

# INFINITY



Islamic Azad University Newsletter  
International Affairs Directorate  
Issue 7-Agust 2007

## Inauguration of IAU-Jolfa Int'l Higher Education Centre



IAU Jolfa International Higher Education Centre was inaugurated on August 16, 2007.

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## Jassbi Elected as FUIW's Executive Council Chairman

**ANA-** During the closing of FUIW's general assembly ceremony in Kuwait, on 5th April, 2007 Dr. Jassbi, the IAU President, was once more re-elected as the FUIW's Executive Council Chairman. [See Page 3](#)

## Ghazvin IAU Campus Champion in the Second International Robo-Cup Competition



**ANA-** The second round of international robo-cup competition took place in the IAU Ghazvin campus, from 16th - 18th April, 2007.

Fifteen leagues and 361 teams participated in that competition.

According to ANA news agency, China and Iran faced each other in various leagues in this round of competition.

Ferdowsi University of Mashhad took the second place in the completion, but the IAU Najafabad campus got the first rank.

The first international robo-cup competition took place in Japan and from then on was hosted by different countries. Since 1998, the Islamic Republic of Iran, became an active participant in the international robo-cup competitions. In 2006, Iran received the go-ahead for organizing its first international robo-cup competition.

The USA, Germany, I.R. Iran, Spain, and Portugal have so-far been permitted to organized the international robo-cup competitions.

## Jassbi Called for a University Mobilization

**ANA-** IAU president called for a university mobilization to tackle the confronting challenges of Iran's government in the "Science & Research Symposium of Basiji Instructors" in Mash-had.

"Human rights, article 44, nuclear power, the Great Middle-East plan, and common wealth, are the confronting challenges and threats which couldn't be changed to beneficial opportunities unless professors and students target these issues properly.", said IAU president. [See Page 3](#)

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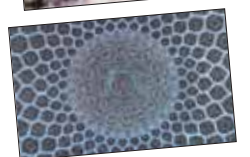
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## Over 180 NUS Students Graduate with International Joint Degrees

**SINGAPORE** : The annual commencement ceremonies of the National University of Singapore (NUS) began on Tuesday.

This year, over 180 students are graduating with international joint degrees.

President SR Nathan gave out degree scrolls to over 8,000 students from NUS on Tuesday.

This year's commencement marks the first batch of graduates for nine new degree programmes.

Among them, six international degrees offered by NUS in partnership with big names like the University of Illinois, Technical University of Munich, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Students taking such programmes usually spend part of their curriculum time in the partner institutions.

A total of 22 students will be graduating with a Masters degree from both NUS and MIT. MIT has a similar arrangement with the Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

This is the first time MIT is partnering two Asian institutions to offer such a programme. Most of the students enrolled in this programme are foreigners.

Students said such international double degrees can be a real challenge.

"We had to follow Boston timing and we had to take distance learning courses through audio visual interface where we took our lectures 'live'. We had to wake up at 7am everyday to get to school by 8am, and we get to leave only 10 pm," recalled Shawn Choo, graduate, Singapore-MIT Alliance.

Other examples of joint degrees awarded include a Masters

in Infectious Diseases, Vaccinology and Drug Discovery offered together with the University of Basel from Switzerland, and a Doctor of Philosophy offered with the Karolinska Institutet (Sweden) where students undertake research in areas of genetic and molecular epidemiology.

But it's clear students are not averse to taking on the extra load, because most programmes are oversubscribed.



"We live in a world of increasing cultural complexity, so our graduates have to acquire more than content. They've got to have an appreciation of other cultures, other ways of life and how to interact with other people. The joint degree programmes provide that kind of opportunity," said Professor Shih Choon Fong, president of NUS.

There are currently 494 students enrolled in 22 international joint degree programmes. - CNA/Is

## Saveh Opens Anthropology Museum

**ANA**-The Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts, and Tourism Department of Markazi Province has opened a museum of anthropology in Saveh.

The Saveh Museum of Anthropology was opened in a ceremony attended by local officials at the historical 'Char-Souq' dome.

Head of Cultural Heritage Department said at the ceremony, "It is necessary to open museums in every town. And this museum was opened in order to promote public knowledge about different Iranian ethnic groups and customs."

Seyyed Mohammad Hosseini added, "One hundred anthropological and

archeological items such as metal instruments, pottery, paintings, mosaic works, and miniature samples of historical buildings have been showcased in this museum."

"The Saveh Anthropology Museum will be the sixth museum in Markazi province and we intend to open the 'Naraq Water Museum' very soon," he added.

'Char Souq', one of the most important monuments in Saveh, is datable to the Safavid era and has a 15-meter high dome and four galleries that bring the four major directions to mind.



## Iranian Band to Perform in Canada, US

**ANA**- Prominent Iranian music ensemble 'Dastan' plans to give concerts in several American and Canadian cities in October and November.

Making the announcement, the ensemble leader Sa'id Farajpouri said the band is to perform in Toronto, Vancouver, Ottawa, Montreal, New York, Washington, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles as well as some other cities.

Sa'id Farajpouri, Hamid Motabassem, Hossein Behrouzi-Nia,

Pejman Hadadi and Behnam Samani are the band members.

'Dastan' is a world-renowned Persian classical music ensemble.

Formed in 1991 by Hamid Motabassem, 'Dastan' has performed numerous concerts throughout the world.

It has been presented in countless international cultural centers and important festivals worldwide including: The Persian Section of German Radio, Frankfurt Radio, the Fez Festival of Sacred Music, Morocco, the Cologne Philharmonic of Germany, the Orange County Philharmonic, California and the Paris City Theater

# Jassbi Asked for Islamic Thoughts to be Supported at FUIW's

**ANA-** Calls by various participants and delegations were made for the prevention of cultural invasion against Islam in the forth FUIW's general assembly, held in early April this year in Kuwait.

Dr. Jassbi, the Chairman of FUIW's Executive Council, and the IAU President, in his opening speech, condemned the Anglo-US military operations in Afghanistan, and Iraq, and the killing of Moslems by the Zionist regime. He also added that the crisis would lead to disunity among the Moslems of the region.

The IAU President, and the Chairman of FUIW's

Executive Council, encouraged the establishment of institutions to support the Islamic thoughts through the active participation of various Islamic scholars, professors, and academics, to promote and protect Islamic thoughts and ideas.

In this gathering, Imam Khomai International University of Ghazvin, a north-western city of Iran, became a member of FUIW. Furthermore, the thirteenth FUIW's Executive Council's meeting, was agreed to take place at the Islamic Azad University.



## Jassbi Called for a University Mobilization

*Continued from Page 1*

Addressing the Nuclear power as an absolute right, he said: "The western media are doing their best to persuade the world's public opinion of Iran's attempts of producing Nuke weapons while Iranian Officials has always stressed on Iran's peaceful nuclear plan. Still most of our people are unaware of the nuclear power benefits. It

means that university society should have done more to make the populace understood of all the beneficial and necessary elements of owning this power."

He considered the development of nuclear majors at universities a fruitful way of fighting against the psychology operation of the west against Iran's absolute nuclear right.

## Dr. Jassbi Elected as FUIW's Executive Council Chairman

*Continued from Page 1*

At this ceremony, the new Chairman of the FUIW's Executive Council, called for the academic unity and solidarity among all Islamic Universities. He also recommended that they launch an ISI institution for the Islamic World University to publish the

articles written by the elites in the world of Islam.

Dr. Jassbi further suggested that an institution be established in which Islamic thoughts could be collected and protected. Dr. Jassbi's remarks were widely welcomed by all present members.



## Inauguration of IAU-Jolfa Int'l Higher Education Centre

*Continued from Page 1*

The ceremony was held in the presence of the President of the Islamic Azad University, Dr. Jassbi, and the Vice President for International Affairs of the IAU, Dr. Payman Mahasti, as well as various local dignitaries.

In his speech, Dr. Jassbi explained about the present status of

the University and mentioned that IAU is now an arch-rival for the accredited state universities inasmuch as the facilities, the quality of teaching, and the research projects are concerned. He also reiterated that IAU had a significant role in reducing the number of emigration by establishing branches even in the most remote areas of the country.

**Head of IAU's Information Center:**

### IAU to Hold the Intl. Symposium of Islamic World Media

**ANA** Considering student-centered policy of IAU's Public Affairs as a key strategy, Head of IAU Public Affairs, Karimi said: "IAU's public affairs has entered a new phase of activity to keep its addressees informed". In a press conference held on the occasion of commemorating Correspondent Day, Mohammad Reza Karimi, the IAU President's counselor, said: "There have been a large number of

reports, press conferences, press talks, news, and press trips over the last 17 months and it simply means 783 percents of growth".

In a part of his speech, he also counted the recent achievements of IAU's public affairs such as; launching a database of the elite of society, portable system of recommendations & complaints, and considered IAU's public affairs a successful example of informative system.

## Interview With Mohsen Eivazi

### IAU student, who made special shoes for the Handicapped

Mohsen Eivazi, 22, is a junior in Electronic Engineering in the Tabriz Branch of the Islamic Azad University. This young inventor has astounded the world by his multiple prize winning innovations such as the magic shoes, and an exclusive system to avoid the tap water wastage. The following is an interview with him about the "GYGET Janbaz Shoe", which won the silver medal in the 35th International Exhibition of "The Inventions, Innovations, and Technology" held in Switzerland in 2006.

**Q:** Mohsen, what is the significance of the shoes, and how did you come up with the idea?

Well, the idea came to me when I observed the difficulty handicapped people had in wearing their shoes. This also includes those who have problems with

their hands, or those who are too old or too fat to bend easily. Then I thought of finding a way so they can wear their shoes.

**Q:** And when was this?

I made the first sample two years ago, but the ones that you see now have gone through lots of alterations.

**Q:** You mean it was the initial model that was registered by the Scientific Association of Electrical Engineering?

Exactly. And also by the Young Researchers' Club of Islamic Azad University in Tabriz.

**Q:** I see. And what about the prices? I assume they must be more expensive than the regular shoes one might find in the market.

Not really. Actually the price of the shoes depends on the quality of the leather used

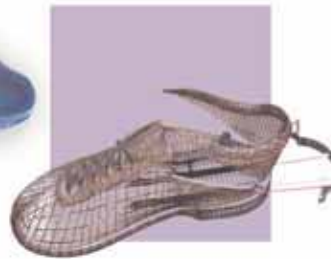
for making it. However, the structure assembled to a pair of average price shoes will add about 50,000 Rls to their price.

**Q:** What are your future plans? Are you going to continue your studies?

Sure I am. I have many ideas and plans for future, but I do believe that the academic studies are essential to provide guidelines for one's creativity, so I am determined to go all the way up till I get my PhD.

**Q:** We wish you the best Mohsen, and are looking forward to see your future innovations. Is there anything you want to add?

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to present my invention. And one thing I should add here is that all this would have been impossible without the help of my sister Roya, and I would like to thank her here.



The removable part in the back of the shoe lets the user turn the shoe into a slipper with the help of another foot, and fasten the part again with a slight push.

**Creativity is so delicate a flower that praise tends to make it bloom, while discouragement often nips it in the bud. Any of us will put out more and better ideas if our efforts are appreciated.**

Alex F. Osborn



Do you have a really bad memory, or past heartache, that you would prefer to forget?

were able to remove a specific memory from the brains of rats while leaving the rest of the animals' memories intact. An

so that when they heard either of the tones they would brace themselves for a shock. The researchers then gave half the rats the drug when playing one of the musical tones.

After the treatment, the rats that had been given the drug no longer associated

## New Drug Deletes Bad Memories

Researchers at Harvard and McGill University (in Montreal) are working on an amnesia drug that blocks or deletes bad memories. The technique seems to allow psychiatrists to disrupt the biochemical pathways that allow a memory to be recalled.

In a new study, published in the Journal of Psychiatric Research, the drug propranolol is used along with therapy to "dampen" memories of trauma victims. They treated 19 accident or rape victims for ten days, during which the patients were asked to describe their memories of the traumatic event that had happened 10 years earlier. Some patients were given the drug, which is also used to treat amnesia, while others were given a placebo.

A week later, they found that patients given the drug showed fewer signs of stress when recalling their trauma.

Similar research led by Professor Joseph LeDoux has been carried out at New York University on rats; scientists



amnesia drug called U0126 was administered.

The rats were trained to associate two musical tones with a mild electrical shock

that particular tone with an imminent shock but still braced themselves upon hearing the second tone, demonstrating only one memory had been deleted.

## Iranian Tourist-Friendly SIM Card

Press TV-A SIM card under the VoIP software will be distributed for international tourists in Iran to reduce roaming tariffs.

The Kish VastVision Company is to undertake the project to distribute tourist-friendly SIM cards in order to cut roaming tariffs by 90 percent.

"The SIM card has been used and distributed by 132 countries and Iran is joining the network", Abolfazl Babai, CEO of the international VastVision Company said.

"The company is connected to over 10 countries via this network and, and the figure will reach 167 countries in the near future", he added.

The 130 euro SIM card will cost its users 0.35 euros for a text message.

UK, US, Canada, Turkey and Persian Gulf states are among the countries the company says are covered by the VoIP network.

Voice over IP (VoIP) software is used to conduct telephone-like voice conversations across the Internet. The VoIP phone service is often cheaper than traditional phone service, and is becoming more popular for both business and personal calls.



**The Persian Garden refers to a tradition and style of garden design which originated in Persia and which influenced the design of gardens throughout the larger region. The Taj Mahal is one of the largest Persian gardens of the world.**

The garden's purpose was, and is, to provide a place for relaxation in a variety of manners: spiritual, and leisurely (such as meetings with friends), essentially a paradise on earth. The Persian word for "enclosed space" was pairi-daeza, a term that was adopted by Christian mythology to describe the garden of Eden or Paradise on earth.

The manner in which the garden is constructed may be formal (with an emphasis on structure) or casual (with an emphasis on nature), following several simple rules governing the design. This is said to allow a maximisation, in terms of function and emotion, of what may be done in the garden.

### History

The origin of Persian gardens may date back as far as 4000 BCE; the decorated pottery of that time displays the typical cross plan of the Persian garden. The outline of Cyrus the Great' garden, built around 500 BCE, is still viewable today.

During the reign of the Sassanids (third to seventh century CE), and under the influence of Zoroastrianism, the presence of water in art grew increasingly important. This trend manifested itself in garden design with greater emphasis placed on fountains and ponds in gardens.

During the occupations by the Arabs the aesthetic aspect of the garden increased in importance, overtaking the utility of the garden. During this time the aesthetic rules by which the garden is governed grew in importance. An example of this is the chahar bagh, a form of garden which attempts to emulate Eden, having four rivers and four quadrants, representing the world. The design sometimes involves one axis being longer than the other and the creation of water channels running through each of the four gardens to connect to a central pool.

The invasion of Persia by the Mongols in the thirteenth century saw a new emphasis on highly ornate structure within the garden, examples of which include peonies and chrysanthemums. The Mongol empire then carried on a Persian garden tradition in other parts of their empire (notably India).



# The Persian

## Hafezeeyeh Garden Shiraz, Iran.



Babur introduced the Persian garden to India; the now unkempt Aram Bagh garden in Agra was the first of many Persian gardens he created. The Persian concept of an ideal, paradise-like garden is perfectly embodied in the Taj Mahal.

The Safavid Dynasty (seventeenth to eighteenth century) built and developed grand and epic layouts that went beyond being a simple extension to a palace and became an integral aesthetic and functional part of it. In the following centuries European garden design began to influence Persia, particularly the design of France and secondarily that of Russia and the United Kingdom. Western influences led to changes in the use of water and the species used in bedding.

The traditional forms and style is still used among the population of Iran. They are also be found in historic sites, museums and affixed to the houses of the rich.

### Elements of the Persian Garden

Sunlight and its effects were an important factor of structural design in Persian gardens. Textures and shapes were specifically chosen by architects to harness the light.

Due to the latitudinal position of Iran, shade is also very important in the garden, without which it could not be a useable area. Trees and trellises largely feature as biotic shade; pavilions and walls are also structurally prominent in blocking the sun.

Also related to the heat is the importance of water in the gardens. A form of underground tunnel, below the water table, called a Qanat is used to irrigate the garden and its environs. Well-like structures then connect to the Qanat, enabling the drawing of water.

Alternatively, an animal driven Persian well would be used to draw water to the surface. Such wheel systems could also be used to move water around surface water systems, such as those which exist in the chahar bagh style. Trees were often planted in a ditch called a Jub, which prevented water evaporation and allowed the water to quickly access the tree roots.

The Persian style often attempts to integrate that which is "indoors" with the "outdoors". This is often achieved through the connection of a

# an Garden

surrounding garden, with an inner courtyard. Designers often placed architectural elements such as vaulted arches between the outer and interior areas to open up the divide between them.

## Descriptions

The oldest representational descriptions and illustrations of Iranian gardens come from travelers who reached Iran from lands to the west. These accounts include Ibn Battuta in the fourteenth century, Ruy Gonz?les de Clavijo in the fifteenth century and Engelbert Kaempfer in the seventeenth century. Battuta and Clavijo make only passing references to gardens and do not describe their design.

Kaempfer made careful drawings and converted them into detailed engravings after his return to Europe. They show chahar bagh type gardens with the following features: an enclosing wall, rectangular pools, an internal network of canals, garden pavilions and lush planting. There are surviving examples of this garden type at Yazd (Dowlatabad) and at Kashan (Bagh-e Fin). The location of the gardens Kaempfer illustrated in Isfahan (city) can be identified.

## Styles



Shazdeh Garden is one of the largest gardens of Kerman Province.



The six primary styles of the Persian garden may be seen in the following

table, which puts them in the context of their function and style. Gardens are not limited to a particular style, but often integrate different styles, or have areas with different functions and styles.

	<i>Classical</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Casual</i>
<i>Public</i>	<i>Hayat</i>	<i>Median</i>	<i>Park</i>
<i>Private</i>	<i>Hayat</i>	<i>Chahar Bagh</i>	<i>BAGH</i>

## Hayat

Publicly, it is a classical Persian layout with heavy emphasis on aesthetics over function. Man-made structures in the garden are particularly important, with arches and pools (which may be used to cleanse). The ground is often covered in gravel or some other hard stone-derived substance. Plantings are typically very simple - such as a line of trees, which also provide shade.

Privately, these gardens are often pool-centred and again structural. The pool serves as a focus and source of humidity for the surrounding atmosphere. Again, there are few plants - this is often due to the limited water available in urban areas.

## Meidan

This is a public, formal garden that puts more emphasis on the biotic element than the hayat and that minimises structure. Plants range from trees, to shrubs, to bedding plants, to grasses. Again, there are elements such as a pool and gravel pathways which divide the lawn. When structures are used, they are often built, as in the case of pavilions, to provide shade.

## Chahar Bagh

These gardens are private and formal - the basic structure consists of four divided corners. These are often divided by waterways or pathways. Traditionally, such gardens would be used in work-related functions for the rich (such as communicating with ambassadors). These gardens balance structure with greenery, with the plants often around the periphery of a pool and path based structure.

## Park

Much like many other parks, the Persian park serves a casual public function with emphasis on plant life. They provide pathways and seating, but are otherwise usually limited in terms of structural elements. The purpose of such places is relaxation and socialisation.

## Bagh

Like the other casual garden, the park, the Bagh emphasises the natural and green aspect of the Garden. Unlike the park it is a private area often affixed to houses and often consisting of lawns, trees, and ground plants. The waterways and pathways stand out less than in the more formal counterparts and are largely functional. The primary function of such areas is familial relaxation.01?

## Iran to Host World Robo-Cup Competition

**ANA-**In a press conference, on 4th April, 2007, in which Dr. Torabi, the IAU Vice-President for Research, Dr. Mossa-khani, the IAU Ghazvin Branch Rector, as well as the Chairman of Robo-cup National Committee, and the World Robo-cup Federation's Supervisors were present, Prof. Gerhard, the World Robo-cup Federation Member from Germany, announced that the quality of robo-cup competitions has considerably improved compared with that of the past. Prof. Gerhard went on to say that the competitions enjoy a high constructive coordination, and added that the high rate of participation from high schools is the best guarantee for the Iranian teams to succeed in the competitions. He also said that holding such competitions can help expand the scientific ties between countries and expressed hope that Iran will host the 2010 world robo cup competitions.

## Talking Paper Made by Scientists

**BBC-**Digital paper that can speak to you has been created by scientists.

Researchers from Mid Sweden University have constructed an interactive paper billboard that emits recorded sound in response to a user's touch.

The prototype display uses conductive inks, which are sensitive to pressure, and printed speakers.

The team envisages that the technology could be used by advertisers, and in the future, it

might even be employed for product packaging.

The researcher's display model shows its possible use for marketing holiday destinations.

Mikael Gulliksson, who led the research project, told the BBC News website: "When you approach the billboard and put your hand on a postcard that shows a picture of a beach, you can hear a very brief description of that beach."

Down-sizing The key to the billboard's capabilities is a layer of digital paper that is embedded with electronics.

This is printed with conductive inks, which, when applied with pressure, relay information to a micro-computer that contains recorded audio files. Sound then streams out from print-

ed speakers, which are formed from more layers of conductive inks that sit over an empty cavity to form a diaphragm.

This functional layer is sandwiched between a thick sheet of extra-strong cardboard and another sheet of paper that is printed with the billboard's design.

"This pilot project could be used for stands in shops and in other marketing displays," said Dr Gulliksson.

At present, the displays are expensive to produce, but the researchers are aiming to find ways of lowering the costs to make the boards easier to change and replace.

In the future, the team also plans to look at down-sizing the



technology.

"Our next idea is to look at how we could use this in product packaging," Dr Gulliksson told the BBC.

"One interesting idea would be to use it on cigarette packaging, so instead of having a written message warning you of danger to your health, you would have a spoken one."

"There could be a whole range of applications," he added.





## Iranology Foundation Holds

Iranology Foundation will consider the historical documentaries on "Persian Gulf" domains on these fields:

1. Native Persian Literature (Poetry and Prose) on Persian Gulf's shore.
2. Persian Gulf's Economy development in different historical periods as Siraf, Bushehr,... Also industrial transition after Islamic Revolution as Asalouyeh, Free Zones,...
3. History, Geography,

Historical Geography, and Local History of Persian Gulf Area.

4. People's Culture and Anthropology on Iranian Islands and Persian Gulf's shore.
5. Arts and Handicrafts in Persian Gulf's Ports and Islands.
6. Persian Gulf's shore and Islands architecture.
7. Historical maps on Persian Gulf's Ports and Islands.
8. Historical documentaries on Persian Gulf's Ports and Islands.

9. Cultural dictionary and Persian Gulf's sea terminology.

10. Persian Gulf's Islands and Ports in publications and press.
11. Bibliography in Persian Gulf's Islands and Ports.
12. Different Social, Cultural and Urban reasons in forming Persian Gulf's Islands and Ports identity.
13. Petroleum history and Persian Gulf channel.
14. Living environment and Persian Gulf.

15. Commercial shipping and Persian Gulf naval force.

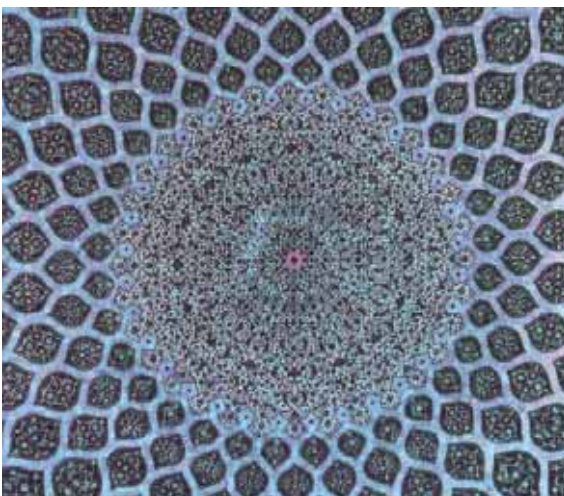
Official Language of the Congress

The official language of the Congress is Persian. However, researchers and Iranologists who are unable to present their papers in Persian can present theirs in English.

For more information visit the Congress Website at: [www.iranologyfo.net](http://www.iranologyfo.net)

### Art

## Quran Museum Holding Exhibition of Artworks



**MNA** - The National Museum of the Holy Quran is presently holding an exhibition of Quranic-themed artworks created by Iranian artists which is running concurrently with the second round of the Festival of the Message of the Prophet Muhammad (S).

The exhibit includes visual arts including calligraphy works, valuable manuscripts and a rare copy of the Sahifeh Sajjadih - a collection of prayers attributed to Imam Sajjad (AS).

The second round of the Festival of the Message of the Prophet Muhammad (S) will continue until August 29.

In addition, a two-day conference entitled "Prayers, A Necessity of Life" began today.

The conference is divided into two sections. The arts section includes a photo exhibit, the screening of movies, and music performances. The event is being held at the Aseman Complex of the Academy of Arts.

The second section will be held at the museum and will include sessions on "Prayers and Rumi" and "Prayers in Folkloric Culture".

The museum is also planning to hold a special program for children in the near future named "Religious Literature for Children and Young Adults" in which writers of children's books will participate.

The museum is located near the Marmar Palace, at the intersection of Vali-e Asr and Imam Khomeini streets.

## Qobadi to Judge Spanish Filmfest

**MNA** - World renowned Iranian Kurdish filmmaker Bahman Qobadi has been selected for the jury of the 55th Donostia-San Sebastian International Film Festival, which will be held from September 20 to 29.

Last year, Qobadi's movie "Half Moon" won the festival's Golden Shell for Best Film. In addition, the film's cameraman, Nigel Bluck, was awarded the gala's Jury Prize for Best Photography. Qobadi, 38, is the founder of MijFilm, a company which aims at supporting Kurdish filmmakers. He made his debut film "A Time for Drunken Horses" in 2000, which received the Caméra d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival. His "Turtles Can Fly" represented Iranian cinema in the category of Best Foreign Language Film at the Annual Academy Awards in 2005.

This movie also won the Golden Shell for Best Film at the San Sebastian film festival in 2004. In addition, Qobadi's latest feature "Half Moon", which is a joint production of Iran, Iraq, Austria, and France, was selected to represent Iraqi cinema in the Oscar race in 2007.

## Iranian Sculptor Wins Prize at Japanese Festival

**MNA** - The Iranian sculptor Behruz Darash, has won the Date Shinkin Bank Special Prize at the Toyamura International Sculpture Biennial (TISB) in Japan.

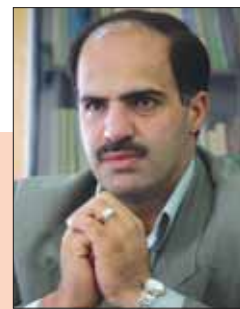
The festival's theme was "A Universe in the Palm of Our Hand" which limited entries to palm-sized sculptures.

Darash's untitled sculpture was a type of metamorphosis and competed with 700 other works which had been submitted to the gala. An exhibit will be held displaying 60 of the artworks at the Toya General Center from September 22 to October 21 in Tokyo.

Darash has previously won the Mr. T Prize at the 8th Toyamura International Sculpture Biennial in 2005 for a sculpture in stone.

# Introducing Qazvin Branch of the IAU

Qazvin Branch of the IAU, established in 1992, has played an important role in introducing Iranian Robocop team to the world, and has earned an international technological recognition during the recent years. For this reason, Dr. Morteza Moosakhani, President of Qazvin Branch has been elected as the Chairman of Iranian Robocop Committee. Infinity interviewed Dr. Moosakhani, who is also known as one of the most successful IAU managers.



## Dr. Moosakhani, would you tell us about your educational background.

I got both my Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Management from Tehran University. Afterwards, I studied in Tarbiat Modares University, where I got my PhD in management again, specializing in Human Resources in 1998.

## When did you start managing the Qazvin Branch?

In 1992, right from the scratch.

## And where does it stand now?

Today, we have about 25,000 students under tutelage of 300 faculty members and 750 guest lecturers. There are two campuses in Qazvin Branch offering 73 disciplines, from associate degree up to PhD programs.

## How did you manage all this within only 15 years?

Based on a very strong strategic planning which aimed to develop the Qazvin Branch as a prestigious scientific center in the heart of the country, we implemented our construction and educational programs by employing remarkable merits and using the most advanced technology in the world. Our mission has been keeping up with the world class universities in terms of planning effective research programs, and improvement in scientific and technological studies.

To advance our research programs, we have started the construction of one of the largest research centers in the country in 7 Hectares of land. We already have 95 laboratories and the biggest computer site in the country.

The university is committed to high academic and scientific standards. We insist that high moral values are necessary to accompany scientific and technological progress, and we will reach our goals through maintaining them.

## Could you elaborate on the libraries of the University?

We have two central libraries and one reference library with over 150,000 books and about 700 periodicals. In order to collaborate with the world's largest libraries and meet the need for sources of information, we have established a digital library which is providing access to a complete collection of electronic journals covering unlimited

number of titles from the world's most prominent publishers. However, there is a library expansion plan also on the way.

## Speaking of technology, your Robocop team has made remarkable accomplishments during the past few years. Could you tell us about the details of the events?

The Robocop team has participated in the International Robocop championships since 2002, and has continued its activities under the support of the most advanced research center. They have accomplished 14 first places, 5 second places, and 3 third places in a variety of leagues within International competitions since 2002.

## Does the university provide the students with extra curricular activities too?

Definitely. The office of extra-curricular activities organizes programs for the students' leisure time. These include field trips to different parts of the country, cultural, educational and social programs, arrangement of on-campus activities, and the establishment and support of students' academic, social and cultural associations.

Moreover, Qazvin branch has extensive sports facilities and provides maximum access to those students who are interested. The university gym consists of complete basketball, volleyball and gymnastic facilities. It has exercise rooms, with vast variety of advanced equipment.

## How large is your Dormitory complex?

We have a beautiful Dormitory complex covering 19,000 square meters. Suites are arranged to accommodate 4, 5, or 6 students. There are multi purpose halls, computer centers, a medical clinic, two studying halls, and two sport halls.

## Dr. Moosakhani, I would like to congratulate you on all your achievements and thank for the extra ordinary hard work and effort that you and your valuable staff have dedicated to Islamic Azad University and to the future of our younger generation. As a final question, I would like to ask you about your future goals.

Our efforts will never end. We would like to turn Qazvin Branch to a world famous university focused on advanced technology. We have applied for the membership of Federation of the Universities for the Islamic World (FUIW). This membership will provide significant impact on utilizing and sharing member universities' facilities, and ultimately the internationalization of the Qazvin Branch.

## Do you have anything to add, Dr. Moosakhani?

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratification to professor Jassbi, President of Islamic Azad University for his full support of our endeavors which stood as the strongest encouragement to bring the Qazvin Branch to the level where it stands now. I also appreciate my most wonderful staff and faculty members, without whom this success could have never been achieved.

Thank you for your valuable time Dr. Moosakhani.



# Pollution Risk for Olympic Events

Olympic chief Jacques Rogge says air pollution could lead to some events at the 2008 Olympics being postponed.

Speaking a year to the day before the start of the Games in Beijing, the president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) said: "It is an option.

"Sports with short durations would not be a problem, but endurance sports like cycling are examples of competitions that might be postponed or delayed."

Billions have been spent in an attempt to reduce pollution without success.

A host of factories have been shut down, while many others have been moved out of town, but non-stop construction and booming car sales have made air quality even worse.

Beijing's filthy air and clogged traffic are known to have

worried Beijing organizers and the IOC for some time, but this is Rogge's strongest statement on the subject.

However, postponing events might not be an option because race schedules have already been decided, according to Wang Junyan, the director of cycling events for the games.

She added: "Rogge's comment reminds us that we have to work harder to fix environmental problems."

Australian Olympic Committee president John Coates has already revealed that the country's athletes won't arrive in Beijing until just before the Games begin next August to avoid possible respiratory problems.

Otherwise, the IOC said the Chinese have laid "strong foundations" for the Games during Rogge's visit to mark one year until the event kicks off.

Sixty three official events are taking place across China to mark the beginning of the countdown to 8 August 2008.



## Iran's Basketball Team Top of Asia



Scoring first at the 24th Asian Basketball Championship, Iran's team paved the way for its presence at the Olympic Games.

According to Ana News Agency, Iran beat Lebanon, 74-69, in the competitions held in Takoshima, Japan, and won the Asian basketball championship.

## The First Day of the World Chess Tournament IAU Wins Two Matches

The professional Iranian chess player, Shojaat Ghane, won two matches in the first day of the tournament held in Greece. According to Anna News Agency, Ghane excelled two Greek players in the first and second rounds and scored two.

Renown chess players from 380 different countries all over the world participated in the competitions in Greece.



**IAU** Kazeroon Branch  
IAU KAZEROON BRANCH



**Conference of  
Veterinary  
Pathology &  
Basic Sciences**

**5<sup>th</sup>**

*14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> nov.*

Kazeroon Branch of the Islamic Azad University is going to hold the first conference of veterinary pathology and basic sciences from the 14th to 16th of November. Articles can cover titles on pathology, parasitology, microbiology, biochemistry, histology, physiology, anatomy, pharmacology, and immunology.

**Abstracts can be sent to <http://www.iauk-vpc.ir> until 23rd of August**

Int'l Affairs Directorate  
**Dr. P. Mahasti**

Editor in Chief  
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Program Officer  
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**Dr. A. Moussavizadeh**  
**M. Setoudeh**  
**H. Shadmani**

No. 75, 4th Golestan, Pasdaran Ave.  
Tehran/IR. Iran  
Tel: (+9821) 22557703  
Fax: (+9821) 22547787  
E-mail: [info@intl.iau.ir](mailto:info@intl.iau.ir)  
website: [www.intl.iau.ir](http://www.intl.iau.ir)