

Leader’s Book Unveiled at Tehran Book Fair



TEHRAN – An English audio-book version of “Cell No. 14”, the memoirs of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, was unveiled at the Tehran International Book Fair (TIBF) on Thursday.

Cell No.14 covers memories of Ayatollah Khamenei during his struggles against the Pahlavi re-

gime before the Islamic Revolution in Iran.

The Spanish and Portuguese renditions of the book were unveiled at the TIBF on Tuesday.

It was also displayed in a promotion campaign in Caracas, Venezuela on March 11, 2023 on the sidelines of the Iran-Venezuela culture and friendship exhibition.

Sahar TV to Launch Persian Language Courses



TEHRAN – Farsi will be taught on Iran’s Sahar Universal Network (Sahar TV) in the near future, according to Shahrouz Falahatpisheh, the deputy for international affairs at Iran’s Saadi Foundation, an organization which is focused on spreading the Persian language around the world.

Falahatpisheh told IRNA English on the sidelines of the 34th Tehran International Book Fair (TIBF) that an educational series has been developed by Sahar TV based on MINA books, a series published by the Saadi Foundation to teach Farsi to foreign students.

Regarding the activities of the organization, he said that the Saadi Foundation, an organization set up in 2013, focuses on six missions:

1. Holding online and in-person Persian language classes,
2. Training Farsi teachers (of-line classes),
3. Compilation of books for Persian language learners (beginner-advanced),
4. Standardizing and holding Persian language proficiency tests (AMFA),
5. Holding knowledge enhancement courses for those who are already acquainted with Farsi, including short-term and long-term courses,
6. Carrying out research work on Persian language teaching techniques and corpus.

Falahatpisheh said the Saadi Foundation designs and holds Persian language olympiads for foreigners and also grants schol-

arships to teachers of Persian language from other countries.

Persian is being taught in some 50 language centers out of Iran, he said, adding that over 10,000 foreigners took the courses offered by the Foundation last year.

Falahatpisheh also said Farsi has been included as the second and third core or elective language in official education curriculum in some neighboring countries, including in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, and Georgia.

The largest group of foreign learners of Farsi language is from more than 100,000 foreign students currently studying at Iranian universities, he pointed out.

Regarding the online courses offered by the Saadi Foundation, he said the Mina Online School is currently viewed as the number one e-learning platform for teaching Persian language, adding that the school offers courses for a variety of students ranging from false beginners to advanced learners.

The Saadi Foundation, he said, has compiled numerous books to help foreigners to master Persian language skills, vocabulary, and grammar, adding that full multimedia versions of the books taught in the Foundation are available for download on its website.

To help beginners to start the language, the foundation has translated a book titled “Gam Avval” (First Step) into 13 languages, Falahatpisheh said, adding that the book covers the alphabet and the 700 basic words of Farsi in 15 lessons.

Iran Marks National Day of Omar Khayyam

TEHRAN – Thursday marked the day of great Persian poet, astronomer, writer, and mathematician Omar Khayyam.

Khayyam was born in 1048 in Nishapur in northeastern Iran, and spent most of his life near the court of the Karakhanid and Seljuq rulers in the period which witnessed the First Crusade.

A literal translation of the name Khayyam means ‘tent maker’ and this may have been the trade of his father, Ibrahim.

The political events of the 11th century played a major role in the course of Khayyam’s life.

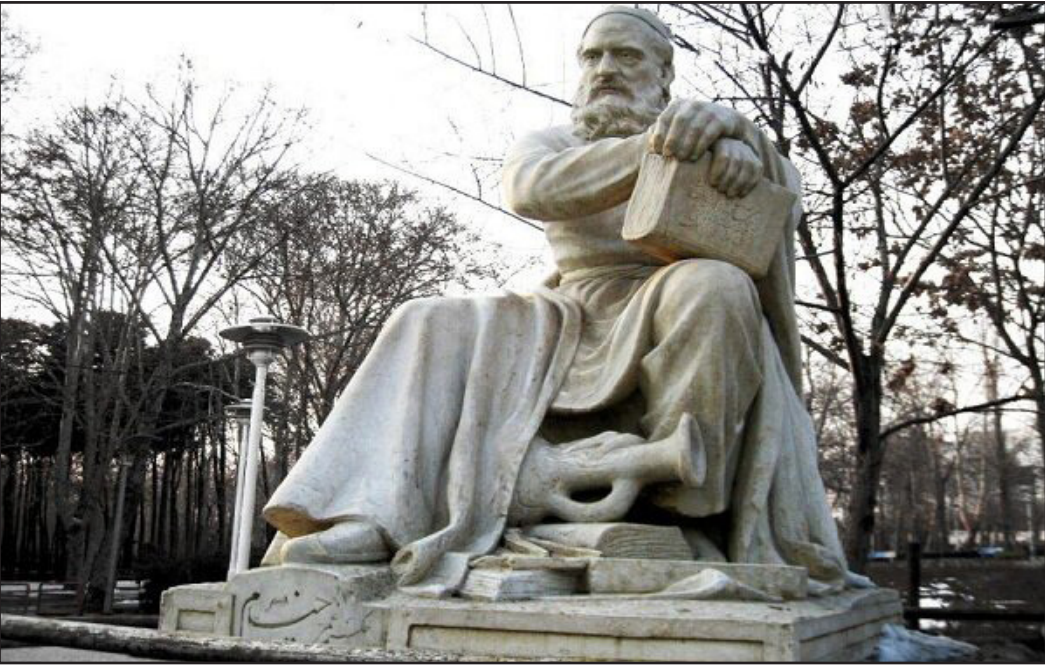
Khayyam studied science, philosophy, mathematics, and astronomy in Nishapur, and in 1068, he traveled to Bukhara, where he frequented the renowned library of Ark.

He was an outstanding mathematician and astronomer, who wrote several works including Problems of Arithmetic, a book on music and one on algebra before he was 25 years old.

During the reign of Sultan Malik-Shah I, he was invited to Isfahan to set up an observatory and revise the Persian calendar.

The resulted calendar was named in Malik-Shah’s honor as the Jalali calendar and inaugurated on March 15, 1079. The Jalali calendar was a true solar calendar where the duration of each month is equal to the time of the passage of the Sun across the corresponding sign of the Zodiac.

The calendar was used until the 20th century in Iran and became the official national calendar



of Qajar Iran in 1911. It was simplified in 1925 and the names of the months were modernized, resulting in the modern Iranian calendar.

He was later invited by the new Sultan Sanjar to Marv, a great center of Islamic learning, where Khayyam wrote further works on mathematics.

‘A commentary on the difficulties concerning the postulates of Euclid’s Elements’, ‘On the division of a quadrant of a circle’ and ‘On proofs for problems concerning Algebra’ are among his surviving mathematical works.

Outside the world of mathematics and astronomy, Khayyam is also best known as a result of Edward Fitzgerald’s popular translation in 1859 of nearly 600 short four-line poems, the

Rubaiyat.

The poems celebrated the pleasures of life while illuminating the nuanced political and religious context in which they were created. Of all the verses, the best known 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.

He considered himself intellectually to be a student of Avicenna. There are six philosophical papers believed to have been written by Khayyam. Philosophy, jurisprudence, history, mathematics, medicine, and astronomy are among the subjects mastered by this brilliant man.

Romanian Festival Awards ‘Paper Dream’

TEHRAN -- Iranian feature film ‘Paper Dream’ has been awarded at the Independent Producers Indie Film Festival (IPIFF) in Romania.

‘Paper Dream’, directed by Ali Atshani, won the best film award at the 16th edition of the IPIFF.

The film is about an Al-bino teenage who has been out of public eye because of his appearance. The boy falls in love with a young girl who has made him a social media influencer.

The story of the film is based on an idea by Atshani, but the film’s screenplay has been written by Jaber Qassem-Ali.

‘Paper Dream’ is starring Kamran Tafti and Mina Vahid.

The film has already been awarded at the 10th edition of the Borrego Springs Film Festival in the U.S.

The 16th edition of the IPIFF took place on May 12-15.

ISAAR Film Festival Opens in Mashhad



TEHRAN – Some 30 countries are taking part at the First International ISAAR Festival of films and screenplays which opened in the holy city of Mashhad on Friday.

As many as 1,270 works of art have been submitted to the secretariate of the festival, the head of the Martyrs Foundation in Khorasan Razavi said.

Mehdi Hassanzadeh said some 219 of the submitted artworks are screenplays while the rest are short films, video clips, animations, dramas and documentaries.

Films from Lebanon, the U.S., Yemen, Pakistan, India, Iraq, Algeria, France, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Italy, Syria, Malaysia, Spain and Iran are being screened at the festival.

Mashhad is hosting the festival through May 19-24.

Picture of the Day



Shahid Abbaspur or Karun 1 Dam is one of the largest dams in Iran, built on the Karun River in Khuzestan province. The lake behind the dam, with its large size and unique scenery, is the destination of many nature lovers and travel enthusiasts. Photo by ISNA