

Georgia ready for cultural cooperation with Iran



Iran's Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Reza Salehi Amiri (2nd L) and Georgia's caretaker of the Ministry of Culture and Sports Ioseb Bagaturia (2nd R) display a box of Iranian handicrafts during a meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia.

● IRNA

Georgian officials expressed their readiness for comprehensive cultural cooperation with Iran during a visit by Iran's Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts, Seyed Reza Salehi Amiri.

Salehi Amiri met with the caretaker of the Ministry of Culture and Sports of Georgia Ioseb Bagaturia, in Tbilisi, IRNA wrote.

The Iranian minister high-

lighted the importance of cultural cooperation between the two countries, citing their shared heritage and historical ties.

Salehi Amiri pointed to Iran's rich cultural heritage, with 28 UNESCO World Heritage sites and 24 intangible cultural heritage items, and noted the presence of Georgian communities in Iran as an example of the two countries' cultural commonalities.

The minister expressed Iran's readiness to cooperate with Georgia in three areas: Restoration of cultural artifacts, archaeological research, and cultural exhibitions.

He also mentioned that Iran is already cooperating with Shanghai in the field of museum exhibitions.

Bagaturia emphasized the importance of cultural cooperation with Iran and expressed his country's readiness to collaborate in all areas.

He proposed signing a cultural cooperation agreement and suggested that the Iranian side submit a draft text for review. The Georgian official also noted that the signing of a cultural exchange program between the two countries had been delayed due to the separation of the education and culture ministries.

He suggested that the agreement be reviewed and signed separately.

During his visit, Salehi Amiri also toured the Georgian National Museum, which includes sections on jewelry and Qajar-era artifacts.

Iran showcases tourist attractions in Kazakhstan

Iran displayed its tourist attractions in a showcase at the National Academic Library of Kazakhstan on September 27, marking World Tourism Day. The event featured books and handicrafts that highlighted Iran's cultural and historical sites, as well as its natural beauty, IRNA wrote.

Iran's cultural attaché in Kazakhstan, Ali Akbar Talebi Matin, emphasized the importance of boosting tourism between the two countries.

Talebi Matin called for canceling visa requirements for travelers between Iran and Kazakhstan, saying it would be a great opportunity for citizens of both countries to plan their next tourist destination. The tourism exhibition, which included participants from Turkmenistan, India, Belarus, Uzbekistan, Serbia, Kyrgyzstan, and Portugal, aimed to promote cultural exchange and tourism between the countries.

Iran's pavilion at the exhibi-



tion featured various books and handicrafts that introduced visitors to the country's rich cultural heritage.

Talebi Matin pointed out that despite the many tourist attractions in both Iran and Kazakhstan, people from both countries still lack a deep understanding of each other's cultures.

To address this, Talebi Matin

suggested organizing tourist tours between the two countries. He noted that a successful tour was launched last year from the Kazakh city of Aktau to Iran, which attracted a significant number of Iranian tourists.

Talebi Matin emphasized the need for continued cooperation between the tourism ministries of Kazakhstan and

Iran. He invited people from Kazakhstan and other participating countries to visit Iran and explore its diverse tourist attractions, including historical sites, artistic and handicrafts, music, traditional food, and natural wonders.

The event was part of a larger effort to promote tourism and cultural exchange between the participating countries.

Iranian filmmakers win Russian award for documentary 'Stand with the Wolf'

Arts & Culture Desk

An Iranian filmmaking duo won a top award at a Russian film festival for their documentary 'Stand with the Wolf' which took part in the festival with the name 'Next to the Wolves.'

The film, directed by Saeed Nabi and Maryam Khadivi, took home the Muravyov-Amursky Award, a special prize from the Irkutsk Regional Museum of Local History, at the 23rd Baikal International Film Festival "Man and Nature" in Russia, ISNA wrote.

The award was given to the filmmakers for their work in showcasing the ideals of faith, conscience, and beauty in their documentary, the festival's jury members announced.

'Next to the Wolves' tells the true story of Hadi Jalali, an Iranian environmental activist who was shot by hunters and has over 99 lead bullets still lodged in his body.

The film was one of 24 selected for the final round of competition at the festival, which took place from September 17-27 in Russia. The festival,



which focuses on the relationship between humans and the environment, featured films from around the world, including Iran, Germany, Romania, South Korea, and the UK. The Muravyov-Amursky Award is named after a 19th-century Russian statesman and hero who founded several cities in the country's Far East. The award is considered one of the top prizes at the festival, which is supported by the Russian Ministry of Culture and the Presidential Foundation for Cultural Initiatives.

"We are honored to receive this award and grateful for the recognition of our work," said Nabi and Khadivi in a statement. "We hope that our film will continue to inspire people to take action in protecting the environment and preserving the natural world."

 **Mohammad Ali Rajabi**
Cartoonist



Iranian musician Mohammad Motamedi nominated for German Critics' Award

Iranian musician Mohammad Motamedi's album 'Intizar: Songs of Longing' was nominated at the German Critics' Award (Preis der deutschen).

The album, a collaboration with the Dutch jazz group Rembrandt Trio, was recorded live at the Oude Kerk church in Amsterdam in December 2021. The album features traditional Persian and European instruments, including ancient organs and harpsichords.

The album was previously

named the best album of the year in the Netherlands by the respected newspaper NRC. The newspaper listed it as one of the top 25 albums of 2023 in the country.

The German Critics' Award winners will be announced in October. The album features seven tracks, including traditional Persian songs and poems by famous Persian poets such as Hafez and Khayyam.

Motamedi has a long history of collaborations with



international artists and groups, and this nomination

is the latest recognition of his work.