

National Concrete Competition in Tabriz Branch

Dr. Taleb Moradi-Shaghghi, deputy of Development in Tabriz branch of the Islamic Azad University, says: "The 14th national competitions of concrete will be held in this branch on September 29. October 7 is the national day of concrete and in the previous years, this day was designated as the time for holding the Conference of Concrete and commemoration of Mr. Hami. The following organizations helped the event: Iran's Concrete Congregation; ministry of Roads and Urban Development, ministry of Power, ministry of Affairs, Research Association of Roads, Housing, and Urban Development, Organization of Ports and Maritime, Tehran's Organization of Architecture, the Islamic Azad University; and several other private companies working in the field of concrete and related industries."

He further added: "Concrete competitions are held annually, two weeks prior to the Concrete National Day in one of the universities in the country. This year, Tabriz branch of IAU is chosen as the host of this event. Tabriz branch was one of the first universities in the country to offer the urban development program and its graduates are among the top industrial players. Two scientific lectures and science camps would be held on the sidelines of this event. The registration date ended on Sunday and those interested in these competitions had to visit www.iaui.ir for enrollment."

POINT OF VIEW



Students Cleansed Khazar Beach and Deylaman Site

Female students of Khalkhal, Rasht, Lahijan, and Siahkal branches of the Islamic Azad University cleansed the coastline of Khazar Sea and the tourist site of Deylaman, as a symbolic act and as a part of the national festival of 'Reconciliation with Nature'.

Dr. Teymour Amar, deputy of Culture and Students Affairs in Rasht branch of IAU also the secretariat of this festival, explained about this act which included 50 students and said: "This festival opened up a path for a more efficient interaction between human beings and nature. Our aim was to get the students interested in developing a culture of preserving the environment."

He mentioned that the university's main concern is education and expressed hope that this festival could play a significant role in culturing the students with regards to the nature. Amar invited journalists to broadcast this event and stated: "Such actions will continue every week until the closing part of September. Each week, a team from different branches of IAU will be in charge of this event. Required measures will be taken regarding the cleansing process, and related organizations will be contacted beforehand for the smooth run of the program."

CONTACT US

We welcome your views and memos on the related topics. You can contact us through: english@fdn.ir.

IAU Is Sole Initiator of Freethinking Dialogues



Dr. Mirzadeh was presented with the communication system made by students of Urmia branch

Dr. Hamid Mirzadeh, Chairman of the Islamic Azad University, accompanied by a group of deputies and managers of this organization, has journeyed to the capital of West Azerbaijan province, Urmia, to attend the meeting of IAU's board of trustees in this province. Upon entering Urmia branch, he was welcomed by the officials of this branch and was accompanied on a visit to its incubator center and empowering and applied training center and next he participated in the first meeting of freethinking department held with the presence of university managers and local authorities.

Incubator Center of Urmia Branch

Mirzadeh, during his trip to Urmia, visited the incubator center of IAU's branch in this city. This branch has 15 knowledge companies residing in its incubator center and is focused on different products such as virtual reality chairs, shooting simulator for the air force, also interactional systems. Some other products of this center includes virtual system for

project management, registration system for university and educational institutes, talent finding system, also a translator software which interprets cuneiform texts to four different languages. Students of this branch also presented Dr. Mirzadeh with the package of their produced communication system. In addition to this, IAU's chairman surveyed projects of vaccine production, electronic fender used in different sports and smart irrigation system pursued in this center.

Meeting with Freethinking Scholars

Next, Dr. Mirzadeh attended the first meeting of freethinking department of Urmia branch. In this meeting, Hojatol' Islam Lotfi, director of Freethinking Center of IAU in West Azerbaijan province, appreciated the efforts of this university in creating dialogue between academic circles and promotion of freethinking and said: "The insight of Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani has resulted in wise choices and one of the best examples is the organization of IAU which comes from the people and works for the people."

He referred to the decree of the Supreme Leader regarding more freethinking chairs in the universities and better dialogue among country's elites, adding: "IAU is the only educational organization which has started this desired dialogue. Two years ago, the Council of Religious Freethinking was established with the support of Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Dr. Mirzadeh and up until now, it has done many great deeds. Urmia branch is the only university center which is working on this independently, since 13 of its faculty members signed a petition for establishment of freethinking department with the aim of cultivating this culture with a religious orientation. Accordingly, Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani, head of IAU's founding council and its board of trustees, gave permission for establishment of this department last year and now it is our turn to focus our efforts on this, especially in the form of graduate programs." It should be mentioned that after paying homage to the Unknown Martyrs of Urmia branch, Dr. Mirzadeh and his companions participated in the meeting of IAU's board of trustees in West Azerbaijan.

Iran's News

4 New Bird Species Identified in Gandoman Pond



Amir Farah-Nasab, student of environment course in Science and Research branch of IAU, has successfully identified 4 new bird species after 3 years of diligent observation. He explained his findings: "Tringa glareola is of 20cm height, has greenish yellow feet, spotted underbelly, black cross-shaped spots on the body and black beak; it feeds upon small invertebrates. Acrocephalus melanopogon is found in canebreaks with marshes; the water there is shallow and they build their nests amongst the cranes or small bushes. This species is semi-immigrant and is found abundantly in Iran."

This researcher claimed that Pluvialis apricaria is found on the shores of seas, bays, plowed grounds and farms; in Iran, it is mostly spotted in seaside regions of the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Farah-Nasab maintained that the fourth species, Philomachus pugnax, has been spotted, identified and documented in the past spring and went on: "This species is found close to the inland bodies of water, lake shores and sometimes at bays. They are seen in large groups passing Iran during their migration and a small number of them spend winter in the southwest of Iran."

IAU's Priority: Motivation for Creating Opportunity



Second meeting of Entrepreneur Women of Kermanshah, Kordestan, Lorestan, Hamedan, and Ilam, was held in Kermanshah branch of IAU. Nozar Qanbari, director of this branch, and Sharifeh Haqshenas, general manager of Women and Family Affairs and also director of Entrepreneur Women in Kermanshah, attended this meeting. In the beginning of this meeting, Qanbari mentioned that education and finding a job are the main objectives of a university when training student. He criticized unreal expectations from IAU regarding admission of students without considering related job opportu-

nities and said: "Students should learn that they need to create opportunity, not just waiting for it to be handed down." He said that creating job opportunities is one of the most important issues of the country and continued: "Many people criticize universities on the ground of admitting students while there is a widespread lack of working positions. We should not forget that university is not responsible for finding job for the students and instead, it should create motivation and initiative for work among them. If this is done correctly, students would be able to create opportunities for themselves and others as well."



CHANCELLOR OF IRAQ'S PARLIAMENT MET WITH AYATOLLAH HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI, HEAD OF IRAN'S EXPEDIENCY DISCERNMENT COUNCIL.

NEWS PHOTOS

IRAN UPDATES

Iran Showcases Defense Achievements

Iran's President, Hassan Rouhani, has paid a visit to an exhibition of the defense ministry showcasing the latest achievements in the air defense industry. On the occasion of National Day of Defense Industry, Rouhani, accompanied by defense minister, Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan, visited the exhibition at the Iran Aviation Industries Organization (IAIO). During the event, the organization's latest achievements in air defense technology, including fighter and transport aircraft, helicopters as well as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) were put on display. The president was also briefed on the progress in the designing and manufacturing of the first national Turbojet engine. He further visited different sectors involved in the production of the long-range Bavar-373 air defense system, which has been designed and constructed by Defense Ministry.

Zarif Starts Tour of Latin America

Iranian Foreign Minister, Mohammad-Javad Zarif, has embarked on a six-nation tour of Latin America at the head of a high-ranking politico-economic delegation. On Sunday morning, Zarif left Tehran for Cuba as the first leg of his official visit to Latin America. After a working day, the Iranian top diplomat will travel to Nicaragua to discuss the promotion of economic cooperation with senior leaders and officials in this Central American country. Zarif will then visit Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia and Venezuela, where he is scheduled to sit for talks with high-ranking officials and take part in joint economic seminars. The foreign minister's trip to Chile comes a few months after the reopening of the South American state's embassy in Tehran 37 years following the Islamic Revolution in 1979.

Acclaimed Chilean Filmmaker to Attend Festival in Iran

Chilean film director, screenwriter and film producer, Miguel Ernesto Littin Cucumides, is scheduled to take part in the third round of Ammar International Popular Film Festival in the Iranian capital city of Tehran later this month. According to a report carried by the official website of the festival, the 74-year-old figure will be among the distinguished guests invited to this three-day cultural event. Littin is globally renowned as one of the most prominent personalities of the New Latin American cinema. He directed what is regarded as the most popular Chilean film of all time in 1969. The Ammar International Popular Film Festival (APFF) will kick off on August 24 and will run until August 26. More than 5,000 films from 129 countries have reportedly been submitted to the secretariat of the festival, marking a record-breaking number.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Environmental Issues on Agenda



Dr. Alireza Amir-Teimuri, director of the Islamic Azad University in Gilan province, attended the 9th meeting of the council of Gilan's IAU hosted by Lahijan branch. In this meeting, he appreciated the efforts of the branches who have taken part in the national festival of 'Reconciliation with Nature' and the activities done regarding this and said: "Considering the undeniable significance of natural resources and environment and the need of applying the experts' perspective, IAU has decided to put the environmental issues on its agenda for further examination."

He also appreciated the recent successes of SAHA network achieved in Gilan and referred to the significance of SAHA throughout the country, adding: "We should focus our resources on empowering this network which is capable of offering specialized services with the use of existing capacities of the provinces. Moreover, we should be able to extend the services to outside demands and satisfying the needs of our society."

Amir-Teimuri stated: "Thanks to the efforts of our colleagues in Gilan, IAU's position have improved and upon entering the era of quality-oriented publicity, we should develop our incubator centers besides supplying for Gilan's demands through encouraging knowledge activities among the students and professors. The education deputies of the province should work on recording the complete information regarding tenured, part-time and tuition-based faculty members in a timely manner so the probable problems could be prevented."

Dr. Shahab Shariati, secretariat to the board of trustees of Gilan's IAU, pointed to the tourism sector of this province and said: "Considering the unique and scenic environment of Gilan, we could take advantage of this capacity and in case of having necessary facilities and equipment, IAU's academic branches in this province could operate in the tourism sector."