

This Day in History

(March 14)

Today is Saturday; 23rd of the Iranian month of Esfand 1393 solar hijri; corresponding to 23rd of the Islamic month of Jamadi al-Awwal 1436 lunar hijri; and March 14, 2015, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

234 solar years ago, on this day in 1781 AD, after only two years as ruler of Iran, Sadeq Khan Zand was killed by Ali Murad Khan Zand – who was to be killed himself four years later by his victim’s son, Ja’far Khan Zand. The fratricide amongst the Zands brought about the collapse of the 44-year dynasty founded by Nader Shah’s general, Karim Khan, who reigned for 29 years by placing Ismail III Safavi as a figurehead. In 1794, Agha Mohammad Khan Qajar established the Qajarid dynasty by eliminating the Zands.

136 solar years ago, on this day in 1879 AD, on this day in 1879 AD, the prominent physicist-mathematician, Albert Einstein, was born in Germany. He became a Swiss citizen in 1905. The same year he published three articles, which laid the foundation of three new branches in physics. In 1912 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for physics, given his studies on photons. In 1917, he published the general relativity theory, which led to new viewpoints in sciences. In 1933, he migrated to the US to escape Adolf Hitler’s totalitarian rule. As the forerunner of the age of atom, his theories became highly influential in development of nuclear studies, including the manufacture of atomic bombs. He was very disappointed after he realized that unintentionally he had set the stage for development of weapons of mass destruction by the US. He died in 1955, and it is said that in his closing years he was no longer an atheist but his viewpoints had moved closer to the concept of God and spiritual values in Islam, especially in accordance with the school of the Ahl al-Bayt of Prophet Mohammad (SAWA).

132 solar years ago, on this day in 1883 AD, the German philosopher and founder of Marxism, Karl Marx, died at the age of 65. He initially studied law and later history and philosophy. For a while, he was the editor-in-chief of a publication, and in cooperation with his compatriot, Friedrich Engels, published his beliefs in the book *“The Communist Manifesto”*. Two years later, Marx was banished from Germany due to political activities and took up residence in England for the rest of his life. His other important book is *“Das Capital”*. The core philosophy of Marxism is materialism. According to his theory with the rise of the working class, capitalism will end and a proletariat dictatorship will be formed, before giving way to a uniformed community. Marx’s thoughts were presented in different frameworks for more than a century across the world. With the collapse of the Communist Soviet Union in 1991, Marx’s thoughts were exposed as baseless. The process of world developments has proved the falsity of Marx’s interpretation of history and community.

129 lunar years ago, on this day in 1307 AH, the Islamic scholar of Northern India, Seyyed Mohammad Ibrahim, titled “Seyyed ul-Ulema” passed away. To him goes the credit of persuading the British occupiers of the city of Lucknow to vacate the grand Asefi Mosque, the Alamgir Mosque and the magnificent Asefi Imambara (Hussainiyya), which they defiled for 27 years, using it as a gunpowder storage house, following their forcing into exile of the last King of Awadh, Wajed Ali Shah of the Naishapuri Dynasty founded by the Iranian adventurer, Seyyed Mohammad Amin Musavi entitled Sa’adat Khan Burhan ol-Mulk. After return of these religious structures to the Shi’ite Muslims Seyyed ul-Ulema revived the congregational prayers at the two mosques and the mourning ceremonies for the Martyr of Karbala, Imam Husain (AS) at the Hussainiyya. Soon the Friday and Eid Prayers were revived at the Asefi Mosque. Over a century earlier, it was Seyyed ul-Ulema’s famous ancestor, Seyyed Dildar Ali Naqavi Naseerabadi, who had led the first exclusive public congregational prayers of Shi’ite Muslims in Lucknow on 13th Rajab 1200 AH, on the birth anniversary of the Commander of the Faithful, Prophet Mohammad’s (SAWA) First Infallible Heir, Imam Ali (AS), followed by establishment of the weekly Friday prayers.

61 solar years ago, on this day in 1954 AD, the Battle of Dien Bien Phu, which determined the fate of French colonial forces in Indochina, started. In this battle, the Viet Minh forces, fighting for Vietnam’s independence, clashed with French colonial troops, who had sheltered in the Dien Bien Phu Castle. Finally, on May 7, following the submission of the French commander, Colonel Christian de Castries, and the triumph of Viet Minh forces, the battle terminated and French colonial rule over Vietnam ended.

53 solar years ago, on this day in 1962 AD, the courageous religious leader and well-known political figure of Iran’s contemporary history, Ayatollah Seyyed Abu’l-Qasem Kashani, passed away. He attained the status of Ijtihad – independent reasoning based on Holy Qur’an and Hadith – at the Najaf Seminary at a young age, simultaneous with his struggles against British colonial rule over Iraq, in the company of other ulema. He was expelled from Iraq by the British, and on arriving in Iran, he launched his struggle against British colonial infiltration, which led to his imprisonment for several years. Following his release, the people of Tehran elected him to the parliament. With Ayatollah Kashani’s support for Dr. Mohammad Mosaddeq and the continued struggles of the masses, Iran’s oil industry was nationalized and Mosaddeq was chosen as the Prime Minister. But, when the Shah appointed the British stooge, Qawwam os-Saltanah, as the Premier; Ayatollah Kashani issued a statement calling on the people to enter the scene. As a result, the July 21, 1952 uprising took place. The terrified Shah removed Qawwam and Dr. Mosaddeq was reinstated as the Premier. Following the US-staged coup in 1953 and the fugitive Shah’s return to Iran, his agents put Ayatollah Kashani under surveillance until his death on this day, after his lifelong struggles against domestic despotism and foreign hegemony.

37 solar years ago, on this day in 1978 AD, the Zionist army invaded and occupied southern Lebanon, in what it called Operation Litani, on the pretext of stopping attacks by Palestinian combatants. The invasion, resulting in the massacre of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians, brought the region south of River Litani under complete control of the usurper state of Israel, which deprived the Lebanese of river waters. When UN Security Council Resolution 425 stationed 4,000 peace-keepers and forced the Zionists to withdraw, Israel formed a Christian militia under its Lebanese agent, S’ad Haddad in order to have presence by proxy. In 1982, the Zionists once again attacked and occupied southern Lebanon, resulting in the massacre of over 5,000 Palestinian men, women, and children in the refugee camps of Sabra and Shatilla. However, with the emergence of the legendary anti-terrorist movement, the Hezbollah, and its heroic resistance, Israel was forced to pull back from the outskirts of Beirut, and in 2000, it finally retreated from Lebanese soil, although some farmlands are still under occupation.

(Courtesy: IRIB English Radio – <http://english.irib.ir>)

Next Einstein May Be an Iranian Woman

NEW YORK (IRNA) - The scientific discovery engine ‘Sparrho’ has identified Iran’s ‘Zahra Haghani’ as being the potential future Einstein.

According to Forbes report, Sparrho has analyzed the writings of the 27-year-old Iranian university scholar Haghani and determined that she was one of several writers who were statistically most similar to Einstein.

The young Iranian scientist is currently an assistant professor at Damghan University.

Haghani’s research interests include modified gravity, its time evolutions and their ap-



Assistant professor at Damghan University ‘Zahra Haghani’.

plications in cosmology.

She has received an honorable mention in the Gravity Research Foundation Essay contest 2014 for the paper Matter may Matter.

Sparrho is a scientific recommendation engine providing personalized scientific news-feeds by using proprietary machine learning algorithms.

It checks more than 10,000 sources daily and features more than 1.3 million documents in its database, including the latest articles, patents, videos and even grants.

Through a partnership with The British Library, Sparrho

has access to all of its content dating back to the 1890s.

That allows the company to search Einstein’s work and find all the people who have written similar papers.

The others who were identified as being potential future Einsteins are: Nikodem Poplawski, theoretical physicist at the University of New Haven; Hajime Sotani, a project assistant professor at the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan; Shinji Tsujikawa, associate professor at the Tokyo University of Science; and J. Brian Pitts based at the University of Cambridge.

First Malcolm X Film Festival to Kick Off in Britain

LONDON (Tasnim) – The Malcolm X Movement will hold the first edition of the anti-imperialist Malcolm X Film Festival in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on Saturday.

The Malcolm X Movement (MXM) is a Black & Asian led decolonial anti-imperialist organization that seeks to unite Global South peoples and diaspora.

MXM and supporting organizations will bring to people the first annual Malcolm X Film Festival taking place in seven cities across England including one in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

This is the biggest Black & Asian radical event of its kind to take place in England and perhaps Western Europe for the last generation since the mid-1990s, festival’s organizers told the Tasnim News Agency.

With the steady but increasing power of the Global South against neo-colonialism, with the ‘west’ increasing its covert and overt global war in an attempt to maintain its hegemonic position and with the directly related microcosm of this global war reflected in the increasing oppression and exploitation of Black and Asian and working class peoples in the west, never has there been a more necessary time for the MXM to contribute to the building of communities of resistance in unity with the Global South.

“We in the MXM take inspiration and leadership from Malcolm X who made it plain himself, advocate uniting all peoples against the ‘greatest purveyors of violence in the world’ today which is the neo-colonialism,” organizers said.

The festival is mainly focused on three aspects of Malcolm X’s life, including “Civil Rights & Black Power”, “Global Unity & Internationalism”, and “Legacy, Continuities & Challenges”, with related speeches and interviews from him, especially the last few years of his life.

Ilyasah Shabazz (writer and daughter of Malcolm X), Leila Khaled (a senior Palestine Liberation Organization member), and Dr. Moussa Ibrahim (Libyan Resistance) are among guests and speakers attending the festival.

Malcolm X was an American Muslim minister and a human rights activist known as a courageous advocate for the rights of blacks. He was a man who indicted white America in the harshest terms for its crimes against black Americans, and was assassinated in February 1965 at the age of 39.

The Girl Who Gets Gifts From CROWS

WASHINGTON (Huffington Post) - A young girl has developed a special connection with some very interesting characters.

Gabi Mann, an 8-year-old from Seattle, loves crows and feeds them in her garden every day. But her care for the birds doesn’t go unreciprocated as they often leave small gifts for her on the bird feeder. Gabi has kept a collection of the trinkets she’s received, things like earrings, paper clips, beads and polished rocks.

The 8-year-old’s favorite gift is a pearl-colored heart.

“It’s showing me how much they love me,” she said of the small treasure.

The young bird lover’s relationship with the crows began when she was 4 years old, the outlet reported. The birds would eat the food that she had accidentally dropped. Two years ago, Gabi started feeding the birds daily with dog food and peanuts. The crows began eating the grub and leaving their small tokens of thanks.

While the relationship between Gabi and the crows is a fascinating one, John Marzluff, who has researched the birds, said that crows respond to reward, and that a situation like this isn’t unheard of.

“I can’t say they always will [give presents] but I have seen

an awful lot of things crows have brought people,” Marzluff said. He explained that the presents Gabi’s been receiving isn’t just happenstance. “There’s definitely a two-way communication going on there. They understand each other’s signals.”

The National Audubon Society

in an emailed statement. “So with all of these factors combined, it’s easy to see why they would develop a very interactive and social relationship with this family.”

Some people, like Gabi, have cracked the code to communicating with animals. Mary Krupa, a student at Penn State, began an un-



Gabi Mann keeps her collection of gifts from the birds carefully arranged in bags and pots shown above

agreed with this explanation.

“Crows are amazingly smart, social and playful, and they’re one of the few bird species that’s been documented to have individual human facial recognition,” Audubon Society told The Huffington Post

likely friendship with a squirrel, as the Associated Press reported last year. Krupa has grown so close to her squirrel pal, whom she named Sneezy, that she feeds the critter and dresses it up in hats and costumes.

Picture of the Day



Sistan and Baluchestan bazaar (market) - Sistan and Baluchestan Province – Iran

Courtesy: MNA