

# Iran VP urges global promotion of nation's culture, civilization



## Arts & Culture Desk

In an effort to promote Iran's cultural richness worldwide, Seyyed Mohammad Hosseini, the Vice-President for Parliamentary Affairs, emphasized the need for a proper representation of Iran's religious teachings and ideals. Speaking at the closing ceremony of the first national award for outstanding international cultural research, held by Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO) on March 5, Hosseini highlighted the importance of continuous

innovation in the fields of culture and communication, ICRO reported. He stressed the necessity of addressing social challenges through reading and research, asserting that knowledge knows no boundaries. Hosseini called for a deeper exploration of cultural and civilizational aspects, expressing the hope that the ongoing cultural program initiated by the organization would persist to effectively introduce Iran's cultural depth and current status to the world. While acknowledging the

importance of military strength as a deterrent, he emphasized the significance of "cultural power" in political and economic fields. Mohammadreza Dehshiri, the Head of the Department of International Relations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs urged for a comprehensive approach in scientific research, combining in-depth studies in anthropology with practical applications geared towards problem-solving. He cautioned against artificial dichotomies and invalid categorizations, urging a deep connection between

cultural research and societal studies. Dehshiri highlighted the value of historical oral discussions and called for the utilization of the experiences of cultural attachés and past managers in international cultural affairs. Expressing hope that the award would stimulate more interest among researchers in cultural diplomacy and international cultural relations, Dehshiri envisioned the award as a catalyst for increased focus on cultural studies in the realm of international relations.

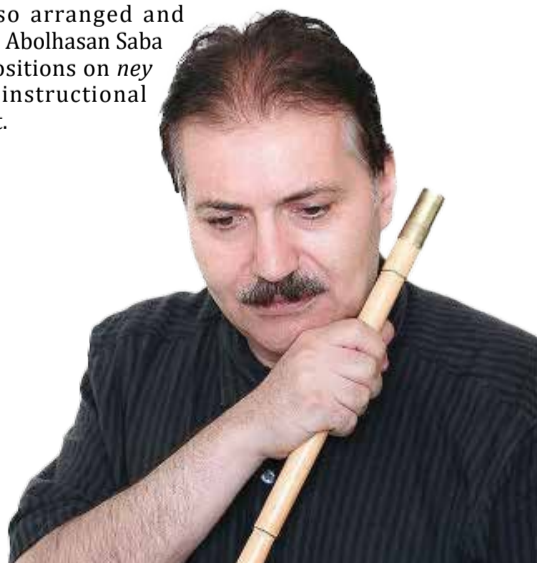
## Iran's composer Jamshid Andalibi dies at 66

Iranian musician and *ney* (end-blown flute) player, Jamshid Andalibi, died at the age of 66 due to a heart failure.

The news was reported by IRNA from the Iran Music House, expressing condolences to his family and praying for patience and tranquility.

Born on March 3, 1958, in Sanandaj, Andalibi initially learned to play *ney* without a master. Later, he continued his musical education at the University of Tehran and honed his *ney* techniques under the guidance of Hossein Omoumi. He furthered his skills in traditional Iranian music with Nasrollah Nassehpour, Nourali Boroumand, and Mohammadreza Lotfi. In 1981, Andalibi sought advanced *ney* playing techniques from Hassan Kasai in Isfahan. Throughout his career, he collaborated

closely with Mohammadreza Shajarian on works such as 'Yad-e Ayyam' and 'Rosva-ye Del.' Besides his proficiency in playing *ney*, Andalibi was actively involved in composing, having produced albums in this domain. He also arranged and played Abolhasan Saba compositions on *ney* in an instructional format.



## Tehran Int'l Animation Festival extended

The 13th Tehran International Animation Festival (TIAF), which began on March 3 at the Cultural and Artistic Creations Center of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon) in Tehran, will be extended until March 8.

The decision to extend the festival was announced by the secretary of the TIAF, citing the enthusiastic response from students, art schools, artists, and animation enthusiasts, ILNA wrote. This extension provides an extended opportunity for visitors to explore the eighth National Animation Market and enjoy the works of participating artists during the festival.



## 'Above the Fields' displays Int'l painters' works

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The Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art will host an international exhibition titled 'Above the Fields,' showcasing a curated selection of works by Iranian and foreign artists.

'Above the Fields' provides an opportunity to explore the relationship between climate, nature, and artistic expression in a chosen collection from the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art. The exhibition adopts a nature-oriented approach, reflecting a significant

part of the world's visual art history, IRNA wrote.

Featuring 70 prominent pieces from renowned foreign and Iranian painters, the exhibition includes works by artists such as Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro, Jean Dufy, David Hockney, Ludovic Piéte, Sohrab Sepehri, Abolqasem Saeidi, Parviz Kalantari, Jalal Shabahangi, Hossein Mahjoubi, Farideh Lashai, and more. The exhibition will open on March 9 at Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art and welcomes public visitors until May 5.

## Iranian films get kudos in Malaysia



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Cultural Attaché of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Malaysia, Habib Reza Arzani, announced a 100% sales and overwhelming reception of Iranian films by Malaysians.

Arzani highlighted the simultaneous screening of the first part of the cinema festival in Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya, featuring the prominent Iranian artist Behrouz Shoaibi. The second part, set to open on March 6 in Penang, will host Narges Abyar, a renowned Iranian writer and director.

With notable enthusiasm for Iranian films and a remarkable 100% capacity sale in cinema halls, Arzani expressed that this reception is unprecedented, surpassing the 28-30% reported for the Japanese

and French film festivals. Arzani emphasized the need to use this positive response for the effective promotion of Iranian cinema's capabilities, aiming for serious planning in the distribution and sale of Iranian films, as well as agreements for co-production with Malaysia.

The Iranian Cultural Attaché in Malaysia added that the opening ceremony of the Iranian Film Festival in Penang would feature the screening of 'Track 143,' directed by Abyar, in the presence of Malaysian artists.

Arzani outlined planned activities, including speeches at the opening ceremony, meetings with prominent Malaysian filmmakers, and conducting educational workshops on introducing Iranian cinema's ca-

pabilities. The Iranian official emphasized that this year's festival aims to strengthen cultural ties between Iran and Malaysia, introduce the national, religious, and moral values of the Iranian society, and foster artistic interaction among Muslim countries through film promotion. Arzani noted that films such as 'Henas' (2022), 'The Painting Pool' (2013), 'Track 143' (2014), 'Bodyguard' (2016), 'No Prior Appointment' (2022), and 'Today' (2014) would be screened during the festival.

The festival opened on February 29 and will run through March 10 in Malaysia, organized by the Iranian Embassy in Malaysia, with support from the Iran's Culture and Islamic Organization.