



Imam Ali (AS):

Value of a man depends on the art and skill he has attained.

News in Brief

Parvin Commemoration Due

A ceremony commemorating the late Iranian poetess Parvin Etesami will be held in Tehran's Niyavaran Cultural Complex on March 16.

According to IRNA, the event will be attended by noted literary figures such as Mahdieh Elahi-Qomshai. Etesami (1907-1940) was born in Tabriz, East Azarbaijan province. She composed her first poem when she was eight. She received her high school diploma from the American Girls' School of Tehran and also taught at the school for two years.



Her poems focus on themes of social awareness and the human aspect of life with simple yet insightful allegorical elements. There are no signs of romanticism or feminism in her works, although she lived in the period when Iran was beginning to modernize.

She was among the most prominent Persian poets of the 20th century. Her first anthology was published in 1935. The theme of her poetry is social, humanitarian and mystical concepts.

She died from Typhoid fever in Tehran in 1940 and was buried in Qom province.

'Incendies' Wins Top Prizes At Canada Film Awards

Writer/director Denis Villeneuve's foreign-language Oscar nominee 'Incendies' took home top honors at the Genies, Canada's film awards, on Thursday.



The Quebec drama about a mother who hides tragic secrets that her two children must uncover in the Middle East was honored for motion picture, director and adapted screenplay, Reuters reported.

The acting categories were dominated by the foreign actors who starred in Golden Globe-winning comedy 'Barney's Version,' with Paul Giamatti winning for best actor, Dustin Hoffman for supporting actor, and Mianne Driver for supporting actress. The female lead in 'Incendies', Lubna Azabal, won the best actress prize.

The same two films divided most of the craft categories, with 'Incendies' taking the cinematography, editing, and sound Genies. 'Barney's Version' won the awards for makeup, original score and costume design.

The Genies were telecast from Ottawa and hosted by William Shatner. "They wanted a host that appealed to a younger, hipper demographic. Then they watched the Oscars," the iconic Canadian actor joked.

Fine Chinese Ceramics to Be Offered at Sotheby's in NY

On 23 March 2011 Sotheby's Fine Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art sale will offer superb examples of Chinese painting, furniture, ceramics and other works of art.

The 200 lot sale will be part of the Asia Week series of auctions at Sotheby's New York. The highlight of the sale is An Important Imperial Nian Rebellion Battle Painting 'Siege of Pingyu,' by Qingkuang et al, Qing Dynasty, Guangxu Period (est. \$800,000/1.2 million), Art Daily said.

It comes from a set of 67 paintings, of which only a very small number have survived making this example extremely rare. The painting depicts the siege and re-gaining of the fortified city of Pingyu which is being attacked by mounted Qing troops.



At a time when Imperial works remain particularly sought after, the auction includes a number of other Imperial pieces such as A Fine and Rare Large Imperial 'Zitan' Long Table (Tiaoan), Qing Dynasty, Qianlong Period (est. \$500/700,000) and A Rare 'Famille-Rose' Reticulated Revolving Vase, Qianlong Seal Mark and Period, (\$400/500,000). Further highlights include a number of jades from the collection of Robert Elliot Tod, a remarkable gentleman who built his collection at the beginning of the 20th century.

In addition to the important battle painting the auction also includes a Portrait Of A Woman 'The Fragrant Concubine' In The Style Of Lang Shining (Giuseppe Castiglione), an oil on paper from the 18th/19th Century, which is reported to depict one of the favorite concubines of the Qianlong emperor (est. \$100/150,000).

Highlights of the porcelain in the sale include A Rare 'Famille-Rose' Reticulated Revolving Vase, Qianlong Seal Mark And Period, (\$400/500,000). Revolving vases such as these come from a period in which potters were becoming increasingly innovative and ambitious in their work. They are amongst the most complicated pieces produced at the porcelain kilns in Jingdezhen, demonstrating both fine quality of decoration and technical innovation.

IRAN DAILY

Managing Director: Aziz Shahrmoammadi
 Editorial Dept. Tel: 88755761-2
 Fax: 88761869
 Subscription Dept. Tel: 88329002-4
 Advertising Dept. Tel: 88500617
 Internet Add.: http://www.iran-daily.com
 E-mail Add.: iran-daily@iran-daily.com
 Printing House: Melli Bank

Add.: Iran Cultural & Press Institute, #208 Khorramshahr Avenue Tehran/Iran

Iran Daily has no responsibility whatsoever for the advertisements and promotional material printed in the newspaper.



On the threshold of the Norouz (the Iranian New Year, starting March 21), a charity festival was held nationwide on Thursday. (Photo by Bahman Sadeqi)



Nazeri Performs 'Shahnameh' in Tehran

Noted Iranian vocalist Shahram Nazeri performed a concert based on stories from 'Shahnameh' (Grand Book), a magnum opus by Abolqasem Ferdowsi.

Accompanied by his group 'Ferdowsi', Nazeri sang the same pieces which he had performed during recent concerts in Isfahan province on March 3-4, IRNA said.

'Zahhak's Kingdom', 'Ferdoun's Birth' and 'The Story of Kavah, the Blacksmith' were presented at the event held at Tehran's International Fairground.

"This is the first time 'Shahnameh' is being presented in this form. In the past century, none of our musicians has had such a perspective toward such a magnificent literary work. I have made every effort to present it in a musical form," Nazeri said.



"We had earlier performed such concerts in New York, Paris and a number of African states such as Tunisia. However, this is our first Shahnameh performance in Iran."

Nazeri has been a pioneer in integrating contemporary Persian poetry into the classical repertoire. His progressive approach to music has led to new collaborative projects with his son Hafez. In September 2007, he received France's most prestigious award the Chevalier des Arts et Lettres for his lifetime achievements in Persian classical music.

Hafez Nazeri is also a noted musician. He has composed a symphony on renowned Persian mystic poet Molana Jalaleddin Rumi, which will soon be distributed by the Sony Corporation.

Lebanon Publishes Book By Iranian Scholar

Lebanon has published a comprehensive book on the history of old religions written by Beirut-based Iranian Professor Raouf Sobhani in Arabic.

The book provides useful information on the history and geographical distribution of old religions in Iran, Egypt, Iraq, India, China, Japan and Greece.

Sobhani has described different religions in detail and in a simple language. His thorough and eloquent descriptions about old Iranian religions have provided Arab scholars with a complete and comprehensive source on Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism and Mithraism, PressTV reported.

The writer discusses different religions in a chronological order and in four chapters.

The first chapter is about the religions in ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, Rome and idolatry among Arabs of Pre-Islamic era.

The second section of the book is dedicated to religions in India and discusses

Buddhism, Hinduism, Sikhism and Jainism.

Japanese and Chinese religions are the subject of the book's third chapter which gives a full introduction to faiths such as Shinto, Zen Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism.

The final chapter introduces religions in ancient Persia including Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism and Mithraism.

Professor Sobhani's book on the life and ideology of renowned Iranian philosopher and scholar Mir Damad was also published in Lebanon in December 2010.

The first book ever written on Mir Damad in Arabic, 'The Philosophical Thought of Mir Damad Astarabadi' discusses Mir Damad's profound and complex philosophical ideas, which according to Sobhani made it one of the most challenging works ever done by the writer.

Professor Raouf Sobhani is also working on another book analyzing Mir Damad's poetry.

Paris to Exhibit Modern Iranian Art

The Taiss Gallery in Paris will mount an exhibition of paintings and sculptures created by two young Iranian artists.

Entitled 'Ut pictura poesis', the exhibition displays works by Paris-based painter Katayoun Rouhi, and sculptor Kambiz Sabri from March 11 to May 11, 2011.

According to the gallery's website, the artworks convey the concepts of plenitude and a quest for knowledge in a symbolic way.

The introduction describes Rouhi's paintings as the "quest for self that passes through introspection and the necessity of living in osmosis with nature."

She has covered the figures in her paintings with her own Persian poem that is written backwards and therefore cannot be read, according to Mehr News Agency.

"The meaning is hidden behind the sign as if to signify the importance of the underlying words, of the allegory," the Taiss website says.

The exhibition showcases paintings of Rouhi's Trees series which symbolize the quest for identity with using tree as the main theme.

"In Persian poetry, [tree] is a point of reference," Rouhi explained. "During my childhood we oriented ourselves in the wild by the trees that punctuated the landscape."



Weather



Arak



Ardebil



Gorgan



Rasht



Yasouj



Yazd

13 ↑
3 ↓

Tehran



Ashkhabad



Bishkek



Copenhagen



Khartoum



Mecca



Seoul