

Book 'Golestan Gallery' unveiled



◀ Mahmoud Dowlatabadi, an Iranian novelist, (L) is seen during the unveiling ceremony of the book 'Golestan Gallery' in Tehran on August 4, 2024.
● MEHR

a moment, which is highly valuable," Dowlatabadi said. The novelist also cited the Iranian poet, writer, and painter, Sohrab Sepehri's character and work as a clear example of simplicity and complexity, saying, "Leili Golestan and Sohrab Sepehri were friends, and interestingly, Golestan Gallery was inaugurated with an exhibition of Sohrab Sepehri's works."

Sepehri (1928 - 1980) was an Iranian poet, writer, and painter. He is considered as one of the most important contemporary Iranian poets, and his poems have been translated into many languages.

"Running a gallery for 35 years, especially in a country facing various challenges daily, is no small feat. With each exhibition, Leili Golestan has given thought to future generations, and I am glad that thanks to her efforts, part of our visual arts history has been documented for posterity," Dowlatabadi added.

He concluded that, "Leili Golestan's focused mind, even amid Iran's social turmoil, has always been admirable to me."



NLAI, AI organization sign memo to boost tech capacities

Arts & Culture Desk

The National Library and Archives of Iran (NLAI) and the country's National Artificial Intelligence Organization signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance technological capacities and infrastructures.

The MoU was signed by the NLAI chief, Alireza Mokhtarpour, and Mohammad Saeed Sarrafraz, Secretary of the National Steering Council and head of the National Artificial Intelligence Organization, Mehr news agency reported.

During the signing ceremony, Mokhtarpour underlined the significance of this cooperation, expressing hope

that, "This memorandum will be a significant step towards promoting the use of modern technologies and improving access to scientific and historical data for researchers and policymakers through artificial intelligence."

"This collaboration can aid in the development of technological infrastructures and protect against potential harms that the Persian language may face in new environments, especially as these advancements are realized by the country's youth," he said.

Meanwhile, the head of the National Artificial Intelligence Organization said that books and documents, as one of the most critical data

sources, play a vital role in the advancement of artificial intelligence. Utilizing this valuable data can assist in developing AI models and help preserve and expand the Persian language in the digital space, significantly enhancing the quality of services for researchers and scholars, Sarrafraz said.

Securing the increase of digital data at the NALI, assisting in enhancing the usability of artificial intelligence in organizational functions and missions, producing necessary interactive software for researchers through AI, and aiding in the development of AI models are part of the provisions of this memorandum.

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The book 'Golestan Gallery' including the portfolio of Leili Golestan art gallery was unveiled during the reopening ceremony of the exhibition "Darrous, 34" in Tehran.

According to Mehr News Agency, Golestan Gallery was launched simultaneously with the reopening of the Darrous, 34 exhibition at Artibition Gallery.

These two events focused on Leili Golestan's 35 years of activity as a gallery owner

in celebration of her 80th birthday. Golestan Gallery had been founded in 1989 by Lili Golestan.

Available for art enthusiasts, Golestan Gallery is the first gallery established in Iran after the Islamic Revolution (1979), and the Darrous, 34 exhibition features works from 46 artists who have previously exhibited at the gallery.

Mahmoud Dowlatabadi, an Iranian novelist, remarked during the book unveiling that, "We are heavily indebted

to Leili Golestan, and we highly appreciate her contributions."

Lili Golestan is a prominent Iranian gallerist, known for founding the Golestan Gallery, a prominent contemporary art space in Tehran. She was awarded the French Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres (Knight of Arts and Letters) in November 2014 by the French Ambassador to Tehran.

"She has a profound respect for work and throughout my half-century of knowing her, she has never paused for even

'Cold Sigh' nominated for Grand Prize at Richmond int'l festival



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The film 'Cold Sigh,' directed by Nahid Seddiq, has been nominated for the Jury's Grand Prize at the Richmond International Film Festival in the United States.

According to IRNA, 'Cold Sigh,' produced by Reza Mohaqeq, has made its latest global appearance as a contender for the Jury's Grand Prize (Best Film) at the 13th Richmond International Film Festival in Virginia.

This event will take place from September 24 to 29 in the historic city of Richmond, Virginia, where 'Cold Sigh' will screen for audiences on Saturday, September 28, at 7 PM at the Bowtie Movieland theater. To date, the movie, which tells the story of a strange revenge, has participated in several international festivals, including Santa Barbara (US), Moscow, Chuvashia, Peskov, Ischia (Italy), and the international section of the Fajr Film Festival.

'Cold Sigh' has won several national and international awards so far. Recently, it received the Grand Prix of the 17th Cheboksary International Film Festival in Cheboksary, Russia, in May. Earlier in April, it won three prizes at the 46th Moscow International Film Festival (MIFF) in Russia. The movie won the Best Director Award, the Audience Choice Award for the Best Film and the NET-PAC (Network for the Promotion of Asia Pacific Cinema) Special Mention. Last year, the film won the Special Jury Award for Best Film in the International Competition of the Fajr Film Festival.

US assures Netanyahu ...

After the terror act, US Secretary of State Tony Blinken clarified that the US had no involvement in the killing and was unaware of it. This statement by Blinken has astonished knowledgeable people and analysts worldwide. Analysts, including those in Israel, are calling the US Secretary of State a liar.

The world's largest intelligence agency, the CIA, which controls tens of satellites in space that collect information by focusing on any part of the world, is claimed to be unaware that its ally was targeting a political figure who could save the world from the flames of war. During a joint call, Biden and his Vice President Kamala Harris, a potential Democratic presidential candidate, assured Netanyahu that if Iran attacked Tel Aviv, the US would directly intervene to ensure its security.

Last month, during his visit to the US, Israeli prime minister, who has been officially declared a terrorist by Pakistan, lamented Washington's hesitance regarding Tel Aviv's long-standing desire to attack Iran's nuclear program. He urged the US administration to recognize the rapidly advancing Iranian nuclear program as a significant threat. How serious-

ly the US administration took Netanyahu's pleas will become apparent in the near future, but we cannot ignore that Israel's actions are succeeding in provoking Tehran. The assassination of Haniyeh is not a minor event, especially since he was an official guest of Iran. This period is very challenging for the Iranian security establishment. They need to answer important questions, and as long as silence prevails, suspicions will remain. Iran had responded to Israel in April 2024, when Israel targeted Iranian diplomatic buildings in Damascus with missiles. Iran managed to breach Israel's security. The increasing crimes of Israel are supported by the US and Western countries, allowing Tel Aviv's rulers to trample international laws like an intoxicated elephant. Israel does not respect the sovereignty of any country and dreams of seizing every inch of Palestine by suppressing all voices. The ruling class of Israel is completely controlled by right-wing extremist elements with absurd ideologies, who seek to perform religious ceremonies using the blood of a red cow. This thought is repugnant, claiming to be part of a civilized society, and how can we tolerate the killing of 92,000 Palestin-

ians for such a ridiculous idea? Why can't the global community punish Israel? Why can't it impose economic and arms import sanctions on Tel Aviv? This way, there will be no peace in the world, and we should not speak of justice. The time has come to cleanse the sacred land of Palestine from extremists who were brought from around the world to this holy land by global imperialism and were given power through the force of arms.

After the assassination of Hamas political bureau chief, who represented Hamas in ceasefire negotiations in Qatar and Egypt, efforts to reduce broader tensions in the region without punishing Israel are ongoing by the US and European countries. This situation arises while Israeli aggression in Gaza reached its 300th day on Thursday. After the targeted killing of Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran, the families of Israeli prisoners held by Hamas have begun questioning the diminishing prospects of their release. These families are urging the Israeli government to reach a ceasefire agreement. Besides weekly protests in Tel Aviv and other Israeli cities, protesters demanding a ceasefire took to the streets on Wednesday night, chanting slogans against Netanyahu. Affected families

and protesters blocked main roads in Tel Aviv on Thursday morning. The protesters stated that silence against Netanyahu's cabinet means destruction. Families of the prisoners claim that delays in ceasefire negotiations reduce the chances of their loved ones' survival. They stated that they are a step away from a multi-front war and are uncertain about the future of Israelis. Families of the protesters, like those of Metan, revealed that most Israeli families have cut their expenses by 80%. They are unsure how they will live post-war as people have limited their businesses, the entire system is disrupted, factories are shut down, and electricity production has been reduced. They question whether Israelis will face unemployment. Without answers to these questions, Israelis are becoming mentally distressed. They never imagined what they are now experiencing. The prospects for a ceasefire in the north appear bleak, with 460 families displaced from this front feeling helpless while Netanyahu's administration demands they endure harsh conditions for minimal aid. How long do they want to continue this? We want to return to our homes and breathe freely again.