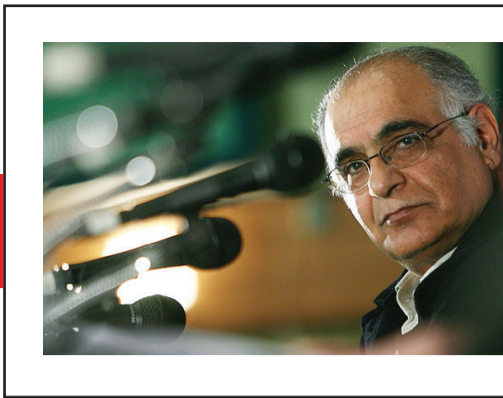


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Moradi Kermani nominated for Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award

Iran's Institute for Research on the History of Children's Literature nominated bestselling writer Hushang Moradi Kermani for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) in 2024.

The award, administered by the Swedish National Council for Cultural Affairs, was established in 2002 to commemorate Swedish writer Astrid Lindgren and to promote children's and youths' literature from around the world.

Cheshmeh Ali Complex, a unique tourism site in Damghan



when kings used the site to escape from the summer heat. Several rivers flow in the complex, having a pleasant climate, various types of trees and a green vegetation.

Cheshmeh Ali Complex has two pavilions: One with a brick facade and stone foundation located between two lakes, and the other an adobe-made building with Safavid architectural style. It was once used as a place for the guards to rest, a weapons warehouse, and barracks.

The main pavilion of the complex, a two-story building situated between two lakes, has a porch surrounded by water. The rooms of this building have a view of the lake on both sides. A mosque and a bathhouse were also built next to the pavilion upon the order of Fat'h alishah Qajar, but nothing remains from them now.

The water of the garden is supplied by a number of springs situated at the bottom of the western lake, next to an old plane tree.

The site having accommoda-

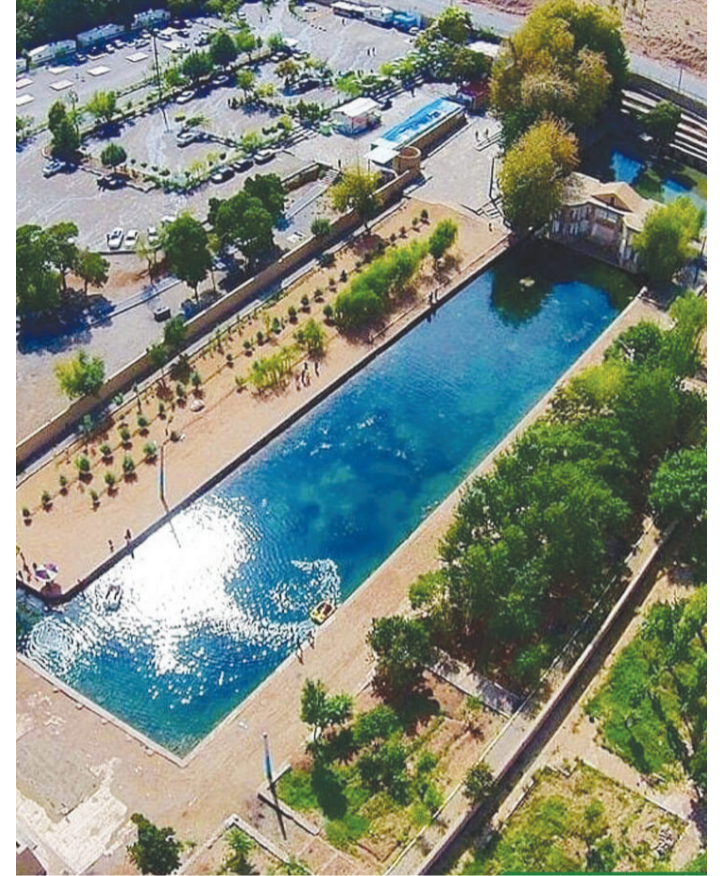
tions, arbors and resting platform hosts a large number of tourists and locals every year.

The historical mansion was registered on Iran's National Heritage List in 2007.

To get to Cheshmeh Ali, use Damghan-Sari buses, or take a taxi bound for Kalat-e Roodbar, or Dibaj. Getting a return ride can be more complicated, however, as vehicles will be already full on leaving those villages; ask the driver if you can arrange a return trip.

The main population centers of Semnan Province lie along the ancient Silk Road (and modern-day Imam Reza Expressway), linking Tehran with the holy city of Mashhad in Khorasan Razavi Province.

While few visitors spend much time in the area, driving through you can easily seek out several well-preserved caravanserais, cisterns, and ruined mud citadels. The large, bustling cities of Semnan, Damghan, and Shahrud all have a small selection of historic buildings, and Semnan has a fine old covered bazaar.



Iranica Desk

Cheshmeh Ali Complex, located in the south of Damghan, with a pleasant climate and rich historical background has always been a popular tourist destination in Semnan Province. The bubbling springs of the complex, with clear water, green trees by the flowing rivers and the historical mansions are highly attractive for those

traveling to the region, chtn.ir wrote.

Due to the foliage and good weather, the region has been the focus of interest since long ago. Cheshmeh Ali River is the only permanent river in the city. The water of this spring originates from the northern mountains.

The complex, which lies on the road linking Damghan to Sari, dates back to the Qajar era,

Power of popular participation: A key to effective environmental protection

Iran's Department of the Environment launches initiative to foster public participation in conservation efforts.



Social Desk

EXCLUSIVE

In a recent announcement, the deputy of popular participation and the spokesperson for Iran's Department of the Environment (DoE) unveiled a new content production initiative aimed at educating the public on environmental protection. This initiative will provide a comprehensive report on the current state of environmental houses and their efficacy.

The principle 50 of Iran's constitution states that the environment is an inter-generational heritage that everyone is

obliged to protect. Consequently, the plan to establish environmental houses was proposed to encourage public participation in environmental protection efforts.

Ali Salajegheh, the head of the DoE, underscored the significance of the public's role in safeguarding the environment, stating that the environmental houses project aims to harness the capacities of the people in a coordinated effort to protect the environment. Noorollah Moradi, vice president of education and popular participation of the DoE, further elaborated on the role of councils as a cornerstone of governance,

facilitating public involvement in the management of cities and villages. He revealed that there are approximately 128,000 rural and urban councils in the country, representing a substantial group capable of contributing to environmental preservation, particularly village councils, given their social standing. With 39,000 villages boasting councils nationwide, there is considerable potential for disseminating educational concepts.

Moradi also highlighted that these councils are elected by the residents of villages and cities, and through their collaboration and participation.

Iran's 'The Miracle of Bonasan' highly welcomed by Japanese viewers

Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian film 'The Miracle of Bonasan,' directed by Habib Ahmadzadeh, received a warm reception during its screening at the Japanese Embassy in Tehran.

The film was shown with Japanese audio and Persian subtitles, and was attended by Japanese guests and cineastes. According to the ILNA news agency, at the beginning of the screening, Kazutoshi Aikawa, the Japanese Ambassador to Tehran, greeted the audience and expressed, "I had heard fascinating and innovative descriptions of this film from various sources, including discussions with Peyman Saadat, the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Japan. This led to the opportunity for us to gather Japanese guests, Iranian artists, and chemical warfare veterans at our embassy to watch this film, which depicts the devastating aftermath of

the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and the chemical bombing of the Iranian people."

Following the screening, the Japanese envoy remarked, "I am delighted to have witnessed this film, which is a testament to humanity and peace. The film's exceptional presentation of comprehensive information has deeply moved me. Moreover, witnessing the profound human suffering depicted in the film has had a lasting impact on me. Going forward, I will not only strive as a diplomat but also as a human being to promote the perspectives and values conveyed in this film, and to help showcase 'The Miracle of Bonasan' in various settings, including in my own country, Japan."

Directed by Habib Ahmadzadeh, 'The Miracle of Bonasan' has already competed in the Eastern Vista category, Panorama of Films from Asian and Islamic Countries, at the 38th Fajr International Film

Festival.

This joint Iranian-Japanese production has taken the production crew to Iran, Japan, Austria, and Iraq. The film tells the story of a genie who must compose a melody with the assistance of four humans in order to create a human miracle and symphony, or face eternal expulsion from the Solar System.

The cast of the film includes renowned actors such as Parviz Parastui, Shisoku Tesuya, Gerhard Freylinger, Noriyuki Asakura, and Mahmoud Bonakdar.

Ahmadzadeh, a seasoned film director and screenwriter, has collaborated with notable Iranian directors such as Ebrahim Hatamikia, Khosro Sinai, and Kiumars Pourahmad. Since making his directorial debut in 1997, Ahmadzadeh has also directed several documentaries, including 'The Last Arrow of Arash,' 'Live Wave,' and 'The World's Best Statue.'

