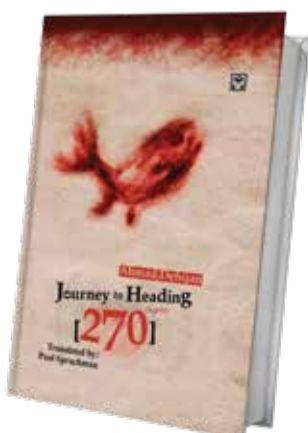


Iranian resistance literature showcased at Moscow Book Fair



The 36th International Moscow Book Fair commenced on Thursday, August 31, and will continue until September 3, welcoming visitors. The Islamic Republic of Iran experiences its eighth presence at this event by introducing and presenting 600 book titles and hosting various cultural sessions and workshops. One of the cognitive components of contemporary Iran is the concept of resistance and resilience. The victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979, led by Imam Khomeini, created new boundaries for freedom-seeking fronts, turning Iran into the foremost stronghold of the oppressed against the arrogant powers. This situation subjected the global hegemonic system to its harshest attacks, including military, economic, cultural, and political pressures. These attacks have persisted in various forms to this day. Therefore, from the early days of the revolution's victory, the front against global arrogance has always remained open, giving rise to various epic events. These epics have significantly contributed to the development and richness of the literature of resistance and resilience. For this reason, studying and reviewing these sources are considered one of the best ways to understand the culture of contemporary Iran.

The concepts promoted in Iranian resistance literature are approved by all free people around the world and are not limited to political borders due to their universality and transcendent nature. For this reason, translating and publishing these works in other languages will be a crucial step in advancing Iran's cultural diplomacy. The Islamic Republic of Iran's booth at the 36th International Moscow Book Fair presents important works from Iranian resistance literature.



Ahmad Dehqan's 'Journey to Heading 270 Degrees' is a novel set during the Iran-Iraq War and focuses on the experiences of a high school student who participates in several operations named Naser, and it is one of the best examples of Iranian resistance literature.

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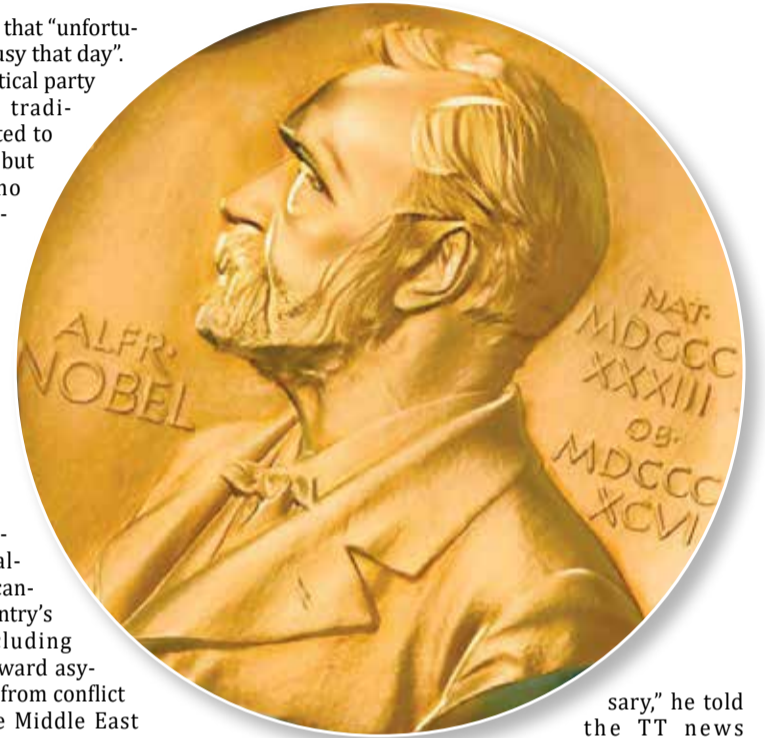
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Nobel reverses policy to include Iran, Russia, Belarus

The Nobel Foundation which administers the prestigious awards has reversed its invitation policy and invited Iran, Russia, and Belarus, as well as the leader of a far-right Swedish party, who had previously been banned. Vidar Helgesen, the executive director of the private foundation, said in a statement that there was a global trend in which "dialogue between those with differing views is being reduced," according to TRT World. To counter that, he said, "We are now broadening our invitations to celebrate and understand the Nobel Prize and the importance of free science, free culture and free, peaceful societies." The foundation said that invitation for the 2023 events was extended to all countries with diplomatic missions in Sweden and Norway and parties "that have parliamentary rep-

resentation via democratic elections," adding that "this common approach promotes opportunities to convey the important messages of the Nobel Prize to everyone, and in future this practice will be common to the entire organization." Last year, the diplomatic envoys of Russia and Belarus were barred from attending the glittery prize ceremonies and banquets, which always take place on December 10, because of the war in Ukraine, and the ambassador of Iran was also excluded because of "the serious and escalating situation" in the country. All the Nobel Prizes are handed out in Stockholm other than the Nobel Peace Prize, which is awarded in Oslo. The foundation also extended the invitation to the Sweden Democrats party leader Jimmie Akesson, who declined it, saying

on Facebook that "unfortunately I'm busy that day". Swedish political party leaders are traditionally invited to the banquet but Akesson, who heads a nationalist party with far-right roots, has been snubbed in the past. The Sweden Democrats, which are seen by some as a threat to fundamental values in the Scandinavian country's society, including tolerance toward asylum-seekers from conflict zones in the Middle East and Africa, came second in the 2022 parliamentary elections. Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson said Friday he would not have allowed



Russia to attend if it had been his choice. "To isolate Russia in every possible way — militarily, economically — it is neces-

sary," he told the TT news agency. "In that situation, I would not have invited to a purely social celebration." The Nobel Prize winners will be announced in October.

Iran, Russia need to work together over children's books

Arts & Culture Desk

The focus of the 36th International Moscow Book Fair (from August 30 to September 3) is children's and young adult's books. Thus, organizers of the event have included the first-ever International Moscow Children's Book Fair as part of this exhibition. Children's books are an irreplaceable component of education and upbringing in any society. Human social life is deeply rooted in the kind of education received in early years. Social stability and evolution have a two-way relationship with culture, and achieving progress highlights the importance of education and nurturing. Throughout history, established and evolving societies have placed a significant role on educational and nurturing institutions. On the other hand, studying the history of human thought reveals that education and upbringing have always been the focal point of prominent thinkers in all societies, serving as the most essential and foundational issue on the path to social development and the



creation of an ideal city. In contemporary times, researchers can compare the educational ideas of prominent intellectuals in their own society with those of other societies to enrich educational discourse. Undoubtedly, children's books published in each country reflect the intellectual and major educational discussions among thinkers and cultural figures of that nation. Therefore, one of the crucial features of international book fairs in different countries can be the ex-

change of experiences and achievements in the realm of children's literature, consequently promoting educational and nurturing accomplishments. Both Iran and Russia possess rich and significant cultural and civilizational backgrounds. The classical culture and literature of both countries have many admirers worldwide, and cultural exchanges between Iran and Russia have always brought great benefits to human heritage. The exchange of Iranian and Russian experiences in

the field of children's books can also mark significant events since it involves the exchange of educational ideas to some extent. Cultural centers in both countries can play a vital role in facilitating this exchange and introducing valuable resources for translation and publication to each other. A search in the database of Iran's House of Books and Literature reveals that in the past four decades, 231 titles of Russian children's books have been translated into Persian. Additionally, sta-

tistics show that these resources have been reprinted 346 times. In total, 146 translators have published 577 children's books, by 140 publishers in Iran. The International Moscow Book Fair provides an excellent platform for fostering cultural exchange, especially in the realm of children's literature, and the collaboration between Iran and Russia in this regard holds the potential to enrich the educational landscape and promote cross-cultural understanding.

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