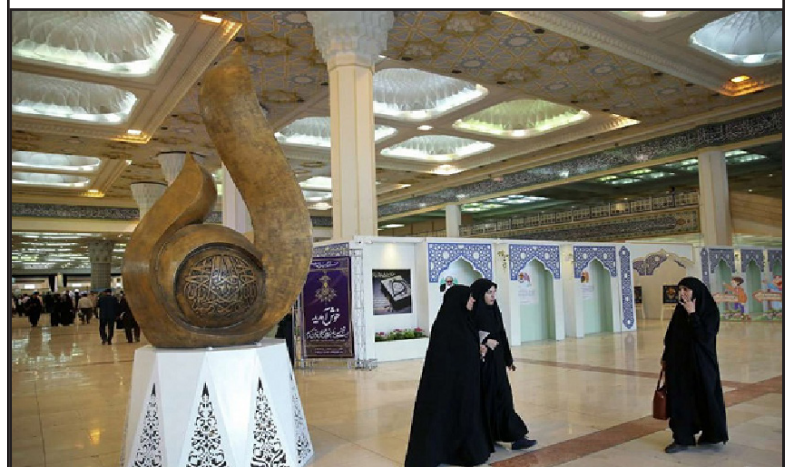


Int'l Holy Qur'an Exhibition to Be Held in Tehran



TEHRAN – The Imam Khomeini (RA) Mosalla (prayer hall) will host the 30th edition of the Tehran International Holy Qur'an Exhibition, as it did in previous years, an official said.

Speaking at a Qur'an Radio program, Muhammad Mehdi Aziz-Zadeh, who heads the permanent secretariat of the Quran exhibitions of the Islamic Republic of Iran, added that a greater area of the Mosalla will be devoted to the expo this year, noting that there will be a 30% rise in area compared to last year's edition.

He said the exhibition will be launched on April 1 (which will likely be the 9th day of Ramadan) and run until April 15.

According to the official, invitations have been sent by the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance to different countries for participation at the Qur'anic event and so far six countries have announced their readiness.

He also said that after calls were issued for new ideas and suggestion for better organizing the international event, different ideas were received by the organizing committee, two of which were

decided to be implemented in this year's exhibition.

The two ideas are related to the children and teenagers section of the exhibition, Aziz-Zadeh noted.

He further noted that this year's exhibition will include a food festival which features the traditional foods, sweets, and beverages from different parts of the country that are special for the holy month.

The Tehran International Qur'an Exhibition is annually organized by the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance in the holy month of Ramadan.

The exhibition is aimed at promoting Qur'anic concepts and developing Qur'anic activities.

It showcases the latest Qur'anic achievements in the country as well as a variety of products dedicated to the promotion of the Holy Book.

In 2020 the expo was called off and in 2021 it was held virtually due to the coronavirus restrictions in the country.

After the pandemic eased, the Qur'anic event was held in person again in April 2022 with the motto of "The Qur'an, Book of Hope and Calm".

Resistance Film Festival Announces Winners

TEHRAN -- The Resistance International Film Festival (RIFF) in Iran has announced the winners for its 17th edition during a closing ceremony held on a warship.

The winners for this year's edition of the RIFF were announced during the ceremony on Wednesday, with 'Stranger' (Gharib), directed by Muhammad-Hussein Latifi, grabbing the Best Film award, iFilm reported.

The film is about Martyr Muhammad Boroujerdi who lost his life during Iraq's imposed war on Iran in the 1980s. It is starring Babak Hamidiyan.

The closing ceremony of the biennial festival took place on Shahid Roudaki warship in the Persian Gulf.

It is the first time the closing ceremony of a film festival is held on a warship.

The RIFF, one of the most prestigious international film festivals in Iran, is dedicated to productions on wars and the repercussions of armed conflicts in the world.

It also puts a spotlight on the resistance of the Palestinian people against the Zionist regime, Daesh and their terrorist attacks in the region as well as the world's tyrants and their backing of Daesh.

'Roya' to Participate in Italian Film Festival

TEHRAN -- Iranian short flick 'Roya' has made its way to the Ca' Foscari Short Film Festival in Italy.

The Iranian Youth Cinema Society reported that 'Roya' will take part in the 13th edition of the Italian event.

'Roya', directed by Muhammad-Reza Muhammadi, is about a young Afghan couple who tries to illegally enter Europe, but faces various challenges.

'Roya' was awarded at several festivals, including the Five Continents International Film Festival in Venezuela.

The Ca' Foscari Short Film Festival is "the first European film festival managed by university students under the guidance of a staff of professors in film studies and professionals from the world of cinema", an online submission platform reads.

The upcoming edition of the Ca' Foscari Short Film Festival will take place on March 22-25.

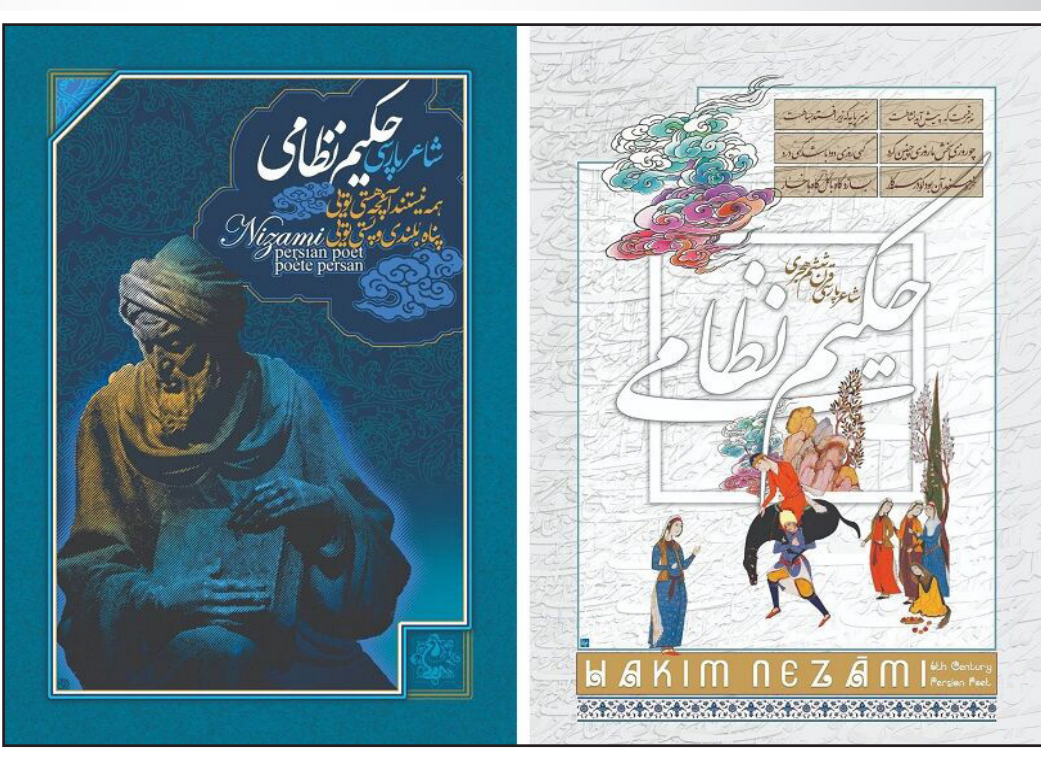
Tehran Ceremony Commemorates Nizami Ganjavi

TEHRAN -- Chairman of Iran's Association of Cultural Works and Elites has described Nizami Ganjavi, the 12th century Persian poet, as an element of unity in cultural ties between Iran, neighbors and Farsi-speaking countries.

"Nizami matters for the Iranians and people in the world as a common need and an element of cultural unity," Mahmoud Shalouei told a ceremony held in Tehran to commemorate the poet.

Persian language professors and scholars, cultural officials and ambassadors of foreign countries were present in the ceremony. A message by Iranian Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Muhammad Mehdi Esmaili was read to the audience.

Nizami's precious works include 'Khamseh' or 'Panj Ganj' which consists of five long poems, including 'Makhzan-ol-Asrar' (The Treasury of Mysteries), 'Khosrow and Shirin', 'Leyli and Majnun, Eskandar-Nameh' (The Book of Alexander) and 'Haft Peykar' (The Seven Beauties).



Indian, Iranian Publishers Sign Cooperation Agreement

NEW DELHI (Dispatches) -- Iran's Book and Literature House Institute and Indian Publishers Federation have signed a memorandum of understanding for cooperation on the sidelines of the 31st New Delhi World Book Fair.

Under the agreement, the two sides will cooperate on translating and publishing literary works of interest.

Iran will be the guest of honor at the New Delhi World Book Fair in the coming years. India will accordingly participate at the Tehran International Book Fair.

The two countries will also cooperate on organizing book fairs in each country and holding joint book fairs.

Organized by the National Book



(ITPO) at Pragati Maidan, the festival aims to commemorate 75 years of India's independence.

Seventy-five writers, selected following a competition and mentored by established authors under the Prime Minister's YUVA (Young Upcoming Versatile Author) scheme, put their books on display.

The stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was set up by the Book and Literature House Institute in an area of 36 square meters, featured over 600 book titles on various subjects of Iranology, arts, calligraphy, Persian language education, classical and contemporary Persian literature, poetry, books for children and young adults, the Sacred Defense and religious books in Urdu were offered to the visitors.

'Let's Make Peace' to Be Screened in India

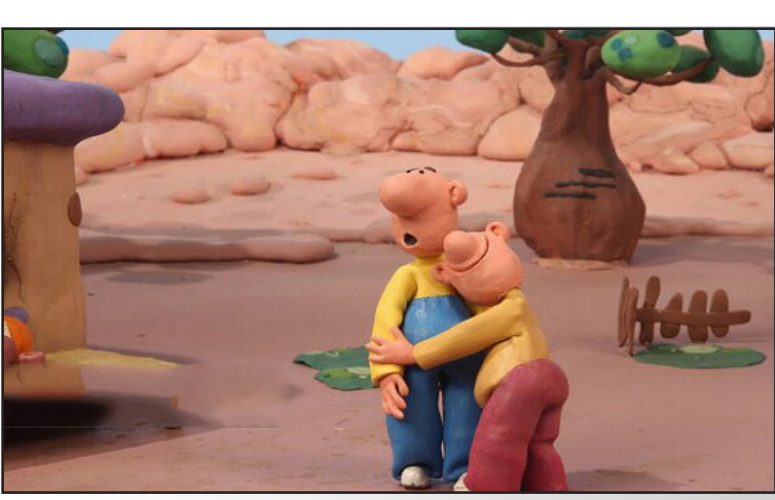
TEHRAN -- The short animation "Let's Make Peace" by Abdollah Alimorad will be screened at Chester International Film Festival.

"Let's Make Peace" has already been screened at the 16th Big Cartoon Animation Festival of Russia, the 14th Ahmedabad International Children Film Festival in India, the 2nd T-Short Animated Film Online Festival in Germany, the 5th edition of the Tbilisi International Animation Festival of Georgia, the 12th Hsin-Yi Children's Animation

Awards in Taiwan and Greece's Ionian Contemporary Animation Festival (ICONA).

The short animation has also won the best animation award from The Bridge of Peace film festival in France and was selected as the best animation by the Animur International Animated Film Festival in Russia.

The children's animation series "Let's Make Peace" which is a wordless work with an international language, uses the stop motion technique in its production.



The 9th Chester International Film Festival will be held from March 3 to 10, 2023, in Chester, England and it gives an opportunity to animators from all over the world to expose their works to be seen and judged.

Turkish Director: Western Cinema Misleading

TEHRAN -- Turkish director attending the International Resistance Festival in Iran says films produced in Western cinema are misleading.

Director Gurkan Demir said to local media on the sidelines of the 17th Resistance fest that "Western cinema and what Europeans and Americans portray in their cinema is misleading", iFilm reported.

He also said of Iranian cinema includes works on history, culture and education of families, adding films are made based on people's views.

"Europeans and Americans portray ... homosexuality with their films and showcase decadence in cinema, which does not exist in Iran," he noted.

The director attended the fest with a documentary themed on Lieutenant General Qasem Soleimani.

The 17th edition of the International Resistance Festival took place on board the Martyr Roudaki vessel in Asaluyeh city and wrapped up on March 8.

Picture of the Day



The celebration of Imam Mahdi's birthday was held at Jamkaran Mosque on Thursday. Photo by Fars News