

# Iranian Center of ITI

## Activities at a Glance



*Tehran City Theater Complex. / Photo by Reza Moattarian*

Iran has long been a rich land in rituals, customs, and theatrical forms, due to its location on the path of commercial, political, and cultural exchanges between the ancient civilizations of Greece, Egypt, and China.

Rituals and theatrical forms that are influenced by the beliefs, religion and lifestyle of its people.

Theater in the Western style is more than a century old in Iran.

For the past four decades, under the management of the Dramatic Arts Center of Iran, four International Theater Festivals have been held every year: Fajr, Marivan Street theater, Children and Youth, and Puppet Tehran-Mobarak (biennial).

In addition of Tehran (The Capital of Iran) Theater artists are also active in the provinces of Iran, and various plays are on stage every night.

Since 1989, pre-festivals have been held in 31 provinces of Iran with the aim of selecting works to participate in the Fajr International Theater Festival.

In Tehran an average of 80 plays in different genres are on stage every night.

Professional theater education is provided in prestigious Iranian universities as well as in the private sector in the field of directing, acting, playwriting, scene design, etc. throughout Iran.

Iranian Ritual dramatic art of Ta'zīye Inscribed in 2010 on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and Naqqāli, Iranian dramatic story-telling Inscribed in 2011 on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding by UNESCO.

<https://ich.unesco.org/en/RL/ritual-dramatic-art-of-tazye-00377>

<https://ich.unesco.org/en/USL/naqqli-iranian-dramatic-story-telling-00535>

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