We are not unaware of each other.
Two Afghan Women Conquer Shah Foladi Peak in Bamiyan

Two Afghan female climbers Tamanna Jahan and Nazima Khairzad have climbed Shah Foladi, the highest peak in the Koh-e-Baba mountains of Bamiyan province on Tuesday.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the female climbers started training a year ago with a mountain climbing team called “Peak”, according to a statement.

The team made several attempts in recent years to climb Shah Foladi but failed, the report said.

“This time these two young women and six other male mountain climbers, from Ghani, Badakhshan, Kabul and Bamiyan, led by Sayed Alishah Farhang, technical head, and Mohammad Hussain Yasa, the team’s founder, climbed Shah Foladi.”

On Wednesday, the team met with deputy governor of Bamiyan, Atiqullah Atiq. At the meeting, Atiqullah Atiq described the successful summit of the female mountaineers as an important achievement in the field of mountaineering in Afghanistan.

Afghan Screenwriter to Head Stockholm Film Festival Jury

Sahra Karimi, film director (“Hava, Maryam, Ayehsa”) and head of the Afghan Film Organization, has been named as head of the jury at the next edition of the Stockholm International Film Festival.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the festival’s 32nd edition will run Nov. 10-21, 2021 in the Swedish capital. It expects to put on 100 film premieres in both cinemas and online via Festival on Demand.

The jury will decide the winner of the Bronze Horse for best film, and Aluminium horses for best director, first film, cinematography, script, actor and actress.

Sahra Karimi is an Afghan screenwriter born in Tehran and originally from Kabul, Afghanistan. Her father is from old Urzgan, the new Daykundi Province, and her mother is from Badakhshan.

“Shamila Shirzad” in the cast of “Bal’”

“Shamila Shirzad” joined the “Bal’” project directed by Hossein Torkjoosh.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting FIlm2, “Shamila Shirzad”, a young Afghan actress who made a name for herself for playing in the movie “Sun” directed by “Majid Majidi”, recently played in the short movie “Bal’” directed by Hossein Torkjoosh.

Hossein Torkjoosh was awarded the International Astronomy Association’s competition.

Two Afghan Photographers Win Shah Marai Award in Paris

Two Afghan photographer, Mohammad Ismail and Mohammad Aref Karimi, win Shah Marai Award in Paris.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Mohammad Ismail, 41, a photographer at the Reuters news agency in Kabul, and Mohammad Aref Karimi, a photojournalist for Agence France-Presse in Herat, won the third round of the awards, according to this year’s judges of the Shah Marai Awards Foundation in France.

The winner picture which is taken by Mohammad Ismail portrays a young man who is training to swim with his legs amputated. The winner of the photo story group is 35-year-old Mohammad Aref Karimi, who works for AFP in Herat. He won this round of the Shah Marai Photography Foundation Awards for his portrayal of silk production in his native province.

The award, entitled “My Afghanistan”, was launched in honor of Shah Marai, chief photographer of Agence France-Presse’s Kabul bureau, who was killed in a suicide attack on April 30, 2018. This year’s jury consisted of Lyse Doucet, BBC correspondent, Massoud Hossein, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer and Kabul-based veteran journalist, and Ami Vitale, a National Geographic photographer.

Asia Nansen Refugee Award for Afghan Sports Coach

Rozma Ghafouri from Turkmenistan is among four other regional winners worldwide who are being celebrated for this year’s Nansen Refugee Award for their humanitarianism and efforts to improve the lives of forcibly displaced people.

Nansen was a renowned scientist, polymath and statesman, and was known for his perseverance in the face of adversity. The annual humanitarian prize seeks to shed light on and honour heroes within our communities who go above and beyond the call of duty to help refugees, displaced or stateless people.

The Herat-educated girls competed in the global star competition

A group of female students in Herat province has won the International Astronomy Association’s competition.

The group, known as “Kayhan”, was able to be among the top five groups in the world, and the group was awarded the prize.

The Herat City to be Listed as UNESCO World Heritage Site

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has accepted a request by the Afghan government to include the western city of Herat among world cultural heritage sites.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the city of Herat, with many historical sites and heritage, especially from the Islamic period, has always been one of the main destinations for foreign tourists in Afghanistan.

Over the past two decades, renovation work has been done on a series of sites in Herat with the help of the Aga Khan Foundation. There are several prominent sites in the city, including the shrine of saint Khawja Abdullah Ansari, also known as Qal’ah-i Khairzad Fort. The recognition of Herat city by UNESCO will further add to the cultural importance of the city.
Pakistan and Azerbaijan: Symbol of Unity and Brotherhood

Elvin Ismailov, a graduate of BHOS Petroleum Engineering Department from Azerbaijan and Masoumeh Rizji a junior student of the same department who is originally from Pakistan have got married.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, head of the General Union of Azerbaijani Journalists Ayaz Mirzayev wrote on Twitter: “This is a symbol of the unity of people with common religions and traditions. We wholeheartedly congratulate the newly married couple and wish them a life full of love, health and happiness.”

Azerbaijani artisans reveal the secrets of how to make the iconic kelaghayi head scarf

The historic city of Sheki on the Silk Road in Azerbaijan has long been a center of silk production. And it is especially famous for its head scarves, called kelaghayi. Its manufacture is a meticulous process that requires skill and a lot of raw material.

Kelaghayi motifs are made with wooden stamps called gahlb and are made with pears, walnuts, and wild apples. Although the fashions always change, the patterns have remained intact for centuries. The motifs are inspired by plants and geometric shapes, the ‘parsley’ design being especially popular.

In 2014, UNESCO recognized the importance of the beautiful and yet practical Kelaghayi by including them on its list of intangible cultural heritage of humanity.

Azerbaijani poets’ poetry published in three languages in Bishkek

Seven Beauties Music Project Released

In the press conference of the second part of the collection of Seven Beauties Music Projects sung by Alim Qasimov from the Republic of Azerbaijan and Shoab Shahabi from Iran entitled “Invisible Mirror” the participants provide explanations about the two-year gap in introducing this project. It was also announced at the meeting that the pieces of this album will be released in short periods of time on different occasions.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting ISNA News Agency, the music project “The Seven Beauties” started in 2016 with the cooperation of five countries; France, Canada, Azerbaijan, Turkey and Iran, under the management of the Institute of Contemporary Arts of the Middle East and Europe (SAPEM Institute).

The project is based on the poems of the Iranian poet Nizami Ganjavi, which is a combination of electronic and acoustic sounds and instruments and has been performed in five languages including French, Azerbaijani, Turkish, Arabic, Kurdish and Persian.

Azerbaijan Pays Tribute to Maestro Farhad Fakhreddini

National Academy of the Republic of Azerbaijan honored maestro Farhad Fakhreddini in an online seminar for his lifetime achievements in Iranian music.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting International Service of the Radio News Agency from Baku, a seminar was held at the Academy of Music of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Baku to honor maestro Farhad Fakhreddini, Iranian great composer and the former conductor of the National Orchestra of Iran.

At the seminar which was held online, 25 musicians from the universities of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Iran’s cultural Attaché to the Republic of Azerbaijan were participated to pay tribute to the great Iranian musician.

Pakistan Ali Alizadeh also expressed happiness on this auspicious marriage of a Pakistani girl and an Azerbaijani boy in his tweet and said: “I wish them continuous health and happiness”.

Azerbaijan was represented at international festival with film “Girmizi” (“Red”)

The XXVI Samara International Festival “Kino-detvam” ("Kino-servus") will be held on September 19-24, Azerbaijan Union of Filmmakers (AUF) told Report.az.

Azerbaijan participated in the festival with the film “Red” (“Girmizi”) of a member of the Board of AUF, director Tahir Tahirovich.

The film “Red” tells about a schoolgirl from a remote mountain village, whose parents divorced. The girl dreams of walking along the muddy country roads in new red shoes.

Russia, Belarus, Norway, Sweden, Italy, and the Republic of Korea are also represented with their films.

Gabala Music Festival marks the 100th anniversary of the Baku Music Academy

Baku Paid Tribute to Ferdowski

To mark the preservation of Persian language and the commemoration of Ferdowski a webinar was held with the presence of a group of Persian language learners and Persian language and literature enthusiasts of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting the public relations of the Organization of Islamic Culture and Communication, Ghorban-Al. Pourmarjan, Iranian cultural Attaché in Baku, Massoud Hasani, from the Saadi Foundation and Ms. Alizadeh, professor at Baku University and lecturer in Persian courses delivered speeches on Persian language and Ferdowski’s role on maintaining the status of Persian language.

At the end of the webinar, poems by Ferdowski, Khayyam and Saadi were recited.

Classic cars drive to the streets of Baku

The old and classic cars in the Republic of Azerbaijan, in addition to their special beauty, also have an economic aspect for their owners.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting the International Service of IRIB in Baku, Classic and old cars have special fans in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

About 70% of the 1.5 million cars of the Republic of Azerbaijan travel to Baku, and some of them are classic cars.

Classic cars in the Republic of Azerbaijan have an association. The members of the association get together every year and showcase their cars, but the gathering had not been held for two years due to Coronavirus pandemic.

Azerbaijani Movies Introduced in Moscow

Vichir Institute (Sham) was established to introduce the history, culture and art of the people of the East.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting day.az, Vichir Institute has screened films by famous directors from Asia, the Caucasus and Africa in several venues in Moscow. The film “Dashti”, by Azerbaijani director Shamil Aliyev was demonstrated at the Nikersov Library in the Russian capital last week.

According to Alice Orchuk, one of the organizers of the project, the screening of the film represented the Turkish cinema to the audiences. Azerbaijani cinema is rich in its traditions which began to flourish in the 1970s. Russian audiences will be acquainted with the works of other Azerbaijani directors in the coming days.

Baku International Music Festival is an annual open-air festival of classical music held every summer since 2009 in Gabala. Talented musicians from all over the world, world-known symphonic and philharmonic orchestras take part in the festival.

In 2016, the festival was held at the Gabala State Philharmonic Hall.

Gabala Music Festival marks the 100th anniversary of the Baku Music Academy

The 12th Gabala International Music Festival is coming back with spectacular concerts. The festival will see some of the most talented musicians from July 31 to August 4.

The festival will see some of the most talented musicians from July 31 to August 4. The large-scale event is dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Baku Music Academy. The 12th Gabala International Music Festival will close with a grand concert program called “Viva Opera” on August 4.

Gabala International Music Festival is an annual open-air festival of classical music held every summer since 2009 in Gabala. Talented musicians from all over the world, world-known symphonic and philharmonic orchestras take part in the festival.
Two Iranian galleries displaying artworks at Armony Show 2021

Works by two Iranian artists were showcased during Armony Show 2021 in New York City. According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Two Iranian galleries, Dastan and Saradipour Art Gallery, are showcasing artworks at the Presents Section of The Armony Show 2021 in New York City. Dastan Gallery and Saradipour Art Gallery feature the works by Meqdad Lorpour and Moslem Kherzie, respectively. At the Presents Section, galleries founded within the past ten years present solo or dual-artist shows. The 157 exhibitors at the Javits Center are divided into sections: The presentations in Focus, curated by Wassan al-Khaldi, of the Contemporary Art Museum in St. Louis, are more topical; Presents includes younger galleries; Solo is for single-artist presentations; and Galleries includes larger names.

The book “Iranian and Japanese Cinema” published

The book “Iranian and Japanese Cinema” by Qudratullah Zakeri, a scholar of Japanese studies, was published in four chapters and 335 pages in cooperation with the Al-Huda International Institute of Culture, Arts and Publications. According to the Public Relations Department of Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO), the book “Iranian and Japanese Cinema” was commissioned by the Iranian Cultural Mission in Japan and written by Qudratullah Zakeri.

Iranian short film “Extra Sauce” wins Best Cinematography Award at Italian festival

Iranian short film “Extra Sauce” directed by Alireza Ghasemi won the Best Cinematography Award at the 18th edition of the Francesca Pannini Film Festival in Italy. According to the ECO Cultural Institute quoting ISNA, a co-production of Iran and Germany, “Extra Sauce” is about Hans, a mediocre heartbroken actor, who is greeted by an angel of Death after attempting to take his life an hour before his play’s premiere. A sarcastic dark humor conversation begins as Hans tries to convince the Angel that he should be brought back to the world of the living while the Angel enjoys delicious cheeseburgers and lemonade and gives the actor relationship advice. “Extra Sauce” has already won best screenplay and best actor awards at Canberra Short Film Festival in Australia, and received an honorary mention for “Best Short – Comedy” at Queen Palm International Film Festival.

“White Clad” to represent Iran in 2022 Oscars

An Iranian short film “White Clad” by Reza Fahimi will be Iran’s representative in the 94th Oscars ceremony slated for March 2022. White Clad was the winner of grand prize at the 37th Tehran International Short Film Festival last year. Also, Khoshrud (The Sun) by famous Iranian director Majid Majidi was among the 15 international short films introduced to the 93rd Oscars ceremony in 2021. White Clad tells a story about an old woman who gives some cheese to Ahmad, a ten-year-old boy, and asks him to give it to his father; the cheese which carries a message.

Exhibition on 50-year metalworking kicks off

The exhibition metalworking masterpieces made by prestigious Iranian artists was opened in the traditional Historical Tower of Khorasan, Khajeh Nasir al-Din al-Tusi. According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting public relations of the Organization of Islamic Culture and Handicrafts, The 157 exhibitors at the Javits Center are divided into sections: The presentations in Focus, curated by Wassan al-Khaldi, of the Contemporary Art Museum in St. Louis, are more topical; Presents includes younger galleries; Solo is for single-artist presentations; and Galleries includes larger names.

Photo Exhibition “Isfahan Nesf-e Jahan in Thirty Frames” opened in St. Petersburg

In an attempt made by the Cultural Attaché of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Russian Federation, the exhibition “Isfahan Nesf-e Jahan in Thirty Frames” was opened at the Tsarskoye Selo State Museum in Pushkin district of St. Petersburg, Russia.

Ardabil artists judge for the ANIMAFILM International Animation Festival

The Head of Visual Arts of Ardabil Art Center (Hozeh Honari) said: Mehdi Khoroshi and Maryam Rouхbaksh, both animators from Ardabil province, were selected as the judges of the Fourth ANIMAFILM International Animation Festival in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

International distribution of an Iranian film by an American company

An American company undertook the international distribution of the Iranian movie “Ablahgh” directed by Narges Abyar.

Communication, photo exhibition “Isfahan Nesf-e Jahan in Thirty Frames” with the theme “The Glory of Iranian Architecture” was inaugurated with the presence of Masoud Ahmadvand, Cultural Attaché of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Russian Federation, Olga Taratynova, Director of Tsarskoye Selo State Museum, Narges Ahmadova, Secretary of the Iran-St. Petersburg Friendship Association, and a group of intellectuals and art lovers at Tsarskoye Selo State Museum in the Pushkin district of St. Petersburg, Russia.

Internationalized mounted archery competitions started on Sunday, hosted by Iranmehr Equestrian Club, Chaharbagh city, Alborz province, Iran.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting IRNA, athletes from Poland, Hungary, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Qatar, Jordan, Oman, Syria, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, South Africa, Iran and Pakistan are participating in the competition.

Radkan Tower, a historical masterpiece of the Iranian chronologies

The Radkan Historical Tower is a masterpiece of the great mathematician, astronomer and scientist of Khurasan, Khajeh Nasir al-Din al-Tusi. According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting Iran Press News Agency, Radkan Tower was built in the seventh century, in 660 AH, at the same time as the construction of the Maragheh Observatory was completed. Radkan Historical Tower is the only tower that has the ability to determine the four seasons, spring and autumn equinox, leap year and the beginning of Nowruz. Khajeh Nasir al-Din al-Tusi is said to have calculated the distance from the earth to the moon with the help of the Radkan tower and the Akhangan tower.

Abraham’s Tower, a historical masterpiece of the Iranian chronologies

The Radkan Historical Tower is a masterpiece of the great mathematician, astronomer and scientist of Khurasan, Khajeh Nasir al-Din al-Tusi. According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting Iran Press News Agency, Radkan Tower was built in the seventh century, in 660 AH, at the same time as the construction of the Maragheh Observatory was completed. Radkan Historical Tower is the only tower that has the ability to determine the four seasons, spring and autumn equinox, leap year and the beginning of Nowruz. Khajeh Nasir al-Din al-Tusi is said to have calculated the distance from the earth to the moon with the help of the Radkan tower and the Akhangan tower.

“Ablahgh” was screened for the first time at the 39th Fajr Film Festival and won the Crystal Simorgh as the Audience Award, the best supporting actress with Gloria Abbasi, the best make-up and the best special visual effects.

“White Clad” to represent Iran in 2022 Oscars

An Iranian short film “White Clad” by Reza Fahimi will be Iran’s representative in the 94th Oscars ceremony slated for March 2022. White Clad was the winner of grand prize at the 37th Tehran International Short Film Festival last year. Also, Khoshrud (The Sun) by famous Iranian director Majid Majidi was among the 15 international short films introduced to the 93rd Oscars ceremony in 2021. White Clad tells a story about an old woman who gives some cheese to Ahmad, a ten-year-old boy, and asks him to give it to his father; the cheese which carries a message.

Exhibition on 50-year metalworking kicks off

The exhibition metalworking masterpieces made by prestigious Iranian artists was opened in the traditional Historical Tower of Khorasan, Khajeh Nasir al-Din al-Tusi. According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting public relations of the Organization of Islamic Culture and Handicrafts, The 157 exhibitors at the Javits Center are divided into sections: The presentations in Focus, curated by Wassan al-Khaldi, of the Contemporary Art Museum in St. Louis, are more topical; Presents includes younger galleries; Solo is for single-artist presentations; and Galleries includes larger names.

Photo Exhibition “Isfahan Nesf-e Jahan in Thirty Frames” opened in St. Petersburg

In an attempt made by the Cultural Attaché of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Russian Federation, the exhibition “Isfahan Nesf-e Jahan in Thirty Frames” was opened at the Tsarskoye Selo State Museum in Pushkin district of St. Petersburg, Russia.

Ardabil artists judge for the ANIMAFILM International Animation Festival

The Head of Visual Arts of Ardabil Art Center (Hozeh Honari) said: Mehdi Khoroshi and Maryam Rouхbaksh, both animators from Ardabil province, were selected as the judges of the Fourth ANIMAFILM International Animation Festival in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

International distribution of an Iranian film by an American company

An American company undertook the international distribution of the Iranian movie “Ablahgh” directed by Narges Abyar.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting public relations of the project, Outsider Pictures took over the international distribution of the movie “Ablahgh” directed by Narges Abyar and produced by Mohammad Hossein Ghasemi.

The company, which is part of the American film industry, releases six to eight films a year and buys only three to four films for international distribution. The company’s products have been screened at major festivals such as Cannes, Venice, Berlin, Toronto, San Diego, Sundance and many other major international festivals since its inception in 2005.
**Kazakh-Swiss diplomatic ties boosted**

Kazakhstan-Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis and his counterpart from Kazakhstan, Mukhtar Tileuberdi, have signed accords on diplomatic staff.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis and his counterpart from Kazakhstan, Mukhtar Tileuberdi, have signed accords on diplomatic staff. They also discussed bilateral issues, including long standing cooperation in their common voting constituencies of the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund IMF.

**Akmo, the Artist Who Found Her Voice in Dubai**

Kazakhstan-Akmo is a 24-year-old artist and entrepreneur.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, She was exposed to different forms of art: “painting, pottery and singing” at an early age in her home country, Kyrgyzstan. She told Euronews that “in the late 90s, they used to turn off the lights at 11 pm, I would be in the garage with my dad and my dad would play the guitar and I would sing along.”

Every time she passed by the local conservatoire, she would “stand there and watch the artists”. Later, she attended an international vocal contest in Asia and won a special artist award, and that is how she got admitted to a conservatoire.

Akmo had to take a break from her studies to work and support her family. She moved to Dubai at the age of 18 with plans to stay for a year, adding “when I moved to Dubai and I actually started working and exchanging experiences with other artists from different countries, I noticed that I am learning much more here than back in school. That’s when I realized, I am in the right place, I could open up my potential here.”

After teaching music for three years, she started her singing career in several venues in Dubai including the Burj Khalifa. “I performed for celebrities like Hugh Jackman and for other sports and music stars” she said.

**Kazakh President appoints New Minister of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources**

President of Kazakhstan, appoints Serikkali Brekeshev as the new Minister of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting Fars News Agency in Dushanbe, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, President of Kazakhstan, signed a decree appointing Serikkali Brekeshev as the new Minister of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources.

**Podcast of Iranian poet Shahriar’s biography in Kazakh language released**

Islamic Republic of Iran’s Cultural Counsellorship in Kazakhstan displayed a podcast of the biography of the renowned Iranian poet Seyyed Mohammad Hossein Shahriyar on the occasion of Persian Poetry and Literature Day in Iran.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting the Public Relations of Islamic Culture and Relations Organization, Shahriyar, a famous Iranian poet, wrote poems in various forms of Qisas, Masnavi, etc but rose to fame for his four-volume poetry collection titled “Divan Ghazaliat” in Persian and Hafez’s poetry, in Arzui.

The Cultural Counselor of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kazakhstan published a podcast of the biography of Professor Seyyed Mohammad Hossein Shahriyar on the occasion of the anniversary of Persian poetry and literature and to keep alive the memory, name and memory of this famous poet.

The podcast has been published on social media such as Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and VeKa.

**AKF Senior and Cadet, Junior & U21 Championships move to Kazakhstan**


Both events move to Kazakhstan as the championships were unable to be organized in the previously announced venue of Kuwait, the Asian Karate Federation announced. The tournaments are now scheduled for December 19 to 22, 2021.

**Book by Kazakh Writer Published in Iran**

The book “Shining a Light on Awareness”, written by Dourbek Duysiboy, a Kazakh writer and diplomat, was published in Kazakh in 100 copies by the Kohan Publications in Tehran.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the book is a collection of poems translated into Kazakh by Persian-speaking authors that are being published in Kazakh for the first time.

Dourbek Duysiboy has translated poems from Rudaki, Saadi, Khayyam, Rumi, Hafez and Parvin E’tesami into Kazakh. It should be noted that in recent years, Persian poems have been translated from Russian to Kazakh, but this time they are translated from the original language.

In the other part, the book provides articles of Kazakh researches on orthography and useful expressions in Kazakh, the position of the mother, the history of the Kazakh steppes and the revival of spirituality.

**Images from Ancient to Contemporary Iran in Kazakhstan displayed in virtual exhibition**

Images from Ancient to Contemporary Iran including historical monuments, architecture, customs, celebrities and national traditions of Iran were exhibited in cooperation with the Embassy and Cultural Counsellorship of Iran in Kazakhstan.

The Central National Museum of Kazakhstan, in cooperation with the Embassy and Cultural Counselor of the Islamic Republic of Iran, displayed the position of the mother, the history of the Kazakh steppes and the revival of spirituality.

**Introduction of Kazakh music in Argentina by Dimash Kudaibergen**

Kazakh culture and art will be introduced for the first time in one of the major festivals in Argentina. The Septiembre Musical Festival has been held in the Tucuman province of Argentina since 1960 and it has always been warmly welcomed with the participation of world-famous artists.

This year’s festival, which runs from September 3rd to 30th, will feature “Zamin Turan” and “Samalain” songs to be performed by the renowned Kazakh singer Dimash Kudaibergen.

Republic of Iran in Kazakhstan, organized a virtual exhibition entitled “Iran: History, Cultural Traditions and Modernity,” according to the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization. In this exhibition, images from ancient to contemporary Iran were on display and photos to introduce various beautiful attractions of Iran in Kazakh language were screened for the visitors.

This exhibition was set up to introduce the culture and civilization of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Kazakh people.

**Asia weightlifting champion dies aged 25**

Kazakh weightlifter Albert Linder passed away Friday, reported the press service of the Weightlifting Federation of Kazakhstan.

The cause of death of the 25-year-old athlete is not reported. Linder was a multiple weightlifting champion of Kazakhstan and had also won a gold medal at Asian Championships.
Kyrgyzstan Participates in Uzbekistan Cultural Heritage Week

Representatives of Kyrgyzstan will take part in the Central Asia International Forum at the Crossroads of World Civilizations in Tashkent.

The Kyrgyz delegation, led by Kyrgyz Minister of Culture, Information and Tourism of Kyrgyzstan, Kairat Imamaliyev, is taking part in the International Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations”, according to the ECO Cultural Institute.

The event is part of Uzbekistan Cultural Heritage Week. The Kyrgyz delegation will be accompanied by Begi Jan Akhmedov, PhD and member of the Writers’ Union of Kyrgyzstan.

Kyrgyz Parliament Expands Cooperation with UN

The Speaker of the Kyrgyz Parliament met with the UN Permanent Representative to the country and stressed the importance of developing parliamentary relations and cooperation.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting Fars News Agency in Bishkek, the 16th Ecotourism and Sustainable Tourism Conference in Turkey.

In order to promote economic diplomacy, Kyrgyzstan’s Ambassador to Ankara attended the 16th Ecotourism and Sustainable Tourism Conference in Turkey.

Kyrgyz Parliament Expands Cooperation with UN

The event was held at the Al-Azhar National Historical and Memorial Complex, with the participation of Kyrgyz Parliament Speaker Talant Mamyrov, Prime Minister Ulugh Beg Marufov, Kyrgyz Supreme Court President Nurgul Bagirov, Roza Otunbayeva and Kyrgyz President Sooronbay Jeenbekov.

Belarus to Host Kyrgyz Film Week

Days of Kyrgyz Cinema will be held in Minsk at the Belarus cinema from 9 to 11 April.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting http://kabar.kg/, the opening ceremony of Kyrgyz Film Week was organized.

Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan to the State of Kuwait asked the Kyrgyz delegation to be accompanied by Begi Jan Akhmedov, PhD and member of the Writers’ Union of Kyrgyzstan.

Kyrgyz Parliament Expands Cooperation with UN

At the opening of the meeting, Otunbayeva showed a video on the situation and potential of tourism and ecotourism in Kyrgyzstan, showing examples such as cycling, hiking and mountaineering, ski, jilu-tourism and medical tourism.

According to international experts’ assessments for 2019, 2020 and 2021, Kyrgyzstan is among the top 10 countries on the ecotourism list.

At the opening of the meeting, the sides expressed satisfaction with the achieved level of mutual cooperation between the two countries, agreeing on the need for joint work to improve cooperation in the future.

Kyrgyzstan, Kuwait intend to increase cooperation in future

Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan to the State of Kuwait has been discussing the extension of the visa-free stay of Kyrgyz citizens to 180 days.

During the meeting, Maripov expressed gratitude for the active work of Kuwaiti funds in implementing projects aimed at strengthening the country’s social infrastructure: the construction of social townships, hospitals, rural medical stations and educational institutions.

Along with this, an exchange of views took place on increasing the efficiency of charitable foundations and the importance of coordinating their work with state programs and social needs of the country.

At the end of the meeting, the sides expressed satisfaction with the achieved level of mutual cooperation between the two countries, agreeing on the need for joint work to increase cooperation in the future.

Kyrgyzstan Introduces Visa-Free Regime for Citizens of Nine More States

Kyrgyzstan introduces a visa-free regime for citizens of nine more countries. The corresponding bill is considered at the meeting of the Parliament in the first reading.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, “citizens of Albania, Bulgaria, Vietnam, Israel, Macedonia, Cyprus, Mexico, Romania and Thailand will be able to stay in Kyrgyzstan without a visa for up to 60 days”, Kyrgyz Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Aziz Madmarov said.

”The purpose of introduction of the visa-free regime for citizens of these states is to develop tourism, attract investments, since Kyrgyzstan is on the list of countries in need of them,” he said.

Earlier, Kyrgyzstan introduced a visa-free regime with 52 countries until 2025.

180 days visa-free stay in Turkey for the Kyrgyz

At the 10th meeting of the Kyrgyz-Turkish State Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, the extension of the visa-free stay of Kyrgyz citizens to 180 days was discussed.

Ulukbek Maripov, the Chairman of Kyrgyzstan’s Cabinet and Turkish Vice President Fuat Oktay attend the 10th meeting of the intergovernmental commission on trade and economic cooperation.

The ECO Cultural Institute reported quoting Fars News Agency office in Bishkek. At the meeting, the sides discussed extending the visa-free stay of Kyrgyz citizens to 180 days.

“Another important achievement in the health sector is the free treatment of 150 Kyrgyz patients a year in Turkish hospitals,” Maripov told in a news conference.

Kyrgyzstan, Sediyev, professor at the International University of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, and Bakit Amanbayev, head of the Cultural Heritage Research Institute at the Kyrgyz National Academy of Sciences.

It should be noted that the 5th Congress of the World Association for the Study, Preservation and Dissemination of Uzbek Cultural Heritage “Uzbek Cultural Heritage - Foundation of the New Renaissance” will be held from 13 to 21 September.

The congress will be attended by more than 350 scholars from 46 countries - leading orientalists, Quranologists, experts, researchers, experts in manuscripts and miniatures, and representatives of foreign and local media.

Vol 2, No. 10 & 11, December 2021
www.ececo.org
Kygzyzstan
President Zhaparov’s Address on Anniversary of People’s April Revolution

Kyrgyz President commemorates heroes killed in April 2010 uprising.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting Fars News Agency, resident of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Zhaparov made an address to Kyrgyz people on the occasion of anniversary of the People’s April Revolution.

In his address, the Kyrgyz leader noted that this year celebrates the 11th anniversary of the April Revolution. He said that on this day, the people of Kyrgyzstan were able to show the world that they are an active participant in the historical process and a true source of power.

The Day of the People’s April Revolution is a national holiday in Kyrgyzstan that commemorates the Kyrgyz Revolution of 2010.

Demonstration of Kyrgyzstan’s tourism potential in Turkey

The Kyrgyz ambassador to Ankara attended the 16th Ecotourism and Sustainable Tourism Conference in Turkey.

Kyrgyzstan Participates in Uzbekistan Cultural Heritage Week

The Kyrgyz delegation will be accompanied by Begi Jan Akhmedov, PhD and member of the Writers’ Union of Kyrgyzstan.

Kyrgyz parliament, Sediyev, professor at the International University of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, and Bakit Amanbayev, head of the Cultural Heritage Research Institute at the Kyrgyz National Academy of Sciences.

It should be noted that the 5th Congress of the World Association for the Study, Preservation and Dissemination of Uzbek Cultural Heritage “Uzbek Cultural Heritage - Foundation of the New Renaissance” will be held from 13 to 21 September.

The congress will be attended by more than 350 scholars from 46 countries - leading orientalists, Quranologists, experts, researchers, experts in manuscripts and miniatures, and representatives of foreign and local media.
ECO Cultural Institute Celebrates International Nowruz Festival

O Cultural Institute held the celebration of “Nowruz, an Occasion for Solidarity” to mark the arrival of spring and to promote solidarity and friendship among the peoples of the ECO region.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, in the international event held in ECI with the presence of Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, President of the Academy of Persian Language and Literature, Ambassadors of Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Pakistan; and a group of ambassadors and diplomats from other countries.

Sarvar Bakhti, the President of the ECO Cultural Institute, in his welcoming speech addressed the participants and said: “The emergence of Nowruz has always been tied with traditions and one thing that is common is that Nowruz is a symbol for great change and the victory of light over darkness.”

ECO Cultural Institute Holds Hafez Diplomatic Poetry Night

To mark the commemoration of Hafez, the first diplomatic Poetry Night of Hafez the messenger of peace and friendship in the world was held by the ECO Cultural Institute on Tuesday evening, October 12, 2021, with the presence of ambassadors, diplomats, cultural and artistic figures and high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, in the ceremony led by Ali Asa, a prominent Iranian poet, Mr. Sarvar Bakhti, president of this international organization, welcomed the participants and expressed hope that holding friendship evenings to commemorate great figures like Hafez would help to promote peace and friendship among the ECO member countries.

Announced in the international celebration of “Nowruz, an Occasion for Solidarity”:

ECO Cultural Institute

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, in the meeting that was held in Iran’s Ministry of Sports and Youth, Sarvar Bakhti, while expressing satisfaction with the meeting of the Minister of Sports and Youth of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said: “One of the duties of the ECO organization, which has a cultural nature, is to work in the field of sports, and this issue is also mentioned in the organization’s charter and we have planned to focus on during this chapter of ECI activities.”

He added: “Sport is one of the best tools of public diplomacy that can create friendship and fraternity between countries.”

Dr. Seyed Hamid Sajjadi, Minister of Sports and Youth of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while welcoming the views of the president of ECO Cultural Institute, said: “Ministry of Sports and Youth pursues important goals and one of our most important duties is to interact with international organizations on sports and youth.”

He also welcomed the proposal of the president of the ECO Cultural Institute to hold the meeting of the Ministers of Sports and Youth of ECO member countries and zurkhaneh competitions in the region.

ECI Holds Int’l Conference on the Recognition of Avicenna Heritage

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, ECO Cultural Institute in cooperation with Allameh Tabataba’i University held the International Conference on the Recognition of Avicenna Heritage, with the presence of officials, thinkers and university professors, on Monday, August 23, 2021 on the occasion of the legendary Iranian polymath’s birth anniversary and National Doctors’ Day.

After the conference opening remarks made by H.E. Mr. Sarvar Bakhti, President of ECO Cultural Institute, H.E. Dr. Nizomiddin Zohidi, Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan; and H.E. Mr. Bakhodir Abdullaev Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan; Dr. Mohammad-Reza Asadli and Dr. Ismail Shams, Professors of Allameh Tabataba’i’s University, Dr. Ahmad Ghan Hoshrawi, Dean of Faculty of Humanities, Herat University, Afghanistan, Dr. Akbar Orvati Movaffaghi, Professor of Avicenna University in Hamadan, Dr. Nasirdin Shibobudinov, a philosopher from Tajikistan, and Mr. Fakhroddin Ebrahimov, a researcher from Uzbekistan made their speeches and discussed the life and thought of Avicenna, one of the most influential intellectuals in the history of knowledge, wisdom, and culture of the ECO civilization.
Tehran Shah-e-Aftab Int’l Exhibition Center Hosts ECI President

On Sunday, 23 May, 2021, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, met with Mr. Massoud Maleki, the head of the Zurkhaneh and Wrestling Sports Federation at the ECO Cultural Institute, in this meeting, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, congratulated the Republic of Kazakhstan on the anniversary of its independence, calling the country one of the most important ECO member states.

ECI Hosts Event on Kazakhstan’s Achievements in 30 Years of Independence

On Sunday, January 20, 2021, in the Great Museum of Khorasan, at the opening ceremony of “Raqs-e Qalam”, the Int’l Calligraphy Exhibition, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, opened the book “Archeont-Solhi” and unveiled the exhibition of Archeont-Solhi with an opening ceremony that was opened in the Diplomatic Gallery of ECO Cultural Institute with the presence of foreign diplomats and cultural figures and artists of the country.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, at the ceremony, Sarvar Bakhti, President of ECO Cultural Institute, in his remarks emphasized: “The International Day of Peace provides an opportunity to reunite in order to realize the ‘ideal of peace’ and to cooperate to establish a ‘genuine culture of peace.’”

In his part, Mohammad Raouf Ghaderi, referred to the common history of civilization between the countries in the ECO region and said: “The ECO countries are located in one of the most important strategic regions in the world, thus, cultural and economic cooperation between these countries should be further expanded.”

Speaking in the meeting, Ghaderi expressed the center’s complete readiness for all-out cooperation with the ECO Cultural Institute for realizing the cultural economic goals of ECO member states.

ECI Celebrates International Women’s Day

Dr. Ali Ravaghi, a professor at the University of Tehran and Member of the Academy of Persian Sciences of Afghanistan, Dr. Abdul Rauf Rafiqui, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to Iran, called Prof. Habibi “a pioneer in various fields.”

He added: “Wrestling has occupied a prominent place in the history of the region and it is a platform for presenting high human values and a high position among the countries of the ECO region.”

ECI-Tajikistan Embassy to Mark 80th anniversary of Loiq Sherali

Webinar “Khana-e Del” to Mark 80th anniversary of Loiq Sherali (1941-2000), the Tajik folk poet was held by ECO Cultural Institute in cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan in Iran.

During the event, the book “Archeont-Solhi” was unveiled and the exhibition of Archeont-Solhi featuring artworks on theme of peace was opened in the Diplomatic Gallery of ECO Cultural Institute with the presence of foreign diplomats and cultural figures and artists of the country.

On September 19, 2021, ECO Cultural Institute held a ceremony with the participation of diplomats from Tajikistan, Pakistan, Indonesia, Romania, Turkey, Philippines, Slovakia, Mexico and guests from ICOM Iran, Islamic Culture and Communication Organization (ICO) and a group of local and foreign artists to mark the International Day of Peace.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, at the ceremony, Sarvar Bakhti, President of ECO Cultural Institute, congratulated the Republic of Kazakhstan in Tehran and hosted by the ECO Cultural Institute, was held on Sunday, October 17, 2021.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Mr. Sarvar Bakhti, President, ECO Cultural Institute, congratulated the Republic of Kazakhstan on the anniversary of its independence, calling the country one of the most important ECO member states with a long history and civilization. He described this event as an opportunity to increase interactions between the Institute and the country.

Mr. Asok Sharma, Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Islamic Republic of Iran, spoke about some of the achievements of the Republic of Kazakhstan over the past 30 years. Noting that Kazakhstan is a peace-loving country with no enemies in the world, he stressed that the economic success of our government has made it possible to develop other important sectors, including tourism and hosting international global summits.

The Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan said that the city of Noor Sultan, which was built from scratch during the country’s independence, received the title of “City of the World” from UNESCO.

He also referred to the city of Turkestan as the heart of Kazakhstan’s tourism. He referred to the launching of Gorgan - Aktau direct flight as another bridge to expand cooperation between the two countries and wished the brotherly and long-standing relations between the two friendly countries to develop more than before.

ECI Marks International Day of Peace

On September 19, 2021, ECO Cultural Institute held a ceremony with the participation of diplomats from Tajikistan, Pakistan, Indonesia, Romania, Turkey, Philippines, Slovakia, Mexico and guests from ICOM Iran, Islamic Culture and Communication Organization (ICO) and a group of local and foreign artists to mark the International Day of Peace.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, at the ceremony, Sarvar Bakhti, President of ECO Cultural Institute, congratulated the Republic of Kazakhstan in Tehran and hosted by the ECO Cultural Institute, was held on Sunday, October 17, 2021.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, in addition to Sarvar Bakhti, ECI President, and Abdul Ghafor Livad, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to Iran, Prof. Edmund Herzig, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Oxford University, Prof. Habibi Rahaf, Member of the Academy of Sciences, Abdul Rafaif Rafigi, Ambassador of IORBL for Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan & Central Asia, Dr. Ali Ravaghi, Professor at the University of Tehran and Member of the Academy of Persian Language and Literature, Fazel Sharifi, Deputy Mayor of Kabul and Researcher of the Afghan Academy of Sciences, Dr. Ali Mir Ansari, Member of Supreme Scientific Board of The Center for the Great Islamic Encyclopedia delivered speeches in person and virtually.

Wrestling Plays Vital Role in the ECO Region

On Sunday, 23 May, 2021, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, met with Mr. Massoud Maleki, the head of the Zurkhaneh and Wrestling Sports Federation at this international organization.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, in this meeting, while pointing to the importance of sports and its impact on relations between nations in the ECO region, Sarvar Bakhti emphasized: “Sporting events are an opportunity to allow good things happen for the nations.”

He added: “Wrestling has occupied a prominent place in the history of the region and it is a platform for presenting high human values and a high position among the countries of the ECO region.”

Head of the Zurkhaneh and Wrestling Sports Federation at the ECO Cultural Institute, Ghaderi expressed the center’s aim to commemorate the international Day of peace and spoke about the role of art and museums in maintaining world peace.

Ms. Manijeh Mokhtari, Managing Director of the Aghigh Women Entrepreneurs Association, expressed hope that with the support of the President of ECO Cultural Institute in the coming years the exhibition will call out the voice for peace from this area of ancient civilization to the world.

Said Sarvar Bakhti in his statement at the ceremony according to the same report: “We are all proud of Prof. Habibi and we have gathered today to talk about his personality, works, thoughts and contributions.”

ECI President: Art Brings the People of the Region Together

On Sunday, 23 May, 2021, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, at the opening ceremony of “Raqs-e Qalam”, the Int’l Calligraphy Exhibition on Silk Road, which was held on January 20, 2021 in the Great Museum of Khorasan, Mashhad, called the art of calligraphy as a mean to bring the people of the region together.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, at the opening ceremony of “Raqs-e Qalam”, the Int’l Calligraphy Exhibition on Silk Road, which was held on January 20, 2021 in Mashhad, said: “The art of calligraphy has a long history and indicates that the people of this region has a shared history and common cultural heritage. In this speech, Bakhti reaffirmed the role of art in the convergence of nations through holding such prestigious events.”

Calligraphy works by 234 artists from 30 countries were showcased at the Raqs-e Qalam International Exhibition and Conference of the Silk Road Calligraphy, which officially opened on January 20 in the northeastern Iranian city of Mashhad.

The Iranian National Commission for UNESCO was the organizer of the exhibition which was hosted by the Municipality of Mashhad in collaboration with ECO member countries were displayed.
ECI President travels to Sari for expansion of joint cooperation

Prof. Sarvar Bakhti, President of ECO Cultural Institute, traveled to Sari, the provincial capital of Mazandaran Province and during his 2-day visit met with the Governor, Representative of the Iranian Supreme Leader in the city and the Mayor of Sari. In all the meetings, ECI President emphasized on expanding joint cooperation to make the best use of the existing opportunity for promotion of Sari as the ECO tourism capital in 2022.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, over the 2-day trip on 3-4 November 2021, made at the invitation of the Mayor of Sari, ECI President first met with Governor Hossein Zadeegan and Talebi, the mayor of Sari. While appreciating the invitation and hospitality of the esteemed officials of the province, Bakhti said: “The most important purpose of the trip is that Sari tourism would be promoted as a symbol of tourism in the region.”

Sarvar Bakhti also considered Sari 2022 event as the best opportunity for joint cooperation between Iran and ECO countries and added: using this opportunity, the excellent capacities of Mazandaran province and Sari city should be introduced to the ECO countries and the world.

Stating that the features of Mazandaran are well expressed in the poems and stories of Shahnazeh, ECI President said: “With effective cooperation, operative steps can be taken to introduce the tourism and historical capacities of this historical province.”

Hoseinzadeegan, the Governor of Mazandaran, welcomed ECI President and said that the unique attractions of the capital of Mazandaran have been Emphasized that a broader view should be adopted towards Mazandaran and only symbolic programs about its introduction are not enough. Sarvar Bakhti in his second meeting, visited the Mayor of Sari, Javad Talebi in the presence of members of the Islamic City Council of Sari, Mohammad, secretary of the Sari 2022 event and deputy mayors and said: Sari has historical, cultural, natural and tourism potentials that should be introduced to the world.

Parviz Shabani, Chairperson of the Islamic City Council of Sari, welcomed ECI President and said: “Sari, with the diversity of climate and enjoying sea and forest, is full of local customs and rituals that can be represented at Sari 2022 event”.

Seyed Hossein Yousufi, a member of the Islamic City Council of Sari and the head of the cultural commission of the council, also said: Sari 2022 event with a cultural perspective causes unity and cohesion among ECO member countries; using this opportunity, social values, traditions, customs and even the scientific and academic capacities of 10 member countries can be shared.”

ECI - Jundishapur University Ink MoU

A memorandum of understanding was signed between ECO Cultural Institute and Jundishapur University on Thursday, February 11, 2021, in the presence of the heads of these organizations, the designated head of ECO Scientific Foundation, the Governor and the representative of people of Dezful in the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the president of ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, during his speech at the ceremony, said: “I am pleased to visit Dezful and Jundishapur University; the grandeur of the historical, natural and cultural attractions of this ancient city is great”. He also added: “The Memorandum of understanding was signed between ECO Cultural Institute and Jundishapur University of Dezful with the aim of comprehensive cooperation between this university and other universities in ECO member countries.”

According to the same report, Mohammad Reza Assari, the rector of Jundishapur University said at the signing ceremony in the university: “In an oppressive bipolar world, we need to reconnect with nations with which we have a lot in common, more than anything else.”

He expressed hope that the joint link between Dezful Jundishapur University and the ECO Cultural Institute would smooth the ground to begin the cooperation.

ECI - Sepahan Sports Club Ink MoU

Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Mohammad Reza Saket, the Managing Director of Sepahan Sports Club signed a MoU of cooperation during a ceremony at the Abassali Hotel in Isfahan.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti welcomed cooperation with Sepahan Sports Club and expressed hope that signing the MoU would be an essential step towards building a friendship bridge between the ECO countries.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mohammad Reza Saket, the Managing Director of Sepahan Sports Club, viewed the memorandum signed with ECO Cultural Institute as a valuable document in the history of Sepahan Club and emphasized that sports cooperation with ECO countries is the new policy of Sepahan Club.

Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, continued his trip to Isfahan while visiting the Sepahan Cultural and Sports Club and watched the team play against Peykan Tehran and participated in an interview with the Sepahan Club Internet TV, the report says.

On the last day of his visit to Isfahan, Sarvar Bakhti met with Alireza Salarian, Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Isfahan and Mojtaba Loffi, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Mobarakeh Steel Club.

Kashan to Host First ECO Friendship House

President of the ECO Cultural Institute, met officials from the Kashan Cultural Revival Institute to discuss the opening of ECO Friendship House in the city.

During his trip to Kashan, the president of the ECO Cultural Institute also visited the tomb of Ahmad Helli to pay homage to the renowned musician.

Sarvar Bakhti also participated in the memorial of “Ahmad Helli” at Taj Historical House accompanied by members of the board of directors of Kashan Cultural Revival Institute and officials from the Departments of Guidance and Cultural Heritage inaugurated the museum of Maestro Ahmad Helli.

The opening of “Friendship Houses” is one of the most important programs of Sarvar Bakhti, the president of ECO Cultural Institute, to make the most use of the capacity of urban diplomacy to expand cultural relations between ECO member states and Kashan ECO Friendship House which is to be opened with the special help of “Maestro Akbar Helli” at Taj Historical House in Kashan in the near future.
در این سال، با وجود کرونا، فرهنگستان های اکو کارکردی را ماهیت قومی گرفته است.

هماهنگی بین کشورهای اکو در مورد رخدادهایی مانند نوروز به صورت اینترنتی صورت گرفته است.

از سویی نیز، همکاریهای اکو در زمینه فرهنگ و ادبیات در این سال توسعه پیدا کرده است.

از این کشورها که به سمت اکو وارد شده‌اند می‌توان به ترکمنستان، ترکیه، آذربایجان، ایران، تاجیکستان و افغانستان اشاره کرد.

با توجه به ظروف فعلی، همکاری بین کشورها در استانداردهای جهانی به مکاتبه با م wissenگری و دفاع از حقوق بشر بیشتری برخوردار است.

سال 2021 به عنوان سالی که منابع فرهنگی و ادبی به صورت سنتی و نیز اینترنتی در اکو به کار رفته است، یک سال ظرفیت های جدید برای همکاریهای بین‌المللی است.
The event “Kazakhstan’s Achievements in 30 Years of Independence” organized by the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Tehran and hosted by the ECO Cultural Institute, was held on Sunday, October 17, 2021.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Mr. Sarvar Bakhti, President, ECO Cultural Institute, congratulated the Republic of Kazakhstan on the anniversary of its independence, calling the country one of the most important ECO member states with a long history and civilization. He described this event as an opportunity to increase interactions between the Institute and the country.

According to the same report, Mr. Askhat Orazbay, Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Islamic Republic of Iran, welcomed the guests and thanked Mr. Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute for his support of the event, and spoke about some of the achievements of the Republic of Kazakhstan over the past 30 years.

Noting that Kazakhstan is a peace-loving country with no enemies in the world, he stressed that “Kazakhstan has the world’s largest land border with Russia, with a length of 7,500 km, and more than 130 ethnic groups, and 18 religious sects. However, there have been no border or internal conflicts.” Referring to the attraction of more than $350 billion in foreign direct investment in the 30 years of Kazakhstan’s independence, he added: “The economic success of our government has made it possible to develop other important sectors, including tourism and hosting important global summits such as the International Expo 2017, the OSCE, OIC, CICA and SCO.”

The Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan said that the city of Noor Sultan, which was built from scratch during the country’s independence, received the title of “City of the World” from UNESCO. “Today, Almaty serves as one of the best cities in the world for entertainment and Astana as an international and regional hub for trade and finance,” he said. He also referred to the city of Turkestan as the heart of Kazakhstan’s tourism, which, despite the corona pandemic in 2020, has received $1 billion from the Kazakh government to develop its tourism infrastructure and facilities.

Askhat Orazbay praised the Islamic Republic of Iran as one of the first countries to recognize Kazakhstan’s independence, noting that the meeting of the two presidents at the recent summit in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, opened a new chapter in relations between Kazakhstan and the Islamic Republic of Iran. He referred to the launching of Gorgan – Aktau direct flight as another bridge to expand cooperation between the two countries and wished the brotherly and long-standing relations between the two friendly countries to develop more than before.

Highlighting President Tokayev’s main strategies for new reforms to ensure economic progress and strengthen democracy, the Kazakh Ambassador said “Undoubtedly, the first president and leader of the nation, Nur Sultan Nazarbayev, has played a major role in all the achievements during 30 years of Kazakhstan’s independence.”

It is worth mentioning that Mr. Mojtaba Demirchi, former Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Kazakhstan, Ms. Dr. Elaheh Koolaee, Director, Center for Central Eurasian Studies, University of Tehran, and Ms. Dr. Mandana Tisheyar, Director, International Academic Cooperation, Allameh Tabataba’i University, also congratulated the anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan and spoke about the history and various dimensions of political, economic, cultural and scientific cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Video of the achievements during 30 years of Kazakhstan’s independence, as well as live Kazakh music performance, were the other parts of the event, which were well received by the audience.

At the end of the event, the Kazakh ambassador answered questions from Iranian journalists in various political, economic, tourism and cultural fields.
ECI hosts “Exurban Imagery”, a painting exhibition by celebrated Slovakian artist

The opening of the exhibition “Exurban Imagery”, a collection of paintings by Slovakian painter “Luka Brace” was held in the art gallery of the ECO Cultural Institute on 22 November 2021.

At the event, Prof. Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, said: When we talk about art, many people’s minds will jump first to paintings. “Painting is the expression of ideas and emotions, with the creation of certain aesthetic qualities, in a visual language.” He added.

Later at the opening, the Slovak Ambassador said: “Cooperation and communication between people in the form of art knows no bounds. In the creation of Luke feel the depth and richness of Slovak culture. During my time in Tehran, this is the first exhibition of this format. I believe that together with the team at the embassy, we will be able to prepare other similar activities.”

Luka Brace, the painter also elaborated on his artworks and said: “I very much appreciate the opportunity to travel to one of the largest countries in the Middle East and West Asia. The exhibition showcased 27 abstract paintings which were well received by the visitors.”

ECO Friendship Flag on the Roof of Central Asia

An Iranian woman mountaineer, Rashin Jahanbazi, hoisted the flag of the ECO Cultural Institute on the roof of Central Asia as a symbol of friendship of the peoples of this historical region, after her historic ascent to the Korgenovskaya peak (7105 meters) and the Somoni peak (7495 meters) in Tajikistan.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, in this historic ascent, which was carried out with the support of Sarvar Bakhti, president of this international organization, Rashin Jahanbazi, as the first Iranian woman mountaineer, conquered the highest peaks of Tajikistan and took the flag of the ECO Cultural Institute with her to the roof of Central Asia as a symbol of this virtual meeting, Mr. Sarvar Bakhti, president of the ECO Cultural Institute, part of the ECO region are the countries where the region’s precious heritage can be explored within them. Turkey, as a founding member of the Economic Cooperation Organization, holds a special place. Without Turkish culture, the culture of the region is incomplete.” He also expressed: “We consider Turkish art and culture as an inseparable part of our common heritage. We are truly glad that Turkey plays a leading role in the cultural activities. We hope to see these activities growing more in near future”. We have connected with each other throughout the history. We completed each other. We learned from each other. That is why we were able to offer humanity a unique image of our heritage. Actually we have got a precious heritage. That is what we take pride in; however, due to various factors including geographical borders and infrequent cross-border commuting of neighboring countries in the regions, the peoples do not know each other well enough. So it is critical to many people to know us. We are like one nation, we cherish a common history and culture. Our people do not know much about the Afghan poets. Even Nowruz which is officially celebrated in 10 countries, our people do not know that it is an admirable ritual belonging to all the ECO countries and they assume it as their only own ceremony. This is a drawback that needs to be dealt with through cultural programs to further familiarize people with each other to realize that we have one history, one culture and one root.”

ECI President Gives Interview to Turkish Anadolu Agency

The president of the ECO cultural Institute in his interview with Turkish Anadolu Agency asserted that without Turkey the culture and history of the ECO region is incomplete and Turkey has a leading role in cultural activities.

According to the Tehran/ Anadolu News Agency, Dr. Sarvar Bakhti, the Tajik president of ECO Cultural Institute part of this interview reads:

I must say, Turkey and the other Turkish-speaking countries of the ECO region are the countries where the region’s precious heritage can be explored within them. Turkey, as a founding

Vol.2, No.10 & 11, December 2021

www.ececo.org

ECI Marks 110th Birthday Anniversary of Mirzo Tursunzoda

On the occasion of the 110th birth anniversary of Mirzo Tursunzoda, the great poet of Tajikistan, an international webinar entitled “Poet of Peace and Friendship” was held by ECO Cultural Institute in cooperation with Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan in Tehran attended.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, at the meeting, Sarvar Bakhti, president of the ECO Cultural Institute, stressed the importance of increasing cooperation in the field of books and book reading at various levels and expressing hope that both sides would set up efforts to develop synergy in creating a book exchange network and identifying and documenting writers’ views and works.

Arash Nourqorbani, CEO of the Bookbal, while introducing the Bookbal activities in three areas: books, research and media, stated: “with the cooperation of ECO Cultural Institute in the areas related to authors’ bibliographies, introducing scholars and research projects, the leading authors and publishers would be well introduced to the people in the region”.

Under the MoU, the two sides agreed to cooperate extensively in the areas of publications, creating a database of writers and intellectuals from ECO countries and documenting the views, memoirs and works of prominent scholars.

At the opening of the special meeting, Mr. Abdullah Yegin, director of the ECO Cultural Institute, said: “We can put emphasis on the fact that the ECO region is incomplete”. We believe that our friendship with each other is integral to our common heritage. We are truly glad that Turkey plays a leading role in the cultural activities. We hope to see these activities growing more in near future. We have connected with each other throughout the history. We completed each other. We learned from each other. That is why we were able to offer humanity a unique image of our heritage. Actually we have got a precious heritage. That is what we take pride in; however, due to various factors including geographical borders and infrequent cross-border commuting of neighboring countries in the regions, the peoples do not know each other well enough. So it is critical to many people to know us. We are like one nation, we cherish a common history and culture. Our people do not know much about the Afghan poets. Even Nowruz which is officially celebrated in 10 countries, our people do not know that it is an admirable ritual belonging to all the ECO countries and they assume it as their only own ceremony. This is a drawback that needs to be dealt with through cultural programs to further familiarize people with each other to realize that we have one history, one culture and one root”.

According to the Tehran/ Anadolu News Agency, Dr. Sarvar Bakhti, the Tajik president of ECO Cultural Institute part of this interview reads:

I must say, Turkey and the other Turkish-speaking countries of the ECO region are the countries where the region’s precious heritage can be explored within them. Turkey, as a founding

According to the Tehran/ Anadolu News Agency, Dr. Sarvar Bakhti, the Tajik president of ECO Cultural Institute part of this interview reads:

I must say, Turkey and the other Turkish-speaking countries of the ECO region are the countries where the region’s precious heritage can be explored within them. Turkey, as a founding
ECI Holds 34th ECI-CPR Meeting

The 34th meeting of the Council of Permanent Representatives of the ECO Cultural Institute (ECI-CPR) was held on 29 August 2021.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, The Council is composed of the Ambassadors of ECI member countries as Permanent Representatives, Director General of Multilateral and International Economic Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and President of the ECO Cultural Institute who on behalf of the Board of Trustees (BoT) of the Institute, reviews and approves the policies, programs and budget of the Institute.

In this meeting, the recent cultural activities of the institute were appreciated and the programs over the coming months were discussed. The ECI-CPR members announced their readiness to cooperate the ECO Cultural Institute to expand its programs and activities.

On October 23, 2021, Pakistan Cultural Night and Food Festival was held at the initiative of the Pakistan Embassy at the ECO Cultural Institute.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, in the event hosted by H.E. Mr. Rahim Hayat Qureshi, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; the video message from Mr. Sarvar Bakhti, President of ECO Cultural Institute, was released.

The ceremony was attended by Dr. Haddad Adel, President of the Academy of Persian Language and Literature, ambassadors and diplomats from Russia, Cuba, Tajikistan, Belarus, Turkmenistan, Palestine, Turkey, the UNDP Resident Representative in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Mr. Mohammad Ali Kiani, Director General of Cultural Affairs of Iranian Expatriates at the Islamic Culture and Communication Organization, the news reports. Also, Qawwali music was performed by Pakistan group that were welcomed by the audience. At the end of the ceremony, different types of Pakistani food were served.

The book “I begin with you” Launched

inciding with the Book and Book Reading Week in Iran, the launching ceremony of the book “I Begin with You” along with an exhibition of the photo portraits of 50 contemporary Iranian poets was held on Thursday, November 18, at the ECO Cultural Institute.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the event was hosted by Dr. Emad Olaz as the Master of Ceremony, and participated by authorities of the National Archives and Library of Iran, the Iranian Poets Society, the Islamic Development Organization, Allameh Tabataba’i University, the General Directorate of Iranian Poets Society, the General Directorate of the National Archives and Library of Iran, Dr. Alireza Habibi, Director of the Institute of Persian Language Poets, Dr. Habibi, Director of Radio Farhang, laborated on the status of the contemporary Persian poetry in the world and the importance of the role of poetry translation.

On Tuesday, September 7, 2021, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, visited the “Man Koob” exhibition held at the Shahriar Art Gallery.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, Dr. Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, President of the Saadi Foundation and the Academy of Persian Language and Literature, Dr. Abdul Ghafoor Lwad, Ambassadour of the Islamic Republic of Iran Afghanistan, Dr. Nizamuddin Zahidi, Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan, Dr. Esat Mammadov, Professor of Oriental Studies, Baku State University, Dr. Blatbek Batirkhan, Assistant Professor, Farabi University, Kazakhstan, Dr. Shoddi Mohammad Sefiredo, Director of the Central Scientific Library of the Indira Gandhi Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan, Dr. Faezeh Zahra Mirza, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Persian, University of Karachi; Dr. Gokhan Chetinkaya, Professor, Kirkkale University in Turkey; They gave a speech.

The first online Persian language course for diplomats

ECI, Saadi Foundation Organize Intl. Webinar on Persian Language

On the occasion of Persian Language Day, ECO Cultural Institute in corporation with the Saadi Foundation held an international webinar on “Promotion of Persian Language and Literature and Commemoration of Ferdowsi in the ECO Region”, with the participation of researchers, professors and literary scholars of ECO member countries.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, Dr. Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, President of the Saadi Foundation and the Academy of Persian Language and Literature, Dr. Abdul Ghafoor Lwad, Ambassadour of the Islamic Republic of Iran Afghanistan, Dr. Nizamuddin Zahidi, Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan, Dr. Esat Mammadov, Professor of Oriental Studies, Baku State University, Dr. Blatbek Batirkhan, Assistant Professor, Farabi University, Kazakhstan, Dr. Shoddi Mohammad Sefiredo, Director of the Central Scientific Library of the Indira Gandhi Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan, Dr. Faezeh Zahra Mirza, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Persian, University of Karachi; Dr. Gokhan Chetinkaya, Professor, Kirkkale University in Turkey; They gave a speech.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, visit the “Man Koob” exhibition.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the cultural events held on this day, 28th of September, were the result of the idea of the Institute of Persian Language Poets, and after the establishment of the Saadi Foundation, the educational plans implemented by the ECO Cultural Institute, Dr. Alireza Ghazvey, poet and researcher and CEO of the Institute of Persian Language Poets, Dr. Habibi, Director of Radio Farhang, laborated on the status of the contemporary Persian poetry in the world and the importance of the role of poetry translation.

ECI President Visits “Man Koob” Exhibition

On Tuesday, September 7, 2021, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, visited the “Man Koob” exhibition held at the Shahriar Art Gallery.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the exhibition, featuring 19 artworks by Babak Amjad, an artist from Tabriz the capital city of East Azerbaijan Province, Iran. During the visit he met Dr. Ali Aghhar Sherdoust, Director of the Shahriar Cultural and Artistic Institute, also described the ECO Cultural Institute as an effective cultural institution in the region and welcomed the constructive proposals of the President of the ECO Cultural Institute.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, in the event hosted by H.E. Mr. Rahim Hayat Qureshi, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; the video message from Mr. Sarvar Bakhti, President of ECO Cultural Institute, was released.

The ceremony was attended by Dr. Haddad Adel, President of the Academy of Persian Language and Literature, ambassadors and diplomats from Russia, Cuba, Tajikistan, Belarus, Turkmenistan, Palestine, Turkey, the UNDP Resident Representative in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Mr. Mohammad Ali Kiani, Director General of Cultural Affairs of Iranian Expatriates at the Islamic Culture and Communication Organization, the news reports. Also, Qawwali music was performed by Pakistan group that were welcomed by the audience. At the end of the ceremony, different types of Pakistani food were served.

The first online Persian language course for diplomats

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

The first online Persian language course for diplomats living in Iran officially began on Saturday, September 25, 2021 with the cooperation of ECO Cultural Institute and Saadi Foundation with the message from Sarvar Bakhti, president of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, the language plans are announced by the Head of the Saadi Foundation with the message from Sarvar Bakhti, president of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

The first online Persian language course for diplomats living in Iran officially began on Saturday, September 25, 2021 with the cooperation of ECO Cultural Institute and Saadi Foundation with the message from Sarvar Bakhti, president of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

The first online Persian language course for diplomats living in Iran officially began on Saturday, September 25, 2021 with the cooperation of ECO Cultural Institute and Saadi Foundation with the message from Sarvar Bakhti, president of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

The first online Persian language course for diplomats living in Iran officially began on Saturday, September 25, 2021 with the cooperation of ECO Cultural Institute and Saadi Foundation with the message from Sarvar Bakhti, president of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Sarvar Bakhti, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.

The first online Persian language course for diplomats living in Iran officially began on Saturday, September 25, 2021 with the cooperation of ECO Cultural Institute and Saadi Foundation with the message from Sarvar Bakhti, president of the ECO Cultural Institute, and Gholam-Ali Haddad Adel, head of the Saadi Foundation.
Iqbal’s Solution for the difficulties facing the East

On the occasion of the 144th birth anniversary of Allama Iqbal, ECO Cultural Institute held the international event “Iqbal-e Ishq” on Monday, November 25, 2021 in partnership with the Embassy of Pakistan and the Sahar Universal Network (TV Channel).

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the International Iqbal-e Ishq celebration was attended by ambassadors and diplomats from Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Iran, Azerbaijan, Denmark, Poland, Algeria, Brazil, Mexico, Oman, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Greece, Senegal and more. Also, at the event, Sarvar Bakhti, President of ECO Cultural Institute; Dr. Mahmoud Shahriari, Advisor to the Minister and Director General of the Ministry’s Office and Acting Deputy Minister for Arts Affairs of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance; Rahim Hayat Qureshi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to I.R. Iran; Weled Iqbal, grandson of Allama Iqbal; Moineedh Saeed, Representative of Chabahar city in the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Iranian Parliament); Dr. Hakimine Dastanarjani, author of the book “Our Iqbal” delivered their speeches.

ECI Holds Intl. Webinar on Latest Books on Pakistan’s Literature

The unveling ceremony of the latest books published on Pakistan’s language and literature was held virtually at the ECO Cultural Institute in the presence of representatives of the Embassy of Pakistan, writers, researchers and university professors.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, although the meeting had been postponed two times and it was really difficult to bring together all the ECO member states for the third time, with continuous efforts and follow-up by ECI, delegations of all the member states took part in the meeting.

Also, ECI took the initiative and upon the Institute’s proposal, the meeting was held virtually for the first time. The purpose of this meeting was to exchange views on common issues of the National Libraries of the member countries and to create a new chapter in cooperation in the field of cultural interactions at the regional level and to share experiences during the Covid-19 epidemic.

The meeting was organized in cooperation with Iran’s National Library as the host. The event was participated by authorities of most of the ECO member states as well as the President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and Acting Representative of UNESCO Cluster Office.

ECO Cultural Institute hosts symposium “From Daf to Kordestan”

The symposium “From Daf to Kordestan” was held on Thursday, November 25, 2021, at the ECO Cultural Institute in cooperation with Dang Dang Koochan Cultural and Arts Institute in the presence of music maestros.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, at the beginning of the event, a video message of Professor Sarvar Bakhti, President, ECO Cultural Institute, was played in which ECI President emphasized the place of music in the ECO region.

From Redaki, the father of Persian poetry, our poets used to try to compose their soulful poems in harmony with music. Meanwhile, Daf, one of the oldest man-made instruments, has a special place in the music of the peoples of our region. The Daf player harmonizes his/her soul with it and their inner feelings are harmonized in that module. “Said Prof. Bakhti in his message.

Then Mr. Shahab Ghasemi, Managing Director of Dang Dang Koochan Institute, Mr. Hamed Sohrabzadeh, author of the book “From Daf to Kordestan”, Dr. Karimian Sadashidi, literary researcher, Mr. Hossein Safanemesh, a popular vocalist, Mr. Mehdi Gholami, one of the doyens of Daf instrument, delivered their speeches.
High blood pressure: The Pakistani drink to make at home that 'significantly' reduces hypertension

According to research published in the Pakistan Journal of Food Sciences, garlic and honey tea is a winning combo.

A study was designed to assess the antihypertensive effect of garlic honey tea in human subjects. Results showed that regular consumption of garlic honey tea demonstrated a “significant dose dependent reduction” in elevated blood pressure, the researchers observed.

“The resulting data evidenced that garlic and honey exhibits promising antihypertensive potential against high blood pressure,” the researchers concluded. “Garlic and honey are highly tolerated and may be considered as a complementary treatment option for hypertension.”

Pakistan Islamabad ranked second safest city in Southern Asia

Islamabad, Pakistan’s capital, has been declared as the second safest city in the Southern Asia region in a safety index, assembled by an international organization.

Striving for the safety index, Islamabad has been placed seventy-fourth worldwide, and the second safest city in Southern Asia with a wellbeing list of 70.85.

The list was published by a website called Numbeo, a global crowd-sourced database that ranks cities on the basis of perceived quality of living, crime rate, and safety index. Numbeo is an authentic source that has also been referred by international publications including Business Insider, Forbes, and BBC.

Moreover, due to the Islamabad police’s diligent policy making, there has been a notable decline in the crime rate compared to last year. Moreover, the capital city of Punjab province, Lahore has been placed as the 11th safest city in the index with 61.36 points.

Formerly, the country’s financial capital Karachi is ranked as one of the least safe metropolises in the world according to the new study administered by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

Furthermore, the Safe Cities Index 2021 is a report created on the fourth iteration of the index, which gives ranking to 60 cities across 76 indicators covering digital, infrastructure, health, personal and environmental security.

Lenovo shows interest to explore Pakistani market

Pakistan’s Ambassador to China, Moinul Haque has invited Lenovo Group Limited, a Chinese multinational technology company, to invest in information and communications technology (ICT) and related sectors in his homeland.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, on Tuesday, the ambassador paid a visit to Lenovo headquarters in Beijing and reviewed the state-of-the-art facilities of the company. Lu Bo, vice-president of the group, briefed the ambassador on Lenovo’s development trajectory and potential for future growth in the region. Lu stated that as China’s strategic partner and iron-brother, Lenovo Group stands ready to explore the Pakistani market for further expanding its footprints in Pakistan in the research and development and ICT sector.

Haque thanked the vice-president for Lenovo’s interest in Pakistan and updated her about Pakistan’s growth potential in the ICT sector.

Pakistan’s AWKUM ranked first under THE Young University Rankings

Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan (Awkum) has been ranked first in Pakistan and 157th in the world in the recently released Times Higher Education Young University Rankings—2021.

A statement said the list includes the world’s best universities that are 50 years old or younger. The table is based on the same 13 performance indicators as the flagship THE World University Rankings, but the weightings have been adjusted to give less weight to reputation.

The universities are judged across all their core missions - teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook - to provide the most comprehensive and balanced comparisons available. The 2021 ranking includes 475 universities, up from 414 in 2020.

Ertugrul: Pakistan’s Most Watched Series in Ramadan

After Prime Minister Imran Khan’s recommendation and PTV’s decision to telecast the famous Turkish series ‘Ertugrul’ in Urdu dubbing, the serial has become one of the most watched shows of Ramadan 2020 in Pakistan.

Perhaps PTV’s broadcast of ‘Ertugrul’ which was organized by the Cultural House of Iran Lahore said Ostad Shahriar was a reviver of classical poetry.

A virtual meeting commemorating the Day of Persian Poetry and literature and commemorating Ostad Shahriar was held in Pakistani city of Lahore, with the participation of Persian language professors from Lahore University, poets and those interested in Iranian culture and Persian language.

Pakistan scholars, poets call Iranian Shahriar as a reviver of classical poetry

On the occasion of Saadi Day, a virtual workshop entitled ‘Reading Bustan and Gulistan’ was held by the House of Culture of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Lahore with the participation of Persian students.

A Glimpse Into Pakistani Streetwear Brand ‘Rastah’

Rastah is a Pakistani streetwear label representing the rich South Asian culture. The brand features traditional and ethnic clothing designed using block printing, hand weaving, and patchwork.

Now and then. With South Asians slowly finding their place in the global beauty and fashion industry, Rastah aims to establish itself as a high-end luxury streetwear brand. The streetwear brand brings forth a unique collection of hoodies, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and baggy pants, bearing exciting inscriptions characteristic of the South Asian heritage.

In his speech, Ja’far Rosas stated that the purpose of holding this workshop was to study the problems in reading Persian prose and poetry not only makes it easy for the listener to understand but also makes its rhythm pleasing,” he added.

Nust PDC inks MoU with TechValley

In order to facilitate Google Cloud trainings for NUST students and industry leaders and professionals from diverse fields, NUST Professional Development Centre (PDC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with TechValley at NUST main campus here on Monday.

The agreement was signed by NUST Pro-Rector Research, Innovation & Commercialization, Dr Rizwan Riaz, and CEO TechValley, Umar Farooq.

In order to facilitate Google Cloud trainings for NUST students and industry leaders and professionals from diverse fields, NUST Professional Development Centre (PDC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with TechValley at NUST main campus here on Monday. The agreement was signed by NUST Pro-Rector Research, Innovation & Commercialization, Dr Rizwan Riaz, and CEO TechValley, Umar Farooq.
“Behhtar” at the Kazan International Muslim Film Festival

“Behentar” (The Best) produced on the theme of Nowruz, was warmly welcomed by the audience at the Kazan International Festival of Muslim Cinema.

The film is the story of Nowruz celebrations in Tajikistan, made by Molsen Rahimi, an Iranian director based in Kuwait and starring the Davlat Rajaev, a Tajik artist.

At the screening of the film, Molsen Rahimi said: “When I came to Tajikistan, I saw that all people speak poetically, and this excited me and I decided to make a film about celebrating Nowruz in this country.” It was originally a short story that turned into a documentary. I love and respect Tajiks. The Nowruz in this country.” It was originally a short story that turned into a documentary. I love and respect Tajiks. The Nowruz in this country."

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the conference began with the opening remarks of H.E. Ashrafjon Gulov, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Tajikistan to Turkey.

In his speech, the Tajik Ambassador to Turkey examined the history of the Tajik language, the works of prominent Tajik dignitaries, the position of Tajik language in the international arena, and the role of Tajik President, H.E. Emomali Rahmon in the growth and development of language.

During the conference, Heliey Kaspoglu, a professor at Ankara University, described the contributions which Persian and Tajik thinkers, including Rudaki, Ferdowsi, Rumi, and Jami made to inform the international communities and recited some of their poems in Tajik. Dr. Saeifuddin Nazarroza and Dr. Mirzo Hassan Sultan, professors from The Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, also gave virtual lectures.

Another speaker, Amit Bashar, a professor at Ankara University, spoke about the position of Tajik language in Turkey. At the end of the conference, works by Tajik President Emomali Rahmon, including his book, “Tajiks in the Mirror of History,” were displayed.

The conference was held to mark Tajik Language Day, which is celebrated every year on October 5 in Tajikistan.

Turkish Marks Tajik Language Day

At the initiative of the Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan in the Republic of Turkey, an international conference “Language, the Connector of Nations” was held at the Institute of Strategic Thinking (SDE) in Ankara.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the conference began with the opening remarks of H.E. Ashrafjon Gulov, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Tajikistan to Turkey.

In his speech, the Tajik Ambassador to Turkey examined the history of the Tajik language, the works of prominent Tajik dignitaries, the position of Tajik language in the international arena, and the role of Tajik President, H.E. Emomali Rahmon in the growth and development of language.

During the conference, Heliey Kaspoglu, a professor at Ankara University, described the contributions which Persian and Tajik thinkers, including Rudaki, Ferdowsi, Rumi, and Jami made to inform the international communities and recited some of their poems in Tajik. Dr. Saeifuddin Nazarroza and Dr. Mirzo Hassan Sultan, professors from The Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, also gave virtual lectures.

Another speaker, Amit Bashar, a professor at Ankara University, spoke about the position of Tajik language in Turkey. At the end of the conference, works by Tajik President Emomali Rahmon, including his book, “Tajiks in the Mirror of History,” were displayed.

The conference was held to mark Tajik Language Day, which is celebrated every year on October 5 in Tajikistan.

To be held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan

International Investment & Business Forum

State Executive Authority of Dushanbe City and State Committee on Investments and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan have organized to hold an international forum called Dushanbe Invest 2021 in (14-16 October 2021).

Economy, industry, mining, trade, technology and tourism sector representatives, government officials, policymakers, local businesses, and researchers looking for the latest information on safe investment in Tajikistan and Iran can register to attend the Forum.

In order to implement the regulations of economic, trade, cultural and technical cooperation between the Republic of Tajikistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the organizers of the International Investment & Business Forum are determined to highlight the potentials of Tajikistan-Iran investment opportunities in different fields.

"Football for Girls" in Khorog, Tajikistan

The “Football for Girls” festival was held in Khorog.

The festival was organized by the Tajik Football Federation within the framework of the International Program of the International Federation of Women’s Football and Women’s Football Development.

“Football has become one of the favorite pastimes of women in Tajikistan,” said Enayat Shah Enayat Shahov, head of the Badakhshan Regional Football Board.

He added. “This was confirmed by the active presence of girls in the football festival.”

He said 200 girls aged 6 to 12 participated in the festival. At the end of the festival, participants received sports and equipment.

Tajikistan to Host 4th Central Asia Climate Change Conference

Dushanbe is making preparations to host the 4th Central Asian Climate Change Conference scheduled for July 25-26 this year.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting Fars News Agency in Dushanbe, Bahodour Sheralizoda, Head of the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of Tajikistan has met in Dushanbe with Irina Bekmirzayeva, Regional Coordinator of the Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Program for the Aral Sea Basin (CAMP/ASB).

The press center of the Committee for Environmental Protection says the two discussed issues related to cooperation of work on installation of seven automatic weather stations and preparations for the 4th Central, which is scheduled to take place in the Tajik capital from July 25-26 this year.

Sheralizoda reportedly expressed gratitude for the work carried out within the framework of the Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Program for the Aral Sea Basin.

The conference is organized within the framework of the Central Asia Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Program for the Aral Sea Basin and is a continuation of the World Bank’s initiative on climate change knowledge and regional information exchange in Central Asia launched in 2013. The events are called to foster a regional dialogue on climate change adaptation and mitigation, exploring opportunities for joint actions among Central Asia States and other key stakeholders.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Marjan Mirfakhrzadeh, the first secretary of the Tajikistan Embassy in Tehran.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Marjan Abdurahmonov made the remarks on the sidelines of a visit to Bahman Group, an Iranian car manufacturer in Tehran Province, according to Tavanir Press.

“Following this visit and meeting with the senior managers of this company, we will try to pave the ground for joint trade cooperation with Iranian carmakers in Tajikistan,” the official noted.

Expanding economic relations between Iran and Tajikistan and increasing the level of trade will be the main priority, and the automobile manufacturing industry can bring a greater share of trade from Tehran-Dushanbe economic relations for both countries.

Upon an official invitation by his Tajik counterpart Emomali Rahmon, Raisi arrived in Dushanbe on September 16 to take part in Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit which was held on September 16-17.

Eight documents of cooperation were signed in Tajikistan by cabinet members of Iran and Tajikistan in the presence of Rahmon and Raisi.

Rudaki’s Imaginary Biography by a Russian Author Releasing

The book “Return to Panjroud” written by Andrei Volos and translated by Akin Gokhhar has been published in Iran. In this book, the author depicts an imaginative story of Rudaki’s life. “Return to Panjroud” – which has been well-received in Russia - won the Russian Booker Award.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting Mirza Maksudsho, the story of the book begins at Rudaki’s old age. Blinded by the order of Amir Nuh Sanani, he recalls the different stages of his life after being released from the dungeon and on his way back to his native village of Panjroud.

The back of the book reads: “The road from Bukhara to Panjroud is long, especially if a blind old man is to set foot on it. Balad is a teenager who accompanies him. Where can you find a better companion? “They follow their destined path step by step, and step by step it becomes clearer that the old man can notice better than the boy.

Russian writer Andrei Volos was born in 1955. He has won prestigious awards such as Moscow-Penne, an Italian literary prize and the Anti-Booker award.

"Football for Girls" Festival in Khorog, Tajikistan

The “Football for Girls” festival was held in Khorog.

The festival was organized by the Tajik Football Federation within the framework of the International Program of the International Federation of Women’s Football and Women’s Football Development.

“Football has become one of the favorite pastimes of women in Tajikistan,” said Enayat Shah Enayat Shahov, head of the Badakhshan Regional Football Board.

He added. “This was confirmed by the active presence of girls in the football festival.”

He said 200 girls aged 6 to 12 participated in the festival. At the end of the festival, participants received sports and equipment.
Ince Minare Museum, Konya

Turkey- Ince Minareli Medrese is a 13th-century medrese located in Konya, Turkey, now housing the Museum of Stone and Wood Art.

In the first race of the FIM Women’s Motocross World Championship in Turkey, Italian rider Gianna Fontanesi on the final lap to seal a victory in Turkey. World Championship saw defending champion Duncan pass with 25:21.169.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Ince Minare Museum is one of the most special buildings in Konya, the cradle of culture. The building, which hosts the unique works of the Seljuk, the first great Turkic state of Islam Anatolia, has been housing a museum of stone and wooden artifacts since 1956, where beautiful cultural artifacts belonging to Seljuk and Karaman Oghullari have been exhibited.

Built between 1258-1279 by the Anatolian Seljuk Sultanate vizier Sâhib Ata Fahreddin Ali, who later founded the Anatolian beylik of Sâhib Ata, the minaret was originally much taller than the section that survives today, and had an unusually slender appearance in comparison to the minarets of other contemporary Seljuk mosques, hence the name of the structure.

The building has a highly ornamented stone façade which includes relief work of scripts, geometric patterning and vertical ribbon-like lines. The entrance is surrounded by a band of elegant Turkish, depicting Sura 36 and Sura 110. The minaret was damaged by lightning in 1901, and was restored in 1956. The building now houses a museum of stone and wooden objects dating from the Seljuk and Ottoman periods.

Istanbul named as Europe’s ‘Best Tourism City’

Turkey’s Istanbul megalopolis with a history dating back thousands of years, has been voted Europe’s ‘Best Tourism City’ by the Travel and Leisure Magazine.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the magazine, a monthly publication by American Express Publishing, based its findings on reader votes, judging the contending cities by its already strong reputation as a center of history and culture. Istanbul came in first with 91.32 points, according to a survey of European readers.

Turkey has been the most popular holiday destination for Russian tourists in the world, according to preliminary projections, she said. According to the ECO Cultural Institute, “Turkey has been inscribed on UNESCO World Heritage List during the ongoing Extended 44th UNESCO World Heritage Committee online session in Fuzhou, China.

according to preliminary projections, she said.

The number of inscribed sites of Turkey on UNESCO World Heritage List has reached to 19 with the adoption of the Arslantepe Mound.

The nail-biting second race of the FIM Women’s Motocross World Championship in Turkey Tuesday Paralympic Games. The director of the Russian Tourist Association said that Turkey has been the most popular holiday destination for Russian tourists in 2021.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, “Turkey has been the most popular holiday destination for Russian tourists in 2021,” Director of the Russian Tourist Association, Maya Lumidze said, noting that Turkey is a leader among Russian citizens’ preferences for traveling abroad.

“Turkey will most likely receive 4-4.5 mln. Russian tourists by the end of this year,” she said.

Eda Erdem, the captain of Turkey’s national volleyball team, has been named the “Best Middle Blocker” at the 2021 Women’s European Volleyball Championship.

Bursa, the birthplace of the Ottoman Empire, was elected as the 2022 Cultural Capital of the Turkic World by the International Organization of Turkic Culture on 10 October 2021.

This year, the Permanent Council of TURKSOY gathered again for the 38th Term Meeting which took place in Uzbekistan’s Khiva, the 2020 Cultural Capital of the Turkic World.

In the speech he delivered at the meeting, the Minister of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey Mehmet Nuri Ersoy who suggested Bursa as Cultural Capital of the Turkic World 2022 said: “It is a great pleasure for me to declare that Bursa has applied for this title for the year 2022. As such, Bursa is a city which used to be the capital of the Ottoman Empire and enchants everyone with its historical heritage and architecture as well as its beautiful nature.

At the meeting, participants approved the proposal and decided that Bursa be declared as Cultural Capital of the Turkic World 2022.

Members of the Permanent Council determined illustrious personalities of the Turkic World who will be commemorated with various events of TURKSOY throughout the year both in the Turkic World and worldwide. Upon suggestion of the related ministers of culture, the year 2022 has been dedicated to the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the birthday of the Kyrgyz artist Toktobolot Abdumomunov, the 100th anniversary of the birthday of the Azerbaijani composer Fikret Amirov and the 600th anniversary of the passing away of the Turkish mystic philosopher Süleyman Celbi.

According to preliminary projections, she said.

The UN headquarters hosts a collection of nearly 200 artworks, historical objects, and architectural pieces officially donated by member states, foundations, and individual donors since 1950. Gökbelkitepe was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2018. The famed ancient site was discovered in 1963 by researchers from Istanbul and Chicago universities.

Arslantepe has been on UNESCO’s World Heritage Tentative List of Turkey since 2014. With a history dating back to almost 6 thousand years ago, Arslantepe Mound is accepted to be a religious and cultural centre where first known early state structure emerged in Turkish geography.

The number of inscribed sites of Turkey on UNESCO World Heritage List has reached to 19 with the adoption of the Arslantepe Mound.

Arslantepe has been on UNESCO’s World Heritage Tentative List of Turkey since 2014. With a history dating back to almost 6 thousand years ago, Arslantepe Mound is accepted to be a religious and cultural centre where first known early state structure emerged in Turkish geography.

The number of inscribed sites of Turkey on UNESCO World Heritage List has reached to 19 with the adoption of the Arslantepe Mound.

The national athlete became the top scorer in the games she completed with 46 goals. Altunoluk’s tally of goals was the highest in the history of the Women’s European Volleyball Championship.

She said: “We succeeded in this.”

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, “Turkey has been inscribed on UNESCO World Heritage List since 2014. With a history dating back to almost 6 thousand years ago, Arslantepe Mound is accepted to be a religious and cultural centre where first known early state structure emerged in Turkish geography.

The number of inscribed sites of Turkey on UNESCO World Heritage List has reached to 19 with the adoption of the Arslantepe Mound.

According to preliminary projections, she said.

The UN headquarters hosts a collection of nearly 200 artworks, historical objects, and architectural pieces officially donated by member states, foundations, and individual donors since 1950. Gökbelkitepe was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2018. The famed ancient site was discovered in 1963 by researchers from Istanbul and Chicago universities.

Arslantepe has been on UNESCO’s World Heritage Tentative List of Turkey since 2014. With a history dating back to almost 6 thousand years ago, Arslantepe Mound is accepted to be a religious and cultural centre where first known early state structure emerged in Turkish geography.

The number of inscribed sites of Turkey on UNESCO World Heritage List has reached to 19 with the adoption of the Arslantepe Mound.

Arslantepe has been on UNESCO’s World Heritage Tentative List of Turkey since 2014. With a history dating back to almost 6 thousand years ago, Arslantepe Mound is accepted to be a religious and cultural centre where first known early state structure emerged in Turkish geography.

The number of inscribed sites of Turkey on UNESCO World Heritage List has reached to 19 with the adoption of the Arslantepe Mound.

According to preliminary projections, she said.

The UN headquarters hosts a collection of nearly 200 artworks, historical objects, and architectural pieces officially donated by member states, foundations, and individual donors since 1950. Gökbelkitepe was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2018. The famed ancient site was discovered in 1963 by researchers from Istanbul and Chicago universities.

Arslantepe has been on UNESCO’s World Heritage Tentative List of Turkey since 2014. With a history dating back to almost 6 thousand years ago, Arslantepe Mound is accepted to be a religious and cultural centre where first known early state structure emerged in Turkish geography.

The number of inscribed sites of Turkey on UNESCO World Heritage List has reached to 19 with the adoption of the Arslantepe Mound.

According to preliminary projections, she said.

The UN headquarters hosts a collection of nearly 200 artworks, historical objects, and architectural pieces officially donated by member states, foundations, and individual donors since 1950. Gökbelkitepe was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2018. The famed ancient site was discovered in 1963 by researchers from Istanbul and Chicago universities.

Arslantepe has been on UNESCO’s World Heritage Tentative List of Turkey since 2014. With a history dating back to almost 6 thousand years ago, Arslantepe Mound is accepted to be a religious and cultural centre where first known early state structure emerged in Turkish geography.

The number of inscribed sites of Turkey on UNESCO World Heritage List has reached to 19 with the adoption of the Arslantepe Mound.
Turkmenistan President Went for a Bicycle Ride

The President of the Republic of Turkmenistan went on a low-key bicycle ride this morning through the streets of Ashgabat, followed by cabinet members, parliament speakers, military officials, heads of government departments and media reporters.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, Turkmenistan State Television broadcast images of the President’s presence on a group bicycle ride on the occasion of World Health Day.

The images show Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov cycling in the streets of Ashgabat, the capital, followed by cabinet members, parliament speakers, military officials, heads of government departments and media reporters. He was greeted by many hundreds of people exercising in the morning around the streets.

Iranian Bojnord University to Develop Cooperation with Turkmen National Institute of World Languages

Representatives of Development Azad Turkmen National Institute of World Languages (TNWL) and University of Bojnord from the Northern Khorasan Province of the Islamic Republic of Iran have held video conference meeting for study of the capabilities of the partnership between two universities in the sphere of scientific and academic exchanges.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the Director of University of Bojnord, Maral Kulyieva, the Director of the Institute of World Languages as well as professors and teachers of both universities participated in the meeting.

Having presented scientific and educational projects and programs of academic exchanges, Ahmad Mohaghar noted the presence of big potential for development of cooperation between two universities. It was highlighted that it is provided by the fact that Turkmenistan and Iran are connected with historical, cultural and spiritual roots, which go deep to the centuries.

In her turn, Maral Kulyieva, the Director of Turkmen language institute, has told about scientific and educational activity of the institute, which actively develops international cooperation with universities from other countries. It was noted that TNWL teaches Persian language and literature.

In this regard, head of Persian language and literature department of the University of Bojnord Modjtaba Moharad has told about aspects of cooperation with Persian language department of D. Azadi National Institute of World Languages and made proposal on its activation.

A visit to the Gate of Hell, an incredible experience in Turkmenistan

There are places in the world around us that we describe as paradise or a piece of paradise for their extreme beauty, but have you ever heard that the attraction of a city is gates to hell?

This attraction is located in Turkmenistan and is so scary that it became known as the Gate of Hell in Turkmenistan.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, There is a gate in Turkmenistan known as the Gate of Hell, and it is one of the strangest and scariest places in the world, next to Karakum Desert, the Akhal Province of Turkmenistan.

Where is the Gate of Hell?
The Gate of Hell is a natural gas field collapsed into a cavern near Darvaza, known as one of the tourist attractions of Turkmenistan.

Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan held a videoconference to discuss consequences of rioting in Afghanistan. It is not clear if the Afghan government will continue with the violence or start a peace process.

Turkmenistan and UN Sign MoU in Ashgabat

Turkmenistan- on September 21, there was a ceremony of signing the Joint Program with the UN titled: “Raising awareness and engaging youth to mitigate the multidimensional risks and threats posed by the global pandemic”.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, from Turkmen side the document was signed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov. From UN side the document was signed by the UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan Dmitry Shlapachenko.

The given project is aimed at strengthening the capacity of government officials at the local level, as well as implementation in these communities of the Socio-economic response plan with a human security approach in an integrated and people-centered way.

Besides that, the Program is aimed at the youth in separate districts so that to increase their resilience and allow them to contribute to the development of local communities. As is known, this project will be implemented within the framework of the joint activities of the Government of Turkmenistan and the United Nations Organization directed to realization of the Sustainable Development Goals at national level.

Then, the parties signed the Joint Program between the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov and the UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan Dmitry Shlapachenko was held.

During the constructive talks the parties discussed the priority issues of collaboration of the Government of Turkmenistan with the United Nations Organization.

International media forum: Developing international dialog

International media forum “Regional dialog with participation of political scientists and journalists” was held in the Institute of International Relations of the Foreign Ministry of Turkmenistan.

According to ECO Cultural Institute, quoting turkmenistan.gov.tm, the event, which was organized at the initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is dedicated to the 20th anniversary of Turkmenistan-Japan diplomatic relations.

During the talks, the parties noted with satisfaction the positive dynamics of the development of Turkmen-Japanese relations in political-diplomatic, trade-economic and cultural-humanitarian vectors.

The parties highly appraised the partnership between the external policy agencies of the two countries that positively reflects on the regional cooperation, as well as on the collaboration within the international structures, primarily the United Nations.

Expansion of interaction between Turkmen government institutions with the public and media

A two-day online training course to support capacity-building of government institutions to engage with the public and media during health emergencies, organized by the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat, started on 7 September 2021.

Representatives from the Ministry of Health and the Medical Industry, the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Parliament (Mejlis), the Ministry of Defense, the State Customs Service and other key government agencies and national and private media participated in the training course.

International experts from Kyrgyzstan shared examples from their country to discuss the benefits of developing a single channel of dissemination to promote health related information and avoid disinformation. Other subjects covered include, effective channels for dissemination of information, principles of relations between organizations and mass media, forms of teamwork for interaction between organizations and public through media.

Turkmenistan-Japan to Boost Cultural Cooperation

On 8 April 2021, the Turkmen-Japanese cultural cooperation between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of two countries were held via videoconferencing.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, the Turkmen side was headed by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Vepa Hajiyev, while the Japanese side was led by the Deputy Director-General of the European Affairs Bureau of the MFA of Japan, Deputy Assistant Minister Tokuda Shuichi.

During the talks, the parties noted with satisfaction the positive dynamics of the development of Turkmen-Japanese relations in political-diplomatic, trade-economic and cultural-humanitarian vectors.

The parties highly appraised the partnership between the external policy agencies of the two countries that positively reflects on the regional cooperation, as well as on the collaboration within the international structures, primarily the United Nations.

Presidents of Central Asian Countries Tour Int`l Food Festival

An international festival of National Dishes of Central Asian Countries was held in Turkmenistan.

According to the ECO Cultural Institute, quoting Fars News Agency, Tajik President Emomali Rahmon and his counterparts visited the international festival of National Dishes of Central Asian Countries hosted by Turkmenistan.

In the festival, bringing together professionals of the culinary arts from 5 Central Asian countries, the products of local companies as well as national dishes, sweets, breads, agricultural products such as fruits and vegetables were exhibited.

UN endorses documents of Central Asian summit in Avaza

The documents of the consultative meeting of the heads of the Central Asian states held in August in the coastal region of Turkmenistan “Avaza” were approved by the United Nations.

It should be noted that in parallel with this meeting, a dialogue of women from Central Asian countries was also held in the region.

Following the talks, the leaders of the Central Asian states adopted a joint statement, which also referred to the Dialogue of Women and the Additional Protocol, and as a result, the Declaration of the Dialogue of Women in Central Asia was adopted.

The Joint Statement on the Outcome of the Central Asian Summit and the Declaration of the Dialogue of Women in the Region was endorsed as the one of the document of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly and has been published in official languages.

UN endorses documents of Central Asian summit in Avaza

The documents of the consultative meeting of the heads of the Central Asian states held in August in the coastal region of Turkmenistan “Avaza” were approved by the United Nations.

It should be noted that in parallel with this meeting, a dialogue of women from Central Asian countries was also held in the region.

Following the talks, the leaders of the Central Asian states adopted a joint statement, which also referred to the Dialogue of Women and the Additional Protocol, and as a result, the Declaration of the Dialogue of Women in Central Asia was adopted.

The Joint Statement on the Outcome of the Central Asian Summit and the Declaration of the Dialogue of Women in the Region was endorsed as the one of the document of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly and has been published in official languages.
In order to implement the initiative put forward by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the 75th UN General Assembly, the International Cultural Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations” was held on September 14-16, 2021 in Khiva under the auspices of UNESCO. This forum was attended by representatives of international organizations UNESCO, SCO, ICOMOS, ICCROM, TURKSOY, ECO Cultural Institute, about 500 participants, experts from more than 50 CIS countries, the European Union, experts in the field of local cultural heritage, science, art and other areas, as well as mass media.

At the opening ceremony of the event, was announced the greeting of the President of Uzbekistan to the participants of the International Khiva Culture Forum. It should be noted that the activities of the International Advisory Council are aimed at further developing relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and UNESCO in the field of protection, preservation, popularization and rational use of cultural heritage, preparation of proposals for the inclusion of the country’s cultural heritage in the UNESCO heritage.

**“Peoples’ Friendship Day” is widely celebrated in Uzbekistan**

On July 30, many countries around the world celebrate the International Day of Friendship. It is celebrated annually in accordance with a resolution adopted on April 27, 2011 at the 65th session of the UN General Assembly.

At the initiative of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, a new holiday, “Peoples’ Friendship Day”, has also appeared in Uzbekistan, which will be celebrated annually from July 30, 2021. The main goals of the celebration of the “Peoples’ Friendship Day” are to strengthen and further develop solidarity, tolerance, interethnic harmony and friendship between peoples, nations, states - different layers and structures of society as a whole.

President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev has always paid great attention to the issues of strengthening interethnic harmony and religious tolerance in society. Various events are regularly held in the country, contributing to the intensification of cultural exchange and the strengthening of dialogue between peoples and countries.

**ECI takes part in International cultural forum**

The International cultural forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations” which held on September 14-15, 2021 in the city of Khiva, Uzbekistan. ECO Cultural Institute was also officially invited to and took part in the international event.

The Forum was inaugurated by the message of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan H.E. Shavkat Mirziyoyev read by the Vice Prime Minister. Furthermore, Deputy Director General of UNESCO, UNESCO Director General, Director General of ISESCO, Director General of ICCROM, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Secretary General of the Turkic Council, Minister of Culture of the Kyrgyz Republic, SCO Secretary General, Deputy Minister of Culture of the Republic of Tajikistan, and UNWTO Secretary General delivered their statements in the inaugural session. Following the inaugural and plenary sessions, the Forum was continued by 4 specialized session which as attended by scholars and researchers from over 20 countries who made short speeches on their papers focused on the Central Asia.

**Population of Uzbekistan exceeds 35 million**

Permanent population of Uzbekistan has grown almost for 140,000 people, according to the State Statistics Committee. According to the ECO Cultural Institute quoting Tashkent News Agency, the permanent population reached 35,000,082 people as of September 7. They include 17,570,041 males and 17,430,041 females. According to the State Statistics Committee of the republic, since the beginning of this year, the country’s population has increased by 440 thousand people.

**Results of the International Cultural Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations”**

“Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations” was held in Khiva on September 14-15, 2021.

The event was held in cooperation with UNESCO and at the initiative of Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, which was approved at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly, the ECO Cultural Institute reported. “I welcome President Mirziyoyev’s initiative to hold an international conference on Central Asia in Khiva in 2021,” said Adri Azula, Secretary General of UNESCO.

The event was attended by representatives of the International Institute of Central Asia, the International University of Tourism, Chemistry, Rector of the “Silk Road” International University of Tourism, Uzbekistan, about 500 participants, experts from more than 50 CIS countries, the European Union, experts in the field of local cultural heritage, science, art and other areas, as well as mass media.

At the opening ceremony of the event, was announced the greeting of the President of Uzbekistan to the participants of the International Khiva Culture Forum. It should be noted that the activities of the International Advisory Council are aimed at further developing relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and UNESCO in the field of protection, preservation, popularization and rational use of cultural heritage, preparation of proposals for the inclusion of the country’s cultural heritage in the UNESCO heritage.

**Strengthening the Legal Status of the Ombudsman for Children is a Key Factor in Promoting the Principle of the Best Interests of the Child**

Today, systematic work is under way in Uzbekistan to implement the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the legal and institutional framework for protecting the rights and interests of children are improving.

As the international experience shows, today, more than twenty countries have a specialized and independent institution—the Ombudsman for Children. The first office of Ombudsman for Children was established in Norway in 1981. By the beginning of the 21st century, many countries had significantly intensified their work to protect the rights of the child and create some special authorized institutions in this area, and this was due to the need to better ensure the implementation of obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Uzbekistan also pays special attention to the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations human rights mechanisms, including the recommendations of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

**UNESCO SG Supports Uzbek President’s Initiative for Hosting an International Conference on Central Asia**

International Conference “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations” was held in Khiva on September 14-15, 2021.

The event was held in cooperation with UNESCO and at the initiative of Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, who was approved at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly, the ECO Cultural Institute reported. “I welcome President Mirziyoyev’s initiative to hold an international conference on Central Asia in Khiva in 2021,” said Adri Azula, Secretary General of UNESCO.

The event was attended by representatives of the International Institute of Central Asia, the International University of Tourism, Chemistry, Rector of the “Silk Road” International University of Tourism, Uzbekistan, about 500 participants, experts from more than 50 CIS countries, the European Union, experts in the field of local cultural heritage, science, art and other areas, as well as mass media.

At the opening ceremony of the event, was announced the greeting of the President of Uzbekistan to the participants of the International Khiva Culture Forum. It should be noted that the activities of the International Advisory Council are aimed at further developing relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and UNESCO in the field of protection, preservation, popularization and rational use of cultural heritage, preparation of proposals for the inclusion of the country’s cultural heritage in the UNESCO heritage.

**ECI takes part in International cultural forum**

The International cultural forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations” which held on September 14-15, 2021 in the city of Khiva, Uzbekistan. ECO Cultural Institute was also officially invited to and took part in the international event.

The Forum was inaugurated by the message of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan H.E. Shavkat Mirziyoyev read by the Vice Prime Minister. Furthermore, Deputy Director General of UNESCO, UNESCO Director General, Director General of ISESCO, Director General of ICCROM, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Secretary General of the Turkic Council, Minister of Culture of the Kyrgyz Republic, SCO Secretary General, Deputy Minister of Culture of the Republic of Tajikistan, and UNWTO Secretary General delivered their statements in the inaugural session. Following the inaugural and plenary sessions, the Forum was continued by 4 specialized session which as attended by scholars and researchers from over 20 countries who made short speeches on their papers focused on the Central Asia.
The year 2021 was the year of culture’s resistance to the devastating Covid-19 hurricane. The year we at the ECO Cultural Institute faced the dual task of making a shield from culture to save hope and life. So made up our mind and were not afraid of hardships and difficulties. To preserve the cultural commonalities of the ECO region during Covid 19 pandemic.

At the ECO Cultural Institute, while continuing our regular programs in the past, we have taken special initiatives to fulfill our historic mission, using the availability of internet technology to overcome Covid 19. That is why, in 2021, we used the Internet to the greatest extent possible to hold international and regional meetings. By organizing dozens of webinars, we have again given the nations of the ECO region the opportunity to get acquainted with the luminaries of this ancient region.

In Nowruz (March 2021), we fostered friendship by holding the international celebration “Nowruz, an Occasion for Solidarity” and in “Friendship Night” in November 2021, a large number of ambassadors and diplomats, recited poems of Hafez, a Persian poet who promotes peace. They read pieces of poetry in any language they wished.

In 2021, the ECO Cultural Institute did not neglect its mandate to commemorate the great figures of the ECO member countries. We held numerous webinars to honor these regional luminaries. To this end, by holding the international celebration of “Iqbal Eshghi”, we spoke about Allama Iqbal and his solution to revive the Eastern identity. In another webinar, we discussed the permanence of Ferdowsi’s wisdom in the ECO region; “A Review of Abu Ali Sina (Avicenna) Thought and Knowledge” and “A glance at Rumi’s system of thought” are among the most important webinars of the ECO Cultural Institute in 2021. We tried to highlight the similarities of the contemporary elites of the ECO region by holding a meeting in honor of the poet of peace and friendship, Mirzo Tursunzoda, and the renowned Afghan researcher, Abdul Haji Habibi.

It is not possible to mention the numerous titles of regional and international webinars in this short note, but it is worth mentioning to name the event we held on the occasion of the 700th birthday anniversary of Kamal Khujandi, which was attended by the scholars of the ECO region and produced a new movement in recognizing Eastern poetry and wisdom.

In 2021, the ECO Cultural Institute took a new step in print media under the slogan “We are not unaware of each other”, and adopted a new way to spread information among the nations and ECO member countries. We have been republishing the latest daily news of cultural events of ECO member countries on the website of ECO Cultural Institute. We anticipate that nearly five thousand news article of the ECO member countries in areas of culture, arts, social issue, sports, environment and so on will have published on our website by the end of the current term of presidency at the ECO Cultural Institute.

Due to the wide range of news of cultural events, we decided to publish the ECI News Letter in both English and Farsi in addition to republishing news on the ECO Cultural Institute’s website. We are proud to announce that 11 issues of the newsletter have been published so far which is distributed among the embassies and international organizations based in Tehran so that they would not be unaware of the news of cultural events in the ECO region.

We also dedicated three issues of ECO HERITAGE, the cultural quarterly journal of the Institute, to the cities of Isfahan, Dushanbe and Khiva to promote the tourist attractions of the ECO member countries, and in one issue, we introduced traditional clothing in the countries of the ECO region.


Although Covid 19 pandemic in 2021 imposed a strict limit on traveling, we at ECO Cultural Institute took every opportunity that did not pose a risk and traveled to Isfahan, Kashan, Dushanbe and Sari to get acquainted with Iran’s cultural, artistic and tourism attractions and explored different areas of cooperation. In Isfahan, we negotiated about cultural tourism, and together with the municipality and the governor’s office, we formed the “First Secretariat for Tourism and Culture of Isfahan and ECO”. In Dezful, we reached an agreement with Jundishapur University to create an opportunity for international cooperation on various aspects of the ECO region in Sari, together with the governor, mayor and city council members, we made a comprehensive plan for joint cooperation program to make maximum use of the existing opportunity on the occasion of selection of Sari as the Tourism Capital of ECO 2021.

Although the Covid 19 pandemic had made difficulties for holding international meetings in person, we managed to hold the “The 5th Meeting of the Heads of National Libraries of ECO Member States” in cooperation with the National Archives and Library of Iran as well as the “First Joint Symposium of the Rectors of ECO Member-State Universities “in partnership with Allameh Tabataba’i University of Iran. Subsequently, we are following up the outcomes of the meeting jointly.

Furthermore, in 2021, we have revitalized “ECO Park” in cooperation with Abbasabad Lands Rehabilitation Company in Tehran. Also, concluded MoUs with other relevant organizations and institutes for collaborations in various areas of culture including: Afghanistan Institute for Strategic Studies, CHIAMOD Institute, Municipality of Sari, BOOKBAL book web portal, and so on.

We are well aware of the power of sports for the integration of nations. To this end, we concluded a MoU with one of the most prestigious sports clubs in Iran. Also, held a cordial meeting with the Minister of Sports and Youth of the Islamic Republic of Iran and outlined a bright future for expanding sports cooperation between the ECO member countries in 2022.

Despite all the restrictions on foreign travel in 2021, during a trip to Tashkent, Uzbekistan, I paid a courtesy call to the Minister of Culture of Uzbekistan and agreed on future cooperation; we are planning for joint events in 2022. Also, in the last month of 2021, we attended the ECO Summit in Ashgabat and brought to the notice of all the top officials in the region the latest developments in promotion of common cultural heritage in the ECO region. I am very proud to announce, as I said in an interview with Anadolu Agency, “ECO Culture is not complete without Turkey”. After nearly 25 years, Turkey has joined the board of trustees of the ECO Cultural Institute to inspire the other countries for accession to the Institute.

Although this is not a comprehensive account of the activities of the ECO Cultural Institute in 2021, but suffice to say that we have achieved what we had planned. Thanks to the great contribution of all the honorable ambassadors of ECO member countries and the continuous efforts of all my colleagues at the ECO Cultural Institute, we have been able to stick to our commitment for promotion of culture and arts during one of the most difficult time periods (due to the Covid outbreak) in the history of this Institute. This is our permanent commitment.