

Noted Iranologist Mirza Molla Ahmadov Passes Away



TEHRAN (Honaronline) – Persian media reported on Friday that Tajik Iranologist and scholar Mirza Molla Ahmadov died in Dushanbe on Wednesday. He was 75.

For many years, he served as the head of the Tajikistan-Iran Friendship Association and a member of the National Academy of Sciences as well as the Writers' Union of Tajikistan.

Upon graduation from Tajikistan University's Department of Oriental Studies in 1969, he worked in the fields of Iranology, Indology, and literature history at the Rudaki Institute of Language and Literature.

Besides publishing more than 30 books on contemporary and ancient Persian poets and writers, this Tajik scholar has left 450 works.

Ahmadov was an expert in researching and reviewing the works of Rudaki, known in Tajikistan as 'the head of Per-

sian and Tajik literature'.

Additionally, he has written and researched about Ferdowsi, Nasser Khosrow, Rumi, Lahuti, Farrokhi Sistani, Forughi Bastami, and Qa'ani Shirazi.

He introduced the Iranian audience to the works of famous Tajik poets through his books. Besides serving on the editorial board of Rudaki magazine in Tehran, he has published numerous articles in prestigious Iranian literary and research journals.

Ahmadov was one of the authors of "The History of Iranian Literature in the 19th and 20th Centuries" (Moscow, 1999), and his works were published in Moscow, Tehran, Washington, Baku, Mashhad, Karachi, Kabul, and Tashkent.

A number of international symposia and conferences have also been held under his supervision.

Non-Fiction 'Giselou' En Route to Big Sky



TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Iranian 'Giselou' has been named an official selection for the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival in the U.S.

Directed by Mohammad-Sadeq Esmaceli, 'Giselou' will take part in the 20th edition of the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival.

"Zahra's husband abandoned her and her children 5 years ago. In order to acquire her children's birth certificates and finalize her divorce, she is forced to go looking for her husband in Afghanistan. Giselou follows Zahra on a brave and harrowing journey to gain independence and secure a future for her children," a synopsis for the film reads.

Iranian films 'Kak Iraj' by Jamshid Farajvand, 'The Dream of a Horse' by Marjan Khosravi and 'Water, Wind, Dust, Bread' by Mehdi Zamanpour-Kiasari will also take part in the U.S. event.

The Big Sky Documentary Film Festival is "the premier venue for non-fiction film in the American West" and "offers an ideal setting for filmmakers to premiere new work and develop lasting relationships with fellow filmmakers and industry," its website reads.

The 20th edition of the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival will take place on February 17-26.

Franklin Institute Awards Iranian Scientist Nader Engheta

TEHRAN (IRNA) – Iranian scientist Nader Engheta has been awarded the 2023 Benjamin Franklin Medal for his achievements in electronic engineering.

Engheta received the medal in electronic engineering for his work in engineering novel materials that interact with electromagnetic waves in unprecedented ways, with broad applications in ultrafast computing and communication technologies, according to The Franklin Institute's announcement.

The Benjamin Franklin Medal is the oldest comprehensive science and technology Award, which is being awarded to researchers and scientists due to their achievements. Big names such as theoretical physicist Albert Einstein, American inventor Nikola Tesla, Polish-French physicist Marie Curie, inventor Orville Wright and inventor Alexander Graham Bell had won the award.

Engheta, H. Nedwill Ramsey Professor in Electrical and Systems Engineering, is among nine laureates recognized by The Frank-



Penn scientist Nader Engheta wins the Benjamin Franklin Medal.

lin Institute of Philadelphia for outstanding achievements in science, engineering, and industry.

University of Pennsylvania scientist Nader Engheta has been selected as a 2023 recipient

of the Benjamin Franklin Medal, one of the world's oldest science and technology awards.

The laureates will be honored on April 27 at a ceremony at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia.

Sweden's 'Kid Nobel' Goes to Iranian Teen

TEHRAN (MNA) – Iranian teen researcher managed to win the "Molecular Frontiers Inquiry Prize" (MFIP) also known as the "kid Nobel" in Sweden.

Ramtin Ghasempour is among the 10 top students who attended this prestigious international competition.

Previously, Ghasempour had won medals at the national student festival of Ibn Sina, the Jabir Ibn Hayyan Festival, and the Iranian Innovation Festival.

Roderick MacKinnonThe Molecular Frontiers Inquiry Prize (MFIP) is the world's first prize rewarding questions rather than answers, recognizing the critical role of curiosity in the scientific



process as well as the value of skilled inquisitiveness in all aspects of modern life.

The Molecular Frontiers Foundation (MFF) was founded under the auspices of the Nobel Foundation in 2007 by Bengt Nordén, a professor of physical chemistry at Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden and the former chair of the Nobel Committee for Chemistry.

Each year, five girls and five boys win the MFIP for asking the most insightful and thought-provoking scientific questions. The prize consists of a medal, a hand-painted certificate, and a gift - so far this has been an iPad.

Test for Alzheimer's Years Before Symptoms

LONDON (Dispatches) – A new study supports the idea that a blood test can be used to predict the risk of Alzheimer's disease up to 3.5 years before clinical diagnosis.

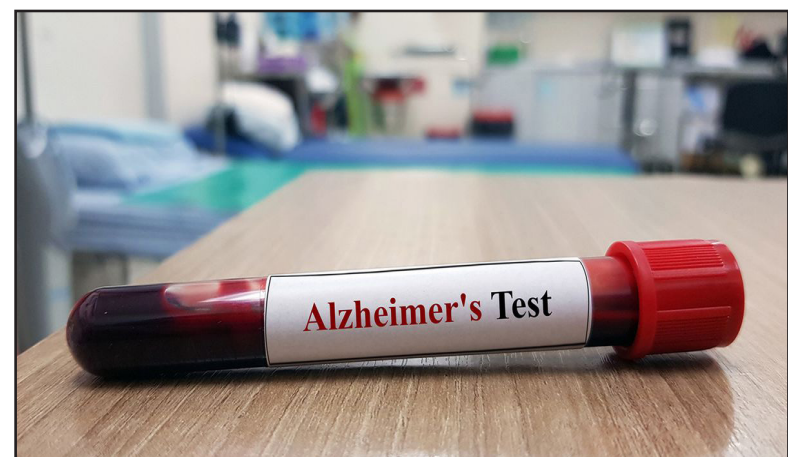
Researchers from institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience (IoPPN) at King's College London treated brain cells with blood taken from people with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), exploring how those cells changed in response to blood as Alzheimer's disease progressed.

They found that the blood samples collected from participants over the years who subsequently deteriorated and developed Alzheimer's disease promoted a decrease in cell growth and division and an increase in apoptotic cell death (the process by which cells are programmed to die). However, the researchers noted that these samples also increased the conversion of immature brain cells to hippocampal neurons.

When the researchers used only the blood samples collected furthest away from when the participants were diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, they found that the changes in neuro-

genesis occurred 3.5 years prior to a clinical diagnosis.

The researchers say that these findings could present an opportunity to further understand the changes the brain goes through at the earliest stages of Alzheimer's disease.



Picture of the Day



Omid (Hope), the only remaining Siberian crane that keeps returning to Iran every winter, will no longer be alone, as officials transfer a mate from Belgium to the Fereydounkenar wetlands, Omid's favorite residence for the cold season in northern Iran.

Courtesy of IFP