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# Iranian publishers attend 41st Int'l Istanbul Book Fair

## Arts & Culture Desk

The 41st International Istanbul Book Fair kicked off on Saturday, featuring a strong presence of Iranian publishers alongside participants from Turkey and other countries around the world. The fair, which is considered the largest cultural and literary event in Turkey, has brought together hundreds of authors, readers, and over 1,000 publishers and civil society organizations, IRNA reported.

Iran's participation in the fair is significant, with the Iranian House of Book and Literature showcasing the country's latest publishing achievements in a 18-square-meter booth. The booth will also promote the Tehran International Book Fair and invite foreign publishers to participate in the event.

In addition, the Iranian delegation will introduce the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance's support schemes for translating and publishing Iranian books, as well as Iranian literary awards and festivals.

The fair's opening ceremony was attended by high-ranking officials, including Istanbul Governor Davut Gül, Istanbul Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu, and Turkish Deputy Minister of Culture

and Tourism Gökhan Yazar. Governor Gül emphasized the importance of diversity and cultural exchange, stating that "our country is a country that considers diversity as wealth, and the most important sign of this diversity is the book."

This year's fair has a special focus on children, with the theme "Childhood is a Celebration" inspired by the works of renowned Turkish children's author Yalvaç Ural. The fair will feature various events and activities aimed at promoting children's mental and emotional growth, encouraging reading, and fostering creativity.

The 41st International Istanbul Book Fair will run until November 10, with over 500,000 visitors expected to attend. Entrance is free for students, teachers, retirees, people with disabilities, and children, while others will be charged a fee of 20 Turkish lira.

Other participants in the fair include publishers from China, Azerbaijan, and other countries, with a total of 12 Chinese publishers attending this year's event. The China-Turkey Publishing Cooperation Forum was held on the fair's opening day, highlighting the importance of cooperation between Chinese and Turkish publishing houses.



## Iran, Italy to revive cultural ties through arts, heritage, and education: *Official*



Iran's Cultural Attaché in Italy, Majid Emami, outlined a roadmap to strengthen cultural and artistic relations between Iran and Italy, emphasizing the importance of engaging with Italian civil society, academia, and the Iranian diaspora to overcome current political and economic challenges.

In an interview with ISNA,

Emami highlighted the historical significance of cultural exchanges between the two countries, particularly in the fields of archaeology, arts, and history.

Emami noted that while relations between Iran and Italy have been strained due to Italy's current right-wing government, there are still

opportunities for engagement with Italian civil society and academia.

He emphasized the importance of promoting Iranian arts, cultural heritage, and Iranology to foster greater understanding and cooperation.

To achieve this, Emami outlined several initiatives, including increasing museum and exhibition activities, promoting Iranian arts and handicrafts, and engaging with Iranian students and expatriates in Italy.

He also highlighted the significance of showcasing Iranian arts and culture in international events, such as the Venice Biennale, to counter "Iranophobia" and promote a more nuanced understanding of Iranian culture.

He added that one of the significant events that has taken

place in collaboration with the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts is that for the first time, a facsimile of 'Baysunghur Shahnameh' has been printed to promote Iran's cultural heritage.

The Italian side has invested significant time and effort into producing it, which demonstrates the depth of interest, attention, and authenticity that Italy has for Iranian arts, literature, and written heritage.

Emami also emphasized the importance of academic exchange and research collaboration between Iran and Italy, particularly in the fields of social sciences and humanities.

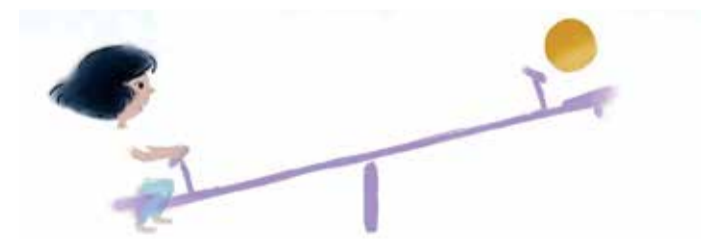
He noted that the Iranian Cultural Center in Rome is working to increase cooperation with Italian academia and promote Iranian studies in Italy.

## Iran's 'Playground' takes gold at Japan's 26th DigiCon6

Iranian animation 'Playground' received the gold award at the 26th DigiCon6 ASIA Awards in Japan, beating out another Iranian contender, 'The Lovely Sky'.

The festival, held in Tokyo, is one of Asia's largest animation events and is supported by TBS, one of Japan's leading television companies. This year, two Iranian animations, 'The Lovely Sky' directed by Amir Mehran and 'Playground' by Samaneh Asadi, produced by the Institute for the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA), made it to the final round, with "Playground" ultimately winning the regional competition's gold award.

This is the fourth year that Iran has been represented at the festival, thanks to the efforts of Kiarash Zandi, who has curated a selection of Iranian animations to be sent to the festival.



## Decision-makers won't...

However, the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance, as stated by its senior officials, is to prevent the expansion of the conflict, reduce tensions, and establish a cease-fire in the Gaza Strip and Lebanon. Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi's recent tour of regional countries, including Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt, Qatar, Oman, and Iraq, was aimed at pursuing this declared policy of mediation and de-escalation. The

Islamic Republic does not view the escalation of tensions as beneficial to itself or the region, and therefore, does not welcome further clashes.

Consequently, Iran's response to Israel and its demonstration of deterrent power cannot be outside the framework of national assessments and high-level decision-making in the Islamic Republic. As the Leader of the Islamic Revolution emphasized, "The power and will of the Iranian people

must be conveyed to the Zionist regime." Ayatollah Khamenei left the quality of such action to the discretion of the Islamic Establishment's officials.

The Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) is the highest security and decision-making body, which logically makes such decisions. The decision-making process regarding Operations True Promise 1 and 2 (Iran's missile strikes against Israel) also took

place through this key security organization. It is only natural that decision-making in the SNSC regarding a response to Israel will be based on technical, specialized, and strategic assessments, rather than emotions and sentiments. Therefore, Tehran will not take any hasty or ill-conceived action.

As the Leader of the Islamic Revolution stressed in his October 4 Friday prayer sermon, "We will neither daw-

dle nor act impulsively in fulfilling our duties." It appears that this statement is a reflection of the precise national, regional, and international assessments that will guide Iran's actions, which will be in line with its national interests and not impulsive.

Therefore, none of these warmongering statements represent the Islamic Republic. Iranian decision-makers will not be swayed by these media-driven and propagandistic calls for war.