

Tehran Presents Azerbaijan With Plaque of National Library



TEHRAN (MNA) – Head of the National Library and Archives of Iran Alireza Mokhtarpour and Anar Karimov, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan in a meeting discussed developing Iran-Azerbaijan cultural ties.

Referring to the long history of cooperation between the National Library and Archives of Iran and the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mokhtarpour called for establishing working groups to implement the signed MoUs between the two organizations.

“The National Library and Archives of Iran will cooperate with the Republic of Azerbaijan. These two countries have always been friends and companions through-

out history,” he added.

Karimov, for his part, described the Iranian national library as a valuable treasure and called for developing cooperation.

At the end of the meeting, the commemorative plaque of the National Library of Iran along with exquisite Iranian artwork was presented to the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Karimov also presented Mokhtarpour with several Azeri old books.

The Azeri culture minister also held meetings with Iranian officials during his visit to Iran, including his Iranian counterpart and the Iranian tourism minister Ezzatollah Zarghami.

Iranians Mark Beginning of Summer



TEHRAN (IFILM) – Ancient Iranian people used to celebrate the beginning of every season in groups, including summer.

At the beginning of summer, the sun rises from its highest position on the northeast horizon and falls to its highest place on the northwest horizon. People of the ancient Iran had a particular attachment to cosmic phenomena and brought them to their daily lives, rituals and beliefs; and many rituals and celebrations were held at this time.

Although many of such age-old ceremonies have been faded away today, the beginning of summer is still celebrated as “Ab Pashounak” or Splashing Water in Arak, Farahan, Mahallat and many other cities in the central Iran. It is called “Avval Toestooni” (the beginning of the summer) and many participate in this ceremony by splashing water to each other.

There are also other forgotten ceremonies in Iran to mark the

beginning of the summer. In the sixth day of Tir (the fourth month of solar calendar and the first month of the summer), there was a ceremony that Iranian scholar and polymath Abu Rayhan al-Biruni also spoke of it, and it was called ‘Ceremony of Lotus’ which was related to the flourishing of lotus at the beginning of the summer.

There was also ‘Eid Mah’ (the ceremony of the moon) where the people from Savadkouh and some other mountainous regions in Tabarestan and Mazandaran Province of Iran celebrated it by making fires on the mountains.

The ritual of ‘Goje Arous’ (bride tomato) or ‘Gol Arous’ (bride flower) was also held in some parts of Iran’s Khorasan Province and the west of Afghanistan. During this ceremony, they celebrated the beginning of the summer by giving the fruits, flour, and rock candy to the newlywed brides.

Khodaafarin Bridge Symbol of Iran-Azerbaijan Friendship

TEHRAN (IP) - The Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts of Iran considered the Khodaafarin Bridge as a sign of Iran-Azerbaijan friendship and stressed the need for a joint effort for global registration of Iftar.

The meaning of Iftar is a meal taken by Muslims at sundown to break the daily fast during Ramadan.

Ezzatollah Zarghami, Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts, met with the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan Anar Karimov Tuesday morning and discussed the commonalities between Iran and Azerbaijan.

Referring to the close and old relations between Iran and Azerbaijan in all cultural, social, and political dimensions, Zarghami added: “Our nations consider themselves close to each other and governments should do their best to remove obstacles and enhance proximity among nations.”

The top official noted the importance of the Khodaafarin Bridge in ties between the two countries, saying: “This bridge, which is located on the border between the two

countries, is a symbol of the establishment of a bridge of friendship between Iran and Azerbaijan.”

The Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts pointed to the areas of joint cooperation and added: “Preservation and restoration of historical monuments and buildings is one of the most important missions of this ministry.”

“We are ready to cooperate in this field and restore the mosques that were destroyed during the war in Karabakh,” he added.

The Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts preserved the cultural and civilizational honors between Iran and Azerbaijan and stated: “Culture must unite the countries. Common enemies seek to undermine the rich culture of nations, but we must strive to unite all of humanity through common culture.”

Iranian official named Nezami Ganjavi’s as one of the most important cultural commonalities between the two countries, adding: “This great and famous poet is one of the honors of humanity. We must pay attention to the content of his poems and use them to create unity.”



The Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan for his part said: “The political relations between the two countries are at a high level and this issue can support the promotion of other relations.”

He also stressed the cultural and civilizational commonalities of Iran and Azerbaijan and the strengthening of these cultural roots, as well as the development of cooperation in the fields of cultural heritage, tourism, and handicrafts.

Karimov also referred to the Khodaafarin Bridge as a Bridge of Friendship, adding: “This bridge is the most important connecting

route of the Silk Road between East and West, and we are trying to register it in UNESCO. We have prepared a memorandum of understanding for the registration of this bridge and sent it to you, which I hope will be signed during the trip to Baku.”

The meeting was attended by Ali Darabi, Deputy Minister of Cultural Heritage, Javid Ramadan, Deputy Minister of State Services for Preservation, Development and Reconstruction of Azerbaijan’s Cultural Heritage, and Aq Joonesh, Head of the Department of International Affairs of Azerbaijan.

Arak Holds Flower Exhibition

TEHRAN (IP)– The 9th exhibition of flowers and plants, horticultural equipment and greenhouses, and medicinal plants is underway in Arak, the capital of Markazi Province’s center part of Iran.

The exhibition will be underway for 6 days from June 19 to 24, 2022, with the presence of flower producers, especially Mahallat city.

The exhibition was established to showcase the latest achievements in producing flowers and medicinal plants, as well as to provide the necessary ground for the flower trade and the development of the Iranian flower market.



Hamed Khorshidi, the Director of the Arak Exhibition, told Iran Press that the exhibition is held for the second consecutive year in Markazi Province, noting that more than 5,000 species of flowers and plants were put on a show.

One of the flower growers from Mahallat city also told Iran Press that Mahallat is known as the flower city of Iran and the flowers of this region are exported to different countries.

He produces between 40,000 and 50,000 branches of apartment and garden flowers annually and exports them to the countries bordering the Persian Gulf.

Applauded ‘Front Window’ En Route to Canada

TEHRAN (IFILM) -- Iranian short film ‘Front Window’ has taken part in the Nickel Independent Film Festival in Canada.

The Short Films News website reported that ‘Front Window’ was screened at the 22nd edition of Nickel Independent Film Festival.

The film is written and directed by Javid Farhani.

‘Front Window’ is about a man who invades the privacy of other people.

The film was awarded at the IndieFEST Film Awards in the U.S.

It was named as one of the Award of Recognition winners, which are granted by the judges for their achievement in a specific category of entry in the February 2022 edition of the event.

The Nickel Independent Film Festival was founded in 2001.

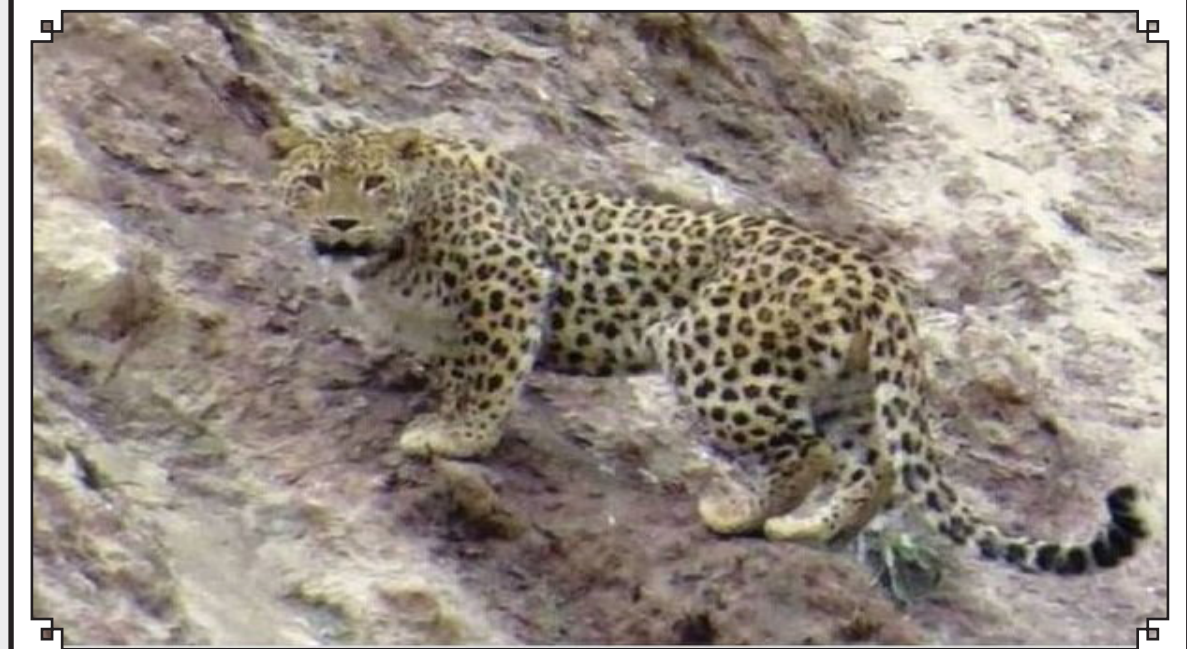
It is “a celebration of local and international independent film”, according

to an online submission platform.

The latest edition of Nickel Independent Film Festival took place on June 13-19.



Picture of the Day



Two Persian leopards have been spotted in the Dashtestan region. Bushehr province and especially Dashtestan city is one of the best habitats for Persian leopards. Panthera pardus tulliana is a leopard subspecies native to Iran, Turkey, the Caucasus, Southern Russia, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan. Since 2016, it has been listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List, as the population was estimated at 871 to 1,290 mature individuals, with a declining trend.

Courtesy of Mehr News Agency