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Leader urges young poets to nurture revolutionary spirit in poetry

Ayatollah Khamenei applauds rise of poetry among youth

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei met on Saturday with a diverse group of young and veteran poets on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of Imam Hassan Mojtaba (PBUH), the second Shia Imam and grandson of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), fostering a spirit of camaraderie among Persian literature enthusiasts. During the meeting, Ayatollah Khamenei expressed satisfaction with the rise of committed and revolutionary poetry, describing the recited works as generally of high quality, leader.ir wrote. He said, "The growing wave of poetry, especially among the youth, is highly encouraging." Reports indicate that poets have risen to the occasion this year, showcasing their talents. The Leader highlighted the unique position of poetry as an unparalleled form of art and media, saying, "No other medium can diminish its authority." He called for a balance between quantity and quality in poetic

works, urging poets to strive for excellence alongside increased participation. The Leader posited that the current era could be likened to a golden age for Persian poetry, reminiscent of the revered poets Sa'adi, Hafez, and Nezami. He noted that unlike the Pahlavi era, where poets lacked respect, today's environment offers significant social recognition and media presence for poets, creating fertile ground for their development. Ayatollah Khamenei pointed out that the contemporary Persian poetic language is unprecedented, cultivated during the Islamic Revolution, and serves as a foundation for emerging poetic talents. He urged young poets to maintain their integrity and adherence to moral principles, emphasizing that the purity of a poet's inner self directly influences the quality of their work. "The more refined a poet's heart, the more pure their poetry," he added. He encouraged poets to draw from the rich legacy of Persian literature while also warning



Iran's Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei meets with a group of young and veteran poets on the occasion of the birthday anniversary of Imam Hassan Mojtaba (PBUH), the second Shia Imam and grandson of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) in the capital Tehran on March 15, 2025.

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against the dilution of their works by popular, shallow themes. "Love poetry, expressing heartfelt emotions, is valuable, but it

must remain within the bounds of decency and virtue," Ayatollah Khamenei advised. He emphasized that themes of

unity and wisdom are not only valuable but resonate deeply with audiences. During the event, 36 poets pre-

sented their works, covering a range of religious, social, and political themes, contributing to an exchange of ideas and artistry.

Minister calls for modern technology in heritage protection

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts, Reza Salehi Amiri, urged the integration of modern technologies in the preservation and documentation of the nation's cultural assets. In a recent meeting with ministry officials, he stressed the importance of cultural heritage in shaping national identity and enhancing cultural diplomacy, IRNA reported. Salehi Amiri described cultural heritage as a vital element that contributes

not just to cultural policy but also to international relations and sustainable development. He argued that its protection and revitalization should be a cornerstone of national policy, rather than a mere operational concern. He underscored the need for skilled human resources to drive change in cultural governance. "No development strategy can succeed without relying on committed and capable professionals," he added. Improving the livelihoods of ministry employees is not just a welfare issue but a strategic necessity for fulfilling the ministry's national objec-

tives. The minister also called for a redefinition of roles among managers and experts within the decision-making process to enhance efficiency, transparency, and accountability. Cultural diplomacy, he noted, serves as a key pillar in regional and international geopolitics, positioning Iran as a major civilizational hub that can leverage its heritage to bolster its global standing and cultural ties. Addressing tax and insurance challenges faced by the handicraft and tourism sectors, Salehi Amiri urged for a fair

and supportive tax system that can facilitate growth in these areas. He stressed that cultural heritage protection is a national duty that requires the involvement of all governmental and civic entities. The minister called for a cohesive policy framework grounded in data-driven governance and modern technological applications for preserving and restoring historical sites. He emphasized the need for a robust protective force to safeguard the nation's cultural treasures, equipped with advanced technology and operational

capabilities. Salehi Amiri concluded by stating that strategic decisions must be based on comprehensive data and expert consultations, and that continuous policy discussions among leaders are essential for achieving the ministry's long-term goals. He declared the current Persian calendar year as a transformative year for cultural heritage, tourism, and handicrafts, focusing on management cohesion, operational effectiveness, and the integration of scientific and technological resources.

Iran, Netherlands team up for joint film project with 'Black Tulip'

Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian filmmaker Azita Moguie is set to direct and produce 'Black Tulip,' a feature film jointly made by Iran and the Netherlands, following official approval for production. The film, which intertwines an ancient Bakhtiari legend with a thematic link to the Netherlands, marks Moguie's third directorial project after 'Tragedy' and 'Mastermind'. The director, who has recently been engaged in theater production, returns to cinema with this cross-border collaboration, ILNA reported. Moguie, herself of Bakhtiari descent, co-wrote the screenplay with Mohammad Hosseini. Hosseini, whose work 'North by Southwest' was featured at this year's Fajr Film Festival, brings



his storytelling expertise to the project. With pre-production now underway, the cast and key production members will be announced in the coming weeks. Moguie has previously produced two theater productions, 'The Story of Timeless Songs' and 'Galileo', and her latest film is expected to bridge historical narratives with contemporary cinematic storytelling.

Iran's women art to be displayed on sidelines of UNHR session

A specialized exhibition of Iranian Women's Art will be held on the sidelines of the UN Human Rights Council Session in Geneva. The specialized exhibition of Iranian women's art will be held from March 17 to 24, coinciding with the 58th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, Mehr News Agency reported. The event will showcase the artistic works of active Iranian women in various fields of art. The exhibition is organized by the Institute for Protection of Women's Rights in collaboration with the Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs, the Iranian Mission in Geneva, and other non-governmental organizations. The main objective of this exhibition is to introduce the capabilities of Iranian women in the field of art and to strengthen cultural diplomacy at the international level. The organizers of this event are striving



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to create a suitable space for presenting and highlighting the works

of Iranian female artists in international forums.