

Dubai hosts ‘Iran Fest’ to display cultural, community ties

Arts & Culture Desk

Tens of thousands of Iranian expatriates packed Dubai’s Expo City on Saturday for the first ‘Iran Fest,’ a large-scale celebration of Iranian culture and its enduring friendship with the United Arab Emirates. The festival, staged at the Dubai Exhibition Centre, offered a vivid showcase of traditional music, cuisine, arts, and handicrafts, reflecting the historical and social bonds linking the two nations, IRNA reported. Organized by the social initiative Emirates Loves Iran in collaboration with the Dubai Police, the event went beyond entertainment to underscore the contributions of the Iranian community in the UAE. Attendees experienced live performances by acclaimed Iranian artists including Homayoun Shajarian, and Ali Ghamsari, alongside exhibitions of Iranian arts, cooking demonstrations, and displays of traditional handicrafts. Children, families, professionals, and people of determination all joined, emphasizing the community’s integral role in the UAE’s multicultural fabric. “This evening, we are reminded that Iran

and the UAE are not just neighbors across the waters of the Persian Gulf – we are companions in a long, shared journey across history,” said Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, UAE Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence. “For centuries, our peoples have traded, shared stories, interwoven families, and worked together to foster peace, stability, and security. This gathering proves that our friendship is strong and continues to thrive.” Alireza Mahmoudi, the newly appointed Consul General of Iran in Dubai and the Northern Emirates, marked his first public appearance at the festival. He highlighted the historical presence of Iranians in the UAE, noting that the community, once estimated at 500,000, now numbers around 800,000. Mahmoudi described the UAE as a “second home” for Iranians and praised Emirati leaders for their support in fostering integration and mutual understanding. The festival also offered a platform for Iranian entrepreneurs and businesses, including visitors flown in from Iran, to display

products ranging from ethnic clothing to culinary specialties. Food and cultural experiences played a central role in the event. Visitors sampled Iranian spices, kebabs, and other traditional dishes while engaging with martial arts demonstrations from Dubai’s first Pahlavani studio. The tear-shaped wooden clubs and synchronized performances attracted significant attention, adding an interactive layer to the cultural showcase. Rashed Al Tamimi, director of Emirates Loves Iran, described the festival as “a message of love and appreciation” and a reflection of the UAE leadership’s vision for an inclusive society. “Today, we are shedding light on inspiring stories and sharing them with the world, demonstrating how love and diversity can be foundations for progress and stability. To the Iranian community, we say you are not guests. You are partners in this homeland.” The event also highlighted opportunities for tourism and economic collaboration between the UAE and Iran. Both countries have long-standing ties in sectors such as trade, energy, industry, aviation, and entre-



preneurship. Cultural events like Iran Fest reinforce these connections, showcasing the potential for collaboration in tourism, while promoting mutual understanding and people-to-people engagement. For many attendees, the festival was both a cultural and emotional experience. Yusuf Astaraki, who has lived in Dubai for

25 years, said, “We have a thriving Iranian community here. We can enjoy everything from home, from our food to our culture, and still be part of an international society.” Mostafa Moradi, a recent arrival from Iran, echoed the sentiment, expressing gratitude for the peace and prosperity he found in the UAE.

Atshani’s ‘My Little Moon’ awarded at South Texas Int’l Film Festival



Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian-American filmmaker Ali Atshani’s feature film ‘My Little Moon’ won the Best International Feature

Film Award at the 11th South Texas International Film Festival (STXIFF) on September 13. The festival, held at the Edinburg Arts, Culture &

Events Center, showcased a diverse array of global cinema from September 10 to 13, inn.ir reported. Atshani’s film, shot in Los Angeles and Iran, tells the compelling story of two teenage girls who form a deep online friendship—one that crosses borders and cultures. One girl is from the United States, the other from Iran, and together they show that love and friendship know no boundaries, regardless of physical distance or global inequalities. ‘My Little Moon’ has garnered significant recognition on the festival circuit. It

has been an official selection at the 24th Santa Fe International Film Festival and the Hollywood International Diversity Film Festival. Also, it was a finalist at the Open World Toronto Film Festival and the VVilmf Kids and Teens International Film Festival. These accolades highlight the film’s compelling storytelling and its ability to bridge cultural divides. The film features a talented cast, including Natalia Polo, Nicole Amato, Brent Kublick, Matthew Firman, and Elnaz Bagheri. The film was produced by American Brightlight Film Productions.

Iran shortlists five films for 2025 Oscar submission

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Iran’s Farabi Cinema Foundation unveiled five films shortlisted to represent the country in the Best International Feature Film category at the 98th Academy Awards. The selection followed a comprehensive review of 84 eligible entries by a nine-member committee, including prominent Iranian filmmakers such as Narges Abyar, Shabnam Moghaddami, and Fereydoun Jeyrani. The committee first identified a set of works for a second round of evaluation before narrowing the list to five nominees. Among the contenders are ‘The Old Bachelor,’ ‘Woman and Child,’ ‘Raha,’ ‘Call me Ziba,’ and ‘Cause of Death: Unknown.’

Two of these, ‘The Old Bachelor’ and ‘Woman and Child,’ had already circulated in industry circles and among critics as potential frontrunners. The selected films span a range of themes and styles, highlighting contemporary Iranian cinema’s depth and diversity. ‘Woman and Child,’ directed by Saeed Roustayi, has already drawn international attention following its nomination for the Palme d’Or at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival. It explores family dynamics and societal pressures, a narrative that has resonated with audiences both inside Iran and abroad. The final decision on Iran’s official Oscar submission will be made after further deliberations, with the announcement expected



ed in the coming weeks. The selection process underscores Iran’s continued effort to present its cinematic achievements to the global stage. The Farabi Cinema Foundation remains a central institution in promoting Iranian film, ensuring that the country’s diverse voices are seen and heard internationally.

Tehran hosts ‘Art Against War’ exhibition honoring Mansoureh Alikhani

Arts & Culture Desk

The ‘Art Against War’ exhibition opened in Tehran on Sunday, featuring 24 paintings by Iraqi artists created in tribute to Iranian painter Mansoureh Alikhani, who was killed in an Israeli airstrike on June 13. The exhibition is a collaborative ef-

fort between the Iraqi art collective Bait al-Jamal and Iranian cultural institutions. It aims to honor Alikhani’s legacy and condemn the violence of war. The artists, including Zahra Hassan, Resal Ahmad, and Sajad Karim, gathered in Baghdad for a week-long workshop to produce

these works. Their creations reflect themes of resistance, resilience, and the enduring power of art in the face of conflict. Alikhani, born in 1966 in Noshahr, Iran, was known for her evocative depictions of Iranian identity and spirituality. She held degrees from Al-Zahra and Soore universities

and taught at the Arts University of Kashan and Soore University. Her untimely death has left a void in the Iranian art community, but her spirit continues to inspire. The exhibition will be open to the public from September 15 to 20 at the House One Gallery of Art Bureau.



Notice of tender for export sale No Z/1404/16

GolGohar Mining and Industrial Company

Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70,000 metric tons of Pellet (%Fe:65.00) on basis of F.O.B at Barco Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgohar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 09:00 A.M. on 23. Sep.2025 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Bidders are invited to the transactions commission department of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 09:00 A.M. on 23.Sep.2025 at the office of the Seller.

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Analysis %		
Fe	65.00	Min
FeO	1.0	Ave
P	0.04	Max
S	0.01	Max
SiO2	3.5	Max
Al2O3	0.7	Max
CaO	0.9	Max
MgO	2.5	Max
CCS (kg/p)	Ave 250	
8-16 mm%	Min 90	
-6 mm%	Ave 5	
A.I%	Max 3.8	
T.I%	Min 95	
Prosity%	19-24	
Reducibility%	Min 90	

Notice of tender for export sale No. Z/1404/17

GolGohar Mining and Industrial Company

Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 140,000 metric tons of Iron Ore Concentrate (%Fe:66.50 ave) on basis of F.O.B at Rajaee Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgohar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 09:00 A.M. on 23. Sep.2025 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Bidders are invited to the transactions commission department of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 09:00 A.M. on 23.Sep.2025 at the office of the Seller.

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Analysis %		
%Fe Ave	66.50	
%FeO	Min 24	Max 28
%P Max	0.04	
%S Max	1.0	
%SiO2 Max	3.0	
%Al2O3 Max	0.7	
%CaO Max	0.9	
%MgO Max	2.5	
%Moisture Max	5.0	
Size ave	80%<0.48 mm	