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Covid vaccine side effects

There could be possible links between the COVID-19 vaccine and tinnitus, a new study showed. Tinnitus is a condition which occurs when a person hears sounds that come from inside their bodies, rather than from an outside source, often described as a 'ringing in the ears'.

Recent coins of Iran: Not so special, yet collectible



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Social Desk

EXCLUSIVE

Coin collecting, also known as numismatics, is a fascinating hobby that has been enjoyed by people for centuries. Coin collecting has a long history which dates back to ancient times when rulers and wealthy individuals would collect coins as a sign of their wealth and power. Over time, coin collecting evolved into a popular hobby that is enjoyed by people of all ages and backgrounds. The origins of coin collecting can be traced back to ancient Greece and Rome. During this time, coins were not only used as a means of exchange but were also

considered works of art. Wealthy individuals would collect coins as a way to display their wealth and knowledge of history. In fact, some of the earliest coin collectors were Roman emperors who would collect coins from conquered territories as a way to celebrate their victories. During the Renaissance period, coin collecting became more popular among the general population. This was due, in part, to the increased availability of coins as trade and commerce expanded across Europe. Collectors during this time were particularly interested in ancient Greek and Roman coins, which were seen as symbols of the classical world.

In the 19th century, coin collecting became more organized and formalized. The first coin-collecting societies were established in Europe and America, which helped to standardize the practice of coin collecting. These societies also helped to promote the study of numismatics and encouraged collectors to share their knowledge and expertise with others. Today, coin collecting remains a popular hobby around the world. Collec-

tors are interested in a wide variety of coins including ancient, commemorative, and rare coins. Some collectors focus on a particular type of coin such as coins from a specific country or era, while others collect coins based on their artistic or historical significance.

Coin collecting in Iran

The legacy of coins in Iran dates back to ancient times, with the Achaemenid Empire being the first to mint these precious objects

around 550 B.C. Made of gold and silver, these coins featured the image of the king on one side, and a symbol representing the empire on the other. As time passed, the Parthian and Sassanian Empires continued this tradition, producing coins of exceptional quality and artistic design.

During the Islamic period, which began in the 7th century A.D., coins continued to be minted in Iran. The early Islamic coins featured Arabic inscriptions and were

made of gold, silver, and copper. The later Islamic coins featured Persian inscriptions and were made of silver and copper.

In modern Iran, coins are still used as a means of exchange, although they have taken on a rather surprising dimension as collectibles. The coins currently in circulation in the country include the 250 rial, 500 rial, 1,000 rial, 2,000 rial, and 5,000 rial coins.

These days, amidst a sea of ads flooding the widely-used Iranian application named "Divar", a peculiar trend has emerged in the country: buying and selling seemingly insignificant coins. Despite lacking any discernible artistic or historical value like the coins

minted in antiquity, these coins have garnered the attention of a select group of collectors. While some are drawn to the metals such as bronze or nickel that were used in their minting, others seek out specific coins to add to their personal collections.

Surprisingly, the value of these coins can surpass that of recently-minted ones, with individual 250 rial coins from 2001 fetching prices equivalent to a kilogram of any recently-minted coins that are similar yet less special. Onlookers may find themselves perplexed by this curious phenomenon, as coins minted less than three decades ago are considered rare items to be revered and invested in.

Visit Mahallat, Iran's cut-flower capital



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Iranica Desk

The city of Mahallat, resting in the embrace of colorful flowers, is located 262km southeast of Tehran in the central province of Markazi. It is home to an impressive selection of attractions, making it well worth a visit. A variety of colorful flowers, numerous soaring plane trees, which surround its streets, and the movements of ornamental fish in the ponds, along with other natural beauties have created a spectacular landscape at the juncture of Alborz and Zagros mountain ranges, IRNA wrote.

Flower gardens

Numerous flower gardens are in 300 greenhouses of the city, with a total area of 1,000 hectares. The city, with a very pleasant climate, is famous as the 'cut-flower capital of Iran' or 'the Netherlands of Iran'. It hosts a large number of tourists from various parts of the country every year, especially in the spring and summer. While walking in the gardens,

the combination of eye-catching colors and pleasant aroma of the flowers will leave a pleasant memory. About 95 percent of the country's seasonal flowers are cultivated in Mahallat, which is home to the largest flower gardens in Iran. About 700 types of cactus and mums, in 800 colors, are cultivated in the city.

Health tourism

Due to having several bubbling hot springs, Mahallat has also turned into a hub of health tourism. The springs are 15km northeast of Mahallat, near Neyneh village.

For years, Iranians, especially those living in Markazi Province and the cities of Qom, Kashan and Isfahan, have traveled to Mahallat to use its abundant recreational and health tourism facilities.

Historical attractions

The historical sites of the city, along with its natural attractions, draw many visitors to the

region. Atashkuh Fire Temple, located in Nimvar, is one of the most important and well-known Zoroastrian fire temples in the world.

Five kilometers from Nimvar Road, near a village with the same name, Atashkuh Fire Temple dates back to the Sassanid Era. Available historical evidence shows that the monument was in use until the 10th century BCE.

Khorheh is another historical site which is a popular destination for travelers arriving in the region. It is located next to a village with the same name, 48km southeast of Mahallat. Only two stone pillars, with the height of eight meters each, a part of its stone walls, and some old graves remain from this historical site.

Archeologists believe that a recreational site belonging to the Seleucid kings and a temple, dating back to the Parthian era, were in Khorheh, which was settled by humans in the 2nd century BCE.

Largest Sassanid palace gloriously restored

Arts & Culture Desk

EXCLUSIVE

The largest Sassanid palace, which lay in ruins and was on the verge of destruction, has been protected by villagers and magnificently restored.

It was in 1979, shortly after the revolution, when some people came riding trucks to cart off the stones of the palace.

"In the wake of the revolution, palaces should be destroyed for the benefit of the people," it was said, adding that they have the official permission to discard the stones of the palace. However, the local people of Atashkadeh village, led by A'zamollah Kazemi, surrounded them to prevent them

from cutting off the stones of Ardeshir Babakan Palace.

Although a few stones have been carted off in all these years, during the last 100 years the local people have prevented the destruction of the palace.

Kazemi prevented the destruction of the palace under the pretext that they had worked there, and in case of the palace's destruction, there would be no proof of their working to receive a salary.

After the defeat of Ardavan, the last Parthian king, Ardeshir Babakan, the founder of the Sassanid Empire, ordered the construction of this monument in the third century, about 1,800 years ago, in Firouz-

abad, Fars Province. The manor was built to host large gatherings and demonstrate the power and authority of Ardeshir. The mansion was built with stone and plaster, so strong that it still stands. After fencing the site, one part of the eight-acre site was turned into a necropolis for a long while, though its inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage Site in 2018 gradually led to the cessation of burying dead people there.

When Kazemi started his work, the palace lay partially in ruins. Having collaborated with experts from the University of Zurich and worked for the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organiza-

tion after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, along with the villagers, he unearthed the palace.

The palace is one of the first domed constructions in Iran. By all accounts, Muslims were inspired by Sassanid architecture and picked up the skills of dome construction. The architecture of many other Iranian domed monuments was modeled after the Palace of Ardeshir.

The technique of domed construction is completely dependent on the quality of the plastering mortar. As its hardening time is short, this method allows a domed construction without any center. Using the corner construction technique, the domes are located on four sides.

