AL-HUSSEINI AL-SAGHIR INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S THEATER FESTIVAL

Festival Aims and Purpose

The program's objective is to improve kids' literacy, numeracy, creativity, and critical thinking. Whether or not theatre content has a greater impact on a recipient than other forms of art depends on the way of direct guiding through the text. Considering the seeming disregard for Iraqi reality despite feeble attempts to address it. The right Islamic teachings and the compassion and morality of Imam Hussein's (PBUH) life inspired the creation of this festival as (an artistic material).

Foundation of Festival

The intellectual visions of the Imam Hussain Holy Shrine go to the ultimate openness bounder up to other sects, religions, and doctrines in a precise way for the sake of rapprochement and communication, emphasizing that Imam Hussain (PBUH) is the symbol of humanity and revolutionism, rejecting injustice, corruption, and falsehood.

In March 2015, the Department of Childhood Care and Development at Imam Hussain Holy Shrine established the first annual Al-Husseini Al-Saghir International Children's Theatre Festival under the slogan "In the light of Imam Hussain's teachings, we build our future generations".
First session / local

The duration of the first session on March 15-18th, 2015, with local (9) theatrical performances.

And the winner of this session is:

(Ijtrar / Al-Amir Ensemble of Dar Seddiqi for Children / Baghdad Governorate).

The judges of this session are:

- Dr. Abdul Karim Abboud, Iraq
- Dr. Riyad Mousa Sakran, Iraq
- Mr. Ali Mahmoud Al-Sudani, Iraq
- Mr. Alaa Al-Bashiq, Iraq

Second session / local

The duration of the second session on March 12-13th, 2016, with local (9) theatrical performances.

And the winner of this session is:

(All Roads Lead to Karbala / Band of the Directorate of Youth and Sports / Najaf Governorate).
The judges of this session are:

- Dr. Ajaj Salim, Syria
- Dr. Jabbar Khammat, Iraq
- Dr. Riyad Shaheed, Iraq
- Mr. Hafez Khalifa, Tunis
- Mr. Alaa Al-Bashiq, Iraq

Third session / international

The duration of the third session on March 4-7th, 2017, with local and international performances from Iraq, Italy and Tunisia, with (8) theatrical performances.

In addition, the opening show of festival presented by the theatre group affiliated to the department.

And the prizes were withheld according to the decision of the judges.

The judges of this session are:

- Dr. Abdul Karim Jawad, Oman
- Dr. Ajaj Salim, Syria
- Dr. Jawad Al-Asadi, Iraq
- Mr. Alaa Al-Bashiq, Iraq
Fourth session / international

The duration of the fourth session on March 3-6th, 2018, with local and international performances from Iraq, Syria and Tunisia, with (9) theatrical performances.

In addition, the opening and closing performances of festival presented by the theatre group affiliated to the department.

And the winner of this session is:

(The Tale of the Stubborn Tree / Iraq Colors Band - Iraq).

The judges of this session are:

- Dr. Hussein Al-Muslim, Kuwait
- Dr. Hussein Ali Harf, Iraq
- Dr. Fatima Anwar Al Lawati, Oman
- Mr. Miqdad Muslim, Iraq
- Mr. Mahmoud Abu Al-Abbas, Iraq

Fifth session / international

The fifth session duration on March 9-12th, 2019, with local and international performances from Iraq, Belgium, Tunisia and Syria, with (10) theatrical performances.

In addition, the opening and closing performances of festival presented by the theatre group affiliated to the department.
And the winner of this session is:
(The Tale of the Coast and the Lamp / Mahmoud Abu Al-Abbas Troupe - Iraq),

On the side-lines of the event, four artistic workshops were formed (Clown, Tabletop Puppetry, Doll and Puppet Industry, and Theatre of Objects). And the trainers from (Iraq / Tunisia / Egypt).

Iraq’s (Al-Najaf and Babylon) governorates hosted two performances from Syria and Belgium under the name (Festival Beam).

The judges of this session are:
- Dr. Muhammad Ismail, Iraq
- Dr. Habib Zahir, Iraq
- Dr. Habiba Jendoubi, Tunisia
- Dr. Safaa Al-Baily, Egypt
- Mr. Talal Hadi, Iraq

Sixth session / international

the sixth session duration on March 1-3th, 2022, with local and international performances from Spain, Lebanon, Iran, Tunisia and Syria, with (10) theatrical performances, and (6) Al-Hakawati performances.
In addition, the opening and closing performances of festival presented by the theatre group affiliated to the department.

And the winner of this session is

(Sinan the Superhero / The AL-ABBAS’S (P) Holy Shrine Troupe - Iraq),

Seven art workshops were set up as a side event to the festival, in (Clown Techniques, Making Wooden Marionette Puppets, Kindergartens Playwriting, Making Glove Puppets, Making and Moving Table Puppets, Making Paper Puppets, Mime Workshop, Making Wooden Horse). Moreover, the experts from (Tunisia, Spain, Egypt, Morocco, Syria, Iran).

As well, four performances from (Spain, Lebanon, Iraq, and Syria) were presented in (Mosul and Diwaniyah governorates in Iraq), under the name (Festival Beam).

The judges of this session are:

• Dr. Maher Al-Kutibani, Iraq
• Dr. Nawras Muhammad Ghazi, Iraq
• Dr. Sarah Kassir, Lebanon
• Mr. Mohamed Noureddine Yassin, Egypt
• Mr. Jalil Khazal, Iraq
Festival logo

The festival logo is designed to match the nature of the event as a children's theatre show. On the other hand, it brings together the identity and symbols of the holy city of Karbala and the mother institution from which the festival created, which is Imam Hussain Holy Shrine, taking from Imam Hussein (PBUH) and his approach to building conscious and educated generations.

The festival also adopted two symbolic mascots that became his identity.
Pictures from puppet show performances
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قسم رعاية وتعليم الطفولة الحسينية
مهرجان الحسيني الصغير الدولي
لمسرح الطفل
الأمانة العامة للعتبة الحسينية المقدسة
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