

If you want to pray to Allah for better means of subsistence, then first give something in charity.

News in Brief

Outstanding Publishers Named



Selected publishers at the 21st Tehran International Book Fair were named on the event's closing ceremony on Sunday which was attended by Majlis Speaker Gholamali Haddad Adel and Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Mohammad Hossein Saffar Harandi.

According to ISNA, Astan-e Qods Razavi Publications was named as the exemplary publisher in the youth section, while Shahed Publishing House was chosen as the best publisher of children's books.

Thieme and Katibeh publications were selected the best in the Latin and Arabic sections, respectively.

Fatemi and Shabaviz publications were also chosen the best private publishers of youth and children's books.

The criteria for selecting the best publishers were the number of first-edition books, the diversity of books presented at the fair as well as the discounts given to buyers.

War Photo Exhibit Begins



A photo exhibition featuring the works by noted Iranian photographer Alfred Yaqoubzadeh opens at Imam Ali (AS) Religious Arts Museum on Tuesday.

The event, which is organized to protest the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Zionist regime, will put on show 100 photos themed 'Eighteen Years of Palestinian Resistance'.

The exhibit titled 'Wall' will be held in cooperation with Tehran Municipality's Cultural-Artistic Organization, the museum's Public Relations Office said in a fax to Iran Daily.

Yaqoubzadeh was born in 1958. He began his activities concurrent with the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

His early works include photography of the 1980-88 Iraq-imposed war as well as cooperation with the Associated Press and Sigma Photo Agency.

He has also given full coverage of Lebanese civil war and portrayed crises in countries such as Afghanistan, Turkey, Tajikistan, Somalia, Cuba, Uzbekistan and Iraq.

Yaqoubzadeh is the winner of the first grand prize of World Press Photo and the best photo in NPPA in photojournalism.

The exhibit will run until May 22.

377 Works Submitted To Hamedan Film Fest



Sixty countries have so far submitted a total of 377 works to the 22nd Hamedan International Film Festival for Children and Young Adults that opens in June.

Australia, Germany, Belgium, China, India, Denmark, Indonesia, Singapore, Japan, Greece, Norway, and Turkey are among the participating countries, MNA reported.

Deputy culture minister for cinematic affairs, Mohammad Reza Jafari Jelveh, believes that this year's festival should highlight the films which focus on the current situation in the occupied Palestine and the rights of Palestinian children.

Cannes Jury Members Announced

Sean Penn, the Oscar-winning US actor turned director, heads the nine-member jury that will award the Palme d'Or at the May 14-25 Cannes film festival opening this week.

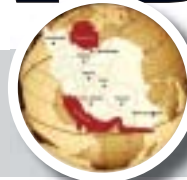
The following is a full list of jury members:

- Sergio Castellitto (Italy), actor, director
 - Natalie Portman (US), actress
 - Alfonso Cuaron (Mexico), director
 - Apichatpong Weerasethakul (Thailand), director
 - Alexandra Maria Lara (Germany), actress
 - Rachid Bouchareb (France), director
 - Marjane Satrapi (France-Iran), comic-book author and director
 - Jeanne Balibar (France), actress
- According to AFP, Taiwanese director Hou Hsiao-hsien is to head a jury that will the best short film and the best of 17 films selected for the Cannes Cinefondation, a foundation set up to promote young filmmakers.

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Mahtab Nassirpour (l) and Shabnam Moqaddami in a scene from 'The Son of Soil', which will be presented at the upcoming Cannes film market on May 14-25. Directed by Mohammad Ali Basheh Ahangar, 'The Son of Soil' belongs to the genre of 'Sacred Defense' (1980-88 Iran-Iraq war).

'The Son of Soil'

'Ferdowsi Nights' at Honar Center

Tehran's Honar Cultural Center is holding a program titled 'Ferdowsi Nights' to commemorate the renowned Iranian poet Hakim Abolqasem Ferdowsi.

Announcing this, Majid Sarsangi, deputy head of Tehran Municipality's Cultural-Artistic Organization for artistic affairs told MNA that the program includes an art exhibition, a book fair, film screening, performance of traditional music, play narration as well as recitation of Ferdowsi's epic 'Shahnameh' (Book of the King).

He added that the art exhibit, which is open to the public everyday from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., features teahouse paintings and miniatures inspired by Shahnameh tales as well as handicrafts and statuettes.

"The center's main hall as well as Kouchak and Tajrobeh halls will screen animations, documentaries and feature films on Shahnameh," he said.

Sarsangi further said that Morshed Mirza Ali will recite Shahnameh tales in the center's outdoor area every day at 7:00 p.m.

The event runs until Thursday.

Meanwhile, the Iranian Academy of Arts will hold International Shahnameh Illustration Congress on Wednesday and Thursday.

Noted miniaturists, including Mahmoud Farschian and Majid Mehregan as well as 23 other artists will feature Shahnameh stories at the event.



The statue of Hakim Abolqasem Ferdowsi

Film on Imam Sadr Planned

An Iranian director is to film a biopic about Imam Musa Sadr, the Iranian-born Lebanese philosopher and Shiite religious leader.

Speaking to Fars News Agency, producer of the film, Manouchehr Mohammadi said, "Kamal Tabrizi will direct the film once the script is finalized and presented to Farabi Cinema Foundation. It has been reviewed by the Imam Sadr family several times. Since a few of his family members live in Iran and the rest live in Lebanon, finalizing the film script was time consuming."

Mohammadi added that his team has planned the shooting for this year, but since the film will be shot in Lebanon the exact date of production depends on internal developments of that country.

The film is meant to help clarify the fate of Imam Sadr which is still an issue of concern for his supporters, he concluded.

The distinguished spiritual and political leader played an all-important role in Lebanese political life, particularly in connection with organizing the Lebanese Shiite, who had long been deprived of a say in the country's political and economic life.

In 1978, Imam Sadr mysteriously disappeared on his way to Libya. Some people believe that he is still alive while others think that he was martyred.



Imam Musa Sadr

>>> Weather

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