

This Day in History

(October 27)

Today is Tuesday; 6th of the Iranian month of Aban 1399 solar hijri; corresponding to 10th of the Islamic month of Rabi al-Awwal 1442 lunar hijri; and October 27, 2020, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

1487 lunar years ago, on this day, 45 years before Hijra, Abdul-Mutaleb, the paternal grandfather of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA), passed away in Mecca, when the grandson was only 8 years old. He was leader of the Quraysh tribe descended from Prophet Ishmael, and was known for his eloquence and virtues as a firm monotheist following the creed of his ancestor, Prophet Abraham (AS). He was in charge of the custodianship of the Holy Ka'ba which he had received through his father, Hashem, and his illustrious forbears. He was the guardian of his grandson, the future Prophet, following the death of the latter's parents, Abdullah and Amena bint Wahb (SA). Eight years before Abdul-Mutaleb's death, the Ethiopian Christian governor of Yemen, Abraha, had marched on Mecca riding an elephant with the intention of destroying the holy Ka'ba. Abraha's army seized Abdul-Mutaleb's herd of camels on assumption that this will make him plead for the safety of the Ka'ba. Abdul-Mutaleb, however, only asked for the release of his camel herd, and when Abraha asked him why he does not plead for the Ka'ba, he replied: I am the owner of these camels, and the Ka'ba has its own owner (God); He will take care of its safety. Soon Abraha, his elephant and his army were miraculously attacked by a flock of birds pelting them with pebbles, which routed the formidable forces and reduced them to chewed straw as the holy Qur'an records in "Surah al-Feel". The Prophet was born in the same year of this divine miracle. On his grandfather's death, his guardianship was taken over by his loving uncle, Abu Taleb, the consanguineous brother of his father Abdullah.

1470 lunar years ago, on this day, 28 years before Hijra, the marriage of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA) and Hazrat Khadija (SA) took place in Mecca. Known as "Maleekat al-Arab" (Queen of Arabia), because of her proverbial wealth that she had accumulated through trade caravans, Khadija (SA) was a pure, monotheistic and chaste lady (Tahera). Impressed by the honesty and truthfulness of her trade manager, her distant relative the future Prophet, who did not possess any material wealth, she proposed marriage to him. The two made an excellent husband-and-wife pair. Fifteen years later, when God formally ordained Prophet Mohammad (SAWA) as the Last and Greatest Messenger to mankind, she immediately believed in the mission of her husband and thereafter spent all her wealth for feeding and sheltering the persecuted Muslim community of Mecca, to the extent that when she passed away, nothing was left of her wealth or any inheritance for her only surviving daughter, the noblest lady of all time, Hazrat Fatema Zahra (SA). For over 25 long years, as the "Omm al-Momineen" (Mother of Believers), Hazrat Khadija (SA) was the one and only wife of the Prophet, and as long as she lived he never took another spouse. Even in the last ten years of his life in Medina when out of social necessity and to break the absurd customs of the days of ignorance, the middle aged Prophet had to marry several wives, he always used to cherish the memory of Khadija (SA), his firm support and the mother of his progeny, the Ahl al-Bayt.

1310 solar years ago, on this day in 710 AD, the first Arab invasion of Sardinia in the Mediterranean Sea took place, and the conquest was completed in 720, making it part of the world of Islam. Muslim rule lasted three centuries until 1016.

1263 lunar years ago, on this day in 179 AH, the jurispudent Malek bin Anas passed away in his hometown Medina at the age of 84. For some time, along with his Iranian contemporary Abu Hanifa, he studied under Imam Ja'far Sadeq (AS), the 6th Infallible Heir of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA). He describes Imam Sadeq (AS) as the doyen of knowledge and wisdom, whom none could equal. He later founded the Maleki School of jurisprudence, regarded as one of the four official Sunni schools. His collection of hadith is titled "al-Muwatta", although many narrations are of doubtful chains.

1113 lunar years ago, on this day in 329 AH, Raazi-Billah, the 20th self-styled caliph of the usurper Abbasid regime, died. A cultured person, well versed in literature and poetry, he returned the vast orchard of Fadak to the Prophet's descendants.

977 lunar years ago, on this day in 465 AH, Alp Arslan the second and most powerful ruler of the Iran-based Seljuq empire that encompassed Iraq, Afghanistan, parts of Turkey, Syria, Caucasus and Central Asia, died at the age of 44 after a 9-year reign, during which at the Battle of Manzikert he decisively defeated and captured Emperor Romanos IV Diogenes of Byzantine. His real name was Mohammad bin Dawoud Chaghri and his title Alp Arslan means Brave Lion in Turkish. He was assisted in running his administration by the able Iranian vizier, Nizam ol-Molk Tusi.

689 solar years ago, on this day in 1331 AD, the historian, geographer, and statesman, Abu'l-Fida Isma'il Ibn Ali al-Hamawi, died at the age of 58.

571 solar years ago, on this day in 1449 AD, the prominent astronomer-king of the Timurid dynasty, Mirza Mohammad Taraghay Ulugh Beg, was killed by his rebellious son, Abdul-Latif "Pidarkush" (Persian for Killer of Father), while on his way to Mecca for pilgrimage after being deposed, after a reign of two years as king, and 38 years as absolute governor of Transoxiana (today's Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, and southern Kazakhstan). The crater "Ulugh Beg", on the Moon, is named after him.

467 solar years ago, on this day in 1553 AD, Spanish physician, Michael Servetus, was burned at the stake in Geneva by the Christian Church at the age of 42 for studying the holy Qur'an, raising objections to the belief in Trinity and borrowing from Latin translations of the works of Islamic scientists to determine the correct circulation of blood in the human body.

415 solar years ago, on this day in 1605 AD, Mohammad Jalal od-Din Akbar, the 3rd Moghal Emperor of the Northern Subcontinent, died at the age of 63 after a 50-year reign.

115 solar years ago, on this day in 1905 AD, Norway seceded from Sweden to become independent.

110 solar years ago, on this day in 1910 AD, the Korean Peninsula was occupied by Japan after the defeat of Russia and China in successive wars.

62 solar years ago, on this day in 1958 AD, Pakistan's president, Iskander Mirza, was deposed in a bloodless coup by General Ayub Khan, whom Mirza had appointed martial law enforcer 20 days earlier. Iskander Mirza belonged to the princely family of Iranian origin of Murshidabad in Bengal. He died in London and was buried in Iran in the mausoleum of Seyyed Abdul-Aziz al-Hassani (AS) in Rayy, south of Tehran.

39 solar years ago, on this day in 1981 AD, the Father of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA), rejected outright the proposal of the then Saudi Heir Apparent, Fahd bin Abdul-Aziz, to try to legitimize the illegal existence of the Zionist entity under guise of a so-called peace plan. Imam Khomeini's timely and decisive stand that was hailed by Muslims worldwide made many Muslim countries reject the Fahd Plan. The Imam's foresight was proved true years later when the Zionist entity continued to violate the agreements it had reached with the compromising faction of the Palestinians who despite giving more and more concessions to Israel remain isolated and deprived of their basic birthrights.

29 solar years ago, on this day in 1991 AD Turkmenistan's independence from the Soviet Union was ratified.

15 solar years ago, on this day in 2005 AD, Iran launched its Sina-1 satellite from the Plesetsk launch pad in northern Russia, a major step in the country's space programme. Sina-1 gave Iran space reconnaissance capability over the entire Middle East. Soon Iran built its own satellite launching pads and has since taken giant steps in space technology.

'Speaker' Receives Honorable Mention at Portuguese Festival



TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Iranian short flick 'Speaker' has garnered the Short Film Honorable Mention at the 9th edition of the Family Film Project film festival in Portugal.

Directed by Behnam Asadollahi, the short film narrates the story of a group of men who are in a pool and a loud voice coming from a speaker is annoying them.

Jury's statement about the short flick reads, "For presenting us an original snapshot of Iranian reality with irony, humor and visual richness. For the sophistication, originality and surprise of being able to condense in five minutes social and aesthetic, narrative and cinematographic aspects in an authorial and clever way."

Written by Reza Jamali, the cast of the film includes Rasoul Alinejad, Peyman Khodaei, and Shapour Ekrami.

Asadollahi has so far made more than 22 short films, several series and documentaries.

The Family Film Project festival hosts films from around the world and holds various cultural events and conferences.

The 2020 edition of the event was held on October 14-17.

Renowned Artist Moayeri Dies at 81

TEHRAN(HONARONLINE) - Iranian painter, Miniaturist and sculptor Abbas Moayeri died at his home in Paris, France on October 24. He was 81.

Abbas Moayeri was an outstanding painter, miniaturist as well as sculptor.

Born in 1939 in Rasht, Gilan Province, Moayeri chose Paris to stay in 1970.

He studied Persian miniature under the instruction and supervision of several art masters such as Hossein Behzad, the renowned Persian miniaturist of the 20th century, Mohammad Ali Zavieh, and Ismail Ashtiani in the field of painting.

Moayeri received his baccalaureate in « Traditional Arts » in 1960, from the School of Fine Arts in Teheran, and his bachelor's degree in « Sculpture » in 1967, from the Faculty of Decorative Arts in Teheran; further more, he obtained his Master's degree in « Sculpture » with honors in 1968.

As the successor of Hossein Behzad, he taught Persian miniature from 1967 to 1970 at the « School of Fine Arts »



in Teheran. Since 1970, Abbas Moayeri lived in Paris, pursuing the same field and determined to preserve the basic and artistic aspects of this traditional Iranian Art. In 1984 he created courses of Persian miniature at « A.D.A.C. » (Association

for the Development of Cultural Activities) in Paris, in order to introduce this noble art of his native land. He taught at « A.D.A.C. » and « Paris Ateliers » (successor of A.D.A.C.) for 30 years, conveying his valuable experience to admirers of this particular painting style. He also taught the Persian miniature at the Cultural Center « A.M.O.R.C. » in Paris, from 1989 to 1997. His frequent lectures on the techniques and history of Persian miniature, show his attachment for perpetuating this tradition. Also, his enthusiasm in his artistic activities led former French president Jacques Chirac to invite him to work as a professor of Iranian art in Paris.

Iranian Photographers Winners at German COVID-19 Exhibition

TEHRAN (MNA) – Having a collection of 12-frame works, 2 Iranian photographers have managed to gain first place at an art exhibition in Germany.

Spreading of the Coronavirus around the world has made documentary photographers in different countries to record the effects and changes of the societies, the people, and the customs amid the pandemic.

In this regard, Germany decided to hold a competition among other countries of the world, to bring together the total works of photographers with the theme of coronavirus.

Many photographers from 37 countries participated in this competition and submitted their works to the global competition.

Among these countries, 9 cities including Kyiv, Tehran, Cairo, Mumbai, Rome, New York, London, and cities in Germany and Austria entered the competition.

Having a collection of 12-frame works, 2 Iranian photographers Ali Haddadi Asl and Zohreh Salimi gained first place in this exhibition.

The exhibition of "Empty Spaceshuttle & Social Dis-

tancing" will be on display from October 21 at the Pasinger Fabrik Cultural Center in Munich in three sections of Places, Humans, and Crisis Signs, and it will run until November 29.



Picture of the Day



Having been built by Iranian engineers, the first arched and longest glass suspension bridge in West Asia is located in the Ardabil province of Iran.

Courtesy of Mehr News Agency