

Newsletter

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

Persia



Hermitage Amsterdam
31 March – 15 September 2007

The Hermitage in St. Petersburg has a splendid collection of Persian works of art. It includes many interesting pieces covering the whole of Persian history from antiquity to the end of the Qajar dynasty (1785-1925). From antiquity there are several sculptures, among them a fragment from the ruined city of Persepolis, and gold produced by the Scythians from the area north and west of the Persian Empire. Several gold objects were originally owned by Tsar Peter the Great.

From the Islamic period come beautiful examples of Persian earthenware: tiles – renowned for their lustre decoration and once part of famous mausoleums – , vases and dishes. Weapons, made of steel and gold and inlaid with coloured stones, also demonstrate the Persians' sublime mastery of this art.

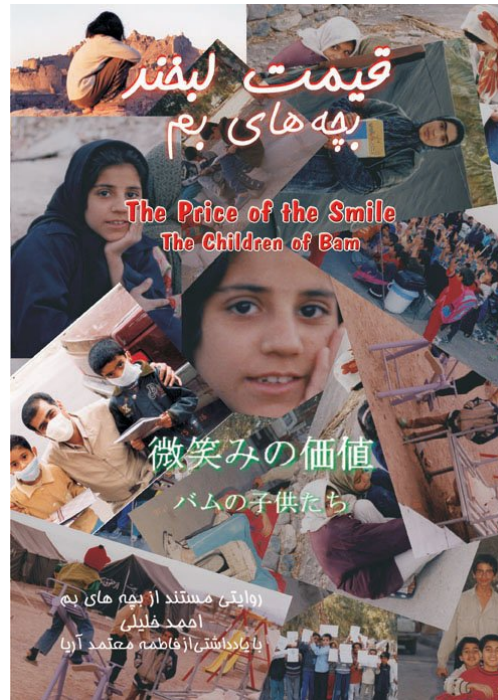
The Qajar period shows the Western influence on traditional Persian art: here the objects are chiefly diplomatic gifts and military trophies. The rich collection in St. Petersburg makes it possible to present an impressive survey of the history of Persian civilisation.

Source: The Hermitage, Nieuwe Herengracht 15, Amsterdam



"The Price of the Smile"

The Children of Bam



On Friday 26th of December 2003, a disastrous earthquake struck Bam.

This is an illustrated book in three languages, Farsi, English and Japanese. The children of Bam tell their story by handwritten notes, poems and paintings in addition to many photographs; daily notes of the author are recorded during his trip to Bam after the earthquake.

The book can be ordered for 30 Euro at the website of the author Ahmad Khalili at www.khalilitour.com; all proceeds of this book will benefit the orphans of Bam.



2nd National Fashion Show in Tehran

The second national fashion show of Islamic and Iranian women's clothes opened at the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA) in Tehran on Wednesday.



The fashion show opened simultaneous with the inauguration of the permanent secretariat for the 'Festival of My Homeland's Women' in the presence of the governor general of Tehran province, Kamran Daneshjou.

The official said that Iranian designs not only suit the taste of Muslim Iranian women, but they can also appeal to all women across the world.



The ongoing fashion show will continue up to January 20.

Source Irna 18 January 2007



Children's drawings Exhibition



The Society for Chemical Weapons Victims Support (SCWVS) in Iran will hold a children's drawing exhibition with the theme of "Peace and Friendship" this coming June/July to mark the occasion of the National Day for the Campaign against Chemical and Biological Weapons and 20th anniversary of the chemical attacks against Sardasht, a city in the Iranian western province of Kurdistan, on 28th of June 1987 during the 8-year imposed war between Iran and Iraq.

The exhibition is organized for children and young adults between 7 and 15 years of age. The exhibition aims at promoting peace awareness among children across the globe and developing cultural exchange between them, especially those from the countries that suffered from wars and are victims of weapons of mass destruction.

Although the main theme chosen for the exhibition is Peace and Friendship, the participants may draw freely on different subjects including peaceful daily life, friendship, hopes for the future, international goodwill, etc. The best drawings will receive special awards by SCWVS.

The drawings must be submitted no later than April 1, 2007 to P.O Box: 19615/835 Tehran, Iran.

Source IRIB 5 January 2007



Tourism:

Persepolis to Host Biggest Horse Riding Festival in Iran



Statues of horses abound in Persepolis palace complex, pointing to the importance of horse in ancient Persia

The biggest horse riding festival in Iran will be held in April/May 2007 close to Persepolis historic complex in Iran's Fars province under the joint cooperation of sport tourism committee of Iran's Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization (ICHTO), Iran's Equestrian Federation, and UNESCO.

Pointing to the long history of horse riding in Iran which makes horse one of the most ancient and prominent symbols both in Persian legends, such as Shahnameh, Ferdowsi's 'book of kings,' and Islamic history, Mohammad Reza Tabesh, director of Iran's Equestrian Federation said that the federation is trying to bring the importance of different races of Persian horse into light as a national and cultural heritage through holding such festivals.

During the festival, Persian horses from all races will compete in horse riding courses.

Source: Cultural Heritage News Agency

15 January 2007



Economic News:

Int'l Conference on Oil Refining Industries to be held in mid Feb

The First International Conference on Iran's Oil Refining Industries will be held here from February 17-18.

Secretary of the conference Mohsen Alaqband Hosseini told reporters here on Sunday that the meeting will be held with an aim of attracting foreign and domestic investment, promoting national refining industry, receiving necessary licenses from markets overseas and meeting national, regional and international standards.

Hosseini referred to remarkable progress made by Iranian refining industry including optimal use of feedstock by the downstream units, cutting production of heavy oil derivatives by using latest technology and maximizing production of gasoline and efforts are underway to upgrade quality of oil relatives to match the Euro 2005 standard.

Source: Irna-Tehran 14 January 07

Sport News:

World Cup Fencing – Kish Island

12-13 January 2006

Silver for Dutch Fencer Bas Verwijlen



Bas Verwijlen became second at the World Cup Fencing on beautiful Kish Island. The 23 year old fencer from Brabant lost in the finals of this world cup event with 9-15 to the Frenchman Mathieu Denis. Bas Verwijlen expressed his contentment with the tournament "a very good start for the future"

Bas, Congratulations!

Source: I.R.I. Fencing Federation - NOS-Teletekst 14 January 2007
