Kazem Nazari:
Theater presents the whole life on stage

Iran Theater- Kazem Nazari, Director General of Dramatic Arts center of Iran , gave a message for Ardakan Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults.

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According to the public relations report of the Dramatic Arts Center, the message of the Director General of Dramatic Arts states that If we consider the years and every day and moment of childhood and adolescence as the sweetest and most lasting, the most defining period of the honorable life of every human being; The spark of hope that the “28th International Festival of Theater for Children and Adolescents” will create a different enthusiasm and freshness in the hearts of all those who are interested in the pride of our Islamic country and in the minds of those who are familiar with the drama art in the subtle expression of educational points and intellectual components that make up the personality of Iranian children and adolescents. Because theater is a show of the whole life on stage. Are our children and teenagers more prone to “pure life practice” and more deserving of “growing awareness and self-confidence” in order to live a more valuable life?

Kazem Nazari emphasized: Of course, the importance of this issue brings with it a serious mission. It is that the production and performance of plays for the audience of children and teenagers requires a more specific and delicate attention to the nature of the play and the message of what is presented to them in theater. Therefore, the current trends in the world of children and adolescents should be seriously identified by the activists of this field with committed knowledge and compassion, and then the creation of an artistic work should be considered much more professional and profound in the theater. The 28th International Children’s and Adolescent Theater Festival with the motto “Theatre, the Pure Practice of Life” is now underway in Ardakan city.
Iran Theater- The 28th Ardakan Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults has awarded its top prizes. ***

The 28th Ardakan Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults was held, Sunday, February 26. Seyed Javad Hashemi, a theater, cinema and television actor, was the host of the ceremony. Art Affairs Deputy, Mahmoud Salari emphasized the importance of an empathetic life and said: “We should all live in this society in an empathetic way and be with each other in the important scenes of life.” He emphasized: “I would like to thank the officials of Yazd province, especially the governor of Yazd, the general director of culture and guidance of Yazd, the political security deputy of Yazd province and the governor of Ardakan. I also thank the general director of performing arts, the festival secretary and the festival’s staff.” In the end, Salari said: “I hope that this festival will be held in Yazd province in the coming years and we’ll witness a prosperous festival in the following years.”

Ali Akbar Azizi (Political, Security and Social Deputy of Yazd Governorate) was another speaker who went on stage on behalf of Yazd Governor Mehran Fatemi and said: “This festival is one of the prestigious festivals at the international level and we are grateful for the trust of the Minister of Culture and Guidance Islamic for holding this event.” He continued: “As you know, 1,200 works was sent to the secretariat, and the people of Ardakan welcomed the shows that and supported the theater artists. "The 28th International Theater Festival in Yazd, was also honored. Ehsan Abedi, Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Yazd Province, announced: “This festival has been held with the participation of more than 100 artists of the province, 6 prisoners of non-intentional crimes have been released by holding this festival.”

Then the winners announced in the presence of provincial officials and theater managers and artists. The ceremony was held in the hall of Shahid Beheshti Technical and Vocational College, Ardakan. The closing ceremony of the 28th Ardakan Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults was held today, Sunday, February 26. Seyed Javad Hashemi, a theater, cinema and television actor, was the host of the ceremony. Art Affairs Deputy, Mahmoud Salari emphasized the importance of an empathetic life and said: “We should all live in this society in an empathetic way and be with each other in the important scenes of life.”

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The 18th Saqqez Kurdish International Theater Festival announces the winners

Iran Theater-The show “Taase” and “Bochikman He Yeh va Zeh Maweh Nedi” (Sanandaj) and “Oedipi Shariar” (Saqqez) bag the awards during closing ceremony of the 18th Saqqez Kurdish International Theater Festival.

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The closing ceremony of the 18th Saqqez Kurdish International Theater Festival was held on Thursday, February 22. 8 Iranian drama troupes and 4 groups from Iraqi Kurdistan region performed in this festival. The closing ceremony was held in the amphitheater hall of the Department of Culture and Islamic Guidance in Saqqez city with the presence of officials and artists: Ismail Zarei Kosha (Kurdistan Governor), Kazem Nazari (Director General of Dramatic Arts Center of Iran), Jafar Tavan (Special Governor of Saqqez), Ali Asghar Dariyeyi (Director General of Culture and Guidance) Islamic Province.

Two plays “Taase” and “Bochikman He Ye Va Zeh Maweh Nedi” from Sanandaj were introduced to the 43rd Fadjr Theater Festival and the play “Oedipi Shariar” from Saqqez city was introduced to the Kirkuk Theater Festival, Iraq. At the closing ceremony, Kazem Nazari, Director General of Dramatic Arts Center, honored five veterans artists from Kurdistan theater: Esmaeel Pashaei, Salahuddin Mohammadi, Ahmad Salehi, Mohammad Zarezadeh and Farshid Goveli. Nazari said that the Kurdish theater festival was registered in the calendar of the General Directorate of Dramatic Arts: “Financial credits will be allocated to the drama festivals of Kurdistan province: 500 million Tomans will be paid to the 19th Kurdish Theater Festival and 300 million Tomans to the Ziviyeh Street Theater Festival.

He who was present at the closing ceremony of the festival wearing Kurdish clothes, continued: “I will also try to speak the sweet Kurdish language at next year’s festival.” Jafar Tavan, the special governor of Saqqez city, said: “Saqqez city has a lot of capacity and potential in various cultural and artistic fields, and because of many talented artists and the holding of several festivals and theatrical events, it requires a lot of works and efforts to introduce and register Saqqez as the creative city of Stage Theater.”

While he presented a report on the 18th International Kurdish Theater Festival, he added: “The Special Governorship of Saqqez is fully prepared to sponsor the 19th International Kurdish Theater Festival.” Then the winners of various awards were announced. In the playwriting section, Hasan Targhee from Sanandaj was honored and Ghotbeddin Sadeghi from Sanandaj city won the award. Special mention went to Maziar Qobadi and Zahid Zandi from Sanandaj in the best male actor category. And Hozan Shirzad from Kirkuk received the best actor award. Bita Shahbazian from Darvish and Hause Rayedris from Kirkuk won the second best actress awards. And the best actress awards went to Forough Kanani from Urmia.

They won the second prize. The director of the show “Oedipi Shariar”, parviz Ahmadi was honored for directing the show and the best director awards went to Afshin Khedri, director of the show “Bochikman He Yeh Va Zeh Maweh Nedi” from Sanandaj city. The theater “Bochikman He Yeh Va Zeh Maweh Nedi” won the best play.
Iranian Theater Sound

Nikolai Naumov: Iranians’ interest in theater is amazing

Iran Theater- Professor Nikolai Naumov, a teacher, researcher and theater artist from Russia, said: “the reception of Iranian people to the performance of Russian plays amazed me because I saw how many people came to the hall and how well they were able to communicate despite the fact that the cultures are different.”

Nikolai Naumov is Director of over 55 productions, author of nine plays for puppet theatre. Author of many articles on puppet theatre. He was Chairman of the jury of international theatre festivals in Russia and abroad, regular participant in international conferences on puppet theatre. He’s Co-creator of the following partnerships: Puppet Theatre Laboratory (together with the Union of Theatre Practitioners of the Russian Federation) and Fairytales of Our City (together with the St. Petersburg Children’s Library of History and Culture).

Has taught master classes in France, Romania, Latvia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Tunisia and more. The masterclass “Directing children’s and teenagers’ plays with the approach of fantasy stories” was held in Ardakan Research Center with Professor Nikolai Naumov from Russia during the holding of Ardakan Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults.

He said: “This is my first time traveling to Iran and in this short time I have witnessed the hospitality of Iranians. I wanted to get to know the people of Iran closely, and I’ve become familiar with them in the historical city of Ardakan, Yazd. And being in Iran was a new and good experience for me, because I saw that in Iran they go to the theater from childhood, this is very important for the progress and improvement of dramatic arts.”

He went on to say: “I have already studied Iran and Iranian culture, and I was familiar with Iranian poets such as Saadi, Khayyam, Ferdowsi and Hafez, and I read their poems and did research on them, and I had become familiar with Iran to some extent.”

Ardakan Festival shows are free of charge

Iran Theater- The audience can watch the shows of the 28th Ardakan Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults for free since Feb.22

At the request of the people and theater troupes, the provincial directors and the artistic director of the festival decided to perform the works of this event free of charge for the interested public in order to improve the productivity of children and youth of Ardakan and Meybod cities.

Therefore, the shows of this edition of the festival, which were performed for free in the morning especially for students, will be free for children and teenagers and their families during the next week’s holidays.
Kazem Nazari: Parliamentarians should allocate funds for theater

Iran Theater - Kazem Nazari, Director General of Dramatic Arts Center of Iran, pointed to the theater transformation document and said that we have the elections of the Islamic Council and the people's representatives in the parliament should allocate funds for the development of culture and theater. All organizations should help to increase the budget in the theater.

Nazari said that we should invest in the field of theater and have a plan for the economy of theater and pay attention to veteran and well-known theater artists: “I used to stage a show with 200 million toman, but now we have to spend a billion toman to perform a show. Now salary of stage actor is 200 million toman. Now wages are high and theater production has become very difficult.”

He continued: “We have good professional groups in Tehran and other cities. When a show sells 6 billion Tomans in Tabriz, it means that people love theater. Shows have been staged in Tehran and other cities that have sold well. There were shows in the City Theater that have sold three to four billion Tomans. The theater has its own business, and the reception offered the high quality of the shows.”

Saber Abar to direct “Tonight - Borscht and Blood”

Iran Theater - Saber Abar will direct the play “Tonight - Borscht and Blood” on middle of March 2024 at Tehran Book Garden. Ticket presale will start on Feb. 28.

Saber Abar, who has not worked in the theater for six years, is planning to stage the play “Tonight - Borscht and Blood” written by Mehdi Yazdani-Khorram from March 2024 at the blackbox of Tehran Book Garden. Abar and Fatemeg Naghavi stages this monologue theater, which is based on the novel “The Gentle Spirit” by Fyodor Dostoevsky and translated by Yalda Zabihi. tickets Sales for the show will start at 12:00 on Wednesday, Feb.28, on Tiwal website.

At the same time as the ticket pre-sale time was announced, the poster of the show which is designed by Farhad Fazoni and photographed by Ali Sabouki, was also unveiled.

Saber Abar is an Iranian actor, director and writer. He is best known for his performance in About Elly (2008), directed by Academy Award-winning Asghar Farhadi.

Iran Theater Sound
Iran Theater- The director general of dramatic arts, Kazem Nazari and a group of artists attended the opening ceremony of the show “Ketabkhora/ bookworms” and commemorated the memory of Karim Akbari Mubarake, and spoke of the late artist's efforts for children and youth theater.

**In memory of an artist who worked hard for children theater**

Iran Theater- The director general of dramatic arts, Kazem Nazari and a group of artists attended the opening ceremony of the show “Ketabkhora/ bookworms” and commemorated the memory of Karim Akbari Mubarake, and spoke of the late artist's efforts for children and youth theater.

The memorial ceremony of Karim Akbari and the opening of “Ketabkhora/ bookworms” show was held with the presence of Kazem Nazari, the General Director of Dramatic Arts Center of Iran, and a group of children's and youth theater artists and the artist's family on the evening of Friday, the February 16, at the Honar Hall.

The General Director of Dramatic Arts Center of Iran, Kazem Nazari told the children present at the event: “Dear children, the professor whose photo you see worked very hard for the children's theater. He spent time for the groups that worked in the theater to prepare high-quality work for you. Your parents have seen his good performance in the series Imam Ali (Davood Mir-Bagheri).”

Amin Akbari Nasab, the director of the Honar hall, said in this ceremony: “Today, in memory of the teacher Karim Akbari, we will open the show Bookworms and I hope that it will be a popular show because of him.”

He described this artist as a treasure for Iran's artistic community: “We keep the memory of him always alive. Akbari Mubarake was a member of the Honar hall council for many years and every time His name is remembered with his good deeds. I believe that his spirit is always present in this hall.”

The manager of the Honar hall said: “We are going to open the shows with the memory of the artists who are still alive.”

Then He described a memory of the production team of “Bookworms” which was supported by the late Karim Akbari Mubarake: “The theater troupe was preparing this work for the first time in the third edition of the City Theater Festival. At that time, the selection committee was Mrs. Maryam Kazemi and Mr. Nasser Avijeh and Mr. Karim Akbari Mubarake. It is said that these three stand-up artists encourage the group and a special encouragement is created for the group to follow the work. This opening is a kind of appreciation for these three artists.”

Nasser Avijeh spoke about his Colleague: “Today we are going to remember an artist who was a great man who went to the heaven. At the City Festival, we encouraged this show and all three members of the selection committee stood and applauded for them. The work was performed and now it is going to be restaged.”

Then, Majid Qanad said about his long-time collaboration with Karim Akbari Mubarake: “He and I made a theater for television in 1983 in which children acted. Now one of those children is a doctor in Tehran City Council, one is a choreographer in theater and... Karim loved children. He worked very well with them. His look was full of love.”

**Kazem Nazari:**

The Iranian National Theater Foundation is established

Kazem Nazari: Director General of Dramatic Arts Center of Iran, Kazem Nazari visited Iran Media Exhibition on the second day and he gave explanations about the state of formation of the National Theater Foundation of Iran.

He, who was present at the booth of Mehr news agency, said: “The plan for setting up the National Theater Foundation will be presented at the meeting of the General Council of Arts at the same time as the theater development document, and if approved, this foundation will be located in the Sangelaj Theater Complex.”

Nazari said that the General Department of Performing Arts is too small for Iran's theater: “More than anything in the country, we need a theater organization. The formation of this organization requires a mutual understanding between the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance and several other institutions. Therefore We have predicted the plan of the theater organization in the country's theater development document.”
Iran Theater- One of the new and special sections of the 28th International Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults is the “Faragir Section” which is held with the cooperation and participation of the Welfare Organization with the aim of equalizing opportunities and maximum participation of people with physical and mobility disabilities in drama events of Iran.

Faragir section includes the works of theater troupes with disabilities in hearing, vision, mental, movement, and the elderly. Eight theater troupes were selected by the jury to perform in this section. On the first day of the festival, two plays “Mehman Jamande/ Guest staying ” written by Nasrin Khanjari and directed by Mohsen Mirzaei from Kerman province and “Girl, bike, go around” written by Ali Mouzani and directed by Allahyar Mohammadi from Tabriz were staged in the Kavousi Plateau of Ardakan city, which were well received by the audience.

“The Girl Who Luck Is On Her Side” written by Patricia Clapp and directed by Mahnaz Beyk from Mehriz at Helal Ahmar Hall and the play “Ghanbar’s Cow” by Zahra Sadri from Astana Ashrafieh at Shahr Khurshid Plateau have been well received by the audience. The play “Diyar Roya” written by Behnam Mirzaei and directed by Narges Souri and “Chandali” written by Mohammad Parsaeikhah and directed by Jafar Jafarzadeh will be staged at Imam Khomeini Hall on Thursday.

On the last day of the festival, the show “Chand Parandeh Varang” by Rasool Salehi from Zanjan and “Happy Marriage” by Salima Zabihi from Shirvan will be performed on the plateau of Khurshid in Meybod city. The 28th edition of the International Theater Festival for Children and Young Adults is underway in Ardakan city.

Iran Theater- Esmaeel Rahimi- Soroush, the writer and director of the show “Bookworms” says that his life path has changed by watching the children show, he considers having honesty and respect in producing work for children as conditions for success in this field.

The children’s show “Bookworms” written and directed by Esmaeel Rahimi -Soroush is one of children play, which is running from February 14 to March 15 at 17:30p.m at Honar Hall. Rahimi- Soroush talked about this show: “It is about the conflict between a spider and a cockroach and termites that live in a library.” He continued: “I was looking for a play for the subject of “Pedagogy and Children’s Theater” while I was writing my acting thesis in the undergraduate course. I read many plays and this idea has been forming in my mind since then. This idea was in my mind until years later, when I wrote it in 2014 and won the best play award at Hamadan International Children and Youth Theater Festival.”

Referring to the age group of the audience of this show, this artist added: “Children are the audience of this show, and in the songs, content and other elements of the scene, I considered children as my audiences.” He emphasized: “The Theater must provide the conditions for the future of children. It is very important that children can experience different emotions in a safe environment with their families so that they can prepare for the future.”

This artist explained about the set and costume design: “We used huge decorations in the set design. We only have two suitable halls for this type of stage design; Therefore, many artists are using minimal decors with less fantasy elements. This is an issue that children theater officials should definitely think about.”
Ali Nassirian's biography book is unveiled

Iran Theater- The commemoration ceremony of Ali Nassirian and the unveiling of the book “Looking at the life and works of Ali Nassirian” will be held at Mellat Gallery Cinema.

Ali Nassirian is an Iranian actor. He has received various accolades, including two Crystal Simorghs, a Hafez Award, an Iran’s Film Critics and Writers Association Award and a Sepas Award.

The book “Looking at the life and works of Ali Nassirian” written by Negar Hosseini and published by Farhang Moaser publishing house in 348 pages. The personal and artistic life of Nassirian is narrated in this book and the artistic events of the 40s to 50s are reviewed.

In a part of book, it’s written: Many people tell me to come and share your experiences in acting and theater. So what should I share? Should I come and tell the new generation that during high school, for theater rehearsals, when they planted trees in the corner of the city park, and it didn’t even have walls or fences, we used to go and rehearse in a corner? The new generation with today’s standards says, Well, you were crazy! I should say that there was no one, we didn’t have a place, , there was no workshop, no place, no theater office, no dramatic arts center, no Rudaki Hall, , no Sangelaj Theater, nothing, nowhere and we practiced and worked in these conditions.”

The ceremony will take place with artists and Ali Nassirian Thursday, March 7, 2024 at Mellat Cinema Complex.