



# Kolkata festival jury honors Iranian film 'At the End of the Day'

## Arts & Culture Desk

The jury of the 4th World Film Festival Kolkata awarded the Special Jury Mention for the Best Feature Film to Iranian movie 'At the End of the Day,' directed by Babak Bahrambeygi, for what it called a "powerful portrayal" of women's resilience against patriarchy and power. The week-long event, held from Aug. 16 to 22 in the Indian city, highlighted films that focus on social issues. The jury praised Bahrambeygi's work for its striking depiction of wom-

en caught between social pressures and personal choices, IRNA reported. Organized by the Federation of Film Societies of the Eastern Region in collaboration with the International Federation of Film Societies (Asia-Pacific), the festival concluded at Nandan film and cultural center with awards conferred by jury members Reshmi Naskar, Debasish Chakraborty and Abu Shahed Emon. Frau Astrid Wege, director of the Goethe-Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan Kolkata, was the chief guest, and

Katsunori Ashida, deputy consul general at the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata, served as the guest of honor. 'At the End of the Day,' Bahrambeygi's second feature, was shot in the central Iranian city of Kashan. Produced by Mehdi Kouhian, the drama has yet to be screened in Iran. The story follows one day in the lives of three couples in a small town, exploring relationships at a turning point where women must make hard decisions between social expectations and their

own independence. The cast includes Hanieh Tavassoli, Reza Behboudi, Khayyam Vaghar Kashani, Mahtab Servati, Shayesteh Sajadi, Hesam Rezaeian and Shabnam Moghaddami. Bahrambeygi first gained attention with his 2015 debut 'A Long Day'. Kouhian, a seasoned producer, has backed several independent films, among them Hassan Khademi's documentary 'Death and the Judge,' Kaveh Oveisi's 'Paris Tehran' and Behzad Nalbandi's feature 'Preuve'.



● IRNA

## Oskouei wins top IPA award in photojournalism

### Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian photographer, filmmaker and historian of photography Mehrdad Oskouei won first prize in the analog photojournalism category at the 2025 International Photography Awards (IPA). The IPA, founded in 2003 and regarded as one of the world's most prestigious contests for

professional photographers, honored Oskouei's black-and-white image titled 'Amidst the Rubble of Disaster', ILNA reported. The photograph, capturing the face of a teenage boy in earthquake ruins, stood out among eight of his works shortlisted for the finals. In a rare feat, seven other entries from Oskouei received honor-

able mentions. Oskouei, who has built a career weaving together art, research and documentary practice, described the award as recognition of photography's ability to bear witness. The jury, an international panel of experts, said the image offered "poignant" testimony of human resilience.

The annual IPA brings together photographers from across genres ranging from news, sport and advertising to portraiture, nature, architecture and ritual traditions. The competition, open to artists of every background and level of expertise, aims to discover new talent while offering established names a global stage.

## Students from Iran sweep gold at world astronomy Olympiad in India

### Social Desk

Iran's national astronomy team clinched five gold medals at the International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) in India, winning the world title for the second year running, the country's education ministry said. The contest, hosted in Mumbai from Aug. 11 to 21, drew more than 300 high school students from 64 nations. Iran's five-member team – Ali Naderi, Hossein Masoumi, Hirbod Foodazi, Arshia Mirshamsi Kakhaki and Hossein Soltani – notched up a clean sweep,

taking every gold medal on offer, IRNA reported. President Masoud Pezeshkian congratulated the group on Friday, calling the win "proof" that Iran's younger generation can shine on the world stage. "This inspiring victory, achieved through the round-the-clock efforts of our talented youth, shows they can raise the flag of Iran to the highest peaks of progress and honor," he said in a statement. Hossein Afshin, vice president for science and head of the National Elites Foundation, hailed the success as a

lasting symbol of the nation's scientific potential. He described the students' achievements as "a bright and enduring honor" and pledged full backing for gifted Iranians competing globally. The Young Scholars Club, which trains students for international Olympiads, also praised the victory, saying the medals were "a source of pride and hope" for Iran's scientific future. Founded in 1995 under the ministry of education, the academic body organizes national contests in mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, computer science, astronomy and literature.

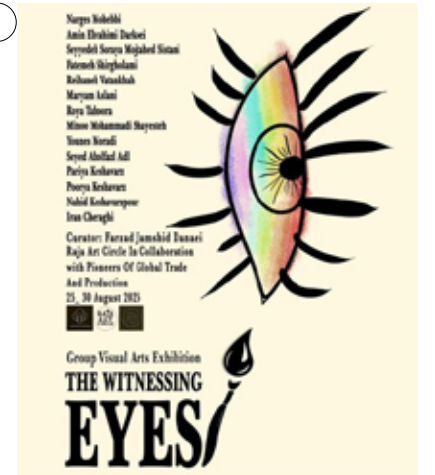
## Omani online exhibition features works by Iranian artists

### Art & Culture Desk

Fourteen Iranian artists will present their works in a virtual exhibition titled 'The Witnessing Eyes' opening in Oman on August 25. The group show, staged by the Raja Art Circle and the Omani firm Pioneers of Global Trade and Production, brings together 21 pieces across five disciplines – painting, calligraphic painting, illustration, epigraphy and photography, ILNA reported.

The exhibition, held entirely online, is curated by Iranian photographer and Raja Art Circle director Farzad Jamshid Danaei.

In a statement, the organizers said the exhibition honors the eye as "the first narrator" of human experience. "For the artist, eyes are more than instruments of sight, they are gateways of perception, witnesses of beauty, pain and imagination," the statement added. Among the participants are Narges Mo-



hebbi, Amin Ebrahimi Darkoei, Fatemeh Shirgholami, Reihaneh Vatankhah, Maryam Aslani, Roya Tahoora, and Iran Cheraghi. The exhibition remains accessible until Saturday, August 30.

## Iranian researchers grow world's first living skin with blood supply

### Social Desk

Two Iranian scientists working at the University of Queensland in Australia have, for the first time, grown human skin in a laboratory complete with its own blood supply. The breakthrough, carried out at the Frazer Institute in Brisbane by Dr. Abbas Shafiee and Professor Kiarash Khosrotehrani, used stem cells to create a replica of human skin containing blood vessels, capillaries, hair follicles, multiple tissue layers and immune cells, Mehr News Agency reported. Researchers say the engineered skin could transform graft surgery, regenerative medicine and the treatment of chronic inflammatory diseases.

"This is the most life-like skin model developed anywhere in the world," Shafiee said, noting the project took six years and was done in collaboration with Metro North Health. "It will allow us to study diseases and test treatments more accurately." Until now, scientists studying skin disorders and new therapies faced significant limits. The new model, which Shafiee described as "closely mimicking real human skin," is expected to open the door to testing treatments for wounds, burns and complex dermatological conditions under far more realistic conditions. The team reprogrammed human skin cells into stem cells, then grew miniature versions known as skin organoids. Using the

same method, they created blood vessels and integrated them into the growing tissue. The result was lab-grown skin that developed "layers, follicles, pigments, nerves and, most importantly, its own blood vessels," Shafiee said. Khosrotehrani said the innovation could greatly improve outcomes for patients needing grafts and help push forward therapies for psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, scleroderma and a range of genetic diseases. "Skin grafts are often used to treat severe wounds and burns, but they can be limited in effectiveness and carry infection risks," he said. "This model gives us the chance to make those treatments safer and more effective."

Second Announcement

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Tender	No	Quantity
ACTIVATED CARBON	0441012	60000kg

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