

## Workshop Promotes Children's Confidence

**TEHRAN, Sept. 29**--Children from every age group are knowledgeable irrespective of the country in which they live and authors should try to help the children know themselves and shed light on the dark spots of their minds.

Expressing this view, an Iranian author, Elias Pour-Gholam, who is conducting a workshop in the ongoing European Children's Literature Festival in Tehran, said that many children had a backdrop of knowledge in their minds and it was evident that they enjoyed the training courses held at the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults.

"In the workshop, I did my best to communicate with the children by narrating Iranian tales and testing their level of knowledge," he said.

Pour-Gholam, who currently lives in Norway, said that the modern methodology for educating children



Elias Pour-Gholam at his workshop in the ongoing European Children's Literature Festival.

calls for speaking with them and helping them communicate with their teachers and expressing themselves rather than talking to them unilaterally.

"Unfortunately, in Iran, the teachers prefer to talk to the children unilaterally, but, in Europe, there is a tendency among the teachers to listen to the children, because they also have useful experience to narrate."

Asked whether the Europeans are familiar with Iranian children's literature, he said that the Europeans know about Iranian classic literature and works of authors such as Sadeq Hedayat, but, since Persian children's literature has not been translated into European languages (English or French), they are not familiar with this literary branch.

He said that European writers were impressed to see the Persian books for children in terms of their content and illustrations and they are willing to gain acquaintance about Persian children's literature.

