Imam Ali (AS):
The foolish aim at wealth.

News in Brief

Georgian Art Academy Hangs Persian Paintings

Paintings by two Iranian artists are currently on display at the gallery of the Tbilisi State Academy of Arts in the Republic of Georgia.

According to Mehr News Agency, Iranian Ambassador to Georgia Majid Saber, artists, university professors, and students and Iranologists attended the opening ceremony on Tuesday.

A total of 50 paintings by Iranian artists Farzaneh and Hossein Mahjuobi are on display.

Saber said the exhibit is of great importance for boosting cultural ties between the two countries.

At the ceremony, the Rector of the Tbilisi State Academy of Arts Giorgi Bughadze expressed hope for further cultural cooperation with Iran.

MOCA Opens Hopper Museum Survey

The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles has held the first comprehensive survey exhibition of American actor and filmmaker Dennis Hopper's artistic career.

Dennis Hopper Double Standard will run until September 26 at MOCA's Geffen Contemporary, presenting over 200 paintings, photographs, sculptures, installations, graffiti-inspired wall constructions and large-scale billboard paintings.

Best known for his cinematic work, Hopper also ventured into the world of popular culture and modern art creating memorable artworks during his 60-year artistic career.

"Dennis Hopper's work has been a springboard for the work of many artists and filmmakers of a younger generation," Artdaily quoted MOCA Director Jeffrey Deitch as saying.

"His fusion of artistic media has become an inspiration for the new artistic generation who often draw on performance and film as well as painting, sculpture, and photography in the creation of their work."

Hopper appeared in over 150 feature-length films, short films, documentaries, TV series and miniseries and was nominated for the Best Original Screenplay and Best Supporting Actor Academy Awards in 1970 and 1987 respectively.

He also directed nine films and wrote (or co-wrote) four.

Dennis Hopper has participated in many solo and group exhibitions around the world including the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, the State Hermitage Museum of St. Petersburg and the Cinematheque Francaise in Paris.

Art Activists Protest at BP

Five members of the art activist group Culture Beyond Oil today poured non-toxic black oil around the British Museum's world famous Easter Island sculpture, in protest at BP's sponsorship of the museum.

The group, inspired by Liberate Tate's intervention at Tate Britain earlier this month, said it had deliberately chosen the giant statue of a human head because it represents the way in which civilizations once considered invincible can collapse in a short period of time. The activists were careful not to pour oil on the sculpture itself, which is seated on a modern stone plinth, AP reported.

Like the Tate, whose trustees meet to discuss their sponsorship arrangements tomorrow, the British Museum receives money from BP on an annual basis.

In return the company is able to use the building to hold corporate parties and launch events, as well as having its logo used on official British Museum publications.

Lisa Reardon, one of the artists who took part, said, "Institutions such as the British Museum are amongst the most valuable assets that this country has, but their worldwide reputation is being tarnished by the sponsorship deal with BP.

"Unless the people who run this museum want to see its famous pillars become a crumbling relic of the oil age they need to stop giving BP cover for its destructive business. This oil company is using our best loved museums and galleries to distract us from a catastrophic headlong rush to extract the last drops of the black stuff."

This intervention follows similar events at the Tate Modern, Tate Britain and National Portrait Gallery in recent weeks. Tonight will also see the BP-sponsored screening of the Royal Opera's Simon Boccanegra in Trafalgar Square targeted by Climate Rush and the Greenwash Guerrillas.

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The Fifth Persian Carpet Festival is underway at Tehran's Sa'ad Abad Cultural Complex until July 16. Visitors will get a chance to see nomadic tents and take part in Kilim and carpet weaving workshops. (Photo by Abolfazl Nessaei)

17th Youth Visual Arts Festival Opens

The 17th Youth Visual Arts Festival opened in Gorgan, Golestan province on July 12.

Over 250 Iranian and 30 foreign artists are attending the event, said the Persian daily 'Iran'.

China, Pakistan, Turkey, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Sudan are among the 17 participating countries.

Speaking at the event's opening, Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance said that art is the manifestation of mind beauties.

"The event is a kind of art Olympiad wherein top artists from Iran are competing with artists from 16 other countries."

Addressing the same gathering, secretary of the event, Gholamreza Montazeri, who is also director general of Golestan province Culture and Islamic Guidance Department, said the event is the festival of peace and symphony of unity and sympathy.

He further noted that at the 15th round of the event, only five countries were present but at the current edition 16 states are taking part.

Providing a vivid image of the youth potentials at international level as well as promoting the Iranian and Islamic art is among the festival's main objectives.

The festival will be held in several categories, including painting, caricature, ceramics, sculpture, photography and calligraphy.

A two-day workshop on creativity, along with provincial tours is also scheduled for the event.

Top visual artists from Golestan province will be honored during an exhibition featuring their works on the sidelines.

The festival will end on July 16.

Tehran Choir in China

Tehran Choir is in China to participate in the World Choir Games 2010 in Shanghai.

The ensemble conductor, Milad Omranlou, told Fars News Agency that the choir will take part in three categories, namely folklore, chamber and pop music.

"We will have three performances during the event and then will perform with other ensembles, including the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra."

The performance will be held in a joint effort with the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance.

Billed as the world's biggest choir competition, the event will be held from July 15 to 26 in Shanghai.

Every two years, choirs from all parts of the world come together to celebrate the World Choir Games.

Their motto is "Singing together brings nations together". The idea of the World Choir Games originates from the effort to bring people together through singing in peaceful competition. In this way the unity of nations through the arts can be effectively and illustratively demonstrated and challenged.

Aran Exhibits Documentary Images

Tehran's Aran Art Gallery is holding a photo exhibition, presenting works by young and veteran Iranian photographers.

'Tehran Documented' displays photographs by Mazdak Ayyari, Majid Bakhtiari-Vafa, Kaveh Golestan, Peyman Houshmandzadeh, Rana Javadi, Aidin Rahimipour-Azad, Tahmineh Monzavi and late documentary photographer Bahman Jalali.

Visitors will have the opportunity to see a unique collection of black and white images documenting the Iranian capital during the 1960s and 1970s, Presstv reported.

The exhibition offers a memorable view of significant political and social events of the time such as the 1979 Islamic Revolution and the 1980-88 Iraq-Iran war.

Curated by Arash Hanaei, also a well-known photographer, the exhibition kicked off on July 14.

Weather

Bojnourd	Kermanshah	Khorramshahr	Shiraz	Zabol	Zanjan	Tehran	Beijing	Budapest	Kiev	Kuwait City	Lisbon	Riyadh
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