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- Editorial Dept. Tel
- Address
- ICPI Publisher
- Advertising Dept. Tel/Email
- Website
- Email
- Printing House

+98 21 84711226
 208, Khorramshahr Ave., Tehran, Iran
 +98 21 88548892-5
 +98 21 88500601/irandaily@iranagahiha.com
 www.irandaily.ir/newspaper.irandaily.ir
 irandaily@icpi.ir
 Iran Cultural & Press Institute



Iranian perspectives on display in China



Arts & Culture Desk

The 19th China International Photographic Art Exhibition kicked off in the city of Zhuhai, Guangdong Province, featuring 640 photographs submitted by Iranian photographers for the Competition Section.

The exhibition, which will run until February 16, 2025 at the Gu Yuan Art Museum, is organized by the China Photographers Association and the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, IRNA wrote. In the public section of the exhibition, 276 photographs are on display, including 112 from foreign photographers and 164 from Chinese photographers.

The international jury panel consists of renowned photographers, including Alain Sayag from the Centre Pompidou, and Jan van der Walt, former President of the South African Photographers Association.

The 19th China International Photographic Art Exhibition features two special sections, one dedicated to France, the host country of the Olympics, curated by the Centre Pompidou, and another featuring Iran as the guest country of honor. Titled 'Iran: Borderless, Land of

Sun and Poetry', the Iranian section, curated by Neda Reyhani, showcases 40 photographs of Iran's nature and culture. This section, spanning over 1,000 square meters, offers a glimpse into Iran's diverse cultural heritage and untouched natural beauty.

Vice Chairman of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, inaugurated the Iranian section, expressing his gratitude for Iran's participation and noting that this is the first time an exhibition of this scale has been held in China, showcasing the "amazing" images of Iran.

6,000-year-old skeleton unearthed in ancient hill in Rey

Arts & Culture Desk

Archaeologists announced the discovery of a burial site and skeleton in the 7,000-year-old Cheshmeh Ali hill in Rey, southern Tehran. Based on evidence,



it is believed that the skeleton belongs to a 16-year-old girl and dates back to the Sialk 3 period (approximately 4,300 BC). According to Hamidreza Valipour, head of the excavation team, further excavations in the next seasons will shed more light on the architectural spaces of the ancient village, ISNA reported. Archaeologists hope that the Cultural Heritage Research Institute will provide the necessary cooperation to obtain the required permit for the skeleton to be taken out for dating tests, which will determine the exact time of the burial.

The archaeological excavation in the 7,000-year-old hill in Rey was resumed after a three-decade hiatus, coinciding with the opening of the Shahid Beheshti University's Field Archaeological Research Center. The excavation is led by Hamidreza Valipour, accompanied by Iman Mostafapour, deputy head of the excavation team, Kourosh Mohammadkhani, Negar Miri, Kamyar Abdi, Amir Sadegh Naghshineh, and Ali Bahadori from the Department of Archaeology at Shahid Beheshti University, as well as students of archaeology who started their studies in 2020.

Historic coins unveiled in southern Iran

Four historic coins minted in Jahrom, Fars Province, Iran, were unveiled on Tuesday in a ceremony attended by local officials. The coins, which date back to the Sassanid era and are over 700 years old, were showcased as part of Jahrom Week celebrations. The ceremony was held at the Jahrom Museum, with the Governor of Jahrom and the Head of the Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Department of Fars Province in attendance, IRNA reported. The coins are part of a personal collection donated by Reza Ghanatpisheh Jahromi, a renowned coin collector who has gifted several historic coins to

the Jahrom Museum. The event also featured a music performance and the unveiling of a book of poetry, "Divan-e Arash", by the late Ahmad Shahamati. According to historical records, Jahrom was a significant city during the Buyid era, with the city's tax revenue allocated to the crown prince. The Jahrom Museum houses 40 coins minted during the Islamic period, including coins from the Seljuk, Mongol, Timurid, Ilkhanid, Safavid, and Qajar dynasties. Research suggests that during each period, mints were established in various cities to pay soldiers' salaries, and the coins

minted in Jahrom were a result of these mints. Jahrom Week is celebrated annually from November 10 to 16.



Iranian team wins silver at Turkey's Eurasia Open 2024

Social Desk

A student team from Iran's southern Fars province, specializing in artificial intelligence, innovation, and inventions, won the silver medal at the Eurasia Open 2024 competition held in Turkey. The team, consisting of five students from different schools in Fars, including four boys and one girl from grades 8, 9, and 10, was welcomed back home at Shiraz International Airport by local officials, IRNA reported. According to Fars Education Department General Manager, Farshid Qasemi, the team members are: Arnika Allamehzadeh, an 8th-grade student; Alireza Zare, a 9th-grade student; Amir Kian Hedayat, an 8th-grade student; Amir Ali Abbasi, an 8th-grade student; and Mahya Farhadpour, a 10th-grade student. The Eurasia Open 2024 competition was held in Turkey from November 6 to 9.

Pakistan Embassy in Tehran celebrates Iqbal Day

Arts & Culture Desk

The Embassy of Pakistan in Tehran, in collaboration with the Department of Urdu at the University of Tehran, organized a ceremony to commemorate the 147th birth anniversary of Allama Muhammad Iqbal, popularly



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known as Iqbal Lahori, on November 12. The ceremony was presided over by Abdolreza Seif, Head of the Faculty of Literature and Humanities, who welcomed the guests and highlighted Iqbal's work and Islamic thoughts. The chief guest, H.E. Muhammad Mudassir Tipu, Ambassador of Pakistan in Tehran, expressed his appreciation for the love and admiration of the people of Iran for Iqbal Lahori. Ambassador Tipu emphasized that Iqbal is a poet for all ages, and his work in Persian language has ignited the flame of independence in the hearts of Muslims in the sub-continent. He also highlighted the significance of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei's words about Iqbal, which are highly respected in literary circles.

The ambassador noted that Iqbal's thoughts are universal and metaphysical in nature, and his concepts of *Khudi* (self), *Shaheen* (Falcon), and devotion to Muhammad are unparalleled. He added that in the era of globalization, where cultures are diminishing, Iqbal's thoughts serve as a beacon to stay connected to our roots, cultural values, and civilization. A documentary titled 'Poet of the East' was screened, highlighting the life of Iqbal Lahori. Students also recited Urdu and Farsi verses of Iqbal to pay homage to the poet, philosopher, and thinker. An exhibition of rare pictures depicting Iqbal's life and career was also organized at the University of Tehran. The ceremony was attended by a large number of students, scholars, and members of the Pakistani diaspora.

Iranian management in ...

On the other hand, Iran has suffered significant economic damage due to US sanctions in recent years, and the new government is keen to lift these sanctions to implement its development plans. The recent developments in West Asia, including the Gaza and Lebanon conflicts and escalating tensions between Iran and Israel, given Tehran's role as a regional power, have also imposed themselves as another crucial issue on the Iran-US agenda. Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian seemed to be alluding to these realities in his remarks yesterday, saying: "When it comes to the US, whether we like it or not,

we will inevitably have to deal with this country in the regional and international arena." Earlier, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, had recognized the outcome of the US presidential election as the American people's decision and stated that Iran would "show respect" for this choice. He also described the future trajectory of relations between the two countries as a choice that would start with respect. Araghchi emphasized that Tehran was not seeking nuclear arms and that building trust was a two-way street, not a one-way deal. Mohammad Javad Zarif, the president's strategic deputy, also highlighted the concept of "respect" in his first reaction to the US election and the quality of the future encounter between the two countries, writing: "Iran has shown that it has the will and ability to counter any aggression and is not intimidated by threats, but it does pay attention to respect." Government spokesperson Fatemeh Mohajerani said yesterday at a press conference that in dealing with the incoming US administration, the government had "drawn up different scenarios and would pursue national interests under any circumstances." In his remarks, the president also touched on a noteworthy point, namely that Iran and the US would inevitably cross paths

in the regional and international spheres, saying: "It's better if we take the reins ourselves; of course, the government will ultimately pursue the overall foreign policy within the framework of the system's strategy and grand approaches." The government officials' comments can be boiled down to the following: The Iranian government respects the US election and its outcome as the American people's decision. As a regional power, the Iranian government acknowledges the reality of its encounter with the US in the region and on the international stage and is keen to ensure a suitable quality of engagement (active diplomacy will replace reactive policy).

The Iranian government views respect, trust-building, and addressing concerns as a two-way street, not a one-way deal. The Iranian government, as emphasized by the president, prefers to take the helm in managing its new encounter with the US (this may be a reference to the unsuccessful experience of indirect talks and mediation in the past three years). Managing the encounter with the US will be done within the framework of the president's declared approach of "constructive engagement with the world" and balancing foreign policy, under the umbrella of the Supreme National Security Council's general policies and decisions, with a view to securing greater national interests.

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