

Iran to send two dossiers of Lorestan Province for 2024 UNESCO registration



ILNA – In an announcement, Ata Hassanpour, the head of the Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts, and Tourism Department in Lorestan Province, said that Iran allocated its 2024 quotas for registration on UNESCO World Heritage List to Khorramabad Valley and Falak-ol-Aflak Castle.

Hassanpour expressed optimism about making significant progress in meeting long-standing demands of the province. He acknowledged the potential challenges in this process and emphasized collaboration with executive officials, the mayor of Khorramabad, experts, and colleagues in addressing them.

Hassanpour also mentioned special initiatives by Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi regarding the release of the area around Falak-ol-Aflak Castle, including the acquisition of 12 shops to free the northern section of the castle's neighborhood.

Since there are nearly 60 days left for the documentation, the preparation of the records for both sites is currently underway. The responsibility for compiling this documentation has been assigned to Hassanpour by Ali Darabi, the deputy minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts.

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Iran-Pakistan exhibition highlights Israeli atrocities on Palestinians

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran and Pakistan are collaborating in holding an exhibition, highlighting the atrocities being committed by Israel on the Palestinians. Caretaker Minister for National Heritage and Culture of Pakistan Jamal Shah and Iranian Ambassador to Pakistan Reza Amiri-Moqaddam on Friday inaugurated the three-day exhibition. The theme of the exhibition is 'Palestine: Oppression, Resistance, Victory,' and is being held at the Lok Virsa Art Gallery in Islamabad. It is organized by the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in collaboration with the National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage - Lok Virsa, tribune.com.pk reported.

The exhibition showcases 76 selected art works in photography, painting, and caricature, focusing on themes related to Quds, Palestine, and Gaza. Syrian Ambassador to Pakistan Ramez Alraee, Iranian Cultural Attaché Ehsan Khazaei, National Heritage and Culture Division Adviser Mohammad Kashif Irshad and Lok Virsa Executive Director Mohammad Uzair Khan were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony, Jamal Shah said Palestinians were valiant people and would succeed in their legitimate struggle for right to self-determination. He said responsibility rested with the world community and the United Nations to play their



role in stopping the Israeli atrocities against Palestinians. Shah regretted that the cowardly Israel was targeting weaponless Palestinians, their schools and hospitals, adding that the Israeli forces were not even sparing the children.

He said Pakistan did not recognize the state of Israel and had repeatedly called for an independent Palestinian state based on "internationally agreed parameters".

Iranian envoy Amiri-Moqaddam expressed his condolences to the Palestinian nation for the martyrdom of more than 10,000 innocent men, women and children.

"I would like to appreciate the government of Pakistan for the strong position taken by the high officials and different authorities, scholars and people from various walks of life to support the innocent people of Palestine and against the atrocities and genocide committed by the Zionist and fascist regime of Israel," he added.

Amiri-Moqaddam said the Zionist regime broke its own record of barbarism, war crimes and genocide, adding that in the status quo, the Muslim world should take meaningful and tangible measures to first guarantee



a cease-fire, open a humanitarian corridor to Gaza, and then get united to exercise due levers against Israel.

He expressed appreciation for the organizers of the exhibition, participants and all those who contributed to holding this event.

Iran's Cultural Attaché in Pakistan, Khazaei, stated that the people of Pakistan, especially the younger generation, are eager to witness artistic programs and familiarize themselves with the culture of resistance.

He emphasized that over the past few weeks, they have demonstrated their unity in supporting the Palestinian people and condemning the crimes of the illegitimate Zionist regime.

Caretaker Minister for National Heritage and Culture of Pakistan Jamal Shah speaks at the opening ceremony of the exhibition at Lok Virsa Art Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan, on November 17, 2023. ● DAILY EXPRESS

Khazaei added that the exhibition aims to depict the daily suffering of the people in Gaza under the oppression of the occupying Israeli Army. According to Khazaei, organizing this exhibition is a way to shed light on the ongoing events in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly serving as an enlightening narrative against Israel's crimes and the world's silence on the genocide in Gaza.

Met reopens 45 European art galleries after a five-year renovation

Rembrandt, Caravaggio, Goya – all cast in fresh new light – thanks to The Metropolitan Museum of Art's largest infrastructure upgrade in the museum's history.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art will reopen its full suite of 45 galleries dedicated to European Paintings from 1300 to 1800 on November 20, following the completion of an extensive skylight renovation project that began five years ago.

"Look Again: European Paintings 1300–1800" will highlight new narratives and juxtapositions among more than 700

works of art, including pieces by Rembrandt, Caravaggio, and Poussin, as well as the most extensive holdings of El Greco and Goya outside Spain, euronews.com reported.

According to the museum's website, a chronological sequence of displays will showcase the Museum's "world-famous holdings, offering fresh dialogues and thematic groupings".

The newly reconfigured galleries will "illuminate the interconnectedness of cultures, materials, and moments in the collection".

The project was the largest infrastructure upgrade in the museum's history, requiring a \$150 million (approx. €138m) budget.

"The highly anticipated reopening of this vast suite of galleries will invite visitors to reunite with old favorites - and discover incredible recent gifts and lesser-known artworks - all within a newly considered context," said Max Hollein, The Met's Marina Kellen French Director and CEO. Construction teams replaced 30,000 square feet of skylights, which were first constructed in 1939 and last upgraded in 1952. The upgrades provide a better quality of light in the galleries, energy efficiency and ideal conditions for the paintings on display, Hollein explained.

"The completion of the enormous skylights renovation project allows us to display these exceptional works of art within a superb setting, and we look forward to welcoming all to enjoy this splendid presentation of art and ideas for many years to come."



Tehran Symphony Orchestra pays tribute to Gaza's children

Arts & Culture Desk

The Tehran Symphony Orchestra, led by Manouchehr Sahbaei, performed at Vahdat Hall on November 16 and 17, staging works by renowned Iranian and international composers in memory of the children of Gaza.

The orchestra, accompanied by oboe soloist Arian Qeytasi, presented compositions from notable figures such as Iranian composer Hossein Dehlavi, Italian composer Antonio Vivaldi, and Czech composer Antonín Dvořák, according to IRNA.

The orchestra's performance was influenced by the recent Zionist regime's crimes in Palestine, with a special dedication of Johann Sebastian Bach's 'Air' to the children of Gaza before commencing the main pieces.

The first part of the concert included the performance of Dehlavi's 'Suite of Bijan & Manijeh,' featuring movements titled Andante and



Allegro, with Sahbaei conducting and accompanied by string players.

After the suite, the orchestra played Vivaldi's 'Concerto for Strings in G major' in three movements: Presto, Adagio, and Allegro.

In the second part of the concert, with Qeytasi as the soloist on oboe, the orchestra performed Vivaldi's 'Concerto for Oboe and Orchestra in

C Major' in three movements: Allegro non molto, Adagio, and Allegro.

Following the break, the orchestra, now joined by woodwind and percussion instruments, delivered the final part featuring Antonín Dvořák's 'Symphony No. 8 in G major' in four movements: Allegro con brio, Adagio, Allegretto grazioso, and Allegro ma non troppo.

● IRNA