

Iran Theater- Three street shows and three stage shows won awards in the last part of the regional theater festival in East Azarbaijan province and will compete in the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival.



The 28th regional theater festival crowns the winners

The 28th regional theater festival was held in its fourth part, titled Sahand Festival, with the participation of more than three hundred artists and among the warm welcome of the audience and the people of Tabriz from 7 to 10 January. The closing ceremony of the Sahand Regional Theater Festival was held on January 10 in the 29 Bahman Cultural and Art Complex in Tabriz. The artists and officials who participated in the closing ceremony were Kazem Nazari (Director General of Dramatic Arts), Mehdi Ramezani Chabak (Director General of the Coordination Office of Provincial Affairs), Torab Mo-

hammad (Political Deputy of East Azerbaijan Governorate), Mohammad- Hossein Balaghi (Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Azerbaijan) Eastern), Esrafil Farajollahi (CEO of Iran Dramatic Arts Association) and provincial officials. Kazem Nazari, director general of Dramatic Arts of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, said: "The regional theater festival is a good opportunity for the development of this dramatic art in Iran." He added: "In the Sahand Regional Theater Festival, which was held in Tabriz City, eleven show competed in the street section and eight-

een in the stage section, and the jurors awarded the best works with expert and detailed review." Seyed Mohammad- Hossein Balaghi, Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of East Azerbaijan, also said: "29 theater groups competed in both stage and street sections, most of them were young artists, and by participating in various festivals and gaining more experience, they will be the next generation of the country's theater." While welcoming performing arts groups, Tarab Mohammadi, the political deputy of the governor, said: "East Azerbaijan is one of the

main hubs of the country's culture and art, and we have long wanted to hold national-regional and international events in this province." Three winners of stage section will perform in 2024 FITF: "Kapotage" directed by Morteza Najafi from Qazvin, "In my arms water, soil and blood" directed by Amir Hamed from Gilan, "1320" directed by Yousef Dadjo from Ardabil. Three acclaimed street shows will be compete in 2024 FITF: "Seven Stones" directed by Mahnaz Pakdel from Khorasan Razavi, "Statue" directed by Milad Hosseinzadeh from Gilan, "Dream" directed by Erfan Darabi from Kurdistan.



Mohammad -Ali Sadegh -Hasani: Street theater artists should make new works

Iran Theater- Mohammad -Ali Sadegh -Hasani who is a jury members of the street section at Silk Road Regional Theater Festival, believes that the works participating in the festival should not have participated in any festival before.

About adding a street section to the regional theater festival, he said: "I think it's better for street theater artists to participate in festivals with new productions. I meant that they produce new theaters that have not participated in any festival before, just like the stage section where plays that have participated in other festivals cannot submit. Works that have been produced since the beginning of the year until the

provincial festival can participate." He thinks that street theater should be performed in open areas of the city: "At festivals, street shows should not be performed in a closed space, street theater is actually something else. When it is performed at the city, everyone will have the opportunity to see and know the street show, and this will have great impact on the joy of the society and even the Business cycle." Mohammad-Ali Sadegh-Hasani is one of the first generation of street theater artists in Iran: "When a street show is effective and has something to say, people welcome it, for example, on the closing day of the Fajr Festival, I performed a show for twenty-three times without a break, because the au-

dience requested. In the end, Mahmoud Farhang came and took us to participate in the ceremony, when we didn't even have time to change our clothes." He points out that there have been street performances in Iran since many years ago: "Our people are not strangers to street performances. In the past, we had Ma'rekeh, siah bazi, and pahlavan bazi, which were all performed in the open air and were street performances, and we have somehow made a street with our Iranian show. And our street theater artists should go for new subjects, there are thousands of topics in the discussion of social harms that can be dealt with."



Hossein Mosafer Astandeh: The Regional festival provides professional interaction between artists

Iran Theater- Hossein Mosafer Astandeh, one of the jurors of the stage section of the Sahand Regional Theater Festival in Tabriz, said that festival can introduce provincial groups to each other and provides a professional interaction between artists and makes basic works for artists in different regions to learn from the experiences of the other.

He, Mansoor Hamidi and Tajbakhsh Fanaian are the jury members of the stage section.

The artist said about holding the regional theater festival: "This festival is one of the most important theater events in Iran. It can bring together provincial groups and provides some opportunities for artists from different to learn from the experiences of other theater artists."

He continued: I congratulate the theater officials who succeeded in reviving this important festival and refreshing the country's theater. One thing that can be said about this festival is the time pressure in the performances of this festival, which sometimes makes both the artists and the jury and organizer of the festival tired; Of course, due to the saving of budget and time, it has been planned in such a way and it's understandable.

This theater director continued: "The performances we have seen so far proves that the theater groups are very well prepared, which made our work very difficult."

Hossein Mosafer Astandeh emphasized: "It is the rule that the show is performed for the audience; And in the provincial festivals, we see the good reception of the stage and street shows by them."

Ali- Akbar Tarkhan: The fundamental evolution of the theater needs basic training

Iran Theater-Ali Akbar Tarkhan, a member of the Monitoring and Evaluation Council of the General Directorate of Dramatic Arts, believes that if we want to see a fundamental and radical change in the mainstream of the country's theater, we should give more value to education.

Iran Theater-Ali -Akbar Tarkhan, a member of the Monitoring and Evaluation Council of the General Directorate of Dramatic Arts, believes that if we want to see a fundamental and radical change in the mainstream of the country's theater, we should give more value to education. Ali -Akbar Tarkhan, who participated in the Khavaran Regional Theater Festival, spoke about the importance of paying attention to education and improving the quality of works to participate in the Fajr International Theater Festival.

He said: I believe that some shows has weak qualities, So the jurors have to select works with better qualities; In In these circumstances, there is no positive impact on the art of theater and it does not have much effect on the quality of the works, which would lead to the progress of the mainstream of this art.

He continued: We have to raise new generations by equipping the infrastructure, transferring funds to smaller towns and even villages, creating schools, a strong educational system, and building halls, and educate people in a proper, professional, academic, and useful way with experienced teachers.

Ali Akbar Tarkhan believes: Iran has very high capabilities for all arts and especially for performing arts. Also, there are many people interested in this field that we see their presence in all provincial, regional, Fajr, ritual-traditional, children and youth festivals and...

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