



Imam Ali (AS):

When some blessings come to you, do not drive them away through thanklessness.

Last Page | Art & Culture

News in Brief

Moroccan Award for 'Buddha'

Iranian director Hana Makhmalbaf's 'Buddha Collapsed out of Shame' won the Special Jury Award of the Moroccan International Festival of Cinema Author.

A joint Irano-French production, 'Buddha Collapsed Out of Shame' also received the Crystal Bear award at the 2008 Berlin Film Festival, *Presstv* reported.

The film depicts the agonies of a toiling Afghan schoolgirl and her efforts to continue her education when the former Taliban rulers of Afghanistan began to demolish the world's precious Buddha sculptures in Bamyan in 2001.

The 14th International Festival of Cinema Author was held in the Moroccan capital from June 21-29.



'Crescent of Caravan' Bound for France

Saeed Zehni's religious concert 'Crescent of Caravan', performed by Tehran Symphony Orchestra at Vahdat Hall last year, will be staged in France in late August.

Speaking to Mehr News Agency, Zehni said that choral group of Culture and Islamic Guidance Ministry's Music Office will accompany the symphony members, while half of the instrumentalists would be French artists.

"We plan to perform the concert at the upcoming Fajr International Music Festival in winter," he said.

'Crescent of Caravan' - a blend of classical, traditional and devotional music - portrays the events of Ashura.

Ashura, the tenth day of the lunar month of Moharram, marks the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Hussein (AS), the third Imam of the infallible household of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), and 72 of his loyal companions on the plains of Karbala, in present-day Iraq.



Marzban to Restage Radi Drama

Noted theater director Hadi Marzban plans to restage 'Hamlet With Seasons Salad', written by the late playwright Akbar Radi, at Sangelaj Hall of Tehran's City Theater Complex in November.

Marzban told Fars News Agency that he first performed the play at the hall in 1990.

"The late Radi always said he wished to perform one of his dramas in Sangelaj. Thus, I decided to perform 'Hamlet With Seasons Salad' at the hall," Marzban said.

He added that he will begin rehearsals in August.

Marzban staged Radi's 'The Magnificent Smile of Mr. Gill', at City Theater last year.

Sangelaj is currently hosting 'O, If It Rains', directed by Hadi Amel. The cast of the play includes Hedayat Hashemi, Sina Razani, Amir Shafiei and Javad Pourzand.



AMPAS Plans

Bergman Retrospective

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) is planning a major retrospective and exhibit on legendary Swedish film, stage and opera director Ingmar Bergman in January 2010.

Academy director of exhibitions Ellen Harrington visited Sweden recently to research the exhibit, which will include nearly all the director's films. She said new prints have been made of 35 films, *Variety* reported.

Although some documents will have to be copied, since the originals cannot be taken out of Sweden, the Academy will endeavor to display as many posters, costumes, scripts, letters and photos as possible.

Bergman was personally nominated for nine Oscars between 1960 and 1984, while three of his productions won Oscars for best foreign film.

His 60-year career spanned intense classics like 'Cries & Whispers', 'The Seventh Seal' and 'Wild Strawberries'.

Bergman died in 2007 at 89.



Photographers House to

Discuss Cameron Works

A session to review the works of famous British photographer Julia Margaret Cameron will be held at Iranian Photographers House today.

According to Mehr News Agency, Marzieh Khorsand is to speak at the event.

Cameron, who took up photography at the age of 48, became known for her portraits of celebrities of the time, and for Arthurian and similar legendary-themed pictures.

Her work had a huge impact on the development of modern photography, especially her closely cropped portraits which are still mimicked today.



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The Second Celebration of Iranian Cinema Writers and Critics was held on Monday at Tehran's Vahdat Hall. Distinguished cineastes, including director Majid Majidi (2nd l), and veteran actor Ezzatollah Entezami (inset) were honored. (Photo by Sara Sassani)



Film Writers, Critics Meet

Cineastes to Commemorate Flight 655

Iranian cineastes are to gather in Bandar Abbas, Hormuzgan province today to commemorate the memory of the victims of the Iran Air Flight 655, which was shot down by the US navy warship USS Vincennes on July 3, 1988.

Speaking at a news conference prior to the event, noted actor Parviz Parastouei expressed regret over the fact that the incident is being gradually forgotten, *Mehr News Agency* reported.

"We as Iranians must take action and do something. I think we artists must help inform the American nation of this bitter incident," he said.

The actor also noted that Reza Mirkarimi, the current managing director of the House of Cinema has undertaken many programs during his tenure and the memorial ceremony is also organized by him.

"We all remember the great catastrophe which resulted in the loss of 290

lives of innocent civilians, including 66 children," he noted.

Commenting on the programs for the day, he said that 66 children will carry pigeons in memory of the children who perished in the state-sponsored US terrorist attack. Cineastes Ali Nasirian, Maziyar Miri, Siros Alvand, Roya Teymourian, Mahtab Karamati, and Pouran Derakhshandeh are among the artists participating in the ceremony.

"On Thursday morning, a ceremony will be performed by an American anti-war group in a church in Richmond, Virginia. The program will be aired live on Iran's Press TV channel and the statement by the House of Cinema will also be recited at the ceremony," he said.

The event will be held in cooperation with the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA), Hormuzgan Governor's Office, and Bandar Abbas Municipality.

Aminpour Poetry Reviewed

Enthusiasts of Persian Literature in a recent session at the Iranian Cultural Center in Ankara, Turkey discussed works of the late contemporary poet Qeisar Aminpour.

According to Fars News Agency, a number of literati, including Iranian poet and critic Hamid Reza Shekarsari attended the session.

Speaking at the event, Shekarsari said, "Aminpour's works have high status in the Persian literature of the post-Islamic Revolution."

He added there was an increase in the quality of Aminpour's poetry after the Sacred Defense era (the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war).

Head of Turkey's Writers Association, who was

also present at the session, said Aminpour was competent in both classical and contemporary literature.

"One of the important features of his works was reciting poetry for children and the youth," he said.

Aminpour was born in 1958 in the southern Iranian city of Dezful. He received a PhD from the Tehran University in 1997.

In 2002 he became a member of the Academy of Persian Language and Literature.

His works include 'The Respiration of Morning', 'In the Sun's Alley' and 'Sudden Mirrors'.

Aminpour died of heart failure in Tehran in October 2007.



Qeisar Aminpour

Weather

