

Press release

3rd International Simorgh Peace Prize awards

10 December 2014



Kabul -Today, Armanshahr Foundation/OPEN ASIA announced the recipients of the 3rd International Simorgh Peace Prize awards. In the 3rd Festival, works of musicians in Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Iran were appreciated. The following artists are the recipients of the azure statute of Simorgh Peace Prize.

Afghanistan: “Afghan Youth Orchestra - Afghanistan National Institute of Music” for training a new generation of girls and boys and paying attention to music of Afghanistan and the world; “Ms. Zarsanga” for a lifetime of artistic activities, keeping alive the voice of women in Afghanistan despite all the constraints, and her call to peace through music.

Iran: “Master Mohammad Reza Shajarian” for a lifetime of artistic activities and his persistent companionship of the people; and “Rastak Music Ensemble” for concentrating on the local music of ethnic communities and different languages in Iran, the strong presence of women within the ensemble and spreading happiness among the people.

Tajikistan: “Falak Centre” and its founder and director “Mr Davlatmand Khal” for establishing the Centre, endeavours to safeguard the Falak musical legacy, and consciously promoting the classical and modern literature through this musical genre; “Ms Golchehra Sadiqova”, mother of music in Tajikistan for a lifetime of artistic activities; and “Mr Daler Nazar” for cultural perseverance and endeavouring to keep alive the literary legacy through modern music as well as combine the pop and jazz music with Tajikistan’s national music.

The Secretariat of the 3rd International Simorgh Peace Prize wishes more success for all these artists.

Armanshahr Foundation/OPEN ASIA established the International Simorgh Peace Prize in 2009. In the first round, poets and writers from the region received the awards. In the second round, independent publishers of Afghanistan received awards and the National library of Tajikistan as well as Ministry of culture of Tajikistan were praised for establishing a great house for books and publishing activities.

The Simorgh Peace Prize is awarded to artists and cultural activists working for peace and friendship once every 30 months.

Armanshahr Foundation/OPEN ASIA was established during the civil war of Tajikistan in 1996 and has taken numerous initiatives and been involved in many cultural and human rights activities in the heart of Asia in the course of the past 18 years.

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