

First photos taken of Imam Reza Shrine

Arts & Culture Desk

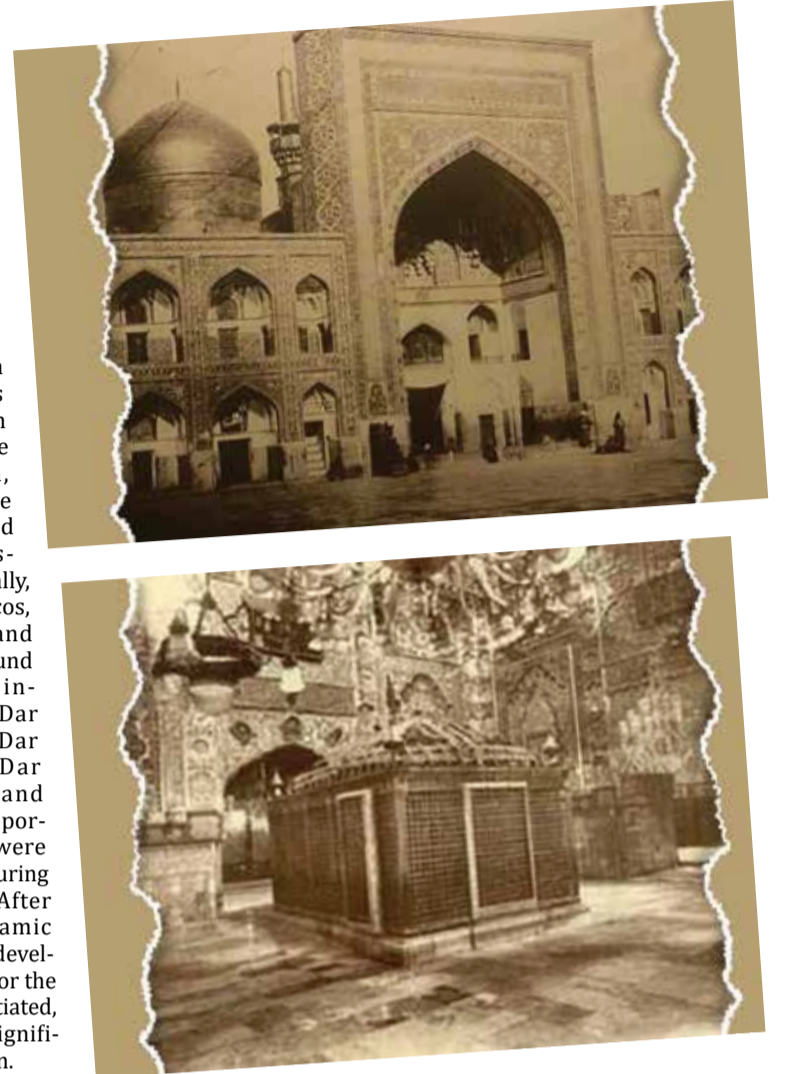
The oldest photographs ever captured of the holy shrine of Imam Reza, the eighth Imam of Shia Muslims, are now preserved in the collections of Astan Quds Razavi and the National Library and Archives of Iran. The first photographs of the Astan Quds Razavi were taken by two Italian military personnel who had traveled to Iran during the reign of Nasser al-Din Shah. One of them was Antonio Giovinnazzi, from Matera, and the other was Luigi Pesce, from Napoli. Little is known about the exact period of Luigi Pesce's presence in Mashhad, during which he earned the nickname "Photographer" from Nasser al-Din Shah. It is known that he was active between 1840 and 1860. He is recognized as one of

the earliest photographers who engaged in capturing images of Iranian buildings, historical landmarks, and ancient sites such as Persepolis and Pasargadae. According to historians, he recorded the oldest-known photograph of Tehran, as reported by ISNA. However, detailed information is available about Giovinnazzi's photograph of the Imam Reza Shrine. He took photos from Imam Reza Shrine in 1858. Giovinnazzi was one of the six officers who came to Iran and became a teacher at Dar al-Fonoon, while also engaging in photography at various religious sites in Iran. The origins of the oldest sections of this shrine date back to 610 AH (approximately 1230s CE). During the Timurid era, which coincided with extensive renovations of ancient structures in Khorasan

Province, significant attention was paid to this monument. Throughout Iran's history, the shrine has received the attention of various ruling dynasties and has been renovated and expanded many times. The shrine's historical records are scarce, with the earliest mention of its existence dating back to before the Samanid era and only referencing a well-known spot called the Haruniyya, where Imam Reza was buried. The central point of the shrine, where Imam Reza is buried, is renowned as the Rozeye Munavvareh (Holy Land). It occupies a rectangular space with approximate dimensions of 10 x 10 meters. In the old courtyard of the Imam Reza Shrine, a flowing river existed until 1951, sourced from a spring in northern Mash-

had. After flowing through the city, this river entered the shrine's courtyard and continued its course outside the city to irrigate agricultural fields. Around this area, there are numerous porticos, mosques, and courtyards, each belonging to distinct historical periods. The oldest and nearest structure connected to the Rozeye Munavvareh is the Balasar Mosque. Many of the shrine's buildings, from the Safavid period, especially during the reign of Shah Tahmasp I, still exist. The shrine's footprint expanded significantly during these renovations, from 12,000 square meters to its current size of approximately one million square meters, making it one of the world's largest religious complexes. The Goharshad Mosque, which was the first

Jame' (Grand) Mosque in Mashhad, is also located within the shrine's premises. In the Rozeye Munavvareh, a shrine made of silver and gold is present. Additionally, various porticos, courtyards, and schools surround the shrine, including the Dar al-Wilayah, Dar al-Hadaya, Dar al-Rahmah, and Dar al-Ijabah porticos, which were constructed during this period. After the 1979 Islamic Revolution, a development plan for the shrine was initiated, resulting in significant expansion.




Iran's 'Motherless' wins at Wales Int'l Film Festival

Arts & Culture Desk The Iranian film, 'Motherless', written and directed by Seyyed Morteza Fatemi, won the Best Foreign Language Film Award at the 7th Wales International Film Festival. Making its fifth appearance at international festivals, 'Motherless' has previously received three best film awards at the Dhaka International Film Festival 2022, Crossing the Screen Film Festival in England 2023, and the Bengaluru International Film Festival. It also secured the Best Director Award at the Rainbow London Film Festival, according to Tasnim news agency. The seventh edition of the Wales International Film Festival 2023, with its unique multi-stage format spanning two months, took place at the Gwen Theater in the city of Nith in South Wales. Produced by Mohammadreza Mesbah and Ali Owji, 'Motherless' is currently being screened in Iranian cinemas.

Peace exhibition in Iran features artists from 15 countries

Arts & Culture Desk An international illustration exhibition, named 'Peace Should Be Learned in Childhood', is set to open on September 22 at Zemestan Gallery of Iran's Artists House in Tehran. Organized by the Iranian Illustrators Society in collaboration with the Children's Book Council, this exhibition explores four main themes of peace: "Peace with Humans," "Peace with Nature," "Peace with Animals," and "Peace with the World", ISNA wrote. The invited artists participating in this exhibition have been selected from the prestigious International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) 2020 Honours List which is released biennially and features children's book creators chosen by national branches and



introduced at the IBBY biennial congress. The exhibition has drawn artists from 15 countries, including Russia, Switzerland, Sweden, New Zealand, Austria, Estonia, Australia, Denmark, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Slovakia, Peru, Chile, and Indonesia. The exhibition's poster showcases an illustration by Dušan Kállay, an acclaimed Slovakian artist and recipient of the 1988 Hans Christian Andersen Award, with design contributions by Abbas Khangholi. This annual exhibition coincides with the International Day of Peace on September 21 and invites artists from the IBBY Honours List (in even years) and selected artists from the Bratislava International Illustration Exhibition (in odd years). The 5th edition of this exhibition will welcome visitors from September 25 to 29.

First Announcement

N.I.S.O.C
NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0140023

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

Items	Material Description	Quantity
1	TUBING 4-1/2", API GRADE CRA-110 SUPER 13% CR. PSL 2"VAM TOP".18.9 PPF	2200 LE
2	COUPLING, TUBING, API GRADE CRA-110 SUPER 13%CR "VAM TOP" 4-1/2"	30 NO

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their " Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.nisoc.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 184,225/45 EURO or 74,647,232,893 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials through technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment

Forms can be accessed via: www.nisoc.ir-material-procurement-management-tab
ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS D.D.P., NISOC'S WAREHOUSE, AGHAJARI, IRAN
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FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
 Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex, Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran
 Tel. No.: 061 34 12 3589
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TENDER NO.: 08-21-0140022

National Iranian South Oilfields Company (NISOC) intends to purchase the following goods

Items	Material Description	Quantity
1	CASING 5". 18 PPF API GRADE CRA-110 SUPER,13% CR. "VAM F.J."THREAD, RANGE 3 (MAX.LENGTH 40.5 FT)	1000 LE

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their " Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.nisoc.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 144,343 EURO or 58,248,319,680 RIAL, in favor of NISOC. Tender documents including the materials through technical specifications and Qualitative Assessment

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