



A vast collection of ceramics and potteries, comprising 2,000 pieces by Iranian crafter Zahra Kavian, is currently on show at the headquarters of the Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization in Tehran.

In an interview with CHTN, Kavian, who works as a potter for over ten years, said that the exhibit titled "Golneh" aims to introduce ceramics and earthen products in both practical and decorating techniques. Golneh is capable to have a word with art lovers of every society, she said, adding that she tries to realize the previously put forward idea of "Iranian Home", an approach that embeds traditional handicrafts in modern homes. "Iranian Home" made its debut at the 28th National Crafts Exhibition in 2017 to promote Iranian crafts through presentation of their usefulness in practice.

Pieces of 2,000 Pottery on Show at Tehran Exhibit

Bakhtegan Wetland Shrinking, Flamingo Chicks in Danger

Flamingo chicks being born in shallow waters of Bakhtegan wetland in Fars province are threatened to death due to the drying up wetland; while only the Ministry of Energy can help them survive granting Bakhtegan water right, IRNA reported on Sunday. Bakhtegan Lake is a salt lake with a surface area of 3,500 square kilometers it was once Iran's second-largest lake. It was fed by the Kor River. Several dams on the river had significantly reduced water flow into the lake, increasing its salinity and endangering the lake's populations of flamingos and other migratory birds.

With heavy rainfall raising Bakhtegan wetland level by 30 percent, flocks of flamingos migrated to the wetland nesting and laying eggs, however, temperature raise along with high evaporation resulted in drainage of the wetland which put the life of many flamingo hatchlings at risk.

Based on the latest data published by National Drought Warning and Monitoring Center affiliated to Iran's Meteorological Organization, since the current crop year (September 23, 2018), Fars province recorded 367 millimeters of rainfall compared to 132.9 millimeters in the previous water year, demonstrating a 176.2 percent rise. The amount also raised in comparison to the long-term average of 296.5 mm, amounting to 23.8 percent.

This is while, the Department of Environment has determined the wetland water right, and announced to the Ministry of Energy, which so far has not taken even a single step to provide its water right.

Water right of Bakhtegan and Tashk wetlands have been designated due to their seasonal and climatic conditions, which is about 1.2 billion cubic meters in case of high precipitation and 342 million cubic meters in drought spells and 700 million cubic meters in normal conditions, which must be provided by the Ministry of Energy, the deputy environment chief for the wetlands said.

"We called on the Ministry to provide the water rights preventing the wetlands being dried affected by evaporation, but so far, no water has been released," Masoud Baqerzadeh lamented.

However, the Ministry has released 120 million cubic meters of water for agricultural sector, he added.

The water rights must be provided before the beginning of summer and rising temperature, otherwise it would not be so efficient, he regretted. "We are conducting studies to find the best sources and ways of providing the water right. The Department of Environment is pursuing the process to save the flamingo chicks."

Over 4 Million visit Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad in a year

Over four million people, mostly domestic travelers, toured Iran's Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province during the past

Iranian calendar year (ended on March 20), MP Qolam-Mohammad Zarei, who represents the south-western province, said on Monday.

He made the remarks at the opening ceremony of a vast ethno-cultural exhibition, which turns the spotlight on nomadic life, traditions, arts, handicrafts and souvenirs in the capital city of Yasuj, IRNA reported.

The substantial role of nomads in serving the county is highlighted through their way of life

in tribal black tents, their seasonal migration to different parts of the country in order to achieve better pastures for livestock breeding and production of dairy products and handicrafts, he explained.

A total of 100 stalls and 24 black tents have been set up for the exhibit in which tribespeople from 25 provinces are promoting skills through July 11. Sightseers in Iran may live with a nomadic or rural family for a while or enjoy an independent stay and assist them with day-to-day life. Diverse natural setting of the country has long made it a destination for nature lovers.



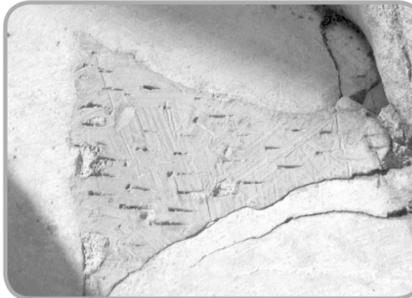
Rare Dovetail-joints Found in UNESCO-tagged Pasargadae

Personnel of Pasargadae have recently found two rare dovetail-joints, which used to attach massive stone slabs, pillars and columns in the UNESCO World Heritage site that was once the capital of the Achaemenid Empire under Cyrus the Great (559-530 BC), who ordered its construction. The dovetail joint technique probably pre-dates written history. Some of the earliest known examples of the dovetail joint are in ancient Egyptian furniture entombed with mummies dating from First Dynasty, as well as the tombs of Chinese emperors. The dovetail design is an important method of distinguishing various periods of furniture. Over the past couple of centuries, some people pulled the dovetail-joints out of their place in order to use its lead for making slugs for shotguns as the abuse

have caused a lot of damage to the stone blocks and the architecture of the buildings, ILNA quoted Afshin Ebrahimi, director of the World Heritage site, as saying on

Friday. It's the first time that such well flawless dovetail-joints are found in Pasargadae, perhaps they have remained hidden from the eyes of the abductors, the official said. The discovery was made during a preservation project already began to unite the scattered pieces with the aim of

helping to read out the architecture of the complex. Situated in about 50 km north of Persepolis, Pasargadae embraces outstanding examples of the first phase of royal Achaemenid art and architecture and exceptional testimonies of Persian civilization. Cyrus was the founder of Achaemenid Empire which at its greatest extent stretched from the Balkans to the Indus Valley, spanning 5.5 million square kilometers. The Persian king declared world's first charter of human rights, also known as the Cyrus Cylinder.



Despite the minimal nature of the ruins they make a good introduction to the wonders of Persepolis, some 60km to the south. Best visited en route from Yazd or Isfahan to Shiraz, most people fit them into an extended tour from Persepolis with stops at Naqsh-e Rostam and Naqsh-e Rostam.

Badab-e Surt is a rare geologic place which attracts geology lovers to one of the most beautiful tourist attractions in Mazandaran province, northern Iran. It comprises a range of stepped travertine terrace formations that has been created over thousands of years as flowing water from two mineral hot springs cooled and deposited carbonate minerals on the mountainside.

The beautiful springs of Badab-e Surt, also known as color

springs, attracts a lot of tourists to this place every year. It is located 95 kilometers south of Sari city, Capital of Mazandaran province and 7 kilometers west of Orost village. It sits at 1,840 meters above sea level and is the culmination of thousands of years of limestone deposited by water flowing from two mineral hot springs during Pleistocene and Pliocene geological periods.

Badab-e Surt includes two springs with different natural characteristics in terms of color, smell, taste and volume of the water. The first spring has very salty water that gathers in a small natural pool; its water is useful for medicinal properties, especially as a cure

for rheumatism and some types of skin diseases, migraine and foot pain. It is appropriate at summer and also, will not freeze in winter due to its salt.

The second spring located in the northwest of the first spring has a sour taste and is mostly orange and red mainly due to the large iron oxide sediments at its outlet. In one part of a floor of the pond, there is a deep hole is called the Bermuda Erost. The depth of this hole is estimated 98 meters.

Badab-e Surt was recorded as the second Iran's natural heritage list in 2008. It is the second largest salt spring of the world after Turkey's Pamukkale. It is one of the most important programs of Iranian authorities to register it on UNESCO World Heritage List as a unique natural place.

There are only six somewhat similar spring like Badab-e Surt in the world; Pamukkale in Turkey, Bagni San Filippo in Italy, Agoura El Hierro in Mexico, White-Water Terraces (Baishuitai) in China, yellow stones in the US and The Pink Terraces (Otukapuarangi) in New Zealand. The place gets its name from a combination of the Persian words for "gassed water" and the old name of the nearest village, which means "intensity." The best time to visit Badab-e-Surt is April and May, Although it is beautiful in all seasons. The most breathtaking scenes and wonderful view of light reflection on the ponds are during sunset or sunrise. When the lights shine the traces, it makes the ponds glow with red, orange, brown and yellow.



Badab-e Surt Seven Colors Springs

cooking



Cinnamon Roll

Cinnamon Roll is sweet and when made fresh the scent of cinnamon can make a person to take a mandatory coffee break. Cinnamon is a natural antibacterial and anti fungal medicine.

Ingredients:

- 2 Cups All-Purpose Flour
- 1 Cup All-Purpose Flour
- 1/3 Cup Light Brown Sugar
- 1/2 Cup Sugar
- 1/2 Cup Powdered Sugar
- 4 Tbsp Unsalted Butter
- 1 Tbsp Unsalted Butter
- 1/2 Cup Plain Yogurt
- 1 Egg
- 2 Tsp Ground Cinnamon
- 2 Tsp Yeast
- 1 Tsp Salt
- 1/4 Tsp Salt
- 1/2 Cup Walnuts
- 2 Tbsp Maple Syrup
- 1/2 Tsp Vanilla Extract
- 1/4 Tsp Vanilla Extract
- 1 Tbsp Milk



Directions:

- 1- Combine 2 cups of all purpose flour, yeast, 1 Tsp Salt, light brown sugar in a large bowl.
- 2- Stir in plain yogurt.
- 3- Mix 4 tbsp butter and 1/2 cup boiling water in a small pot and heat until the butter is melted.
- 4- Add the butter to the flour bowl and stir until well mixed.
- 5- Whisk an egg and 1/2 tsp vanilla extract in a separate bowl and mix into the flour.
- 6- As you knead the batter, gradually stir in approx. 1 cup of flour or as much as your batter doesn't feel too sticky.
- 7- knead the batter further on a floured working surface.
- 8- Place the batter back into the bowl, cover with plastic wrap and allow to sit for an hour at room/warm temperature or until it's doubled in size.

FILLING

- 9- Combine 1/2 cup sugar, ground cinnamon, 1/4 tsp salt and ground walnuts.
- 10- Add maple syrup and stir until well mixed.
- 11- Transfer the risen dough to a well floured working surface.
- 12- Roll out the to a rectangular shape.
- 13- Add the cinnamon filling on top of the batter and spread across (leave an inch or two from the edges).
- 14- Roll the dough over in roulette shape from either edge.
- 15- Slice the roulette in 1 inch slices and lay into a greased (vegetable oil) bakeware.
- 16- Allow the rolls to sit for 30 minutes before placing in oven.
- 17- Preheat oven to 375° F (190° C), bake the cinnamon rolls for 20 minutes.
- 18- Melt a tbsp of unsalted butter in a saucer pan and brush the surface of the cinnamon rolls.
- 19- Continue baking the cinnamon rolls for 5 to 10 more minutes or until the cinnamon start to get golden.

SUGAR GLAZE

- 20- Combine powder sugar with 1/4 Tsp Vanilla extract and 1 tsp milk and stir until mixed thoroughly.
- 21- Pour the glaze over the cinnamon roll as much as preferred.

Iranian Shorts to Vie at 33rd Edmonton Filmfest. in Canada

A number of Iranian short films, including 'Magralen' by Maryam Zarei, have made it into the competition program of the 33rd Edmonton International Film Festival (EIFF) in Canada. The Iranian short films selected for the lineup of the Canadian film festival include: 'Magralen' by Maryam Zarei, 'Driving Lessons' by Marzieh Riahi, animated piece 'Greyish' by Eghbal Shirzaei-Sani, and short documentary 'Beloved' by Yaser Talebi. Winners of best short film and best animation awards will qualify for the Academy Awards. 'Magralen' had taken part at the 69th Berlin Film Festival (Berlinale) this year.

