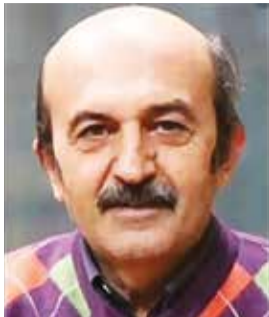


## Iranian voice dubber Ashkbus dies



IRNA - Ali-Mohammad Ashkbus, a veteran figure in Iran's dubbing industry, sadly passed away.

Ashkbus began his career in voice dubbing at the age of 18 in the year 1961. Over the years, he excelled not only in dubbing and voice acting but also contributed as an assistant to dubbing directors, showcasing his multifaceted talent.

Among his notable vocal performances, Ashkbus lent his voice to the series 'Zero Degree Turn' and the animated works 'The Adventures of Hutch the Honeybee' and 'Ganbare, Kickers!'. The passing of Ali-Mohammad Ashkbus left behind a legacy of exceptional voice work that will be remembered and cherished by colleagues and audiences alike.

## Italy demands Louvre return looted antiquities

AFP - Italy demanded the restitution of seven antiquities which it believes were looted before being sold by dealers to the Louvre in Paris in the 1980s and 90s, the museum said on Friday. The claim, first reported in Le Monde newspaper, was made in a letter handed over by Italian Culture Minister Gennaro Sangiuliano in February during a visit to France, a spokesperson for the museum said.

All seven items, which include an amphora as well as ancient Greek vases ranging from the 4th-6th centuries BC, were sold by Italian traders convicted or suspected of trafficking in ancient artworks.

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# Winners of Havva International Film Festival announced



### Arts & Culture Desk

The first Havva International Film Festival concluded

with a grand ceremony on Friday, where the distinguished winners were announced and commended.

The festival, which commenced on July 7 and coincided with Iran's "Family Day" observance, aims to highlight the crucial role of women and the influential impact of families within the social fabric.

Under the motto, "We Stand for the Family," this significant event strives to provide a prominent platform for the distribution and showcasing of films that center around women and families, both within Iran and globally. Collaborating with various cultural centers and organizations, the festival endeavors to broaden the pathways for these cinematic works.

According to Hanna Polak, a producer and one of the directors of the Polish Film

Festival, who came to Tehran for the festival with the film 'Angels of Sinjar,' said, "I am familiar with Iranian cinema. Women in Iranian cinema hold significant positions in directing, producing, and acting, and the Iranian cinema scene in this regard is similar to the global cinema scene."

She stated, "As women, we have a more emotional perspective on the world, which gives us a more artistic outlook. There are great Iranian and international female filmmakers and screenwriters who bring a feminine and dramatic gaze to their work, in a way that many men may not be able to present such works."

A member of China Theatre Association Bayin, who was among the jury members of the festival,

said, family and women are important issues in all societies and Iranian filmmakers have been very successful in addressing these works.

The secretariat of the Havva International Film Festival received an overwhelming response, receiving an impressive total of 350 submissions from 23 countries, including notable contributions from Italy, Ireland, and Denmark.

Organized by the Goharshad International Foundation, and spearheaded by the visionary Mahdieh Sadaat-Mehvar, this year's event took place on a national scale, from July 7 to 14, with specific screenings and activities occurring in Tehran, from July 11 to 14.

## Iranian satirist Kioumars Saberi commemorated

### Arts & Culture Desk

The late Iranian writer and satirist Kioumars Saberi was honored in a ceremony on Friday, graced by the presence of Iran's Culture and Islamic Guidance Minister, Mohammad-Mehdi Esmaeili. During the event, Esmaeili emphasized the importance of cultivating a spirit of humor within the country, harnessing the Iranian people's innate poetic and literary prowess to effectively convey messages through irony, metaphor, and humor, according to IRNA.

He stressed the need to fortify this distinctive characteristic of Iranian society with a dedicated approach. Minister Esmaeili made these remarks on the occasion of the 7th National Satire and Media Festival, known as "Tanz Pahlou." He lauded Saberi's exceptional ability to captivate audiences with his artistry and creativity, as evident in the monthly satirical magazine 'Golagha,' which left readers eagerly anticipating each new issue. Saberi's writing demonstrated a polite and noble style, 'Golagha' con-

scientiously observed the boundaries of religious traditions and societal decorum.

Highlighting the approaching 20th anniversary of Saberi's passing, Esmaeili emphasized the importance of ensuring that future generations will remember Saberi's contributions even more than the present one. A provincial official in Gilan, Reza Seqati, also shared insights from the festival, noting a remarkable 28% increase in submissions to the secretariat compared to the previous year. A total of

1,318 works were submitted to the festival, of which 21 outstanding contributions were honored.

Minister Esmaeili underscored that humor serves as a universal language, fostering understanding and providing a shared means of communication between people and officials. Expressing social demands through humor allows for the articulation of concerns without causing harm.

Born in 1941 in Gilan Province, Kioumars Saberi, widely known by his pen name "Golagha," was a prominent



contemporary writer and satirist.

After battling leukemia for an extended period, Saberi passed away in Tehran in 2004.

His influential work, 'A Couple of Sensible Words,' served as the impetus for the creation of the national festival.



Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Mohammad-Mehdi Esmaeili, addresses attendees at a ceremony held in Fuman County, Gilan Province, on July 14, 2023, to honor the renowned Iranian satirist Kioumars Saberi. ● IRNA

## At Peru temple site, archaeologists explore 3,000-year-old 'condor's passageway'

Archaeologists working in Peru uncovered a 3,000-year-old sealed corridor dubbed "the condor's passageway" that likely leads to other chambers inside what was once a massive temple complex pertaining to the ancient Chavin culture.

Located around 190 miles (306 km) northeast of Lima, the Chavin de Huantar archaeological site is among the culture's most important centers, thriving from around 1,500-550 B.C, Reuters wrote.

The Chavin are well-known for their advanced art, often featuring depictions of birds and felines. They date back to the first sedentary farming communities in the northern highlands of the Peruvian Andes, more than 2,000 years before the Inca Empire rose to power.

The latest Chavin discoveries focus on a hallway inside a south-



ern portion of the temple that was sealed due to what archaeologists believe was its structural weakness, but that now offers a glimpse into the earliest days of the Chavin.

"What we have here has been frozen in time," lead archeologist John Rick told Reuters.

A large ceramic piece weighing some 37 pounds (17 kg) decorated with what appears to be a condor's head and wings has been found in the passageway, along with a ceramic bowl, both unearthed in May 2022 when the

entrance was uncovered.

The condor, one of the largest birds in the world, was associated with power and prosperity in ancient Andean cultures.

The temple complex features terraces as well as a network of passageways, which have only recently been discovered.

Rick, a Stanford University archeologist, has said much of the temple complex remains to be excavated.

The entrance to the "condor's passageway" was first explored by Rick's team using cameras mounted on robots, seeking to negotiate the debris that once filled it as well as avoiding the risk of further collapse of the ancient architecture.

The United Nations' educational, scientific and cultural arm UNESCO declared Chavin de Huantar a world heritage site in 1985.

## Chemical imaging reveals hidden details in Egyptian paintings

Researchers using a cutting-edge technique discovered hidden details in two ancient Egyptian paintings in the Theban Necropolis, near the River Nile, that date back more than 3,000 years.

The paintings are located within the tombs, in chapels where people could gather to commemorate the dead, CNN wrote. Using portable chemical imaging technology, the researchers identified alterations made by the artists that are rare in Egyptian paintings, commonly thought to be the product of highly formalized workflows.

The study is also trying to upend tradition in Egyptology, as the analysis was performed in the tombs with advanced portable devices, whereas most studies are traditionally performed in museums or laboratories.



"What is new is the way we are trying to use those tools," said Philippe Martinez, an Egyptologist at the Sorbonne University in Paris and lead author of the study published Wednesday in the journal PLOS ONE.

"The way these works of art have been dealt with before has been mainly, purely analog, and they have been somewhat

taken for granted — nobody has been really looking at them from the point of view of the artists. We want to understand how these paintings were made."

Chemical imaging technology involves X-ray fluorescence. X-rays, which are more commonly used in checking for fractures, create a map of the surface of the painting down to the molecular level, including its chemical properties. Another process, hyperspectral imaging, analyzes the painting on multiple wavelengths, such as ultraviolet or infrared, revealing more than is visible to the human eye.

The digital technology was used in two tombs that both date from the Ramesside Period (1292 BC to 1075 BC) in ancient Egypt.