

Farabi Foundation at Shanghai Film Festival



TEHRAN – The Farabi Cinema Foundation has participated at the Shanghai Film Market in China.

The Iranian foundation hosted the secretary of the event on the first day of the market on Sunday.

Cultural officials of the two countries negotiated around mutual cooperation.

The conversation between the two covered several topics in the field of film and cinema, such as the expansion of festival cooperation between China and Iran and Iran's more active presence in the "One Road, One Belt" project.

China welcomed Iran's proposal to establish a cinema union of the member countries of the Shanghai Group.

The Farabi Cinema Foundation is a leading Iran-based company involved in production, international distribution and promotion of Iranian films.

The Shanghai Film Festival and Market is considered one of the most important Asian and international festivals, which annually gathers prestigious film institutions and film supply companies active in the field of production.

Allameh University Shines at ICC Moot Court Competition

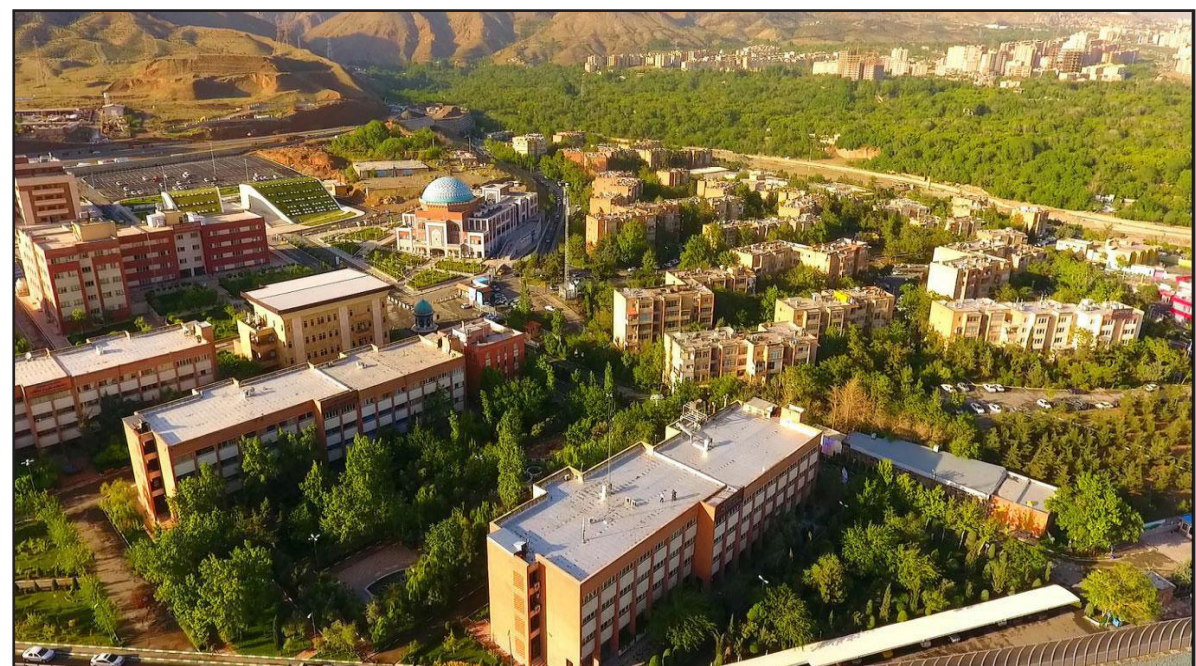
TEHRAN -- Iran's Allameh Tabataba'i University (ATU) has been awarded the First Runner-Up Best Prosecution Memorial in the ICC Moot Court Competition 2023.

The ICC Moot Court competition, which simulates the International Criminal Court, is the largest and the most prominent competition in the field of international criminal law in the world.

It is annually organized by Leiden University in The Netherlands, in collaboration with the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies.

The International Rounds of the competitions are held every year in The Hague, The Netherlands.

The team representing Allameh Tabataba'i University, coached by Ali Masoudian and Sadra Pirniakan, and with the participation of Alaleh Qanbari and Mahsa Hussein, advanced to the International Rounds and competed with teams from India, China, England, Canada and Ukraine in the



oral stage.

The four-person team managed to win the First Runner-Up Best Prosecution Memorial, a result that has been achieved for the first

time for an Iranian team.

This success was achieved while 85 teams from 55 countries participated in the International Rounds of the competition.

The teams competed on a fictitious case, presenting oral arguments in the roles of the Office of the Prosecutor, the Defense and a State Representative.

What 'Persian Lessons' Has to Do With Holocaust



NEW YORK (WP) -- In the framing of the folk tale anthology "One Thousand and One Nights," Scheherazade prolongs her life day by day with the stories she tells her murderous husband. Something similar, and similarly fanciful, happens in "Persian Lessons," a film by "House of Sand and Fog" director Vadim Perelman. The notable differences between the old fable and this new one are that the film's protagonist prolongs his existence by teaching his potential killer words in Persian, or Farsi — a language he doesn't know — and that the backdrop for his desperate undertaking is the Holocaust.

The fake-language instructor is Gilles (Nahuel Pérez Biscayart), a French- and German-speaking Belgian Jew who's caught in a Nazi roundup. By happenstance, Gilles has just acquired a bilingual French-Farsi book of Persian myths, which inspires him to declare that he's half Persian and not Jewish. This claim spares him immediate execution, because one of the soldiers knows that a superior officer, Klaus Koch (Lars Eidinger), wants to learn Farsi in hopes of moving to Tehran and opening a restaurant after the war.

This seems to be the moment to note that "Persian Lessons" says it's "inspired by true events." That may be true, but many of the details supplied by screenwriter Ilya Zofin (working from a story by Wolfgang Kohlhaase) are hard to swallow. The movie is much more compelling as a parable of communication and remembrance than as a realistic account of survival in a Nazi concentration camp.

Gilles, who assumes the name Reza, is taken to a work camp that's also a transit center for prisoners on their way to the Nazi death factories established in Poland. He begins to concoct his own version of Farsi for Koch, who gullibly learns the words his prisoner invents. To keep this gibberish straight in his own mind, Gilles starts associating his made-up terms with the names of his fellow inmates.

Koch, whose own name mean "cook," oversees the camp's kitchen, where Gilles is given a job. (It beats breaking rocks, which is what most of the prisoners do every day.) Gilles has neat penmanship, so Koch has him enter the records of the prisoners, supplanting a messy fraulein (Leonie Benesch). She becomes one of Gilles's several enemies

among the Germans, and yet the bogus Persian survives. He's repeatedly protected by Koch, who despite occasional doubts about his tutor maneuvers to keep him alive through episodes that would surely have proved fatal in real life.

Koch's enthusiasm for the language he thinks he's learning is sometimes comic, as are other aspects of the story. When not brutalizing inmates, the Germans banter about romantic aspirations and a senior officer who's said to be less than well-endowed. There are violent moments, of course, but they're discreetly underplayed.

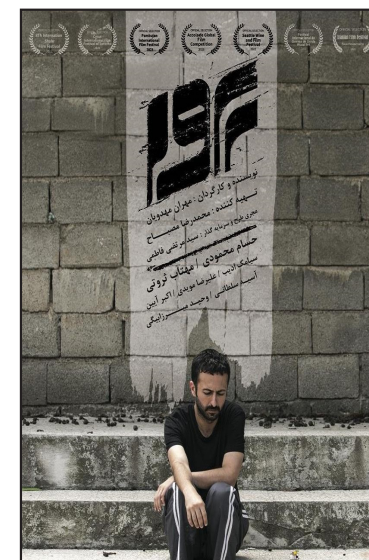
Shot mostly in deeply shadowed interiors, the movie rarely makes effective use of its widescreen format. Indeed, it has a stagy quality and plays mostly as a series of theatrical exchanges between Gilles and Koch. These are handled adeptly by Pérez Biscayart, a versatile Argentine actor best known for the French AIDS drama "BPM," and Eidinger, a German also known for a French film, "Personal Shopper." The two multilingual performers are appropriate stars for a film made in Belarus by a Ukrainian-born Canadian director.

If the filmmakers are timid about the horrors Gilles witnesses, and may potentially experience, they do build to a surprisingly moving coda. Ultimately, the mnemonic device Gilles employs to retain his phony Persian is turned to another purpose. To reveal that purpose would spoil the movie's most powerful scene, but it might be said that "Persian Lessons" ends with a sort of prayer for the departed.

Charsou Cinema Complex Reviews 'Parva'

TEHRAN -- Iranian feature 'Parva' (fear) has been reviewed at the Iranian Charsou Cinema Complex.

Directed by Mehran Mahdavian, the film was screened and reviewed in the presence of the director and the crew on Wednesday. 'Parva' is about a young man named Khosrow Amiri. Khosrow, who is now in his early 30s, does not have a good job.



He does his best to change his job conditions and doing so he faces some challenges. 'Parva' is Mahdavian's debut feature film and was filmed in suburbs of the capital, Tehran.

The film is starring Hesham Mahmoudi, Mahtab Servati, Siamak Adib, Alireza Moayyedi, Akbar Aeen, Asieh Soltani, Mehrdad Bakhshi, Zeynab Shabani, and Mohammad Gohari.

Iranian Media Delegation Visits Iraq

TEHRAN – A delegation consisting of senior Iranian media activists have traveled to Baghdad to discuss expanding media cooperation with Iraqi officials.

The trip hosted by Iraq's Wisdom Movement aims to develop and strengthen cooperation between Iranian and Iraqi media groups. The itinerary included meeting

with leader of Iraq's National Wisdom Movement Seyed Ammar al-Hakim and visting Iraqi news agencies as well as visiting holy places in the cities of Kazmin, Karbala, and Najaf.

The delegation consists of senior managers and media activists from Mehr News Agency, Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA),

Tasnim News Agency, Borna New, ISNA, Farheekhtegan Daily and Kayhan Group of Newspapers.

Upon their arrival at Baghdad airport, the delegation paid tribute to Lt. Ger. Qassem Soleimani, the highly-revered commander assassinated in a U.S. strike in Baghdad in 2020.

Picture of the Day



The first exhibition of technologies and products to remove deprivation in line with the implementation of the national program entitled "Abadiran" opened at Imam Khomeini Mosalla on Tuesday.