

Work started to restore Shiraz's war-scarred historic building

Iranica Desk

On the evening of the first day of Nowruz (Iranian New Year), the building of Shiraz's first municipality — which dates back to the first Pahlavi era and now houses the Fars Education Museum — was targeted by an American and Israeli attack.

This historic building, registered as Iran's National Heritage List in August 2002 under the name of the Fatemeh al-Zahra (SA) Cultural-Educational Center, currently holds a treasure trove of memories, documents, images, and records of Fars Provinces' educational history.

Cultural heritage and education represent two hu-



man dimensions that numerous international laws defend as immune from military attack. However, in the face of a criminal enemy, many humanitarian and human boundaries have been violated.

Iranian schools have been targeted, children have been killed, 140 historical sites across 20 provinces have been damaged, and missiles have disregarded international laws governing retaliation.

On the night of March 21, a missile from the aggressor enemy struck 20 meters southwest of this building, and its shrapnel hit this Iranian national heritage site. According to the deputy director of cultural heritage for Fars Province, many parts of it were damaged.

Sadeq Zare' told IRNA that the building's facade has collapsed, its decorations and plasterwork have been destroyed, parts of the floor and staircase have been damaged, and its historic doors and windows have been blown off. Regarding the restoration of this damaged national heritage site, he said, "Preliminary damage assessments have been



IRNA

completed and sent to the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and the Crisis Management Headquarters of Fars Province's General Governorate. The ministry has made the necessary summary and submitted it to national and international bodies to compensate for these damages."

According to him, once the necessary funding is allocated and secured, the restoration of this historical heritage site of Shiraz will

begin.

Over the years, this historic building had become a safe haven for objects and the historical heritage of education, serving as a museum of education open to the public.

According to the Head of Public Relations Office of Fars Province's Education Department, the museum displayed old documents, photographs, report cards, and textbooks from past centuries.

He added, "Printing press-

es, old microscopes, educational aids from decades past, and valuable relics of the province's education system from the last century were gathered in this museum."

Today, amid the flames of an imposed war, the rubble of this building — a remnant of Fars Province's from the last century — is drawing the attention of international bodies worldwide, much like the ancient heritage of Isfahan and Tehran.

Kashkan Bridge stands after thousand years



FARS

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The Kashkan Bridge, with a history spanning over a thousand years and bearing the title of "Mother of Iran's Bridges," stands as a symbol of ancient engineering in Lorestan Province, continuing to welcome visitors as a historical and tourist attraction.

Ata Hassanpour, the Director General of the Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Organization of Lorestan Province, highlighted the strategic position of the province as a historical corridor. "Iranian engineers in ancient times, understanding the importance of this region, built numerous bridges over its turbulent rivers," he stated, ISNA wrote.

He further explained that, among these, the Kashkan Bridge, as the largest and most prominent of them all, embodies the genius and creativity of Iranian architects from the fourth century AH (the tenth century CE).

"The construction of this astonishing bridge, which took place from 998 to 1008 CE, was carried out by order of Abu Najm Badr ibn Hasanuyeh, the then-governor of Lorestan," Hassanpour added.

The Kashkan Bridge was not only located on an important communication route between Shapourkhast (modern-day Khorramabad) and Ctesiphon in Iraq, but it is also recognized as one of the great water structures and historical monuments of Iran and the ancient world.

He provided further details on the bridge's dimensions, "The bridge is approximately 325 meters long and has 12 arched openings, one of which has a span of 25 meters. With a height of about 25 meters, this bridge is a symbol of grandeur and scale in ancient architecture."

He also noted a remarkable aspect of its construction, "The massive stones used in the bridge were transported from a distance of 15 kilometers, specifically from the slopes of Maple Mountain, which itself demonstrates the extraordinary ability of the engineers and laborers of that era."

Hassanpour emphasized the bridge's resilience, "The durability and stability of the Kashkan Bridge over thousands of years, even during the devastating flood of 2019, which damaged one of its piers, is admirable. This exemplary stability, along with the bridge's colossal dimensions, makes it one of the most unique structures among Iran's historical monuments."

Adjacent to this architectural masterpiece, a museum of various bridges displays historical bridges from different periods of Iran, ranging from the Achaemenids to the first Pahlavi era, thereby illustrating the evolution of bridge-building in this land. Today, the Kashkan Bridge has not only remained a historical monument, but it has also become a major tourist destination, attracting numerous visitors who are eager to witness its magnificence and grandeur.

Discover Jiroft, where civilization meets scenic beauty

Iranica Desk

Spring in southeastern Iran comes alive in Jiroft, a city where nature, history, and culture converge to create a landscape of extraordinary beauty and heritage. Here, spring is not merely a season, but a living narrative of centuries-old civilization, vibrant traditions, and hidden natural treasures.

Jiroft can be described as a land of harmonious contrasts — where water, mountains, valleys, and history come together to form a captivating and rare panorama.

Delfard Waterfall, with its cool climate and pristine surroundings, is one of the region's most prominent natural attractions. The beautiful and lush Delfard Waterfall is located in the heart of one of the greenest valleys, approximately 25 kilometers north of the city of Jiroft. Once you enter the road from Kerman to Jiroft, after some driving you can reach this stunning attraction. The waterfall sits about 2,000 meters above sea level, which gives it a climate significantly different from that of Jiroft itself. The road that takes you to Delfard Waterfall is winding and twisting, and it is itself a beautiful destination for tourism and picnicking.

One of the most interesting features of Delfard and its waterfall is its climatic diversity. Although Jiroft has a warm climate for most of the year, Delfard enjoys a cold climate due to its high altitude. This allows visitors to see fruits and plants typical of cold regions growing alongside tropical fruits and plants. The region's extensive vegetation is not only due to its climate but also results from higher rainfall



Esfandaqeh Mountain
balad.ir

compared to other parts of Kerman.

Along this route lies a valley often referred to as the Mediterranean Valley due to its four-season climate. In fact, this road is the best option for tourists who intend to travel from Kerman

groves, which at this time of year are bursting with spring blossoms. Their delightful fragrance echoes throughout the vast expanse of the valley. Thanks to the flowering of these trees, one of the most beautiful natural landscapes in the region is created.

creating the most beautiful natural and touristic scenery in the province.

Jiroft is recognized as the cradle of one of the world's oldest civilizations, with a history spanning several millennia. A vivid reflection of this legacy can be seen at the Jiroft Archaeological Museum, whose valuable artifacts narrate the story of a civilization that has placed Jiroft prominently on the map of world history.

The scenic Jebalbarez Road, with its striking mountainous views, is considered one of the most delightful access routes to the city. Nearby, a forest park provides a welcoming setting for family recreation and relaxation.

The Esmaili District, through which the Jiroft-Boluk road passes, plays an important connective role. In addition, its extensive greenhouses and lush farmlands stand as a clear symbol of the region's dynamic and modern agricultural sector. Alongside these capacities, historical sites such as the Konar Sandal Hills, the mosque of the old city of Jiroft, and the remains of the ancient settlement vividly showcase the deep historical identity of this land.



Delfard Waterfall
ealiya.com

Province to Bandar Abbas and also wish to enjoy the historical and tourist region of Ort, located along the only permanent river in southeastern Iran.

The Mediterranean Valley is considered one of Iran's premier tourist destinations. It has a Mediterranean climate and is filled with large citrus orchards, especially orange

The high, winding roads of this valley and the surrounding mountains are covered with mountain almond bushes. In short, one of the most stunning natural landscapes of Kerman Province can be seen here. A river rich with water flows through this valley, transforming Delfard Valley into the valley of waterfalls and