



Restored version of 'Ferdowsi' to be screened

Cinema Museum of Iran is scheduled to screen a restored version of 'Ferdowsi,' a biopic directed about the Persian poet by Abdolhossein Sepanta in 1934. The film, restored by the Film Archive of Iran, will be showcased at the Ferdows Hall of the museum on May 14, the eve of Ferdowsi and Persian Language Commemoration Day. The screening will be followed by a review of the film by critic Alireza Mahmoudi.

Iran, Tajikistan highlight expansion of cultural ties



During a meeting held on the sidelines of the 34th Tehran International Book Fair (TIBF), Iranian and Tajik officials emphasized the expansion of cultural ties between their respective countries. Tajikistan's Ambassador to Tehran Nizomiddin Zohidi highlighted the translation of Tajik authors' works into Persian and mentioned that the literary works of many Iranian poets and writers have been translated into Cyrillic script. Notably, books by Iranian scholars like Saeed Nafisi, Abdolhossein Zarrinkoob, and Mohammadreza Shafiei Kadkani are utilized as textbooks in Tajikistan's univer-

sities, Tasnim wrote. The gathering, titled 'Perspective of Cultural Interactions between Iran and Tajikistan,' was also attended by Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Mohammad-Mehdi Esmaeili, Tajik Culture Minister Zulfiya Davlatzoda, and Deputy Minister of Culture of Iran's Ministry of Guidance Yasser Ahmadvand. Describing the book fair as the most significant cultural event of the region and the world, Ambassador Zohidi underscored its importance as an opportunity for cultural exchanges. He expressed his belief that paying attention to books and fostering interest in

them serves as a means to ensure societal, cultural, and spiritual well-being. The Tajik envoy further stated that over the 32 years that have passed since Tajikistan's independence, cultural interactions between the two countries have been an advanced aspect of their co-operation. He emphasized that exhibitions, meetings, and programs not only help introduce the achievements of contemporary Tajikistan but also contribute to the strengthening of cultural interactions and the utilization of the existing potential for expanding ties. Ahmadvand, for his part, emphasized the historical

connection between Iran and Tajikistan, highlighting the need for further efforts to expand these relations. Then, Davlatzoda joyfully remarked on the expanding cultural relations between Iran and Tajikistan, countries that share the same language and culture. She highlighted the friendly atmosphere during the Tajik Culture Days in Iran and the Iranian Culture Days in Tajikistan. The book fair, she noted, provides an opportunity to discover each other through books and become acquainted with outstanding authors. Davlatzoda stressed that the essence of any country's culture resides in books, and

if there is a desire to foster lasting growth and development of national culture, attention must be focused on books and related issues. She underscored that books are the most precious and valuable shared cultural capital of both Tajikistan and Iran. Davlatzoda continued by expressing her happiness at the shared cultural heritage between the two nations, stating: "I am pleased that we stand together as heirs of this unique culture. Books are the main facilitators of good relations among the global community, and as long as the world exists, this responsibility will rest upon humanity's shoulders."

Stunning mosaic of Trojan hero Aeneas unearthed in Turkey



Iranica Desk

A stunning mosaic depicting the legendary Trojan hero Aeneas who was mentioned in Homer's 'The Iliad' and 'The Odyssey,' was uncovered in southern Turkey.

The mosaic was discovered when the excavation of foundations at a construction site revealed the remains of a Roman villa in the city of Osmaniye. According to Daily Sabah, experts noted no other example of this mosaic in the world. The visual quality and depictions of the mosaic rival the famous ancient city of Zeugma mosaics in Gaziantep. The mosaic area, built in the 1st and 2nd centuries A.D., is thought to have adorned the floor of a villa from that period.

Cezmi Yurtsever, a historian and an author, described the Aeneas mosaic as "unique in the world."

"This place was the ancient Flaviapolis city built during the Roman era and according to our determinations, this mosaic was made in the 3rd century A.D.

"The discovery of a mosaic in the ancient Flaviapolis city from the Roman period depicting a hero of the Trojan War is a peerless discovery for archeology and history."

Aeneas, the mythical hero of Troy and Rome, was the son of the goddess Aphrodite and Anchises. He was a member of the royal line at Troy and cousin of Hector. He played a prominent part in defending his city against the Greeks during the Trojan War, being second only to Hector in ability.

Homer implies that Aeneas did not like his subordinate position, and from that suggestion arose a later tradition that Aeneas helped to betray Troy to the Greeks.

The more common version, however, made Aeneas the leader of the Trojan survivors after Troy was taken by the Greeks. In any case, Aeneas survived the war, and his figure was thus available to compilers of Roman myth.

Britannica says that the association of Homeric heroes with Italy and Sicily goes back to the 8th century BC—when Homer's epic poems likely became written texts—and the Greek colonies founded there in that and the next century frequently claimed descent from leaders in the Trojan War.

Legend connected Aeneas, too, with certain places and families, especially in the region of Latium. As Rome expanded over Italy and the Mediterranean, its patriotic writers began to construct a mythical tradition that would at once dignify their land with antiquity and satisfy a latent dislike of Greek cultural superiority.

The fact that Aeneas, as a Trojan, represented an enemy of the Greeks and that tradition left him free after the war made him peculiarly fit for the part assigned him—i.e., the founding of Roman greatness.

Rural attractions of Kermanshah lure tourists



Nature of Paveh
IRNA



Charkhalan summertime tourist resort
IRNA



Taq Boostan
tojaro.com



A tourism target village in Hawraman
IRNA

Iranica Desk
Many countries around the world consider tourism a dynamic industry that can generate huge revenues and jobs and help develop their economic infrastructure. Countries that can attract more tourists are able to create more jobs. Tourism is also inextricably linked with political and economic security. The huge presence of tourists in a country is indicative of the existence of greater security there. Experts believe the development of tourism among regional countries will lead to regional stability and, in a broader sense, will help promote global stability. Tourism is also important in terms of social and cultural dimensions. This is because host countries can promote their language, as well as cultural

and social customs through luring tourists. Meanwhile, rural tourism is becoming more popular these days due to the potentials it offers. In the modern world, city dwellers can enjoy peace and tranquility in villages. There are many rural regions in Iran that possess great tourism potentials. The villages in the western province of Kermanshah are among them. The province with its high mountains, springs and amazing architecture, with a history of thousands of years, has enormous tourism potentials. The nomadic lifestyle in the province also draws in tourists. There are dozens of hotels and guesthouses and places of residence for ecotourists in Kermanshah.

Kermanshah historical monuments

The head of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Department of Kermanshah Province told IRNA that Kermanshah has 4,200 historical monuments, about 2,200 of which have been registered on the country's National Heritage List. Dariush Farmani added that two of them are also on the World Heritage List. He said Kermanshah ranks third in the country in terms of having the largest number of historical sites. The official also said, in comparison with its size, the province has the highest number of historical sites nationwide. The Kermanshah tourism chief noted that the province has 80 exemplary tourist regions in terms of natural attractions and 14 target villages. He said the province was chosen by the World Tourism

Organization to host the international ecotourism and rural tourism event, but due to the spread of Covid-19 it was cancelled. He said Kermanshah seeks to host the event in the next two years. Farmani said marketing and advertisement play a significant role in the field of tourism. He noted that luring tourists depends on introducing attractions of the province. Farmani said national and international broadcasts, cyberspace, along with participation in events, conferences, and exhibitions are among ways that can introduce tourist attractions. He said students are also trained as tourism ambassadors to introduce Kermanshah

Kermanshah rural attractions

The head of Kermanshah Tourist Guide Association told

IRNA about the province's attractions. "In the field of ecotourism, Kermanshah Province has numerous rural attractions with pristine nature and attractive architecture which can lure many tourists in the spring," Hassan Esmaeili said. He added, "Unique handicrafts, a variety of foods, dairy products, agricultural and livestock products, amazing historical monuments, rich religious culture and beautiful nature have provided an opportunity to visit this green province." Esmaeili said in addition to tourism villages, the Avroman (Hawraman) region has unspoiled villages which can turn into tourism hubs. He said there are hundreds of unique rural tourism sites in Avroman, and natural tourist attractions in other regions of Kermanshah.