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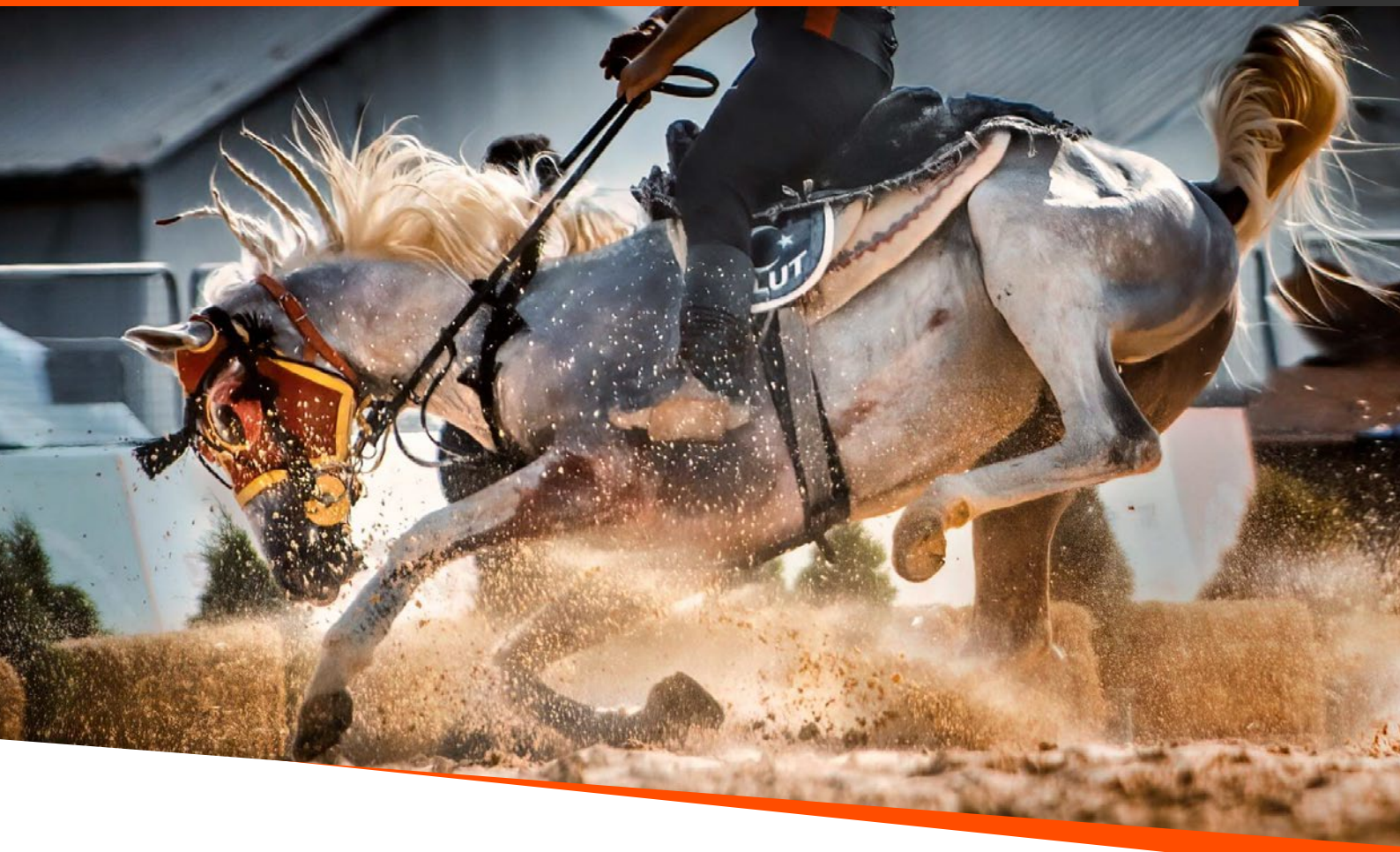
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THE BEST PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE 5TH ETHNOSPORT CULTURAL FESTIVAL HAVE BEEN SELECTED

The results of the photo contest as explained for the 5th Ethnosport Cultural Festival held between June 9-12, 2022 at Atatürk Airport have been announced. The festival's best photos and videos in various categories were determined by an expert panel.

Continuing its activities under the theme of reviving traditional sports and games, the World Ethnosport Confederation held the 5th Ethnosport Cultural Festival with the participation of hundreds of thousands of visitors between June 9-12. Many events were organized during the festival that was held at Atatürk Airport in the fields of traditional sports, games, arts, and gastronomy. Visitors had the opportunity to try many traditional ingredients at the festival. WEC put out a call for a photo and video competition unique to the Ethnosport Cultural Festival, which at the same time is one of the most inclusive cultural festivals in the world. The participants who took the best photos and videos during the festival regarding the on-site activities were awarded.



THE DIGITAL EXPERIENCE OF TRADITIONAL SPORTS AND GAMES IS ON DISPLAY AT THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY GAMES.

Organized by the World Ethnosport Confederation, the Essential Ethnosport Digital Experience was presented to visitors at the 5th Islamic Solidarity Games held August 9-18 in Konya.

Organized with the participation of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation and Organisation of Islamic Cooperation member countries, the 5th Islamic Solidarity Games were held in Konya under the hostmanship of Türkiye.

A wealth of content ranging from traditional sports to traditional children's games were experienced free of charge in the areas the World Ethnosport Confederation put together.



The Essential Ethnosport Digital Experience

Visitors to the Islamic Solidarity Games this year happened upon an important exhibition that the World Ethnosport Confederation brought to life with support from Konya Metropolitan Municipality and Karatay University. The museum work set up by the Virtual Ethnosport Project presented the exhibition titled the Essential Ethnosport Digital Experience to the applause of visitors. The exhibition, in which the essence and dynamism of traditional games were handled using digital display methods, saw intense interest from the visitors during the games.



TRADITIONAL SPORTS AND GAMES' SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY IS BEING KEPT ALIVE IN DISASTER AREAS

The World Ethnosport Confederation continues to implement the special project for children in regions struck by natural disaster. The activities were held in Rize Province and Güneysu District and organized with the aim of getting children motivated in ordinary life by getting them in contact with traditional sports and games.

Activities at 30 Different Schools in 10 Days

The World Ethnosport Confederation is organizing various activities to boost morale for students in flood-affected regions. A series of events were organized in the regions experiencing a rapid post-disaster recovery process in order to contribute to raising students' motivation in the new education and schooling semester.

Areas Were Set Up in the School Playgrounds

Continuing its efforts to increase the awareness and popularization of traditional sports and games, WEC offered traditional archery training for students in the areas set up in the playgrounds of schools in flood areas and presented the opportunity to experience games such as mas wrestling, grilling, bow and arrows, stick games, and linden pressings.

They Rode Horses and Shot Arrows

The children heartfully enjoyed the stations at the activity area and additionally held an equestrian event. Having discovered bow and arrows, horse riding, and traditional children's games, the students competed fiercely in the game of arrow wars. Thousands of children in the region had the opportunity to discover the rich world of traditional sports and games in the activities that were held at 30 different schools over 10 days. After the events, the World Ethnosport Confederation presented traditional sports and game equipment to these schools in order to make the activities the students had experienced sustainable.

Support Will Continue

The World Ethnosports Confederation made statements about how in this difficult process, we believe that hope will exist in our future by conveying the spirit of unity inherent in traditional sports to the solidarity-oriented events that will take place in disaster areas. And in line with this, the activities organized for the purpose of motivating students in disaster areas will continue in the provinces and districts of the region.



THE 4TH WORLD NOMAD GAMES HAS BEEN HELD IN İZNIK

The World Nomad Games, the first of which was held in Kyrgyzstan in 2014 with the aim of keeping nomadic culture alive and carrying our traditional sports to the present, was held in Turkey for the first time this year.

The 4th World Nomad Games was organized with the participation of thousands of athletes representing various countries and was held in İznik this year. More than 3,000 athletes and sports lovers from 102 countries came together in İznik through activities, traditional sports on the verge of being forgotten, visual exhibitions carrying the traces of different cultures, and fierce competitions in which traditional sports and cultures were rendered.

The event was unveiled by President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and hosted approximately 1 million local and foreign visitors over 4 days.

World Ethnosport Confederation President Necmeddin Bilal Erdoğan; Minister of Youth and Sports Mehmet Muharrem Kasapoğlu; Minister of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic Azamat Jamankulov; and Minister of Culture and Sport of Kazakhstan Dauren Abayev attended the closing ceremony that was held upon the completion of the games.

“I hope we have been able to convey the message of peace and unity as strongly as possible” - Necmeddin Bilal Erdoğan

Our Confederation's President Necmeddin Bilal Erdoğan stated that they'd given the message of peace and unity to the whole world from Bursa on the occasion of the games.

Erdoğan also stated that Lake Iznik, where the organization was held, is a beautiful corner of the world where green meets blue and thousands of years of culture are embodied.

Stating how the cultures of the world had met at the 4th World Nomad Games, Erdoğan spoke, “In Iznik, over 3,000 athletes from 102 countries competed in more than 40 traditional sports branches, putting on a show and finding the opportunity to promote their own culture. Traditional handicrafts, world cuisines, traditional folk dances, and stage shows greeted our local and foreign guests quite colorfully in addition to the traditional sports and games.

Necmeddin Bilal Erdoğan stated that the purpose of organizing the Nomad Games has been to present the world with a message of peace:

“Our aim with these games is no longer just to bless the marginally dwindling of nomadism. Nevertheless, the amateur spirit embodied in nomadic culture means living in peace with the world not just through the environment but also with the animals by giving greater value to life and living things. It is the relationship with a world that seeks peace by choosing to change places instead of choosing conflict when faced with strife. At such a time when wars and conflicts are being mentioned and the world faces environmental crises, we believe the established world needs the reconciliatory and peaceful climate of the nomadic spirit. This nomadic culture's climate of living in peace with the world and its neighbors is at the heart of the message of peace we give on this occasion of the World Nomad Games. I hope that we have been able to convey this message of peace and unity to the whole world in as strong a way as possible.”

With the reminder that the 5th World Nomad Games will be held in Kazakhstan in 2024, Erdoğan made the assessment, "Just as Kyrgyzstan has successfully performed these games before us, and we have successfully held them this year with peace, so will our Kazakh friends and siblings in Kazakhstan powerfully deliver their message of peace to the world by raising the bar even higher."

The Passing of the Flag to Kazakhstan

The handover ceremony was held in Kazakhstan, which will organize the 5th World Nomad Games.

Following the protocol speeches, Turkey's Minister of Youth and Sports Mehmet Muharrem Kasapoğlu handed the pitcher inlaid with ceramic tiles and containing water to the Kazakhstan Minister of Culture and Sports Dauren Abayev, who will organize the next games.

The Event Finished with a Magnificent Closing Ceremony.

The closing ceremony wrapped things up with a dance and acrobatics show. In the closing ceremony, dance choreographies, the exciting show of Karabakh horses, and vocal and choreographic performances from Turkey, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan were highly appreciated. The closing ceremony gathered great enjoyment of the dance choreographies, the exciting performance of the Karabakh horses, and the vocal and choreographic performances from Turkey, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, and Uzbekistan.

The part in which the soloist Çiğdem Gürdal sang the song "Bayrak" received great applause from the protocol members and citizens. The ceremony finished with the song "Türk Elleri" [The Hands of the Turks] sung with the participation of all the soloists and dancers who'd taken part in the show.

