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Dutch children learning about Iranian culture

Tehran Times Culture Desk

TEHRAN (MNA) — Thirty Dutch children are currently learning Iranian traditions, customs, and language and are wearing the traditional costumes of Iran in their homeland as part of a special cultural exchange program.

According to the Public Relations Office of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA), the children's section of the Royal Museum of the Netherlands holds cultural exchange programs to teach the traditions of non-Western countries to Dutch children aged 9 and 10.

Children have been learning about Iranian traditions at the museum since September 2003. In the program, the children get the opportunity to wear Iranian clothes, eat Iranian food, and become familiarized with the history, language, and literature of Iran. They also keep in touch with 30 Iranian children who are members of IIDCYA, with the children sending e-mails,

photos, and poems to each other.

Iranian children have been given the same opportunity and are learning about the culture and language of the Netherlands.

Foreign guests participating in the Festival of European and Iranian Children's Literature (September 22 to October 8) in Tehran and the managing director of IIDCYA recently paid a visit to Iranian members of IIDCYA participating in the cultural exchange program in order to become familiarized with their activities.

The European writers and illustrators were quite surprised and expressed their interest in establishing similar cultural exchange programs for the children of their own countries.

