



Salehi proposes joint catalog of Iran, Kyrgyzstan manuscripts

'Shahnameh,' 'Manas' set to anchor new cultural cooperation

Arts & Culture Desk

Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Abbas Salehi proposed a comprehensive joint catalog of manuscript collections held in Iran and Kyrgyzstan during talks with Eldar Attokurov, head of National Library of the Kyrgyz Republic, as the two sides explored deeper scholarly and cultural cooperation on the sidelines of the 23rd Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Culture Ministers' Meeting.

The manuscript initiative came alongside a broader push to expand cooperation around the Persian epic 'Shahnameh' (Book of Kings) and Kyrgyzstan's national epic 'Manas', two literary masterpieces that Salehi described as a "natural foundation for practical cultural projects" spanning

miniature painting, traditional storytelling, music, and other artistic fields.

During his visit to the Kyrgyzstan national library, Salehi stressed the importance of identifying and making greater scholarly use of the valuable Persian manuscripts preserved in Kyrgyz collections.

He said advances in library technologies and artificial intelligence now make it possible to accelerate searches and improve access to manuscript data. "Using these advanced tools, information on manuscripts can be extracted more quickly and accurately and made available to researchers around the world," he said.

Calling for concrete cooperation beyond formal agreements, Salehi proposed launching a detailed inventory of manuscript holdings in both countries. "The first step is to at least examine each other's manuscript catalogs so we can identify where new information and previously unknown materials may be found," he said.

Attokurov welcomed the proposal, emphasizing the importance of safeguarding written heritage and strengthening joint cultural and academic cooperation between the two countries.

Earlier, in a meeting with the head of the National Museum of History of Kyrgyzstan, Salehi urged both sides to complement cultural agreements with practical projects that could be implemented without lengthy coordination.

"The more we cooperate on Shahnameh and Manas, the more

valuable our achievements will be," he said, noting that the two epics offer broad opportunities for joint programs in visual arts, oral performance traditions, music, and related cultural fields.

Manas, inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2013, is regarded as the world's longest epic poem and a cornerstone of Kyrgyz cultural identity, recounting generations of struggles to unite scattered tribes and resist foreign



Iranian Culture Minister Abbas Salehi (3rd L) meets with Head of the National Museum of History of Kyrgyzstan Eldar Attokurov in Bishkek (3rd R) on July 17, 2026, on the sidelines of the 23rd SCO Culture Ministers' Meeting.

● farhang.gov.ir



aggression.

During his official visit, Salehi also paid tribute to celebrated Kyrgyz writer Chingiz Aitmatov at the Ata-Beyit memorial complex, recalling his four decades of familiarity with the author's works through Persian translations.

He laid flowers at Aitmatov's grave

and honored other prominent national figures buried at the site.

Salehi arrived in Bishkek on July 16 to attend the SCO culture ministers' meeting, where he is also scheduled to hold bilateral talks with regional counterparts and pursue a cultural exchange agreement between Iran and Kyrgyzstan.

Regional dialogue tops agenda at Egypt National Day reception in Tehran

Social Desk

Head of Iranology Foundation Ali Akbar Salehi used Egypt's National Day reception in Tehran on Thursday to call for renewed dialogue and regional cooperation, saying countries caught up in the Middle East crisis should abandon the "blame game" and return to diplomacy before "it is too late." Speaking at the event hosted by Mohamed Diaa El-Din Abd Rabbo, head of the Egyptian Interests Section in Tehran, Salehi congratulated Egypt's government and people on their national day and described Iran and Egypt as two ancient civilizations whose ties stretch back thousands of years, IRNA reported.

"The time has come to put aside the blame game, sit at the negotiating table, and work together to find a way out of the current crisis for the benefit of all countries and peoples of the region," Salehi said. The former



Head of Iranology Foundation Ali Akbar Salehi speaks during Egypt's National Day reception in Tehran on July 16, 2026.

● iranology.ir

foreign minister, who now heads the Iranology Foundation, said the Middle East was passing through what he described as an "artificially created crisis," arguing that policymakers bear a responsibility to resolve tensions through "reason and wisdom."

He said the Islamic Republic has consistently based its foreign policy on "rationality, wisdom and diplomacy," adding that Tehran seeks regional peace and stability because sustainable development cannot be achieved without security. "Iran has no desire

to see tensions escalate," Salehi said. "The greater the security in the region, the greater the benefit for Iran. We seek peace and security for all countries, not for a select few." He also pointed to ongoing consultations with regional partners, naming Egypt, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Oman among the countries working to help steer the region toward a diplomatic solution.

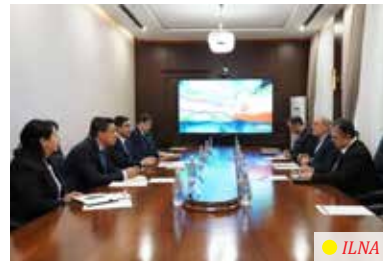
Expressing optimism that constructive engagement could pave the way for lasting solutions, Salehi said misunderstandings between states are inevitable but should always be settled through dialogue rather than mutual accusations. On the sidelines of the ceremony, Salehi held talks with head of the Egyptian Interests Section in Tehran and met ambassadors and senior diplomats from Oman, Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Romania, Britain and several Arab states accredited to Tehran.

Uzbekistan seeks closer medical cooperation with Iran

Social Desk

Iran's Ambassador to Uzbekistan, Mohammad Ali Eskandari, and Uzbek Health Minister Eldor Adilov agreed in Tashkent on July 16 to broaden bilateral cooperation in healthcare, pharmaceuticals, medical technology, and medical education, with both sides endorsing a roadmap for deeper collaboration and wider use of Iran's medical expertise.

During the meeting, Eskandari outlined Iran's latest achievements in healthcare, medical treatment, and medical education, highlighting the country's capabilities in pharmaceutical manufacturing, medical equipment production, scientific research, and health services. He also pointed to Iran's growing role in medical tourism and its



● ILNA

demic standing in a range of medical disciplines, ILNA reported.

Eskandari described Iran's health sector as a strong platform for expanding cooperation between Tehran and Tashkent, reaffirming Iran's readiness to share its scientific expertise, clinical experience, and healthcare inno-

ventions with Uzbekistan.

Adilov welcomed closer engagement and expressed Uzbekistan's readiness to implement the bilateral cooperation roadmap across the health sector.

He voiced support for expanding institutional ties and strengthening collaboration in medicine and public health. The two sides also agreed to deepen cooperation between universities, research institutes, and healthcare centers, while encouraging joint investment and collaborative projects in pharmaceuticals and medical equipment.

Both officials identified the exchange of Iran's medical knowledge and technological achievements as a key pillar of future cooperation, saying expanded scientific and clinical partnerships could further strengthen health relations between the two countries.

Iranian thriller wins Special Jury Prize in North Macedonia



Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian director Mohsen Bahari's debut feature 'The Gambler' captured the Special Jury Prize at the fifth Across the Lake International Film Festival in North Macedonia, organizers announced after the festival wrapped up on July 15.

The event, held across Dojran, Strumica and Gevgelija, spotlights Balkan and Mediterranean cinema and placed

Iranian cinema in special focus this year, IRNA reported. Marking its first international festival appearance, the social thriller drew attention with its contemporary cyber-security storyline. Bahari said the film is inspired by two real-life incidents that were dramatized for the screen, adding that its central theme follows a man who transforms over the course of a single night in an attempt to redeem a grave mistake. "War is no longer fought only with tanks and guns," he said. "Today, it can begin with a single code."

The Farabi Cinema Foundation production is also set to represent Iranian cinema in the competition section

of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Film Festival in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, where it is scheduled to screen in the coming days.

Produced by Sajjad Nasrollahi, 'The Gambler' previously won the Best First-Time Director Crystal Simorgh at the Fajr International Film Festival and earned five additional Crystal Simorgh nominations. The film stars Kourosh Tahami, Armin Rahimian, Shabnam Ghorbani, Amir Nouroozi, Roshan Rostampour, and Emad Emami. Its plot follows the aftermath of a cyberattack on an Iranian bank, as an experienced intelligence officer races to uncover the truth and safeguard national security.



Notice of tender for export sale No. Z/1405/11

Gol Gohar Mining and Industrial Company

Hereby Gol Gohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70.000 metric tons of Iron Ore Concentrate (%Fe:68 ave.) on basis of F.O.B at Rajaei Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgozar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 09:00 A.M. on 28. July.2026 to Golgozar 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 28. July.2026 at the office of the Seller.

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Analysis %

%Fe Ave	68.00
%FeO	Min 24 Max 28
%P Max	0.035
%S Ave	0.5
%SiO2 Max	2.2
%Al2O3 Max	0.6
%CaO Max	0.7
%MgO Max	2.2
%Moisture Max	7.0
Blaine (cm2/gr) Ave	1100
Size ave	80%<0.15 mm



Notice of tender for export sale No. Z/1405/12

Gol Gohar Mining and Industrial Company

Hereby Golgozar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70,000 metric tons of Pellet (%Fe:65.50) on basis of F.O.B at Barco Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgozar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 09:00 A.M. on 28. July.2026 to Golgozar 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 28. July.2026 at the office of the Seller.

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Analysis %

%Fe	65.50	Ave
%FeO	1.0	Ave
%P	0.04	Max
%S	0.01	Max
%SiO2	3.0	Max
%Al2O3	0.7	Max
%CaO	0.7	Max
%MgO	2.5	Max
CCS (kg/p)	Ave 250	
8-16 mm%	Min 90	
-6 mm%	Ave 5	
A.I%	Max 3.5	
T.I%	Min 95	
Prosioty%	19-24	
Reducibility%	Min 90	