

'Tamay' painting expo underway in Tehran



Arts & Culture Desk

IRNA - A group exhibition titled 'Tamay' (Full Moon), featuring a collection of paintings by children aged seven to fifteen from Golakhvor village in East Azarbaijan, is underway at Sharif Gallery in Tehran, until June 2. The exhibition is the result of a two-day workshop held in response to the earthquake in the villages of East Azarbaijan and West Azarbaijan provinces. The profits from this exhibition will go directly to the children who participated in the workshop.



The exhibition showcases the artistic talents of young children, providing them with an opportunity to express their creativity through painting. The event aims to raise awareness about the resilience and artistic potential of children in the affected regions. The paintings on display reflect the children's perspectives, emotions, and experiences, offering a glimpse into their lives. Sahar Ja'fari, the organizer of the exhibition, expressed her enthusiasm for providing a platform for these young artists to share their artwork with the public. "The paintings exhibited here are a testament to the resilience and creativity of these children. Despite the challenges they have faced, they have managed to express their inner worlds through art. It is truly inspiring," she said.

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Tehran, Beijing ink agreement to establish China Library at Allameh Tabataba'i University

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Iran and China signed an agreement to establish the China Library at Allameh Tabataba'i University in Tehran.

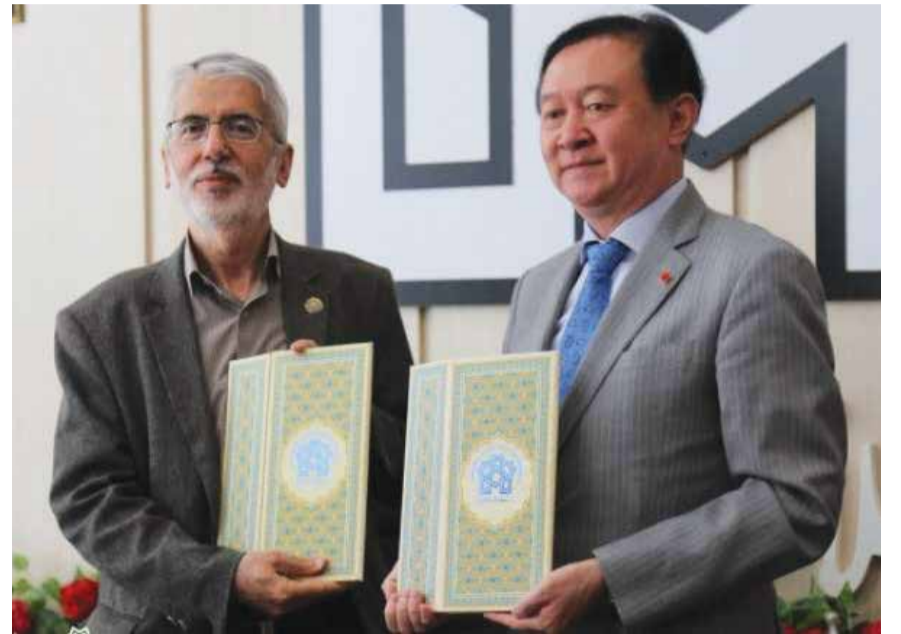
The memorandum of cooperation was jointly signed by Allameh Tabataba'i University, the Chinese Embassy in Iran, and the State Council Information Office of China, IRNA reported.

During the signing ceremony, Abdollah Mo'tamedi, the president of Allameh Tabataba'i University, emphasized the Islamic Republic's commitment to strengthening relations with Eastern countries, particularly China. He regarded the establishment of the China Library as an invaluable opportunity to enhance scientific collaboration between the two nations. Mo'tamedi expressed a keen interest in forging closer academic connections with Chinese universities, highlighting the significance of sharing knowledge be-

tween Allameh Tabataba'i University and its Chinese counterparts. This would be achieved through faculty exchanges, joint research endeavors, and educational activities.

Notably, Allameh Tabataba'i University already boasts a Chinese Language Department, and its undergraduate students demonstrate a strong enthusiasm, aptitude, and motivation to learn the Chinese language. Mo'tamedi further revealed his aspiration to launch master's and doctoral programs in Chinese language studies with in Iran, with the assistance of Chinese language professors. Furthermore, he expressed a willingness to contribute to the promotion and establishment of Persian language libraries in China, fostering reciprocal interactions with Chinese universities.

The Chinese Ambassador to Iran Chang Hua emphasized the profound bonds between nations, asserting that the true proximity of countries



lies in the closeness of their people's hearts. Acknowledging the enduring China-Iran relations spanning over five decades, the ambassador underscored their unwavering support and cooperation in the face

of international changes. Highlighting the recent advancements in China-Iran relations, especially in cultural and social spheres, the envoy emphasized the substantial progress made and the noticeable inter-

actions between the two nations. This initiative to establish the China Library serves as another milestone in strengthening bilateral ties and deepening cultural exchange between Iran and China.

Stamp exhibition to display Iranian arts, culture



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Iranian arts and culture will be on display at the First International Exhibi-

tion of POSTEXPO, scheduled to take place from May 29 to June 1.

The exhibition will feature a captivating display of

gold and silver stamps meticulously engraved with the images of renowned figures and cultural events, IRNA wrote.

With the objective of fostering knowledge exchange among enthusiastic participants, this event also seeks to acquaint visitors with the remarkable achievements of the industry.

Emphasizing the postal ecosystem, e-commerce, and intelligent logistics, this exhibition adopts an interactive approach to highlight a diverse array of facets such as digital marketing, streamlined service

provision, and operational efficiency. Its overarching aim is to acquaint the audience with the latest technologies, breakthroughs, and services in the realms of supply chain management, postal operations, and retail logistics, with a particular focus on digital transformation and innovative solutions.

The extraordinary exhibition owes its success, in part, to the fruitful collaboration between the Parnia Handicraft Company and the National Post Company of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Together, they have

played a pivotal role in organizing cultural events centered around stamps within Iran and the international market.

Notably, Tehran recently bore witness to the grand inauguration of the 'Decorative Stamps Museum, an event held in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the International Council of Museums (ICOM). This remarkable endeavor further underscores the growing significance of stamps in Iran's cultural landscape and the global arena.

Sursock Museum reopens, rising from Beirut's devastating blast

After three years, Lebanon's Sursock Museum



reopened to the public, marking a significant milestone. The museum, tragically affected by the devastating explosion in Beirut's port caused by mishandled chemicals, saw the loss of numerous cherished paintings and collections. Nonetheless, its revival brought hope and renewed appreciation for art and cultural heritage.

The reopening offered Beirut residents a rare bright spot in a country reeling from a crippling economic crisis that has

left around three-quarters of Lebanon's population of six million in poverty, Daily Sabah reported.

The museum housed Lebanese art from the late 1800s, including the work of distinguished painter Georges Corm and Fouad Debbas' library of 30,000 photographs - one of the largest private photo collections. The photos are from across the Levant, a region encompassing countries along the eastern Mediterranean, from

Türkiye to Egypt, from 1830 until the 1960s. In 2008, a seven-year project renovated and expanded the museum, relaunching it in 2015. But the Aug. 4, 2020, blast in Beirut's port - only about 800 meters (875 yards) away - hit the museum fully front on. Its stained glass windows were shattered, doors were blown out, and almost half the artwork on display was damaged. The explosion ripped through much of Beirut, killing over 200 people and in-

cluding over 6,000.

The destruction was unprecedented, said museum director Karina El Helou.

The restoration was long and painstaking work. Sursock's portrait was taken to Paris, along with two other art pieces, and restored there. Experts from Lebanon and abroad flocked to the museum to piece together damaged terracotta sculptures and fix tears and scratches that had marred the paintings. Dust and debris from the explosion were carefully removed to bring back the splendor of many items. Dozens gathered in Sursock's large, tree-lined courtyard on Friday evening, serenaded by

a choir and a band performing on the entrance stairs for the reopening. The museum, looking almost exactly as it did before the blast, drew sighs of appreciation. Others remembered how much Beirut has withered since then and how scores of artists have left the country.

The Sursock Museum was not the only art space damaged in the port explosion and restored in the years since. At reopening, visitors could view five new exhibitions of both classical and modern art - a testament to Lebanon's artistic and cultural history and the perseverance of its people despite the country's troubled past.