

'Endless Clouds of Silk Road'

Iran, China showcase arts, history in joint exhibition



Arts & Culture Desk

A joint exhibition of Iranian and Chinese arts and culture, titled 'Endless Clouds of Silk Road,' kicked off on Saturday in Tehran, Iran.

The exhibition showcases a collection of cultural exchange achievements between China and Iran along the ancient Silk Road. It features paintings created by Chinese artists, manuscripts by renowned Chinese authors, and ancient coins used in Silk Road trade, IRNA wrote.

Chinese Ambassador to Iran, Cong Peiwu, attended the opening ceremony and highlighted the historical ties between the two countries. "China and Iran, as two of the world's ancient civilizations, have been communicating with each other through the Silk Road since a long time ago," he said. "Such historical ties have created a solid foundation for the two countries' present cultural



exchanges."

The envoy expressed hope that the successful holding of the exhibition will inject new vitality into China-Iran cultural exchanges, providing more support for the deepening of friendship between the two countries.

Amir Khorakian, Director of the Malek National Library and Museum, welcomed the guests and noted that Iran and China are among the few countries that can boast of a several-thousand-year-old civilization.

He emphasized that despite the long distance between the two countries, communication and relations between the Iranian and Chinese peoples have never been hindered.

Khorakian expressed his gratitude to the Shanghai Museum of Collectible Arts and the Chinese Embassy in Iran for their efforts in organizing the exhibition.

He hoped that the event would mark the beginning of a new chapter in cultural exchanges between the two countries. Hu Muqing, Director of the Shanghai

Museum of Collectible Arts, also spoke at the ceremony, highlighting the importance of cultural exchanges between China and Iran.

He noted that the Shanghai Museum has been a pioneer in promoting global cultural exchanges but also raise awareness about the Silk Road and its significance.

Muqing expressed his hope that the exhibition would not only promote cultural exchanges but also raise awareness about the Silk Road and its significance. Chinese artist Zhu Jiefeng, whose works are on display at the exhibition, explained that his goal was to showcase the cultural exchange that took place along the Silk Road.

He thanked the Chinese Embassy and the Malek National Library and Museum for showcasing his works.

Chinese Ambassador Zong Peiwu also spoke at the ceremony, describing the exhibition as a significant achievement

in international cultural exchanges.

He thanked all those who contributed to the event and highlighted the historical ties between China and Iran, which date back over 2,000 years.

Zong Peiwu noted that the exhibition showcases not only the culture of the Silk Road but also the cultural identity of both China and Iran. He emphasized that the event would promote cultural understanding and exchanges between the two countries.

Hassan Fartousi, Secretary-General of the Iranian National Commission for UNESCO, also attended the ceremony and expressed his delight at the event. He noted that cultural flourishing has always taken place through international exchanges and highlighted the significance of the Silk Road in promoting cultural exchange.

The exhibition will run until November 10 at the Malek National Library and Museum.

Five Persian titles featured in Munich's Int'l Youth Library's White Ravens list

Arts & Culture Desk

The International Youth Library in Munich has unveiled its 2024 White Ravens list, featuring 216 children's and young adult books from 62 countries and 44 languages. Among the selected titles, five Persian books have made it to the list.

The Persian titles include 'The Boy of the Ocean' by Mehdi Rajabi, 'The World is Traveling' by Zahra and Hanieh Shojaei, 'The Roc Girl' by Ahmad Akbarpour, 'Not Like Every Day' by Farhad Hassanzadeh, and 'Seven Immortals' by Marjan Fouladvand, ISNA reported. These titles were selected from books submitted by publishers, authors, illustrators, literary critics, and other organizations involved in children's litera-

ture in Iran between winter 2022 and spring 2023. The more titles submitted, the higher the quality of the selected books and the more diverse the list becomes.

Leila (Roya) Maktabi, curator of the Persian section at the International Youth Library, thanked all the friends and experts who contributed to the selection process and encouraged publishers, authors, and illustrators to continue submitting their latest works twice a year, in October at the Frankfurt Book Fair and in spring at the Bologna Book Fair.

The White Ravens list is one of the most



important sources in the field of children's and young adult literature, published annually by the International Youth Library. The list highlights outstanding and high-quality works from around the world, emphasizing cultural and linguistic diversity.

The primary goal of the White Ravens list is to introduce books that are valuable in terms of literature, art, and content, but may be lesser-known due to cultural or linguistic factors. The list helps publishers, teachers, and parents find books that are worth reading and can provide rich and diverse experiences for children and young adults.

Iranian music group awarded at Dubai festival

Iranian music group 'Iz' led by Parsa Khaef, a young Iranian musician, has taken the top spot at the Mehr Dubai Art Festival, which was held in Dubai from October 3 to 11.

The group, which was among the finalists to perform live at the festival, was chosen as the winner by the festival's jury. Parsa Khaef, along with his fellow musicians Araz Qassemi on Azerbaijani *tar*, Yavar Zandabadi on oud, and Reza Mohammadi on Azarbaijani *kamancheh* (an Iranian spiked fiddle), performed at the festival, Mehr News Agency reported.

The jury consisted of renowned Iranian musicians and artists, including Faraj Alipoor, Ardeshtir Kamkar, Mohammad-Mehdi Gourangi,



Maryam Gharehsu, and Mahdieh Mohammad Khani.

The first edition of the Mehr Dubai Art Festival featured various sections, including music, photography, short film, theater, poetry, Iranian cuisine, handicrafts, and more. The festival brought together selected artists from around the world to showcase their talents.



Social Desk

Iran has achieved a 75% success rate in treating patients with stem cells, according to statistics from the country's

transplant center, CEO of Royan Stem Cell Technology Company, Morteza Zarrabi, announced.

Speaking at a press conference in Ardebil, Zarrabi said that the use of stem

Iran achieves 75% success rate in stem cell treatment: *Health official*

cells in medicine has been a topic of interest in recent years, but some non-experts had made false claims about its effectiveness in treating various diseases, IRNA reported.

He added that the use of stem cells in medicine was first introduced in the early 2000s, but faced ethical challenges due to concerns about human cloning.

Zarrabi explained that not all human cells are stem cells, and that stem cells have the ability to specialize and differentiate into various cell types.

He added that there are two types of stem cells in the human body: One type produces red blood cells, while the other type can help form tissues in other parts of the body. The CEO noted that stem cells have

been used to treat diseases such as leukemia, thalassemia, and immune system disorders, and that clinical trials are underway to use stem cells to treat conditions such as cerebral palsy, autism, and arthritis.

Iran has two stem cell banks, one public and one private, which have stored over 215,000 samples of umbilical cord blood.

Iran has the largest stem cell bank in the Middle East, with over 215,000 samples stored.

Zarrabi said that the country aims to expand its stem cell banking services, with a goal of storing 400,000 samples in the near future.

The CEO also announced plans to establish a stem cell processing plant, which would allow for the extraction and

processing of stem cells from umbilical cord blood and other sources.

He added that the plant would provide a significant boost to the country's stem cell industry and help to reduce reliance on foreign sources of stem cells. Zarrabi emphasized the importance of stem cell research and therapy, saying that it has the potential to treat over 80 diseases, including multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's, and blood cancers.

He also highlighted the need for investment in the field, saying that it requires significant funding and resources.

The CEO concluded by saying that Iran is committed to expanding its stem cell services and research, and is working to establish partnerships with other countries in the region to promote the use of stem cells in medicine.