

Renowned Dutar Player Passes Away



TEHRAN -- Osman Muhammad-Parast, also known as Osman, a renowned dutar player of Iran and one of the few last remaining pillars of the Khorasan Maqami music, died on Thursday after a long illness.

The music master also had his name registered as an international actor after starring in a movie jointly made by Iran and Japan.

musical career included participation in dozens of national and international music festivals, which elevated the Khorasan Maqami music.

He was also a charitable citizen and built more than 900 schools with the help of the cultural assistance community in different parts of Iran.

Muhammad-Parast was 94 when he died.

Iran Marks Day of Omar Khayyam

TEHRAN -- May 18 is marked in Iran as the commemoration day of the Persian polymath, mathematician, astronomer, philosopher, and poet, Omar Khayyam.

Every year, a number of literati and scholars from around the world convene at the mausoleum of Khayyam to mark his National Day. A ceremony is traditionally held on this day in his mausoleum.

Born in the city of Neyshabour in 1048, the renowned poet composed amazing poems about love and life; however his scientific status is much higher than his literary persona.

He considered himself intellectually to be a student of Avicenna. He is considered as one of the

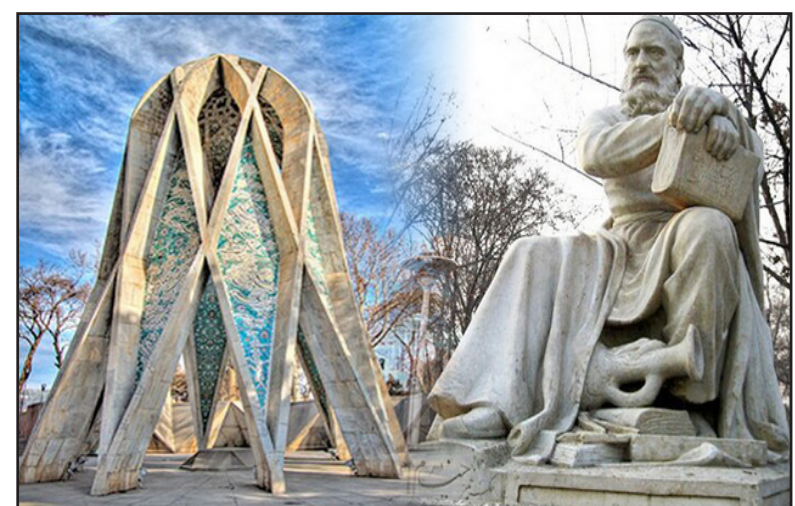
greatest scientists of his time with extraordinary intelligence and a strong memory.

He wrote poetry in both Persian and Arabic and valuable books in various sciences.

In addition to mathematics and astronomy, Khayyam was proficient in philosophy, world history and linguistics.

He taught Greek science and philosophy and encouraged students to exercise and nurture their souls.

His poems celebrate the pleasures of life while illuminating the nuanced political and religious context in which they were created. One of his best known verses is the following:



The Moving Finger writes, and, having writ,

Moves on: nor all thy Piety nor Wit

Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,

Nor all thy Tears wash out a Word of it.

Khayyam died in Neyshabour at the age of 83, on December 4, 1131. His mausoleum is a modern monument of white marble.

Qatar to Hold Persian Carpet Fair at World Cup

TEHRAN -- An Iranian deputy minister says Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani has promised to Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi to hold a Persian carpet fair during the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

Mehdi Baradaran, Iran's deputy minister of industry, mine, and trade, said Sheikh Tamim Al Thani made the promise during a recent meeting with Raisi in Tehran and after the



Qatari Emir Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani stands in his office ornamented with Persian rugs in this file photo.

Iranian president offered a handwoven silk Persian carpet to him as a token of friendship and peace.

The emir of Qatar traveled to Iran and met with senior Iranian officials last week. Raisi called that visit a turning point in the relations between the two countries.

Qatar will be hosting the 2022 FIFA World Cup in November-Dec

Balance Shortlisted for Competition in Italy

TEHRAN -- Iranian short film 'Balance' will compete at the Tracce Cinematografiche Film Fest in Italy.

Barzan Rostami's award-winning film will represent Iran alongside 16 other Iranian works at the 11th edition of the event.

'Balance' tells the story of some soldiers who are willing to give away their own lives in a heroic action to save the lives of others.

The short animation has already taken part in a number of global events, including the Southport International Short Film Festival in the UK, the Durango Independent Film Festival in the U.S., the Piggy Bank Film Festival in India, and the Filmkreis Shorts in Germany.

Earlier reports said Iranian films 'Hand and Egg', 'The Letters', 'Echo', 'The Recess', and 'Dancing with Rainbow' will also take part in the Italian event.

The Tracce Cinematografiche Film Fest is "an international festival of short films up to 16 minutes", according to an online submission platform.

Iranian short flick 'Good Girl' has been selected to compete at the festival.

Written and directed by Raheleh Karami and produced by Mani Qandi, the short depicts the story of a girl who is forced to remain silent to protect the reputation of her family.

The cast list of the short film includes Behzad Khalaj,

Shaqayeq Faryad-Shiran and Mobina Azadi.

'Good Girl' went on screen at some global events, including the Ischia Global Film & Music Fest in Italy, the Linz International Short Film Festival of Austria, and Sguardi Altrove International Women's Film Festival in Italy, where it won the special award.

Set to go on screen at the AmiciCorti International Film Festival in Italy, Karami's short flick was also presented at the Humboldt International Film Festival in the US, the International Women Filmmakers Festival in Turkey, and the Naples Human Rights Film Festival in Italy, where it received the Special Jury Prize.

The Tracce Cinematografiche Film Fest hosts films from around the world and screens short films running up to 16 minutes.

The 2022 edition of the event will be held on June 27-July 3.

Directed by Ziba Arzhang, 'Sky Sun, Tile Sun' won the award for Best Animation Film and two Special Jury Mentions went to 'Child of This Land' by Nick Yousefi and 'Cellmate' by Behzad Khodaveisi, all from Iran, at the 2021 edition of the Tracce Cinematografiche.

The Tracce Cinematografiche Film Fest will also screen Iranian short flick 'Shutter Gun'.

"Put down your weapons! Children are afraid of war," a synopsis for the film reads.

Munich Hosts Iranian Cultural Festival

TEHRAN -- The 6th Termeh Festival: Iranian Cultural Festival Munich has been inaugurated in Munich, Germany.

The festival features musical and theatrical performances, film screening and various workshops for children and adolescents.

There will be literature nights along with naqqali (a dramatic style of storytelling) and presentations on Ferdowsi and his magnum opus 'Shahnameh'.

The festival is organized by the Gasteig in Munich, the largest cultural center in Europe, and the Department of Arts and Culture of the City of Munich.

The event will run through May 30, 2022.

The Prague Music Video Awards in the Czech Republic and the Munich Music Video Awards in Germany have honored Iranian 'Sculpture'.

Directed by Iranian musician Ramin Hosseinpour, 'Sculpture' won the award for best visual effects (VFX) at the Prague Music Video Awards, which was held last week.

The rock music video features Hosseinpour on vocals and electric guitar. He composed the music on a mystic poem by Jalal al-Din Muhammad Rumi, also known as Molavi.

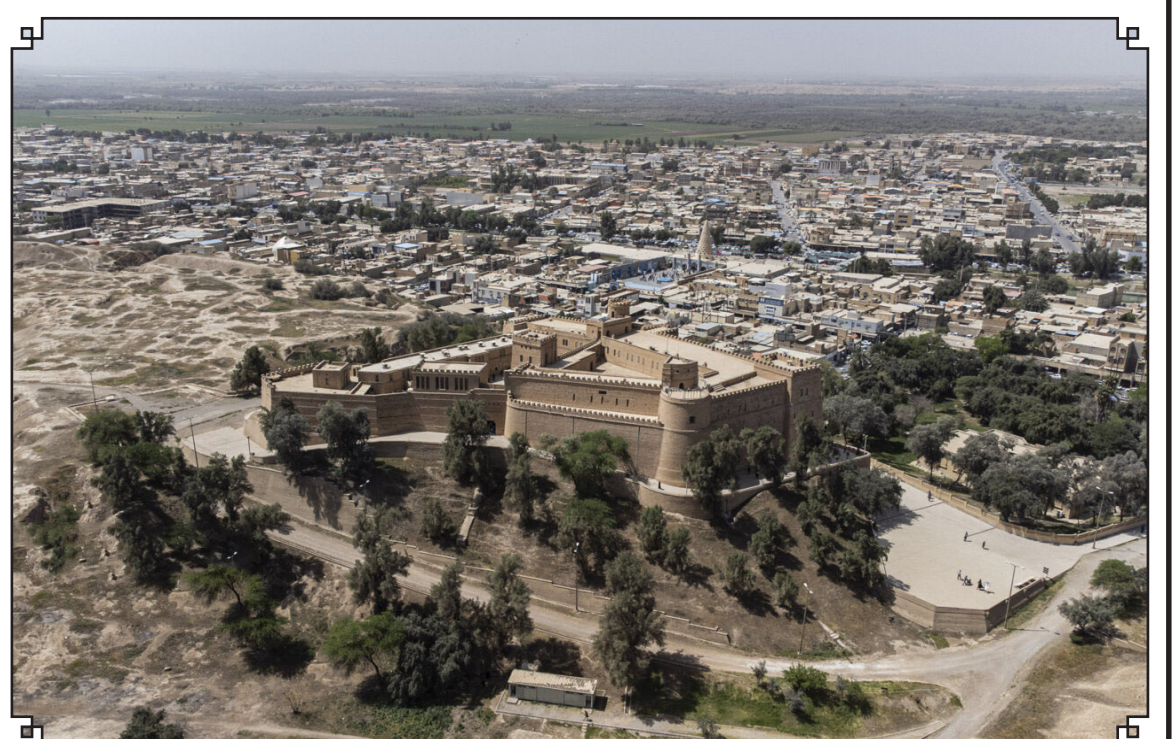
The video also received an honorable mention for best rock music at the Munich Music Video Awards, organized bimonthly in the German city.

'Sculpture' has won a number of awards at some global events, including the award for best solo artist/band at the Music Video Underground International Festival in Canada, as well as the award for best documentary music video and the best male director



at the Rome Music Video Awards in Italy.

Picture of the Day



A view of Iran's ancient city of Susa with the Palace of Darius built during the reign of Darius I over the Achaemenid Empire in the foreground. (Photo by IRNA)