-Hussein Darvish, in addition to cooperation with the national radio network, he founded a school of music, and groomed students.

13 solar years ago, on this day in 1427 AH, Ayatollah Mirza Jawad Tabrizi passed away at the age of 82 in Qom and was laid to rest in the holy mausoleum of Hazrat Ma'souma (SA). He wrote several including *"Irshad at-Taleb"*, *"Tabaqaat ar-Rejaal"* (Biography of Narrators) and the 6-volume *"Siraat an-Najaat"* (Path of Salvation).

Spanish Festival Crowns 'Malakout' as Best Short Film



A still from Iranian short animated piece 'Malakout'.

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iranian short animated piece 'Malakout', directed by Farnoosh Abedi, has won the Best Short Film Award at the 14th edition of the Cryptshow Festival in Barcelona,

Spain. The animation is about a piano player who tries to bring his wife back to life but the deal awakens the devil inside him.

'Malakout' recently received the honorary diploma at the Silk Road International Film Festival (SRIFF) in Dublin, Ireland. It has also won the best animation award at the first edition of the Black Country Horror Shorts Film Festival in the UK.

The animation won the first place in two sections, namely the Mixed-Media/Experimental Animation and the Audience Favorites at the Florida Animation Festival.

Earlier this month, 'Malakout' got accepted into DaVinci International Film Festival (DIFF) in the US, and the competition program of the 35th edition of the Guadalajara International Film Festival in Mexico. The Iranian animation will be qualified for the next year's Academy Awards if it manages to win the best animation award at this festival.

Cryptshow Festival is an initiative that promotes the fantasy genre and terror. Every July fill Badalona de Zombies, aliens, vampires and serial killers most infamous.

Iranian Film Honored in Portuguese Festival

TEHRAN (IFILM) – The 2020 Avanca Film Festival in Portugal has lauded Iranian short film 'The Heavy Shadows of the Crow'.

Behnam Asadollahi's short title won a Special Mention from the jury of the 24th edition of the event.

According to ifilm English earlier reports, Hamed Tehrani's 'Diapason' was also the big winner of the Avanca Film Festival.

A tagline for 'The Heavy Shadows of the Crow' reads, "And the Humans



grow out of the soil". Asadollahi's short flick

had been earlier screened at the 10th Baku Interna-

tional Short Film Festival in Azerbaijan, the 13th FILMSAAZ Film Festival in India as well as the 2020 Gatffest Film Festival (formerly the Greater August Town Film Festival) in Jamaica.

The Avanca Film Festival, as put by the event's official website, "Seeks to trace the perspective of contemporary cinema, television, video, and multimedia production."

The festival was held as a drive-in on July 17-26, 2020.

Early Blood Test for Alzheimer's Disease

STOCKHOLM (Dispatches) – A new blood test demonstrated remarkable promise in discriminating between persons with and without Alzheimer's disease and in persons at known genetic risk may be able to detect the disease as early as 20 years before the onset of cognitive impairment, according to a large international study.

For many years, the diagnosis of Alzheimer's has been based on the characterization of amyloid plaques and tau tangles in the brain, typically after a person dies. An inexpensive and widely available blood test for the presence of plaques and tangles would have a profound impact on Alzheimer's research and care. According to the new study, measurements of phospho-tau217 (p-tau217), one of the tau proteins found in tangles, could provide a relatively sensitive and accurate indicator of both plaques and tangles -- corresponding to the diagnosis of Alzheimer's -- in living people.

"The p-tau217 blood test has great promise in the diagnosis, early detection, and study of Alzheimer's," said Oskar Hansson, MD, PhD, Professor of Clinical Memory Research at Lund University, Sweden, who leads the Swedish BioFINDER Study and senior author on the study who spearheaded the

international collaborative effort. "While more work is needed to optimize the assay and test it in other people before it becomes available in the clinic, the blood test might become especially useful to improve the recognition, diagnosis, and care of people in the primary care setting."



Picture of the Day



A virtual art exhibition by Mohammad-Bagher Ziaei, titled *Be Healthy*, is underway in Afrand Gallery until 10 August. Ziaei has used organic materials and colors for his paintings.

Courtesy of Honaronline