

Bridges between Cultures

March 20th 2021



Noruz, the spring equinox
Mahdi Rokni – ITAU Iran

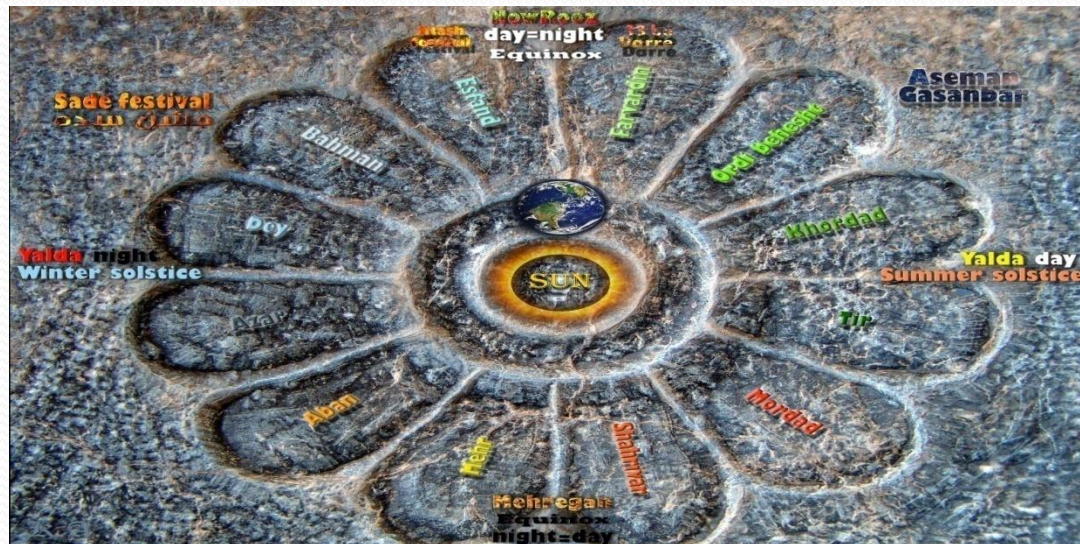


IN THE NAME OF GOD

nowruz, the spring equinox

The Persian Solar Hijri Calendar

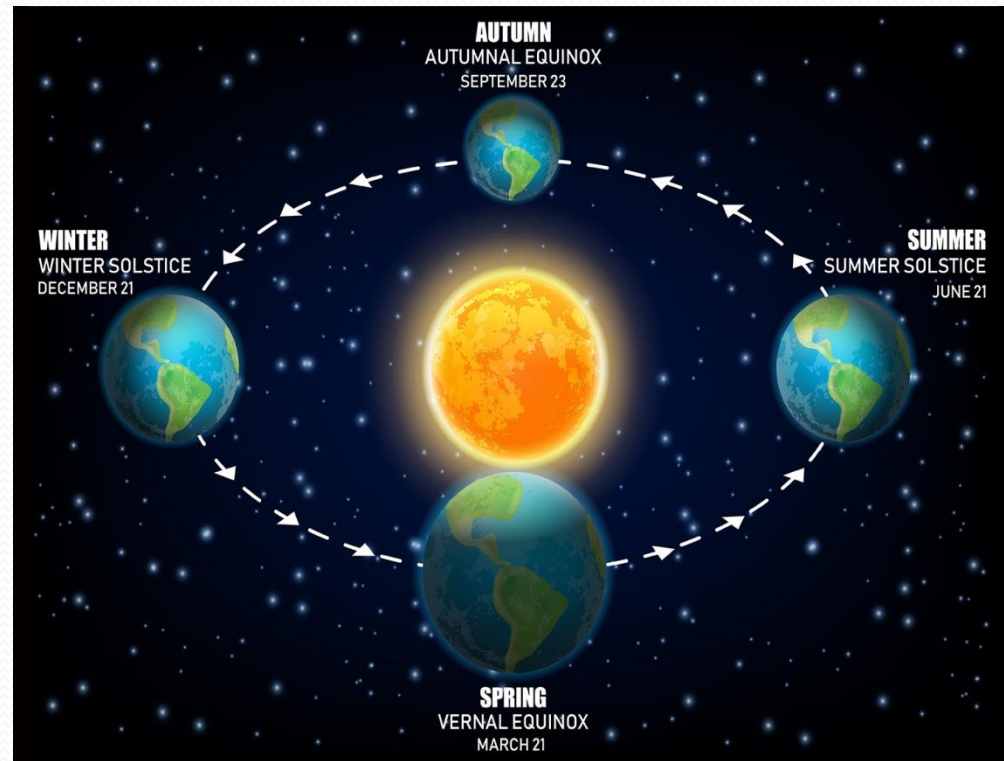
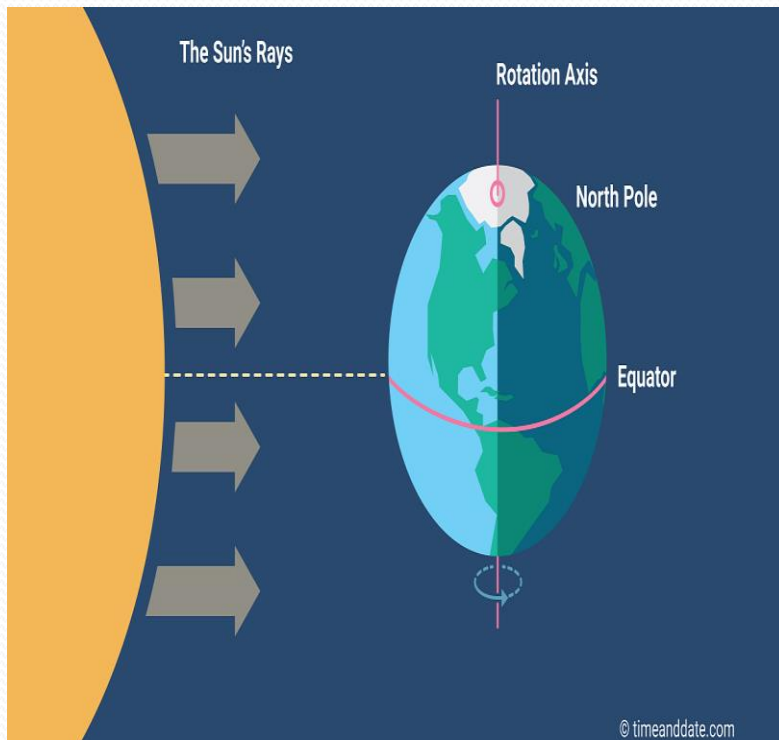
- Officially used in Iran and Afghanistan, the Solar Hijri calendar is one of the world's most accurate calendar systems. It is also known as Persian Calendar, Iranian Calendar, and SH Calendar.
- {The Solar Hijri calendar is not to be confused with the Islamic Hijri calendar used in many Muslim countries and by Muslims around the world.}



Why this Calendar is so important?

- **_Tied to the Equinox**
- The Solar Hijri calendar is a solar calendar, meaning that its time reckoning is based on the Earth's movements around the Sun.
- Unlike the Gregorian calendar, which follows a set
- of predetermined rules to stay in sync with the solar year,
- the Solar Hijri calendar is based on astronomical
- observations. The year begins at midnight closest to
- the **vernal equinox** in Iran—specifically at the **Iran standard time** meridian at longitude 52.5° east, which runs about 250 miles (400 km) east of Tehran. The first day of the new year is called **Nowruz**, and it is celebrated around the world by Iranian people.

What is an equinox?

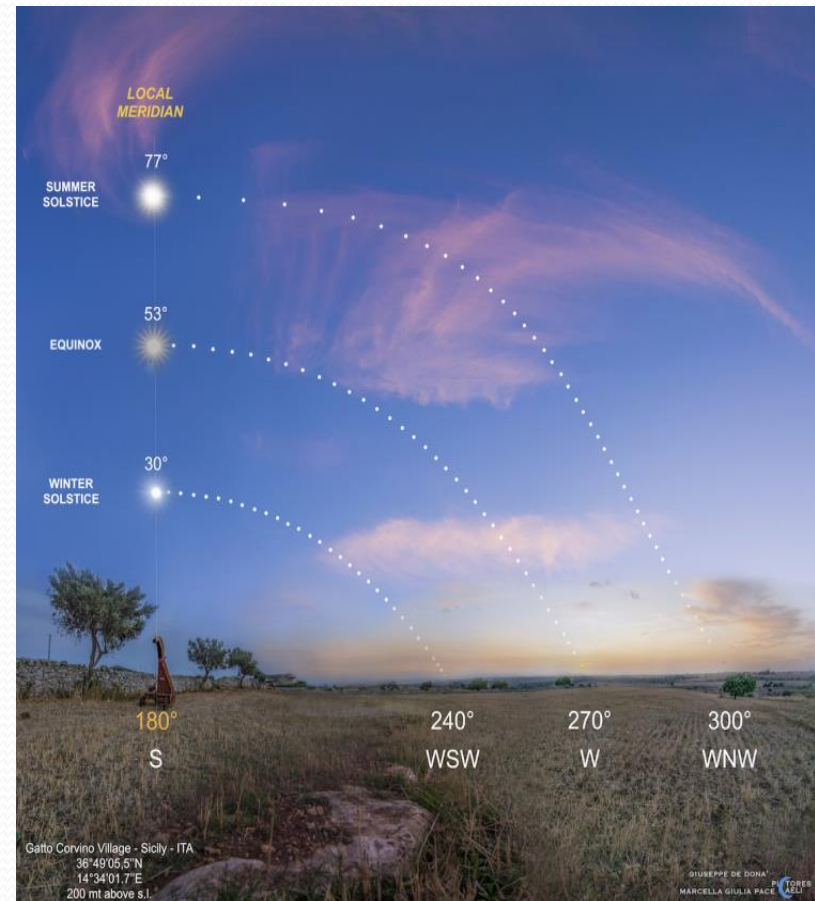




- Every six months, once in March and again in September, an equinox splits Earth's day almost in half, giving us about 12 hours of daylight and 12 of night. On March 20, 2021, nature will once again bring us the vernal equinox, the time of year that ushers in spring in the Northern Hemisphere. Then, on September 22, the autumnal equinox will signal the coming of fall for the North. Those dates are swapped for the vernal and autumnal equinoxes in the Southern Hemisphere.

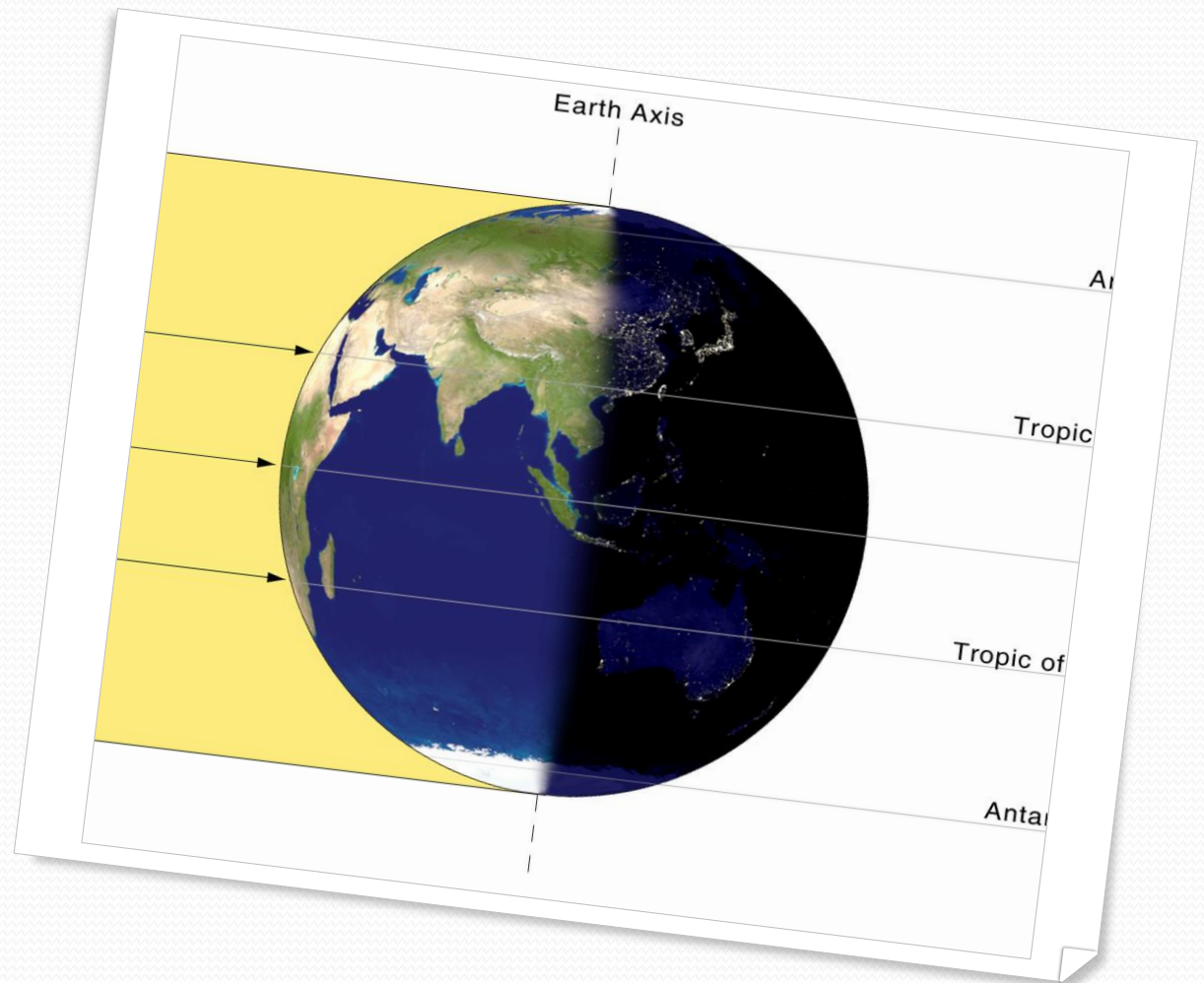
Why do equinoxes happen?

- Our planet normally orbits the sun on an axis that's tilted 23.5 degrees, meaning that the hemispheres trade off getting more warmth from the sun. Two times a year, Earth's orbit and its axial tilt combine so that the sun sits right above Earth's Equator, casting the dividing line between the light and dark parts of the planet—the so-called terminator, or twilight zone—through the North and South Poles. The terminator doesn't perfectly divide the planet into dark and light; Earth's atmosphere bends sunlight by 37 miles (60 kilometers), which equals half a degree. That means one half of the planet is still a little more lit than the other, even on an equinox.



Earth isn't the only planet that experiences equinoxes: Every planet in our solar system has

Shall we go next?



HISTORICAL STRUCTURE

- In this paragraph I want to talk about historical building that we used it for Astronomical activity . ↓
- - this masterpiece called (chahar tagh)

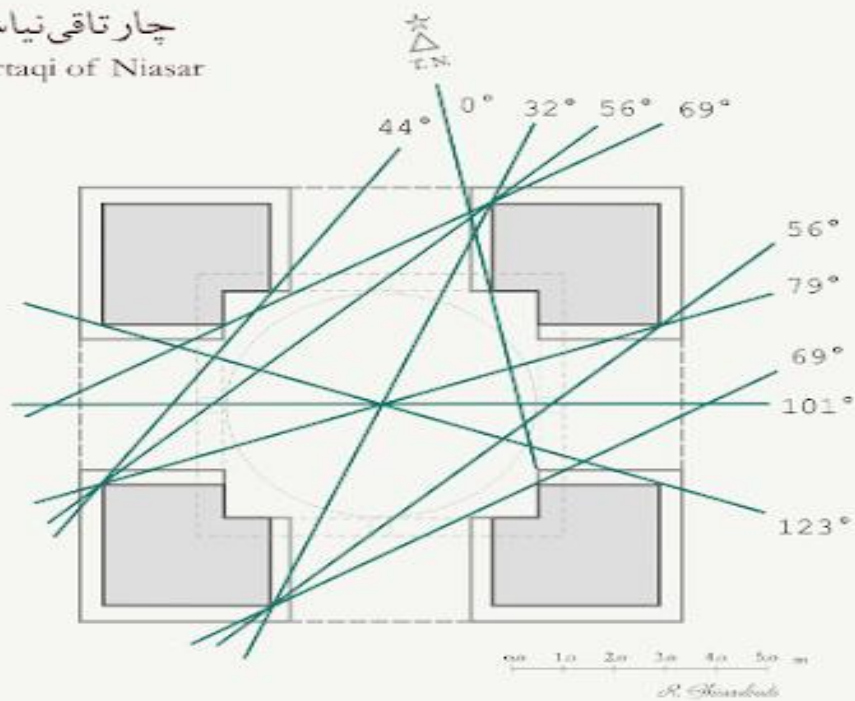


WHAT IS CHAHAR TAGH?

- **The Niasar Fire Temple (called Chahar Tagh) is a structure with a dome over a rock at the highest point of Niasar village, located 28 kilometers west of Kashan. The Fire Temple can be seen from quite a distance and has remained relatively intact since the time of Sassanid dynasty.**
- But also this structure has a another usage, researchers found out that chahar tagh can shows and help astronomers to notice equinox ,but how?
- They guess by the angle of building and where they built.



چارتاقي نياسر
Chartaqi of Niasar

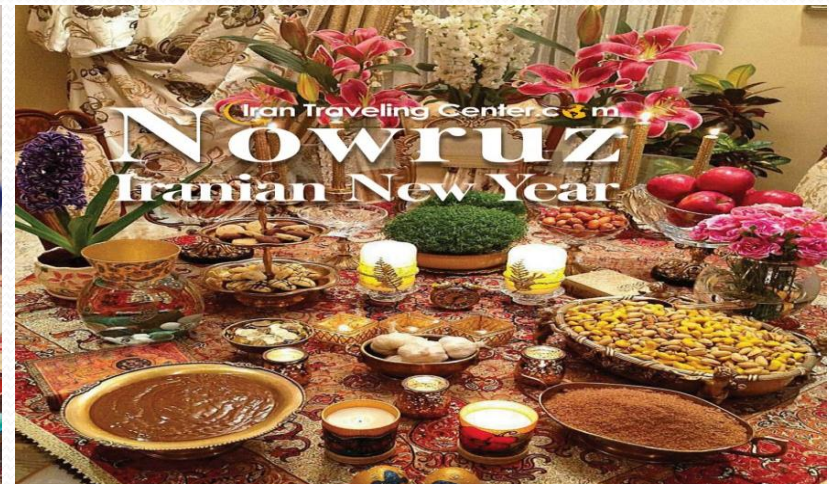


درجه های میل از شمال جغرافیایی، ستاره قطبی

زاویه های میان پایه ها
angles

What is Nowruz and How we celebrate it?

- Nowruz is two-week celebration that marks the beginning of the New Year in Iran's official Solar Hejri calendar . The celebration includes four public holidays from the first to the fourth day of Farvardin, the first month of the Iranian calendar, usually beginning on March 21. On the Eve of Nowruz, the fire festival Chaharshanbe Suri is celebrated.



TRADITIONS FOR PERSIAN NEW YEAR

- Charshanbe Suri ,(lit."Festive Wednesday") is a prelude to the New Year. In Iran, it is celebrated on the eve of the last Wednesday before Nowruz. It is usually celebrated in the evening by performing rituals such as jumping over bonfires and lighting off firecrackers and fireworks.
- Iranians sing the poetic line "my yellow is yours, your red is mine", which means my weakness to you and your strength to me.
- to the fire during the festival, asking the fire to take away ill-health and problems and replace them with warmth, health, and energy. Trail mix and berries are also served during the celebration



تش تش نوروز ایکنم شادی هر روز ایکنم
سرخی توی مو زردی موسی تو
غم بره شادی ییا
مخت بره روزی ییا



-
- Spoon banging (قاشق زنی) is a tradition observed on the eve of Charshanbe Suri, similar to the Halloween custom of trick-or-treating. In Iran, people wear disguises and go door-to-door banging spoons against plates or bowls and receive packaged snacks. In Azerbaijan, children slip around to their neighbors' homes and apartments on the last Tuesday prior to Novruz, knock at the doors, and leave their caps or little basket on the thresholds, hiding nearby to wait for candies, pastries and nuts.





- In this time, people will go to vacation and having fun with their family.
- Haft-Seen also spelled as Haft Sīn (Persian: هفت سین, the seven seen's) is a tabletop (sofreh) arrangement of seven symbolic items traditionally displayed at Nowruz, the Persian new year. The haft-seen table includes seven items all starting with the letter Seen (letter s) (fa) (س) in the Persian alphabet.



The Haft-Seen table items

- Sabzeh – (سبزه) wheat, barley, mung bean or lentil sprouts growing in a dish - symbolizing rebirth
- Samanu – (سمنو) sweet pudding made from wheat germ – symbolizing affluence
- Senjed – (سنجد) dried oleaster Wild Olive fruit – symbolizing love
- Seer – (سیر) garlic – symbolizing the medicine and health
- Seeb – (سیب) apple – symbolizing beauty
- Somāq – (سماق) sumac fruit – symbolizing (the color of) sunrise
- Serkeh – (سرکه) vinegar – symbolizing old-age and patience

THE END

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