



Iran's Book of the Year Awards winners announced

Tehran Times Culture Desk
TEHRAN — Winners of the 27th edition of Iran's Book of the Year Awards were announced here on Monday in the presence of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad at Tehran's Vahdat Hall.

Several winners were selected from each of the different categories of religion, social sciences, language, applied sciences, art and literature and others.

Winners of the religion section include "Al-Tafsir al-Athari al-Jame" by Mohammad-Hadi Marefat, "Mosuata Kitaballah wa Ahul-Bait fi Hadith ath-Thaqalayn" by Hossein Rajaii Musavi, "Matareh al-Anzar Taqir Abhath al-Sheikh al-Azam al-Ansari" by Mirza Abolqasem Nuri

Tehrani, "Safe Line" by Mohammad Emami-Kashani, "Muslim Scientists' Opinions in Education and Its Basis" by Mohammad Beheshti, and "Schools of Imams" by Ali Ahmadi Mianji.

The books "Bases of Social Approach to Law" by author Abdorreza Alizadeh and "Fair Judgment: International Trials" by Mostafa Fazaeli won the awards at the social sciences section.

The selected winners at the language section were "Fertility Bas-reliefs of Persepolis" by Abdol-Majid Arfaei; "Arabic-Persian Dictionary" by Enayatollah Fatehi-Nejad, part of the book "Review of Western Linguistics" (Peter AM Seuren) translated by Ali-Mohammad Haqshenas, "English-



Winners of the 27th edition of Iran's Book of the Year Awards along with a number of Iranian officials pose for a photograph during the award presentation ceremony at Tehran's Vahdat Hall on February 8, 2010. (ISNA/Saman Aqvami)

Persian Idioms Dictionary" a joint production by Mohammadreza Bateni, Sepideh Razavi, Zahra Ahmadiania, Fatemeh Mohammadi and Ruzbeh Eftekhari.

The book "Structural Geology" by Hossein Memarian won the award at the science section.

In the applied science section "Stem Cells" by Hossein Baharvand and "Kidney Diseases in Children" by Ali Ahmadvazeh took the awards.

In the veterinary section, the book "Quantitative Trait Loci Analysis in Animals" (Weller, J. I.) translated by Reza Miraii Ashtiani and "Welding Metallurgy and Weldability of Stainless Steels" (John C. Lippold

and Damian J. Kotecki) translated by Mohammad-Hossein Talebian and Khashayar Bahari took the awards.

The art section winners were "An Introduction to Programming Theories Stressing Civil Programming" by Zohreh Abdi-Daneshpur and "Technology of Architectural Renovation" by Mohammad-Mansur Falamaki and the book "A History of Architectural Conservation" (Jukka Jokilehto) translated by Mohammad-Hassan Talebian and Khashayar Bahari.

The winners of the literature section selected were "Language of Mysticism" by Alireza Fuladi, "Playhouse for Unique Historical

Myths in Dramatic Literature" by Naghmeh Samini and "Dreams over Dreams" by Ziaeddin Torabi.

In the history and geography section the books "Da" by Azam Hosseini, "Atlas of Shiites" by Rasul Jafarian, "The Lost World of Elam" (Walter Hanz) translated by Parviz Rajabi and "Rivers and Floodplains" (John Bridge) translated by Mohammad-Hossein Rezaii Moqaddam and Mehdi Saqafi received the awards.

The winners of children book sections were "She Was a Companion of Angels" by Saeid Ruhafza, and "Wolves Do Not Fear Snow" by Mohammadreza Bayrami.

Iranian cineastes to attend Berlinale

Tehran Times Art Desk

TEHRAN — A delegation of Iranian cineastes will be attending the 60th Berlin International Film Festival which will be held from February 11 to 21.

Attending the Berlinale this year will be member of Iran's House of Cinema Board of Directors Mohammad Sarir, deputy director of Iran's Actors' Guild Merila Zareii, Director of the Association of Iranian Cinema Writers and Critics Saeid Mostaghasi, Head of the Planning Managers And Assistant Directors Guild Mohammad

Mayyami.

Their journey is part of a project by the House of Cinema to dispatch Iranian cineastes to international events to be introduced to other cinematic achievements in the modern world.

The Iranian films "Ask the Wind" directed by Batin Qobadi, "The Cat and the Mouse", by Bijan Zamanpira and Nahid Ghobadi, "White, Red and the Green" by Nader Davudi, "The Hunter" by Rafi Pitts and "Iranian Cookbook" by Mohammad Shirvani will be competing in various sections of the event.

Reincarnation the gimmick in lifeless crime drama

LOS ANGELES (Hollywood Reporter) —

Reincarnation, once largely the province of Hindus and Shirley MacLaine, collides with the world of crime procedurals in "Past Life," which premiered on Tuesday.

In this Fox series from David Hudgins, murders are solved through the recollection of memory fragments of a past that occurred before birth.

Far-fetched? Very. So much so that Hudgins and the writers need to include at least one scene in each episode to allay most viewers' obvious doubts, and they do. Nonetheless, one shouldn't take "Past Life" lightly merely because it is based on the premise of reincarnation. Not when there are so many other reasons to take it lightly.

Chief among these is that, based on the pilot and the first episode, this series ranks among the most contrived TV shows ever. Mysteries are set up and sustained based

solely on the flashbacks of the guest character each week -- someone who conveniently remembers just enough to provide obscure clues but never enough to simply solve the case outright.

The job of sifting through the clues belongs to Dr. Kate McGinn (Kelli Giddish), a staff member of an institute/hospital that helps patients remember factoids from a past life. And not just any past life, mind you, but the past life immediately preceding their current life, the past life connected to that week's mystery. Vishnu help us if the client recalls yet another crime from a previous existence and the memories became intertwined.

Each week, a scared and scarred person agrees to let McGinn get to the bottom of these troubling memories -- all of which surface in scratchy, grainy, often unfocused video. She is assisted

by Price Whatley (Nicholas Bishop), a former NYPD detective whose life hit a downward spiral after the recent death of his wife. And, yes, Whatley is a skeptic. Need you ask? They are joined by Dr. Malachi Talmadge (Richard Schiff), the no-nonsense head of the institute, and Dr. Rishi Karna (Ravi Patel), whose function after two episodes remains as foggy as the memories they treat.

In the premiere, teenage Noah is troubled by visions in which, he says, "I saw the man who killed me." He didn't get an ID or a license number, so it takes the entire show to track down his previous life's killer from a month before he started his current life. And even that might not have been possible if McGinn and Whatley hadn't entered Noah's bedroom at precisely the moment a neighbor friend revealed the boy's location on Noah's computer monitor.

Lions Gate, Weinstein's eye Disney's Miramax

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) — Lions Gate Entertainment Corp and the Weinstein brothers are among the potential buyers of Walt Disney Co's Miramax film unit, sources familiar with the situation said on Monday.

Independent studio Summit Entertainment, which is behind the popular "Twilight" franchise, could also be interested in Miramax, said the sources who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Disney has put Miramax up for sale because its library of mostly small,

independent films does not mesh with the media giant's plan to overhaul its movie operations, a source close to the company said.

Disney is focusing on its own movie brand, as well as films made by its Pixar division and the newly acquired Marvel, and a distribution deal with Steven Spielberg's DreamWorks studio.

A spokesman for Lions Gate was unavailable for comment, while Disney and Summit declined comment. But Lions Gate

and Disney are expected to report quarterly earnings on Tuesday, and will likely be grilled by investors and analysts about any possible interest.

Disney is asking between \$650 million to \$800 million for Miramax, home to art-house fare like "Clerks" and "No Country for Old Men," said a source close to one potential bidder.

But a \$500 million to \$700 million price tag is seen to be more realistic, according to another source.

Jolie, Pitt sue British newspaper for libel

LONDON (Reuters) — Hollywood couple Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt are suing Britain's News of the World tabloid over allegations it published about their relationship, their London lawyers said on Monday.

In a story published on January 24, the weekly newspaper reported that the couple planned imminently to separate and had agreed on how they would divide their assets and custody of their children.

Pitt, 46, and Jolie, 34, have six children and joint assets estimated by the News of the World at 205 million pounds (\$319.4 million).



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Ankara museum mounts exhibit of Iranian paintings



People visit the exhibition of paintings by Iranian artists at the Ankara State Museum of Painting and Sculpture on February 8, 2010. (IRNA)

Tehran Times Art Desk

TEHRAN — Paintings by a group of Iranian artists have been put on display in a weeklong exhibition at the Ankara State Museum of Painting and Sculpture.

Iranian painters Mehdi Salehi, Yavar Jamshidzadeh, Shahrokh Ekhtiari, and Reza Samadi along with a number of the museum's officials attended the opening ceremony on Monday, the Persian service of IRNA reported on Tuesday.

"The artworks on display at the exhibition are unique and amazing," museum librarian Omer Osman Gundogdu said.

"The showcase will surely be warmly received by Turkish art enthusiasts," he added.

He said that the museum is ready to host exhibitions of other Iranian artists and also to use their skills in restoration of Turkish historical paintings and sculptures.

The exhibition first had been held in Van, eastern Turkey months ago, said Turkish art show organizer Adnan Yildirim.

"Over the past seven years, Turkish cities of Istanbul, Van and Bursa have hung works by Iranian artists in 11 exhibits," he stated.

He said that an exhibition of paintings by a number of Turkish painters is scheduled to be held in two months in Iran. However, no additional details were given about the show.

Kazakh National Academy of Arts director to visit Iran in March

Tehran Times Culture Desk

TEHRAN — A delegation from the Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts will be visiting the Iranian Academy of Arts (IAA) here in Tehran in March.

The Zhurgenov Academy director Arystan Beik Mohammadi, accompanied by a group of university professors and students, are invited by the new director of the Iranian Academy of Arts Ali Mo'alleem Damghani.

The Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts was established in 1955. The academy has six faculties of theatrical art and variety arts, cinema and TV, choreography, painting and sculpture, decorative art and design, and art criticism.

Bust of Imam Khomeini unveiled in Tehran

Tehran Times Culture Desk

TEHRAN — A bust of the Founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeini, was unveiled Tuesday during a ceremony in Tehran's Sadabad Cultural Historical Complex.

Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts Organization (CHTHO) Director Hamid Baqaii and a number of other CHTHO officials attended the ceremony.

The statue has been installed at the anthropology museum of the complex.

The bust, made of resin by Rafik Margaryan, was commissioned by the Institute for the Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works.

An exhibition of documents on the 1979 Iranian revolution also opened on the sidelines of the ceremony.

After the victory of the revolution, the Qajar era palace, Sadabad, was converted into a museum complex displaying paraphernalia of the Pahlavi royal family and a number of other Iranian artifacts.

Topkapi Museum hosts seminar on Iran-Turkey cultural connections

Tehran Times Culture Desk

TEHRAN — A seminar on the cultural and literary relations between Iran and Turkey was held at the Topkapi Palace Museum auditorium on February 5.

The event was held as part of the closing ceremonies of Iran's millennia-old history and civilization exhibition entitled "10,000 Years of Iran's Civilization and 2,000 Years of Joint Heritage".

The seminar was held by Iran's cultural attaché office in Istanbul and was attended by Iranian and Turkish scholars. Acting Iranian Consul General Mahmud Heydari and Iran's cultural attaché Mahmud Sedqizadeh also attended the event.

At the ceremony, the museum's director Ilber Ortayli pointed out the enduring cultural connections between the two countries and stressed the importance of holding such exhibitions.

Turkey always has been affected by Iranian culture and civilization throughout history and it has become an integral part of Turkish civilization, he added.

He went on to say that Ottoman kings composed poems in Persian and Iranian kings composed poems in Turkish. The Turkish nation always paid attention to Persian poets like Sadi, Hafez and Ferdowsi.

"Studying Persian language and literature is important for those students who study history or literature in Turkey," he added.

The program was part of a series of cultural activities held in 2009 under the title "A Year of Iranian - Turkish Culture," under the auspices of the Turkish Culture and Tourism Ministry and the Iranian Presidential Office.