



UNESCO website finally posts correct photo of Soltanieh Dome

Tehran Times Culture Desk

TEHRAN -- UNESCO has finally replaced the wrong photo on its website that was mistakenly identified as the Soltanieh Dome, an Iranian monument that was registered on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2005.



On October 27, the Tehran Times, quoting the Persian service of CHN, published an article that mentioned the UNESCO World Heritage Center website's error.

The erroneous photo previously on the website depicted the small tomb of

the famous eulogist of the Safavid era, Molla Hassan Kashani, which is located near the Soltanieh Dome.

The Soltanieh, the mausoleum of Oljaitu, is an Islamic monument that was constructed from 1302 to 1312 in the city of Soltanieh, the capital of the Ilkhanids, a Mongol dynasty that ruled in Iran from 1256 to 1353.

Situated in Zanjan Province, Soltanieh is one of the outstanding examples of the achievements of Persian architecture and is a key monument in the development of its Islamic architecture.

The octagonal building is crowned with a dome 50 meters in height covered with a turquoise blue faience and surrounded by eight slender minarets. The mausoleum has the tallest dome in the Islamic world..

NEWS IN BRIEF

Spanish festival to screen Iran's "Frontier Blues"

TEHRAN — Iran's "Frontier Blues" by Babak Jalali will be going on screen at the 47th Gijón International Film Festival that will be held from November 19 to 28 in Spain.

The film, which takes place on Iran's northern frontier with Turkmenistan, presents the stories of four men that share the common theme of lonely men in an isolated location desperately longing to return home to wives and families.

Felestin Cinema to host conference on women and cinema

TEHRAN — Tehran's Felestin Cinema will host a three-day conference on women, identity and cinema on the sidelines of the Kowsar Women's Film Festival.

The conference will be held from November 18 to 21 during which different issues including the relation between women's social role and cinema, and challenges of themes on women in films will be discussed.

Argentinean festival to show "A Man Who Ate His Cherries"

TEHRAN — Payman Haqqni's "A Man Who Ate His Cherries" will be screened at the Mar del Plata Film Festival in Argentina.

The film will go on screen at the Competition Section of the festival, which will run until November 15.

The film is about a worker named Reza who finds he is unable to have children. His wife files for divorce and Reza has to provide the money for her dowry.

Iranian films line up for Dutch festival

TEHRAN — Two Iranian films will go on screen at the Plus Camerimage Film Festival, which will be held from November 28 to December 5 in the Netherlands.

"How Green was Our Valley" by Fereshteh Joghatai and "Cold Bubble" by Amir Joghatai will go on screen during the festival.

Sotheby's flags art market recovery following Q3 loss

BANGALORE (Reuters) — Sotheby's, the world's largest publicly traded auction house, said it was past the bottom in the art market with net auction sales trending higher in the second half of the year.

Sotheby's shares, which fell 9 percent after the bell on a wider quarterly loss, recouped most of their losses following the positive commentary on trends in its earnings call.

In regular trade, the shares closed up 15 percent on the New York Stock Exchange at \$18.21 Thursday, a day after the company conducted an \$180 million impressionist and modern art sale that blew past even the most optimistic estimates.

Tebyan International Data Center (IDC) launched



Tehran Times Culture Desk

TEHRAN — The International Data Center (IDC) of Tebyan Cultural and Information Center was launched last week in a ceremony held at the venue of Tehran's Art Bureau.

IIDO Director Hojjatoleslam Seyyed Mehdi Khamushi and Tebyan director Alireza Talebpur were among the guests participating in the ceremony.

Tebyan, the largest public data center, is affiliated with the Islamic Ideology Dissemination Organization (IIDO).

The center provides several online facilities for paying bills, gaining quick access to all available information, and finding independent resources for troubleshooting, Khamushi said.

He added that establishing such centers helps avoid damage to the data.

Making use of technology to promote Islam is a remarkable

act, he said, adding, "We are still stand at the beginning of the way. We must try to fill the gap between modern countries in the digital world of today, but it is going to require national efforts."

He also mentioned that the services provided by the center are not free of charge, "We believe we can make use of private sectors' financial help."

He further noted that the organization is working on producing 20 computer games, adding that the games bear the imprint of our country's national culture.

Talebpur also announced that the center is moving toward hosting internet websites on the world of Islam.

He then gave some details about the activities of the organization and said that over 30,000 users are using the Tebyan website.

Tom Hanks, others screen "Beyond All Boundaries"

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Actors Tom Hanks, Patricia Clarkson and James Cromwell walked the red carpet Thursday before a private screening of the Hanks-produced war film "Beyond All Boundaries" held at the World War II Museum in New Orleans.

The film, which includes "4-D" elements such as props and shaking seats, opened to the public Friday and will be shown exclusively at the museum's new Victory Theater. The theater is part of the museum's \$300 million expansion project that will continue through 2015.

Clarkson and Cromwell were among more than a dozen celebrities who lent their voices to the documentary. Clarkson was the voice of Marguerite Higgins, a New York Herald Tribune correspondent, and Cromwell was the voices of Maj. Gen. Alexander Archer Vandegriff and Fleet Adm. William Halsey.

The film includes vintage images that chronicle WWII — from Pearl Harbor to the Battle of the Bulge — and took five years to make.

"I'm just glad that it's here," Hanks said. "I'm glad that it's part of the bigger museum. I think things like this are natural resources for each city (in which they exist)."

Hanks said the film also captures a moment in the country's history that "is now entering into the era of myth."

He noted that younger generations are far removed from World War II and hopes the film will bridge the gap.

"It was all heroes long ago," he said, but notes that there's still much to learn from history.

"World War II was fought by a bunch of 17-year-olds who were trying to kill each other, now that's not that far away from a lot of things that are going on in the world today," Hanks said. "If this museum and we have done our job well enough, people will come and certainly take note of the past, pay homage to the sacrifice, but at the same time, walk away thinking, 'Well, what would I do if the circumstances were the same?'"

Cromwell and Clarkson said they didn't

hesitate when asked to be in the film.

"It was an honor to be asked," Clarkson said. "It's an honor to be a part of this. It's a tribute to the people who have made the greatest sacrifice ever."

Cromwell said, "It's good to give back when you're in a position where it makes a difference, so it was my pleasure."

"Beyond All Boundaries" has been a highly anticipated attraction at the museum. Also opening Friday are two other museum additions — a canteen that will showcase musical revues inspired by USO-style productions and a restaurant called The American Sector that will be overseen by chef John Besh.

To mark the occasion, there will be a military flyover, procession of World War II veterans and entertainer Mickey Rooney is scheduled to perform with his band.

The celebration will continue through the weekend with a Victory Stomp block party Saturday and a retrospective honoring the museum's founder, the late Stephen Ambrose, on Sunday.

Caesar rises: 20 years of water digs on display

ARLES, France (AFP) — In a dark space in a new exhibition at Arles museum in southern France, underwater sounds play over looped video footage of scientists on underwater digs along the Rhone riverbed.

An intrepid team of archaeologists have been diving for 20 years, struggling with poor visibility, strong currents and flipper-nibbling bullhead catfish to bring up the 500 or so objects now being displayed.

In 2007, just when these Indiana Joneses of the water were ready to hang up their wet suits, they bumped into intriguing column fragments, friezes and chunks of mausoleums.

And then they brought up the most extraordinary buried treasure of all: a bust of Julius Caesar.

The find, dated 46 BC, is all the more remarkable for likely being made during the emperor's lifetime and provides the centerpiece for the exhibition organized by Luc Long, head of the French state department for archaeological, sub aquatic and deep-sea research.

The "unifying theme" in "Caesar, the Rhone for Memory", running to September 2010, is "to maintain the feeling of going on a journey with the archaeologist, following every stage of their work from the site of the digs right up to the restoration and

exhibition of the artifacts", says its designer Pierre Berthier.

The collection shows ancient Arles was not only a port and place of passage, but "decorated" and "monumental" says Long, "an ostentatious facade aiming to display Rome's wealth and power".

The most stunning finds are together in the last room of the exhibition that Long calls "the saint of saints".

Alongside Caesar is the 1.8-metre (six-foot) marble statue of the god Neptune dating from the beginning of the third century AD, and a bronze satyr with its hands tied behind its back.

"We made new and very beautiful discoveries in 2009," Long said, "which leaves one thinking that we have not come to the end of the reserves that this great natural museum -- the Rhone river -- still holds".

The divers also brought up remains from 15 shipwrecks, iron or lead ingots, rings, tools, shoe leather, small figurines and ceramics -- vivid reminders of ancient Arles as a port receiving boatloads of goods from Gaul, Europe, the Orient, Africa.

When the exhibition ends next September the artifacts will be incorporated into the permanent collection of the city's museum which, its director Claude Sintès hopes, will get "an extension".

"About Elly" wins Viennale Standard Audience Award

NEW YORK (Screen Daily) — The Standard Audience Award was presented by a readers' jury to Iranian filmmaker Asghar Farhadi for "About Elly" as the Viennale wrapped on Wednesday evening (November 4) with a screening of Coen brother's "A Serious Man".

Jessica Hausner's "Lourdes" was presented with the Vienna Film Prize for best film.

Peter Kerekcs's "Cooking History" won the newly introduced Vienna Film Prize for documentary, while the Fipresci Prize for debut or second feature went to Chinese director Yu Guangyi's Survival Song (Xiao Li Zi). The jury praised it strong but fresh portrayal of a such a remote part of China.



Festival director Hans Hurch, whose contract has been extended until 2013, said that total admissions had increased from 92,100 in 2008 to 94,800 this year, with more than a third of the festival's 345 screenings selling out.

Niavaran to host exhibition on women in the fine arts

Tehran Times Are Desk

TEHRAN — After a ten-year hiatus, the Niavaran Cultural Center will host the 6th Manifestation of Feeling Exhibition beginning November 26.

The fortnight's exhibit will highlight the place of women in fine arts. The previous five editions were dedicated to the art of painting, the secretary of the exhibit Gholamali Taheri told IRNA on Friday.

The exhibit will be held in two fields including painting and new art, which includes video arts, performing arts, photo art and installation, he added.

He went on to say that some 2,000 paintings were submitted to the secretariat of the gala out of which 150 works have been accepted for the showcase.

"Two to four days prior to the event, participating artists will give live presentations that will be filmed and then screened during the actual exhibit," he said.

The showcase will be held in two sections with different themes including a general theme and maternal love, he said.

Mansureh Hosseini is the secretariat of the painting section and the secretariat of the new art section is Afshan Ketabchi, he concluded.