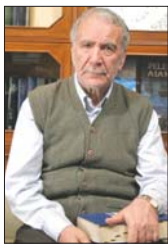


Spanish Univ. Organizes Molana Seminar



A seminar titled 'Life and Thoughts of Molana' was held jointly by Iranian Cultural Center in Spain and Complutense University of Madrid to mark the eighth birth centenary of Molana Jalaluddin Rumi, a well-known Iranian poet and mystic.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony, dean of the university's Linguistics Faculty, Damaso Lopez Garcia said that courses on Persian language and literature have already been conducted for students and hopefully, a department of Iranian studies will be established at the university, reported MNA.

Speaking at the same gathering, dean of the university's Islamic and

Arabic Studies Department Juan Martos expressed pleasure over holding the seminar and voiced his readiness to promote such programs.

Head of the Irano-Spanish Friendship Association Seyyed Hassan Shafti said that when one speaks of Molana's works, he/she always harbors an apprehension about sticking to its form while neglecting

their profound concepts. In the academic session of the seminar, five Iranian and Spanish researchers on Molana's works presented articles about the poet.

Tehran University professor, Ahmad Reza Khezri discussed the cultural and historical conditions prevailing during Molana's lifetime in his paper titled 'Life, Time and Secret to Molana's Eternality'.

Gholamreza Avani, head of Iran's Theosophy and Philosophy Research Institute presented an article titled 'Truth of Humanity in Molana's Thought'.

The final lecturer of the meeting was Gholamhossein Ebrahimi-Dinani, a noted Tehran University professor, who presented an article themed 'Wisdom in Molana's Thought'.

Referring to his global thought and personality, he also said that everybody in the world irrespective of race and religion can understand Molana's words because he has spoken in the wisdom language.

"In his opinion, wisdom is a divine gem bestowed to humanity," Ebrahimi-Dinani said, adding that Molana sees no conflict between wisdom and love since they are in harmony in the existence of God-fearing men, heading for the same destination.

You are ordained to recognize the Imams (the right successors of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)) and to obey them.

Imam Ali (AS)

Ehsaei's Works On Display in Russia

Paintings by Mohammad Ehsaei a noted Iranian artist are on display at Armitage Museum in Saint Petersburg, Russia.

Speaking to MNA, Ehsaei said that five Muslim painters have put on display their works in five halls of the museum. "Seven of my latest works are

also on display in one of the halls," he said.

These works will remain on view for a month, he said. The exhibition was held earlier held at Oriental Museum in Moscow and, according to organizers, it was warmly welcomed.

Iranian Films at French Events

Iranian films were screened in two leadic festivals namely Oberbiel and Cinnamal held this month.

According to press release faxed to Iran Daily by the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, a collection of films by noted Iranian director Abbas Kiarostami such as 'Passenger', 'Experience', 'Bread and Alley', 'Break', 'Chorus', 'Clothes for Wedding', 'Two Solutions for a Problem' and 'Where Is the Friend's House' as well as animations produced by

the center went on screen in Oberbiel which was held from November 12-18.

The animations screened in the festivals included 'Golbaran', 'Rokh', both produced by Ali Akbar Sadeqi, 'Sleep' by Ali Reza Chitaei, 'Flying Grandmother' by Fatemeh Goudarzi, 'Root in Sky' by Farkhandeh Torabi.

In recent years, the film 'Basho, Little Stranger' by another noted Iranian film director Bahram Beizaei won the grand award at the event.

Iranian animator and painter Ali Akbar Sadeqi served on the panel of jury

in an earlier round of the festival.

The film 'Flying Grandmother' by Fatemeh Goudarzi was also screened in Cinnamal Festival held from November 14-18.

In another section of the event, other Iranian films including 'Water and Mirror' by Bijan Zaman-Pira, 'Negligence' by Saeed Motarassef, 'Fruit, Olive Tree' by Misa Molavi, 'Last Village Not Counted' by Shahram Alidi, 'Silent Fellow Traveler' by Elham Hosseinzadeh, 'A Bit Higher' by Mehdi Jafari went on screen.

Shajarian to Perform at AUD

Following successful performances in Europe and the US, noted Iranian vocalist Mohammad Reza Shajarian will for the first time conduct a concert in Dubai, UAE on December 20-21.

The maestro, who completed a month-long European tour in May, will perform with his band 'Ava' at The American University in Dubai (AUD), reported IRNA.

This is the first time Shajarian has

decided to perform in one of the Persian Gulf littoral states.

Ava ensemble includes Homayoun Shajarian on 'Tonbak' (Persian goblet drum), Mohammad Firouzi on lute, Majid Derakhshani and Saied Farajpour on the traditional Iranian string instruments 'Tar' and 'Kamancheh', respectively.

The band also gave a presentation in Isfahan last month.

Kenya Keen on Expanding Ties

Kenyan ambassador to Tehran has voiced his country's readiness to boost cultural and commercial cooperation with Iran.

Speaking to IRNA at the end of his two-day visit to Yazd province, Ali Abbas Ali said, "Iran and Kenya signed two memoranda of understanding on expanding ties in the cultural heritage and tourism sectors."

Abbas Ali also appreciated efforts by Iranian authorities to safeguard historical monuments in the country.

Meanwhile, Yazd Governor

Reza Fallahzadeh, in a meeting with the ambassador, referred to Kenya's cultural potentials and welcomed all-out cooperation with that country.

Handicrafts from Yazd were presented to Abbas Ali and his entourage during the visit.

Yazd boasts more than 6,500 historical monuments, of which 1,100 sites are on the national heritage list.

PICTURE OF THE DAY



Iranian pottery at the nationwide Handicraft Exhibition in Kerman

Pahlavi Inscriptions Found

Two Sassanid era inscriptions were discovered in the third round of joint explorations undertaken by an Iran-French team in Kohan-Dej, Neyshabour, said head of Khorasan Razavi Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Department.

According to IRNA, Abolfazl Mokarramifard added that these inscriptions are of great significance in determining the cultural status of Neyshabour, Khorasan Razavi province.

He further said that one of the inscriptions features four lines of writing in Pahlavi Sassanid Script, whose contents have not yet been deciphered. However, according to experts, it is very important

to identify the layers pertaining to the Sassanid civilization in Kohan-Dej, he added.

Another object, he said, is a plaque featuring a humped cow and wild goat along with an inscription in Parthian Pahlavi Script.

This year's archeological excavations focused on the architecture of the area which can shed light on the developments during the Sassanid period, added the official.

Referring to the earlier rounds of excavations, Mokarramifard also said that the studies revealed that Kohan-Dej was fortified by parallel fences like Takht-e Soleiman in West Azarbaijan province.

Based on archeological studies undertaken by



A sample of Pahlavi script

Metropolitan Museum during 1937-1948 in Neyshabour, American archeologists maintained that Kohan-Dej dates back

to the early Islamic era. Therefore, Neyshabour of the Sassanid era should be studied elsewhere rather than Kohan-Dej.

Vahdat Will Host Fakhteh Concert

Hafez, Ohadi Maragheh, Houshang Ebtehal, and Rahi-Moayyeri will be performed in the first section while the second

section will feature pieces such as 'Broken Mirror', 'Shame and Interest', 'Hidden Secret', 'Dust in Desert' and

'Minstrel of Sorrows'. The group is made up of Ophelia Partov (on the piano), Gholamreza Sadreddini (Tonbak),

Reza Mousavizadeh (Tar), Pejman Parsi (Santour), Keyvan Ali-Mohammadi and Mehdi Teimouri (flute).

THEATER

Teth Family

Director: Maedeh Tahmasbi
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Venue: Niavaran Hall

Room Number 6

Director: Nasser Hosseini-Mehr
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Venue: Molavi Hall

Lesson

Director: Parinaz Al-e Agha
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Venue: Molavi Hall

Mash Mash Qoli Khan

Director: Nasser Avijeh
Time: 6:45 p.m.
Venue: Honar Hall

Gog and Magog

Director: Reza Fayyazi
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Venue: Honar Hall

INFORMATION

Prayer Timings

Dawn: 5:16
Ankara: Sunrise: 6:37
Noon: 11:50
Evening: 17:15

WEATHER GUIDE

	MON	TUE
Tehran:		
High:	20 °C	17 °C
Low:	5 °C	6 °C
	High °C	
Athens:	19	16
Ankara:	10	6
Cairo:	23	22
Copenhagen:	4	5
Frankfurt:	1	4
Karachi:	32	31
Kuwait City:	30	31
London:	9	9
Madrid:	15	20
Moscow:	-7	1
New Delhi:	30	30
Paris:	10	11
Riyadh:	31	31
Rome:	12	10
Vienna:	4	4

Sculpture Biennial Opens Tomorrow

Fifth Tehran Sculpture Biennial themed 'Peace, Life and Future Horizon' will be held in Tehran Museum of Contemporary Arts from November 20 to December 31.

According to Fars news agency, the event will be sponsored by Iran's Association Sculptors, Culture and Islamic Guidance Ministry, Institute for Development of Visual Arts, Academy of Art, Tehran Municipality's cultural artistic and beautification organizations.

The panel of jury includes Saeed Shahlapour, Hamid Shans and Behrouz Daresah as well as two American and Korean sculptors while the selection board is made up of Daresah, Shans, Hamidollah Rezaei, Reza

Qarehbaghi and Iraj Mohammadi.

The first to third winners of the event will receive 20, 15 and 10 gold coins respectively as well as a one-month sabbatical to France.

Poems from Sa'di,

Literature History Compilation for Review

The Academy of Persian Language and Literature, in its seventh session with the Iranology Foundation, will discuss the shortcomings in compiling the history of Persian literature.

According to MNA, Ahmad Samiei Gilani, a permanent member of the academy, will lecture on the development of Persian literature and the need to overcome the shortcomings at the session today.

Much of the materials about history of Persian language have been compiled after the 20th century. Most of the earlier texts dealt with brief introduction of poets without any criticism on their works. No comprehensive analysis on prose was available before that.

TONGUE IN CHEEK

