

## This Day in History

(August 29)

Today is Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> of the Iranian month of Shahrivar 1397 solar hijri; corresponding to 17<sup>th</sup> of the Islamic month of Zil-Hijjah 1439 lunar hijri; and August 29, 2018, of the Christian Gregorian Calendar.

**1136 lunar years ago**, in 303 AH, Ali ibn Abdullah titled Saif od-Dowla (Sword of the State), the founder of the Hamdanid emirate of Aleppo which included northern Syria and western parts of Iraq, was born in Iraq to Abdullah Abi'l-Hayja, the ruler of Mosul. He was the younger brother of Hassan, titled Naser od-Dowla, the ruler of Mosul, and belonged to the Banu Taghlib Arab tribe. The family followed the school of the Prophet's Ahl al-Bayt and was famous for its patronage of scholars. Saif od-Dowla is famous for his military exploits against the Byzantine Empire, and is considered the epitome of the Islamic-Arab chivalrous ideal.

**1039 solar years ago**, on this day in 979 AD, Fazlollah Abu Taghlib al-Ghazanfar, titled Uddat od-Dowla, the third ruler of the Hamdanid Shi'a Muslim Emirate of Mosul in Iraq, was killed following his defeat in battle near Damascus in Syria.

**951 lunar years ago**, on this day in 488 AH, the famous Spanish Muslim scholar, Mohammad Ibn Nasr al-Andalusi al-Humaydi, passed away in Baghdad at the age of 68. Born on the Mediterranean island of Majorca in a family from Cordoba (Qurtuba), he was a student of Ibn Abd al-Barr and later of Ibn Hazm, under whose influence he adopted the Zahirite School of jurisprudence, founded by Dawoud ibn Khalaf az-Zahiri of Isfahan (that was widespread among Sunni Muslims in Iran, Iraq, Syria, North Africa and Spain before the Turkic rulers forcibly replaced it with the Hanafi School – also founded by an Iranian, Abu Hanifa, the son of a Zoroastrian convert to Islam from Kabul). An outstanding scholar in hadith, history, Arabic grammar and lexicography, he wrote several books.

**883 solar years ago**, on this day in 1135 AD, Mustarshid-Billah, the 29<sup>th</sup> self-styled caliph of the usurper Abbasid regime, after a reign of 17 years, was killed by assassins, believed to be hired by the Seljuqid sultan, Mas'oud, who resented the caliph's bid to assert independence in political affairs. When Mustarshid launched a military campaign against Mas'oud near Hamedan in western Iran, he was deserted by his troops, taken prisoner by the Sultan, but pardoned on promise not to quit the palace. Left in the royal tent, he was found murdered.

**660 lunar years ago**, on this day in 779 AH, Mujahid Shah, the 3rd ruler of the Bahmani Sultanate of the Deccan (southern India) was assassinated at the age of 22 in his capital Gulbarga after a rule of only three years, by his jealous uncle, Daud Shah, who in turn was killed a month later on the orders of his niece Rouh Parwar Agha (sister of the deceased Mujahid Shah) and replaced by her younger brother, Mohammad Shah II.

**497 solar years ago**, on this day in 1521 AD, the Ottoman Turks, a year after accession of Sultan Suleiman, captured Belgrade fort in Serbia and transformed it into a major city in Europe by building schools, libraries, markets, mosques, baths, and other public amenities. Belgrade was a predominantly Muslim city for over three centuries until it was occupied by Christians who destroyed its wonderful Islamic architecture and killed and expelled its mostly European Muslim population.

**492 solar years ago**, on this day in 1526 AD, the Ottoman Turks led by Sultan Suleiman defeated Hungary in the Battle of Mohacs, in which Louis II, the last Jagiellonian king of Hungary and Bohemia, lost his life. The Muslim victory led to the partition of Hungary for several centuries between the Ottoman Empire, and the Habsburg Monarchy of Austria. Only in the 20th century would Hungary regain its political independence.

**477 solar years ago**, on this day in 1541 AD, the Ottoman Turks during the reign of Sultan Suleiman captured Buda, the capital of the Hungarian Kingdom, and for almost the next century-and-a-half ruled it Budin Eyalet.

**414 solar years ago**, on this day in 604 AD, the Iranian empress of Hindustan (northern India), Hamida Banu Begum, died at the age of 77 in Agra and was buried by her son, Moghal Emperor Jalal od-Din Akbar, in Delhi in the mausoleum of her husband, Emperor Naseer od-Din Humayun, who had died half-a-century earlier on his return from Iran and regaining of the kingdom with assistance provided by Safavid Emperor Shah Tahmasp I. She was the daughter of Iranian Shi'a Muslim scholar, Ali Akbar Jami, a descendent of the famous mystic Shaikh Ahmad Jaam of Khorasan. When Humayun lost the throne of Delhi to the Afghan adventurer, Sher Shah Souri, she accompanied her husband to Iran to the court of Shah Tasmasp in Qazvin, visiting on the way the tomb of her ancestor, Ahmad Jam in Torbat-e Jam, and the holy shrine of Imam Reza (AS) in Mashhad. Soon after her return to India, she was widowed, but was held in high esteem by her son and the whole court, even occasionally presiding over state matters.

**386 solar years ago**, on this day in 1632 AD, the English philosopher and physician, John Locke, was born. He spent over 20 years developing the ideas he published in his most significant work, *"Essay Concerning Human Understanding"* in which he analysed the nature of human reason, and promoted experimentation as the basis of knowledge. He was against absolute monarchies and believed that the ruling systems should gain the approval of the majority of people. His other famous works include *"Two Treatises of Government"*, and *"A Letter Concerning Toleration"*. He died in 1704.

**75 solar years ago**, on this day in 1943 AD, the famous Kenyan photographer of Indian origin, Mohamed Amin was born in Eastleigh, Nairobi. He has authored numerous books, including *"Journey through Pakistan"*, and *"Pilgrimage to Mecca"*; and covered various themes like East African Wildlife and the Uganda Railway.

**69 solar years ago**, on this day in 1949 AD, the Soviet Union tested its first atomic bomb. In this manner, nuclear weapons were no longer the monopoly of the US and a "balance of terror" was established between the two superpowers.

**66 solar years ago**, on this day in 1952 AD, the Source of Emulation, Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Taqi Khwansari, passed away.

**42 solar years ago**, on this day in 1976, Bengali poet, writer, musician, and revolutionary, Qazi Nazr-ul-Islam, passed away at the age of 77. He was the national poet of Bangladesh. His poetry and music espoused Indo-Islamic renaissance and intense spiritual rebellion against fascism and oppression. As a result he was imprisoned several times. He was familiar with Persian language, and deeply influenced by Hafez Shirazi. His poems on Islam and social justice have been translated into Farsi.

**31 solar years ago**, on this day in 1987 AD, Palestinian cartoonist, Naji Salim al-Ali, noted for the political criticism of the Arab regimes and the illegal Zionist entity, in his works, died in hospital, after being shot in the face and wounded five weeks earlier, outside the London office of the Kuwait daily, al-Qabas, for which he drew political caricatures. He drew over 40,000 cartoons, which often reflected Palestinian and Arab public opinion and were sharply critical commentaries on Palestinian and Arab politics and political leaders. He is perhaps best known as creator of the character Handhala, pictured in his cartoons as a young witness of the satirized policy or event depicted, and who has since become an icon of Palestinian defiance.

**28 solar years ago**, on this day in 1990 AD, the Source of Emulation, Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Shahab od-Din Mar'ashi Najafi, passed away at the age of 96 and was laid to rest at the doorstep of his famous library in the holy city of Qom. Grand Ayatollah Mar'ashi Najafi also founded the public library in the holy city of Qom, which houses more than 300,000 books – many of them rare manuscripts collected by him.

**15 solar years ago**, on this day in 2003 AD, Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Baqer al-Hakim was martyred at the age of 64 years, along with at least 125 other Muslims, while stepping out of the holy shrine of the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali ibn Abi Taleb (AS) in Najaf after leading the Friday Prayer in its courtyard, due to a bomb blast carried out by US-backed Salafi and Ba'thist terrorists.

(Courtesy: IRIB English Radio – <http://parstoday.com/en>)

# 'Appendix' to Compete in Bulgaria



TEHRAN (IFILM)-Iran film "Appendix" has been selected to screen at 2018 International Film Festival Love Is Folly in Bulgaria.

Directed by Hossein Namazi, the film is attending the main competition section of the festival to compete with 11 films from countries

such as Belgium, Germany, Bulgaria, France and Turkey.

A brief synopsis of the flick reads, 'Due to severe abdominal pain, Zari and her husband, Reza, go to a hospital. However, Zari's insurance ID has expired and they are forced to borrow her friend Leila Attarod's ID.

Eventually, she undergoes appendectomy using Leila's ID and the staff at the hospital suspect something is wrong. Due to this, they are forced to switch roles to convenience hospital staff that the ID belongs to Zari. However, many unfortunate events take place in the process...'

Ana Nemati and Amir-Ali Danaei play the female and male leads in the film.

Launched in 1993, Love Is Folly Film Festival is a competitive event that features selected films produced during the last two years dealing with the subject of love.

Kicked off on August 24, the event's 26th edition is set to run until September 2, 2018 in Varna, Bulgaria.

## Ancient Brick Structure Found Near Tehran

TEHRAN (IFP)-Recent excavations in the ancient city of Rey in southern Tehran have resulted in the discovery of brick structures belonging to early Islamic centuries and the broken dishes of the Seljuk era.

Senior archaeology official Qadir Afroond says an architectural structure belonging to the early Islamic period was recently discovered at a depth of 4 meters in the course of excavating a piece of land near the Imam Ali highway belonging to the Shahr-e-Rey Chamber of Guilds.

"In the initial exploration of this region with a total area of 90 square meters, the architectural structures of the early Islamic centuries (probably the Buyid dynasty) and a broken clay dish belonging to



the Seljuk period were discovered," added Afroond, who is the Director of the Archaeology Department at

the Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization of Tehran Province.

Rey, which has been the capital of Iran for many years and is a major archaeological area of Tehran province, has a lot of historical monuments and tourist attractions. The 6,000-year-old city is considered the third religious city of Iran as it receives more than eight to 10 million pilgrims and tourists every year.

Rey is located in the central plateau of Iran. Bibi Shahr Banoo and Arad mountains as well as the 5,000-year-old Cheshmeh Ali hill are the oldest archaeological sites of Rey.

Rey was the first place in Iran that was connected to capital Tehran by a railroad in 1888 as it was the only important pilgrimage site in vicinity.

## Tehran Hosts First Tourism Economy Exhibit

TEHRAN (Honaronline) -- The First Iran Mall International Tourism Economy and Investment Exhibition is underway in Tehran. The exhibition has become a venue for an art tourism event by Taraneh Baran Gallery as well.

Speaking to Honaronline, gallery director Mahboubeh Kazemi said the show is ongoing until 29 August in collaboration with the Iran Cultural Heritage, Handcraft and Tourism Organization.

"The whole idea behind the occasion is to promote international art tourism in Iran. Here, people can travel to the country in order to experience our hospitality, and visit, explore and engage in activities related to Iranian art. It also includes traveling to art festivals, concerts, cuisine events, to explore famous museums, cultures and many more," she said.

According to Kazemi, art tourism is a modern phenomenon and could yield huge economic benefits for the country.

"Art tourism covers a big segment of the industry because around the globe people travel in order to visit, explore and engage in activities related to art festivals, concerts and cultural events, and to explore famous museums and experience local hospitality. All we need to do is build the necessary structure for it. All the necessary ingredients are there," she said.

Elsewhere in her remarks, Kazemi said: "We plan to establish art museums in a number of selected villages across the country. The idea is to promote art tourism in rural areas. Village art tourism is a mixture of art and rural tourism. A great portion of Iran's cultural

heritage and handicrafts sector belongs to rural areas. It is about time we paid greater attention to greater investment in this particular sector. We also plan to set up art museums in rural areas in order to create jobs for women."

"Art tourism can help protect our national cultural heritage. Many other countries have already built such museums within their rural

communities. The only difference here is that we want to build up museums that are a mixture of rural and art tourism. This way we can attract artists and at the same time help develop the infrastructure of our villages."

The director of Taraneh Baran Gallery said the draft plan has already been submitted to the Iran Cultural Heritage, Handcraft and

Tourism Organization for further consideration.

"The hope is that the Culture Ministry will get on board to help implement it and build art museums in rural areas across the country."

You can visit Taraneh Baran Gallery at Pavilion E232 of the Iran Mall International Tourism Economy and Investment Exhibition in Tehran.

## Picture of the Day



The 6th Karaj International Flower Exhibition, underway in Alborz province for five days, has provided a great opportunity for lovers of plants and flowers to enjoy 300,000 flowers with a variety of shapes, colors and species.

Courtesy: Mehr News Agency