

- License Holder
- ICPI CEO
- Managing Director
- Editor-in-chief
- Int'l & National Desk
- Economy Desk
- Sports Desk
- Iranica Desk
- Arts & Culture Desk
- Language Editor

Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA)
 Ali Motaghian
 Ali Kakadezfuli
 Mostafa Shirmohammadi
 Javad Mohammad Ali, Zohreh Qanadi,
 Amir Mollae Mozaffari
 Reza Abesh Ahmadlou, Sadeq Dehqan
 Amirhadi Arsalanpour
 Leila Imeni
 Hamideh Hosseini
 Mehdi Ebrahim

- Editorial Dept. Tel +98 21 84711226
- Address 208, Khorramshahr Ave., Tehran, Iran
- ICPI Publisher +98 21 88548892-5
- Advertising Dept. Tel/Email +98 21 88500601/irandaily@iranagahiha.com
- Website www.irandaily.ir/newspaper.irandaily.ir
- Email irandaily@icpi.ir
- Printing House Iran Cultural & Press Institute



Yalda Night, timeless celebration of 'togetherness', reflection of cultural heritage: *Minister*

Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Abbas Salehi, conveyed warm wishes to his fellow citizens on Yalda Night, calling it a "symbol of Iran's rich and ancient culture."

In his message, he shared, "Yalda Night, this mysterious and delightful evening, holds a special place in our history." He emphasized that for many older generations, Yalda is not merely a calendar event, but a representation of human values and cultural heritage that has taken root in the history of the land, IRNA reported.

Salehi reflected on the significance of



family gatherings during Yalda, stating, "On this night, we remember how being together can be uplifting and remarkable."

He noted that Yalda has the power to "wipe away the dust of old grievances" and deepen bonds within the family. This tradition, he said, serves as a reminder that "togetherness is not just a tradition but a human necessity in our current circumstances."

The celebration of Yalda Night was further held during a gathering hosted by the Iranian Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan. This event saw the participation of diplomats from various countries in the cultural sphere, including Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkey, and Iraq.

Iran's Ambassador to Pakistan, Reza Amiri Moghadam, welcomed the attendees, stating, "The ancient tradition of Yalda, celebrated on the longest night of the year, dates back over 7,000 years

and is one of the most valuable traditional teachings of ancient Iranians."

The envoy highlighted the values celebrated during Yalda, which include cultural identity, respect for nature, and the honor bestowed upon the elderly, women, and children within families.

He asserted that Yalda represents a shared cultural heritage among the nations, proudly announcing, "In 2022, this cultural event was inscribed in UNESCO's list of intangible cultural heritage."

The event also featured remarks from ambassadors of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, who expressed gratitude for the hospitality of the Iranian Embassy and shared insights into the common traditions associated with Yalda in their own countries. They emphasized the gathering as a proof for their mutual heritage, stating, "The celebration of Yalda signifies our shared commitment to the victory of goodness over evil and the celebration of light."



In addition to the speeches, cultural representatives from Iran, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan organized an exhibition showcasing handicrafts, local delicacies, and Yalda-themed tables, introducing the rich traditions of their nations. The celebration of Yalda Night not

only reinforces the cultural ties between Iran, Pakistan, and Central Asia but also reminds communities of the beauty of shared traditions, as Pakistan itself embraces a similar celebration known as "Meh-Fang," marking the arrival of winter.

Children's 'The Little Black Fish' opens with Yalda theme

A week-long group painting exhibition titled 'The Little Black Fish,' dedicated to Persian celebration of Yalda Night opened on December 20 and will run through December 26. This showcase features the works of 15 young artists, who have brought their creativity to life using innovative printing techniques and the exquisite art of Eco-line under the guidance of facilitator Maliheh Darbandsari.

The exhibition aims to capture the essence of Yalda, known as the longest night of the year in Iranian culture—a time when stories blossom from the darkness, and legends come alive. The narrative echoes the tales of Samad Behran-

gi, a beloved storyteller whose voice resonates through the memories of this special night. His stories of courage, embodied in the smallest of fish, inspire young hearts to seek out vast oceans of hope and freedom.

"Even the smallest light can pierce the darkest of nights," Behrangi once wrote, and this exhibition seeks to illuminate that truth. With pomegranates symbolizing life and resilience, each piece in the exhibition tells a story of struggle against darkness and the breaking of walls of doubt. The night of Yalda, adorned with the red of pomegranates and the magic of Samad's tales, takes on a vibrant hue as the hopes and



dreams of both small and large beings come together.

The exhibition, featuring creative prints by illustrator Farshid Moqaddam, blends themes of bravery, freedom,

and the joy of life. The children, like the little black fish, dive into the depths of Iranian traditions and myths, painting new vistas of hope, courage, and the discovery of the unknown.

Iran's health minister urges eco-friendly waste solutions

Social Desk

In a visit to the 22nd International Environmental Exhibition, Iranian Health Minister Mohammad Reza Zafarghandi emphasized the crucial role of efficient and environmentally friendly waste management in safeguarding the planet. Joined by Shina Ansari, head of the Environmental Protection Organization, Zafarghandi explored innovative solutions presented by over 250 exhibitors, advocating for a collective approach to achieving a sustainable future, ILNA reported.

The event, which began on December 18 and runs for five days, is themed "Universal Participation, Green Economy, Sustainable Future".

"The more efficiently we handle waste using environmentally friendly methods, the more effective our efforts will be in preserving and maintaining our environment," Zafarghandi stated.

The exhibition serves as a valuable platform for showcasing advancements and exchanging experiences aimed at sustainable development and environmental protection. It emphasizes the critical role of social responsibility in environmental conservation and aims to raise public awareness about pressing ecological issues.

In addition to waste management, the event features specialized booths on solar energy, underscoring the importance of adopting innovative technologies to reduce fuel and energy consumption.

D-8 can help ...

Iran's strategic position, which I refer to as the "Heartland," endows it with significant potential. Engaging with Iran is crucial for other nations due to its vast energy reserves and strategic location, which serves as a corridor for East-West and North-South routes.

On the other hand, given recent regional developments, Iran needs to solidify its position, both economically and politically. I believe that this summit offers a good opportunity for increased engagement and cooperation with member countries. While there are differences in political views and international issues between Iran and some D-8 members, I hope that the dialogues and consultations at the summit will help resolve these disputes, particularly the issues that have long overshadowed relations between Iran and Egypt, as Iran need to enhance its standing in the Middle East and North Africa.

In my view, Pezeshkian has demonstrated a sound approach in foreign policy and diplomacy during his tenure as Iran's president, prioritizing the development of ties and cooperation with regional and neighboring countries, which is a continuation of the foreign policy of president Ebrahim Raisi's government.

Pezeshkian's participation in the D-8 summit fosters closer cooperation, especially in the economic sphere. Iran's engagement with these countries can help mitigate the

impact of cruel sanctions imposed on the Islamic Republic over the past four decades. President Pezeshkian's approach to expanding external interactions, followed by Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, indicates the government's commitment to attracting foreign investment and cooperation. Since taking office in August, Araghchi has spent much of his time abroad, demonstrating his active engagement in foreign policy. Additionally, the government's economic team has also been very active internationally. Iranian ministers have been working diligently through negotiations with regional and global partners and by participating in regional and international summits to improve Iran standing both regionally and globally.

Pezeshkian's approach to engaging with other countries can indeed contribute to the well-being and comfort of our people, as small and large economic entities in our country are likely to see greater growth and development as a result of these interactions.

I am confident that Pezeshkian will return to Tehran with fruitful outcomes from Cairo, further solidifying our country's position in the region.

Beyond the usual sessions at international summits like the D-8, we often see side meetings and discussions between presidents and leaders, which can help resolve issues and strengthen regional cooperation.



Extension of Announcement for Graphite Electrode Manufacturers and Suppliers

Arvand Jahanara Company, located near the city of Khorramshahr in Khuzestan Province in southwestern Iran, intends to invite quality suppliers/manufacturers to collaborate in supplying 1000 tons of electrodes according to the specifications in the table below.

Therefore, any interested company can submit its bid application along with its list of references to the email address below by December 25, 2024.

Ebrahimian-E@ajs.co.ir

For more information, you can contact us through the following means of communication.

Contact number: +9861-53512371

www.ajs.co.ir