### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Isfahan to host Turkmenistan **Cultural Week**



IRNA – The Turkmenistan Cultural Week is scheduled to take place in the city of Isfahan, Iran, from November 23 to 26.

The event will feature the participation of 40 artists and the Minister of Culture from Turkmenistan.

During the week-long event, Turkmen artists will showcase their works in visual arts, music, handicrafts, film, and cinema.

Cultural weeks serve as key events in cultural and public diplomacy, organized based on cultural agreements between two countries.

The event will be hosted by the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO), serving as the cultural diplomacy coordinator of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Turkmenistan Cultural Week will kick off on November 23 at Isfahan's Arts Hall, with the opening ceremony attended by the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, the governor of Isfahan, and the Minister of Culture of Turkmenistan.

Throughout the week, alongside traditional Turkmen music performances, there will be exhibitions of handicrafts, artistic and visual works, traditional costumes, Turkmenistan Film Week, and a photo exhibition.

As part of this cultural event, a literary session honoring Magtymguly Pyragy, a shared figure between the two countries, will be held at the University of Isfahan, with the participation of poets and writers from Iran and Turkmenistan.

Previously, Iran's Cultural Days and an Iranian handicraft exhibition were held in Turkmenistan on February 13, 2022, with the presence of the Iranian Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance and officials from Turkmenistan.

## Latin America cartoon exhibition

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# **Two Iranian young artists awarded** in South Korean contest

#### **Arts & Culture Desk**

Two Iranian teenagers Elena Saadaat Kazazi and Dorsa Hamyani received awards in the 27th Shinhan Postcard Art Competition in South Korea. The theme of the Shinhan Postcard Art Competition was "Draw Yourself – Let the World Know You," targeting young artists aged 4 to 18. The competition witnessed the participation of talented individuals from around the world, ILNA wrote.

Fatemeh Latifi, an accomplished artist specializing in guiding children and teenagers in the proper use of creativity and painting techniques, expressed pride in the success of the two Iranian teenagers. She stated, "We have experienced that Iranian child and teenage artists have always deserved top positions in global painting competitions. I have

always tried to guide my students to achieve the status they deserve. Therefore, by participating in international competitions, I aim to showcase the name and art of Iran to the world.'

Kazazi, who underwent two years of specialized painting training, won the fourth award of the contest in the 13 to 15 age group. Her artwork for the competition depicted herself amidst colorful and vibrant birds, showcasing her love for these creatures.

Hamyani, selected in the 7 to 12 age group, has been under specialized painting training since the age of six. Her artwork has previously been awarded in the 2023 FAO Painting Competition in the US. Also a winner in a children's painting competition in Romania, Hamyani depicted herself as an explorer in the Shinhan competition, receiving her well-deserved acclaim.



# **Iranian media outlets condemn** Israeli crimes against journalists



No word remains any longer to describe these crimes.

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a statement condemning the atrocities committed by Israel in killing people and journalists during the Gaza war.

The statement expressed deep sorrow over the deaths of 50 journalists in Gaza, citing intentional targeting of their homes at the hands of Israeli forces.

The media outlets highlighted that these attacks have, on numerous occasions, resulted in the deaths of family members of the journalists, along with the massacre of over 12,300 of people in Gaza, including thousands of women and children.

"We, Iranian media outlets, con-

the target killing of journalists in Gaza by the occupying Zionist regime," the statement reads.

The media outlets emphasized the necessity of expressing condolences to freedom-seeking people worldwide over the genocide in Gaza. They expressed hope for collective efforts to prevent attempts aimed at hiding these inhumane actions from the world and to facilitate the return of the land to its rightful owners. The statement concluded by honoring the memories of those killed in Gaza and characterizing the crimes as a confirmation of Israel's "tyrannical nature and

extended

IRNA - The Latin America Cartoon and Caricature Exhibition, featuring renowned artists from Latin America, was extended due to warm welcome by art lovers, until December 24 at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art (TMoCA). The exhibition, which opened on November 11, was originally scheduled to conclude on November 19. However, the extension was announced as it was warmly welcomed by cartoon lovers.

The show features nearly 400 works from artists representing 15 countries, including Argentina, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Cuba, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Brazil, and Guatemala.

## US accused of sending fake Roman mosaics back to Lebanon

Authorities in New York have been accused by leading academics in France and Britain of repatriating fake Roman artefacts to Lebanon.

Eight out of nine mosaic panels that the US authorities recently returned to the Middle Eastern country are not what they seem, according to claims made by Djamila Fellague of the University of Grenoble.

She claims to have uncovered proof that forgers had copied designs from original mosaics in archaeological sites or museums in Sicily, Tunisia, Algeria and Turkey. "Eight of the nine 'returned' mosaic panels were fakes that [are] relatively easy to detect because the models used

are famous mosaics," says Fellague, The Guardian reported. She singled out a panel depicting an Anguiped Giant, that she believes is based on a section of the famous mosaics in the Villa Romana del Casale in Sicily, a UNESCO world heritage site. She also claims to have discovered that a mosaic of Neptune and Amphitrite took as its main model a mosaic found in Constantine, Algeria, which has been in the Louvre in Paris since the mid-19th century. Of the other mosaics returned to Lebanon, she claims that there is only one example for which the forgers were inspired by an actual mosaic from Lebanon - a well-known depiction of Bacchus in the National Museum in Beirut.

Christos Tsirogiannis, a guest lecturer at the University of Cambridge and a leading expert in looted antiquities and trafficking networks, believes the evidence is irrefutable. He said that were the revelation to be shown to be true it would be extremely embarrassing for the office of the Manhattan district attorney (DA), which had announced the repatriation of antiquities to Lebanon on 7 September.

Its press release at the time stated that nine mosaics included in the repatriation ceremony were among dozens of Middle Eastern and north African antiquities

that were allegedly brought into New York by a Lebanese antiquities trafficker. In 2022, the DA's antiquities trafficking unit (ATU) had obtained a warrant for their arrest and applied for a red notice from Interpol.

