

## Dutch Children Learning Persian Culture



A group of Dutch children at the European Festival of Children's Literature in Tehran

**TEHRAN, Oct. 8**--Dutch children are learning Persian language skills and getting an insight into the lifestyle and local costumes of the Iranians.

The Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and the Young Adults (IIDCYA) said in a press release that the Royal Dutch Museum has taken up a plan to teach the Persian language and culture to 30 Dutch children in the 9-10 age group for two

and a half years.

Under the program, the Royal Dutch Museum will encourage children of the Netherlands to get acquainted with a non-European language and culture.

The program for teaching Persian language and culture to 30 Dutch children has been held in the Netherlands since September 2003 and will continue until early 2006.

The IIDCYA said that the

center has coordinated 30 Iranian children members of Qasr-e Dasht branch to form Internet contact and chat with their Dutch friends exchanging views, photos, poems to get to know one another's language and culture better.

Foreign guests taking part in the European Festival of Children's Literature accompanied by reporter from Austrian television visited the IIDCYA and saw the photos, paintings, handicrafts and presents the Dutch children had sent to their Iranian friends.

The European authors and painters were impressed with the friendship the Iranian and Dutch children have developed and called for adopting the same program for fostering friendship between Iranian children and those from their own country. The head of IIDCYA Mohsen Chiniforushan told Austrian television that within two and half years education, Iranian children will learn Dutch language and they could communicate with their friends and vice versa.

