

Newsletter

Embassy of the I.R. of Iran
The Hague
February 2007

Iran Art Festival

Building Bridges
6-9 April 2007

The Festival presents contemporary art and artists and shows present Iranian culture and lifestyle. Different Iranian Art movies will be shown in the Theatre. An exhibition of contemporary Iranian art can be visited in the Gallery. In between films it is possible to have a meet and greet

with one of the Iranian artists amidst his or her work. Furthermore, there are several smaller rooms that continuously show art-videos, short films, and impressions of Iran. The Iranian Lounge is the perfect place to relax and exchange views.



Taets Art Gallery, Hemkade 18, Zaandam, info@iranartfestival.nl



Exhibition Iran
Act small, Think BIG
By Polis Platform
TU Delft, Faculty of Architecture
11-23 April 2007

A workshop will be organized in this exhibition which will have a follow up at the National University in Tehran this summer during the study trip of a group of TU Delft students travelling three weeks through Iran from the 9-29 July 2007. One week Old Persia (South Iran), One week Islamic Art, Architecture and Urbanism (from Mashad to Tehran), One week Hidden Past and Future (Northwest Iran).



Three weeks of looking for historic and contemporary Urban and Architectural transformations, problems and solutions; a research through history, identity and design and a travel to the connection between east and west.



During this excursion, places will be visited that are illustrative for the most important eras in Iran's history, from 2000 B.C. till present. Before, during and after the tour, all the participants will play an active role. Sites, cities and landscapes will be documented and analyzed. A visit to urban and architectural design offices, Tehran University and some workshops will also be part of the trip.

A warm welcome at this unique experience.

Source: www.polis.bk.tudelft.nl





Iran International Sculpture Symposium

February-March 2007

The Cultural-Art Organization of Tehran Municipality will be the proud organizer of the First International Sculpture Symposium in 2007. The symposium will offer artists in Iran and the other parts of the world the opportunity to put their talents and ideas at the service of beautifying Tehran, the capital city of the country with a 7000-year civilization.

Sculpture from Rotterdam and The Hague for Tehran

Artist Ferial Kheradpicheh (43) has been invited to create a large sculpture for the 1st Intl. Sculpture Symposium in the Iranian capital Tehran. Her work "Souvenir de l'Amour" will become one of the 20 conceptual works



Organized by Tehran Municipality

www.tehransculpture.org



Sports Section:

De Jong to Iran



Theo de Jong (59), the Dutch ex-national team player, has accepted a job as trainer in Iran. De Jong signed up at Esteghlal, the number 2 of Asian countries. Earlier, he worked in Iran at Persepolis, as assistant of Arie Haan. De Jong used to work as assistant of Arie Haan at the national team of Cameroon, but recently resigned. He will sign a contract in Tehran for 1,5 years.



Source: Persian League.com



Tourism section:

I.R.I. to build 1,000 tourist centers



Vice President and Head of Iran's Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO) Esfandiar Rahim Mashaei, said that some 1,000 major recreational and tourist centers based on international standards will be established. He made the remarks while speaking to reporters at Spain's international tourism exhibition, dubbed `Fitur'.

The official said that before the end of current Iranian year (on March 20) the number of special tourist hubs in Iran are expected to increase to 400.

Fitur is the second reputable world tourism exhibition and more than 13,000 companies from 170 world countries are participating in it.



Alborz Mountains

Source: IRIB News – 6th of February 2007



Economic Section:

First Iran-Russia trade council meeting opens in Moscow

The first Iran-Russia trade council meeting was held at Russia's Chamber of Commerce and Industries in Moscow on Thursday.

Speaking at the meeting, deputy head of Russia's Chamber of Commerce, Yuri Petrov, said that the talks between Iranian and Russian tradesmen are expected to lead to signing of a considerable number of agreements.

Turning to his country's economic progress, he said that a seven percent boost has been materialized in the gross national product (GNP). Meanwhile, he reiterated the need for attraction of more foreign investment.

Petrov pointed to oil and gas as the most important areas of cooperation between the two countries. He said that the 9th periodical meeting of the chambers of commerce of Iran and Russia will be held in the Russian city of Saratov in the current year.

"Promotion of trade exchanges among the Caspian Sea littoral states and encouragement of Russia's provincial chambers of commerce to participate in such transactions will be high on the agenda of talks during the upcoming joint meeting," he said.



He said that given Russia's high capacities in the fields of auto manufacturing, transport and advanced technologies, these will be considered as grounds for cooperation between the two countries.

On his part, director general of the commerce department of Iran's Trade Development Organization, Abdolhamid Assadian, said that Iran gives high priority to cooperation with Russia.

Caspian Sea

At the end of inaugural ceremony, Iranian and Russian businessmen attending the meeting entered into exclusive talks on matters of mutual concern.

Source: IRNA 15 February 2007





Germany ready to expand Iran trade ties



Germany is ready to expand its economic ties with Iran despite American pressure, Iran's Deputy FM for Economic Affairs said in a joint interview with IRNA and IRIB in Berlin Wednesday.

"As a traditional trading partner of Iran," added Ali-Reza Sheikh Attar, "the Germans appear to be eager to expand economic ties, despite the current ups and downs in political and economic situation."

Sheikh Attar who attended on Tuesday a high-profile business seminar on investment opportunities in Iran in the north German port city of Hamburg further elaborated, "Germany has always been an important actor in Iran's economy and they are one of the important founders of our country's industries.

He pointed out that although Germany is no longer Iran's top trading partner; Germans are involved in Iran's infrastructure projects like in electricity sector.

Asked about the German business community's response to "Iran Investment Seminar" in Hamburg, Sheikh Attar stressed that the confab was well received, pointing to the attendance of 90 representatives from 90 mid-and large-sized German companies.

The objective of the seminar was to encourage foreign investments in Iran, especially after Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei issued a decree based on Article 44 of the IRI Constitution which has opened the way for foreign investments, Sheikh Attar said.

We have updated German businessmen on the positive changes regarding foreign investments in Iran, he added.

On the issue of US pressure on European banks to cease financial ties with Iran, Sheikh Attar said, "The Europeans know that Iranians have good history in repaying their debts."

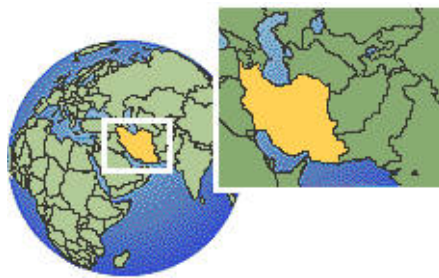
"Therefore European banks do not want to lose such a good partner," the Iranian official added.

In addition Iran has imported goods from Europe worth some 42 billion US dollars and to halt that kind of trade volume would severely hurt European businesses, Sheikh Attar said.

He also dismissed the effect of US economic pressure, saying it will lose its effect over a short period of time.

Sheikh Attar referred to upcoming plans for other Iran investment seminars in countries like Japan, France, Italy, Austria and Spain.

Source: Berlin, IRNA, 14 February 2007



Iran, second regional country in attracting investment

Iran ranks second among 30 regional countries in terms of investment, head of Tehran Chamber of Commerce said on Tuesday.

According the Public Relation Department of the chamber, Mohammad Nahavandian in an address to the session of heads of the Chambers of Commerce Council, added that the Islamic Republic is unfortunately ranked the 18th regional country in terms of growth in production.

Criticizing politicized economic activities, he noted that the reason of such backwardness in production rate should be identified, while there is a high level investment in the country.

"Shortage of a proper mechanism for sharing resources according to economic regions is considered the major problem in this respect," he said, adding that the problem will be resolved by replacing state economy with private one.

Touching on the transfer process of the country's economy from public to private sector, he added, "To achieve the goal, we should preserve tranquility in economic ambience."

Source: Tehran, IRNA, 13 February 2007
