

Iranian projects win big at RIBA International Awards

Jadgal Elementary School and Jahad Metro Plaza among winners



The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) announced 22 winners in its

International Awards for Excellence, including two projects from Iran. The Jadgal Elementary School by DAAZ Office in the southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan and the Jahad Metro Plaza by KA Architecture Studio in Tehran were awarded for their innovative designs and community impact, wrote the British magazine Architecture Today. Each winning project, all striving for innovation and better built environment, is now in the running for the fourth RIBA International Prize, to be announced in November. Launched in 2015, the

bi-annual awards program celebrates projects that demonstrate visionary thinking, originality, and excellence of execution. The Jadgal Elementary School features a circular walled site with naturally ventilated classrooms surrounding a central playground, which also serves as a community space. To achieve an earthquake-resisting structure, the building was made column-free, raised with polystyrene panels, galvanized iron profiles, and reinforced concrete. In Tehran, the Jahad Metro Plaza has transformed a subway station entrance into a local landmark and

social public space. The design includes mesh arches clad in 300,000 bricks made from local soil, creating a sculptural, welcoming and low-budget environment, according to Wallpaper newsletter. "Supporting and working with architects and practices around the globe to promote excellence in architecture is central to RIBA's purpose," said RIBA President Muyiwa Oki. Simon Henley, Chair of the RIBA Awards Group, added that each winning project makes an exceptional contribution to its local area and demonstrates a stimulating architectural re-



sponse to RIBA's stringent social, environmental, and design values.

Brazilian painter: Zionist lobbies control global art scene

Arts & Culture Desk

Brazilian painter João Abido Galvão, who is holding an art exhibition in Tehran, believes that Zionist lobbies control the global art scene. Galvão, known for his anti-imperialist stance, shared his views during an interview at the opening of his exhibition 'The Sovereignty of Art Revolution and the Sovereignty of Revolutionary Art' at Tehran's Holy Defense Museum on June 11. The exhibition features nine of Galvão's paintings, all created on fabric, and centers around the interplay between art and revolution. The artworks reflect the emerging anti-imperialist forces in today's world, illustrating how history repeats itself with art and revolution intertwined, Tasnim News Agency wrote.

Walking through the exhibition, visitors see large-scale fabric paintings characterized by the fusion of contrasting colors. Each piece typically employs two to three colors, symbolizing the connection and conflict between them. The exhibition, running through June 24, features 20 pieces of fabric art critiquing imperialism and Zionism. Galvão explained that his art transcends traditional Western art classifications. "Imperialist countries have fabricated art movements, but my work doesn't fit into those categories," he said. He emphasized the resurgence of ancient civilizations like Iran and China, suggesting that these cultures are reclaiming their place in history. Regarding his choice of fabric over canvas, Galvão cited the

desire to break conventions and the practical aspect of transporting his works from Brazil to Iran. "Fabric allows for the freedom I seek in my art," he noted. In a previous exhibition in Moscow, Galvão's style remained consistent, but he highlighted that his works for the Tehran exhibition were created specifically for the museum. He believes that an artist's emotions and expressions are in constant flux, resulting in evolving styles in future exhibitions. Galvão also discussed the challenges he faces as an independent artist in Brazil, attributing the restrictions to the influence of Zionist lobbies. "Many countries, including Brazil, are heavily influenced by these lobbies, making it difficult for free and independent artists to thrive," he said.



He praised Iran for its role in supporting the resistance movement, both in words and actions. "The key to freedom for the

resistance lies in the unity of countries advocating for it. Imperialism is collapsing, and the future belongs to the resistance," Galvão concluded.

Iran drowning death drops 62% last year: Report

Social Desk

The Relief & Rescue Organization of the Red Crescent announced a 62% decrease in drowning fatalities for the last Iranian year ending on March 19, 2024. Babak Mahmoudi emphasized that last year the Red Crescent mobilized all necessary equipment and personnel to the Caspian Sea coastal provinces, resulting in a significant decrease in drowning incidents, ILNA wrote. Over the past five years, more

than 5,000 coastal rescue operations have been conducted, with over 3,000 of them being successful, the official said. Most fatalities occurred during evenings and nights or in remote areas outside designated safe zones, he added. Mahmoudi also pointed out that many drowning incidents

happen due to ignoring warning signs or unfamiliarity with the local geography and marine conditions by visitors from other provinces.



Austria to pay tribute to Persian language instructors

The first appreciation event for Persian language instructors in Austria will be held on June 20, organized by the Cultural Center of Iran in Austria. The event will honor both Iranian and non-Iranian Persian language teachers. It will also feature a symposium to explore opportunities for expanding the Persian language in Austria. Given that Persian is a carrier of rich Iranian-Islamic culture, the role of Persian teachers in promoting this culture is significant. For several decades, teachers have been instructing Persian in universities, public schools, and

institutions, graduating many students. Some of these graduates now work as researchers, translators, or experts in Austrian government and non-governmental organizations. Additionally, Iranian and Persian-speaking families living in Austria often enroll their children in Persian language classes to maintain their linguistic heritage alongside the local language. The event will also welcome Austrian Orientalists, Iranologists, and cultural officials who have supported the expansion of the Persian language in Austria.

