

Unique Handwritten Qur'an on Display at Tehran Exhibition



This file photo shows pilgrims writing a copy of the Holy Qur'an on cloth during the Arba'een pilgrimage in Karbala in 2024.

TEHRAN -- A unique handwritten Qur'an, penned by Arba'een pilgrims, is on display at the Abbasid Shrine booth at the 32nd Tehran International Qur'an Exhibition.

The booth of the Qur'an Scientific Assembly, affiliated with the shrine of Hazrat Abbas (AS), is showcasing the Thamara al-Arba'in Bi-Amanil al-Zairin" (The Qur'an Manuscript by the Hands of the Arba'een Pilgrims).

The unique manuscript was completed in the year 1444 AH.

The booth also features the first through sixth editions of the Al-Mushaf al-Abbasi, handwritten by renowned Iraqi calligrapher Hamid al-Saadi. The editions are notable for being the first Qur'an copies written by an Iraqi calligrapher.

A replica of the shrine of Abbas ibn Ali (AS) adds a special touch to the booth, evoking memories of the golden shrine in Karbala.

Additionally, the booth displays various Qur'anic projects and activities of the shrine, such as the Qur'an memorization initiative, the Houses of Light program, summer Qur'an memorization courses, and Qur'anic stations at the Arb'een pilgrimage.

Publications by the shrine, covering topics like Qur'an sciences, exegesis, miraculous aspects of the Qur'an, eloquence, and Qur'anic stories, are also available for viewing. One of the standout works is the 17-volume Al-Tafseer al-Manhaji li al-Qur'an al-Kareem (The Methodical Exegesis of the Holy Qur'an). An Arabic calligraphy workshop is held at the booth, where attendees can view calligraphy of Qur'anic verses, hadiths, and special phrases related to the Ahl al-Bayt (AS).

The 32nd International Quran Exhibition began on March 5, with the theme "The Qur'an, the Path of Life" at Imam Khomeini Mosalla in Tehran and will run until March 16.

Countries such as Iraq, Pakistan, Turkey, Russia, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ivory Coast, and more are participating in the exhibition, showcasing their Qur'anic artworks and calligraphy.

The exhibition is held every year in the holy month of Ramadan by the Iranian Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance.

Resistance Festival Celebrates Sacrifices of Iranian Nation



TEHRAN – The opening of the 18th International Resistance Film Festival will take place on May 17 and conclude on May 24, coinciding with the anniversary of the liberation of Khorramshahr in 1982 from the occupation of Iraqi forces under the former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

The festival's secretary Jalal Ghaffari said the date represents the intersection of resistance cinema with one of the most important periods in contemporary Iranian history.

The festival, he said, is not just a venue for showcasing cinematic works but also a platform for narrating the steadfastness of the Iranian people through the seventh art.

"May 24 is not merely a date on the calendar; it symbolizes the breaking of siege, overcoming obstacles, and achieving victory," he said.

The selection of the day for the festival's closing emphasizes that the resistance cinema can overcome the siege of censorship and dominant media narratives, bringing the voice of truth to the ears of the world, he added. Ghaffari asserted the impor-

tance of the event's international dimension, stating that the resistance cinema reflects the ideals of freedom and anti-imperialism, not only within the country but on a global scale.

Over the years, the festival has established its position among committed and concerned filmmakers and has provided a platform for interaction and synergy among resistance artists worldwide.

This year's festival aims to transcend geographical boundaries in the resistance cinema, offering a fresh perspective and transforming it into a powerful tool for cultural and media diplomacy, Ghaffari said.

He said the International Resistance Film Festival will be held annually, having become one of the most important cinematic events in the region for resistance and justice-seeking in recent years.

This year's edition, with a broader approach and a deeper insight into regional and global developments, aims to convey the message of resistance, justice, and the pursuit of truth to the world through cinema, he added.

President Pezeshkian's Message to Commemoration Ceremony: Nizami Remarkable Treasure of Persian Literature

TEHRAN – President Masoud Pezeshkian says the literary works of renowned Persian poet Nizami Ganjavi mainly revolve around themes of peace and justice.

The president issued a message addressing a ceremony held here to commemorate the 12th-century Muslim poet.

In the message, which was read out by Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Abbas Salehi, Pezeshkian characterized Nizami as a remarkable treasure of Persian literature, whose literary contributions serve as a significant inheritance for mankind.

Nizami's messages of wisdom and love continue to echo in the minds of contemporary individuals, he said.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei described Nizami as a Persian-speaking thinker, scholar, and poet on his X account.

Memorable stories of Nizami have im-



parted love, wisdom, and morality to generations after him, said the official.

Nizami is not only a source of pride

for Iranians but also a treasure of human culture, Baghaei added.

'Picasso in Tehran' Opens With 66 Works

TEHRAN -- The Museum of Contemporary Art in Tehran has launched a major exhibition titled Picasso in Tehran, showcasing 66 works from the Spanish master Pablo Picasso.

Spain's Ambassador to Iran Antonio Sánchez-Benedito Gaspar, senior cultural officials, and prominent artists attended the inauguration on Tuesday.

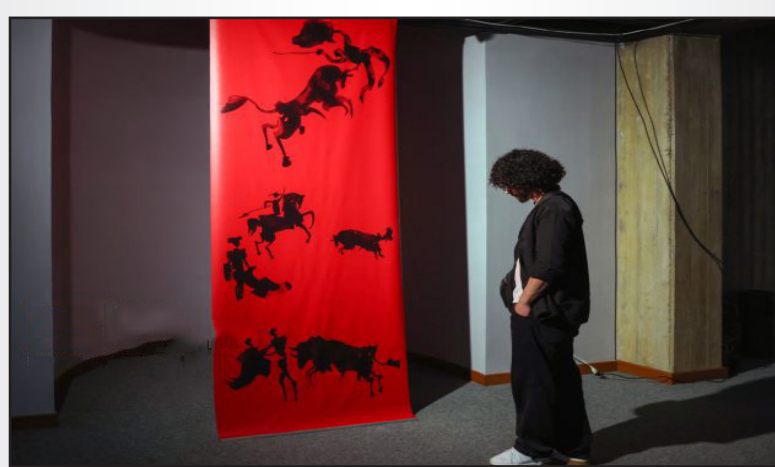
The exhibition includes pieces from various periods of Picasso's career, featuring 12 aquatint prints from Tauromachia (The Art of Bullfighting), alongside other significant works such as Painter and His Model, An Open Window to Rue Penthievre, Baboon and Young, and multiple versions of Weeping Woman.

The works, part of the museum's collection, are being displayed in Tehran for the first time.

The exhibition also features works by Iranian artists like Bahram Dabiri, Bahman Mohammads, and Hannibal Alkhas, as well as international figures such as Georges Braque, Robert Delaunay, and Joan Miró.

During the opening ceremony, Spain's ambassador highlighted Picasso's role in modern art, describing him as a pioneering figure in Cubism and a passionate advocate for peace, as reflected in his famous anti-war painting Guernica.

Deputy Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Nadereh Rezaei emphasized the museum's commitment to reinterpreting its collection



through fresh narratives, stating that Picasso in Tehran offers a new perspective on the artist's impact on global and Iranian art.

In her meeting with the Spanish ambassador, Rezaei emphasized the importance of cultural ties between Iran and Spain and proposed further collaboration in other artistic fields.

She also highlighted the recent performance of flamenco guitarist Daniel Casares at the 40th Fajr International Music Festival, which received a warm reception from Iranian audiences.

Rezaei noted that such events underscore the cultural connections between the two nations and could pave the way for more joint artistic

productions.

The Spanish ambassador welcomed the initiative, describing Iran as a country of great cultural significance for Spain.

He expressed his commitment to fostering deeper artistic cooperation but emphasized the need for careful planning to achieve meaningful and sustainable cultural exchanges.

Having been in Iran for nine months, Gaspar remarked on the warmth and cultural passion of the Iranian people, expressing hope that ongoing discussions and strategic planning would lead to further collaborative artistic projects.

The exhibition runs through April 20, 2025.



The 3D video mapping on Tehran's Azadi Tower to commemorate the greatest romantic epic poet in Persian literature, Nizami Ganjavi.

Photo by IRNA