

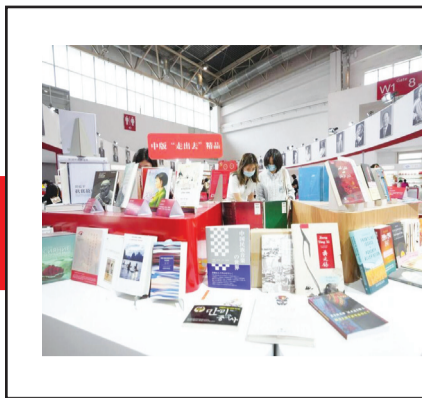


• Sunday  
• June 18, 2023  
• Vol. 8210

# IRAN

Every Morning

ISSN 1027-1449  
Keytitle: IRAN (Tehran)  
irannewspaper.ir



## Iran attending 29th Beijing Int'l Book Fair after five years

After a five-year hiatus caused by the global coronavirus pandemic, Iran has made a remarkable comeback at the 29th Beijing International Book Fair. Iran's House of Books and Literature is proudly showcasing a collection of over 300 titles that span a wide range of subjects, including Iranian studies, religion and contemporary and classical literature.

# Semnan Province, a center of handicraft production in Iran

### Iranica Desk

Handicrafts are a tool reflecting the identity and history of every nation. The artworks give their creators a sense of pride and cause them to feel a strong attachment to their motherland. The status of handicrafts is so high that the International Craft Day (also known as World Craft Day) has been marked on 15th October every year to acknowledge world crafts and the tireless work of millions of craftspeople and artisans across the globe, ISNA wrote. The central Iranian province of Markazi, with a rich history, is among the regions in which a variety of handicrafts are being produced. Today, a large number of craftspeople create valuable artworks in the province, in-

dividually or in a workshop group. Haj Vakil Castle, in the capital city of Arak, dating back to the Qajar era, is not only a historically significant monument, but also serves as a dynamic museum which contains several handicraft workshops. The castle was sold to Hassan Vakil after the Second World War II, which is why it is called Vakil Castle. The castle has various sections, including an entrance porch, outer and inner courtyards, a basement and a building known as Kolah Farangi. The monument, decorated with beautiful brick and tile work, was registered on Iran's National Heritage List in 1996. Zeinab Karami, a museum guide working in the castle, told ISNA that a collection

of outstanding traditional handicrafts, including handwoven carpets, kilims, calligraphy and qalam-zani (engraving) are on display in the castle. She said that the museum, extending in an area of 300 sq. m, has nine rooms showcasing various types of artworks. Five workshops, active in the fields of manufacturing wood and leather products, glass painting, mina-kari (painting and coloring the surfaces of metals and ceramic tiles), pottery and ceramics, are in the basement of the building. Deputy Head of Markazi Province's Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Organization, Qassem Kazemi, said that about 9,000 craftspeople are active in the province in 110 fields of

handicrafts. He noted that the largest number of artists are involved in pottery production, qalam-zani, weaving traditional textiles, and making wood products. Kazemi noted that a number of forgotten handicrafts have been revived in the province in recent years, adding that Arak and Tafresh have a long history in the field of metalworking. He said that in addition to artists who work independently, over 60 handicraft workshops are operating in the province, in each of which two to five people are active. Kazemi noted that nine handicraft markets are active across the province, pointing out that the 15th handicrafts exhibition will be held in the province in October.



Haj Vakil Castle  
ISNA

حضور شرکت پاکدیس در سی امین نمایشگاه بین المللی صنایع کشاورزی، مواد غذایی، ماشین آلات و صنایع وابسته (ایران آگروفود).

زمان: ۲۶ الی ۲۹ خرداد ماه / ساعت: ۸ الی ۱۵

مکان: محل دائمی نمایشگاه های بین المللی تهران سالن ۲۰ - غرفه شماره ۵

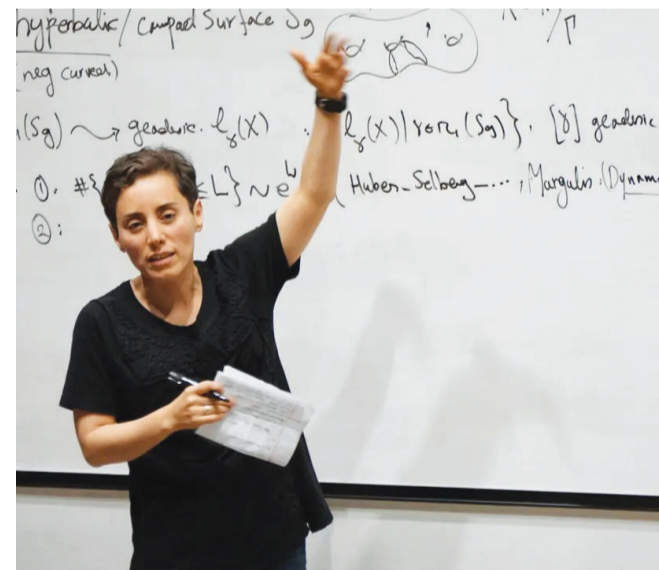
شرکت پاکدیس

CARBONATED RED GRAPE DRINK  
MILK-BASED FRUIT JUICE  
سالر گریپ فروت

## Iranian director Bahrololumi intends to make film on mathematician Mirzakhani

### Arts & Culture Desk

Iranian director Maryam Bahrololumi expressed a profound interest in creating a film centered around the life of renowned Iranian mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani. Bahrololumi believes that one of the most enduring portrayals of women in Iranian cinema is exemplified by the film 'Narges,' crafted by the director Rakhshan Banietemad, IRNA wrote. According to Bahrololumi, the longevity of a cinematic heroine depends on various factors, including the depth of character development and the director's ability to capture the essence of that heroine. "Narges," featuring the brilliant performance of Firouzeh Farjam, stands as a shining example of female characters in our cinema, not only leaving a lasting impression on me but also resonating with my generation. This film encompasses all these facets," she noted. Discussing the disparity between Iranian and international female heroes in cinema, Bahrololumi explained that numerous aspects contribute to this difference, but the most significant factor lies in the Iranian culture. "Undoubtedly, Iranian culture encompasses a wide range of elements that can be explored individually. However, the intrinsic emotional value attributed to Iranian women



within our culture, particularly as mothers and sisters, holds immense importance. This aspect of Iranian women holds great significance for me personally, and it is a characteristic I aspire to portray in my desired cinema," she added. Emphasizing her point, she added, "A heroine in cinema is not necessarily a victim of oppression. Rather, a female hero is a woman who can conquer the peaks of adversity and injustice, pursuing her goals for a better life and the tranquility of her family. She persistently strives towards achieving her aspirations and desires." Bahrololumi continued, stating, "A heroine pursues her goals and aspirations regardless of the circumstances. This

definition aligns with the general understanding of a heroine in cinema. When we aim to transform a woman into a hero in our films, she is undoubtedly not exempt from this universal definition. Such a hero, without succumbing to issues related to gender and discrimination, progresses along her path to achieve her objectives." Born in 1977, Mirzakhani grew up in Tehran. In 1994, Mirzakhani earned a gold medal at the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), the first female Iranian student to do so. In 2014, Mirzakhani became both the first woman and the first Iranian to be honored with the Fields Medal.