The commemoration of the programme “Immortal Flowers” (*Gulhā-i Jāvīdān*), in London

Under a roof of red flowers of Iran, the programme of the “Immortal Flowers” and its creators were reminisciced and commended.

Three speakers who were still alive of that programme the “Immortal Flowers”, were next to two singers and several musicians and hundreds of the audience of yesterday and today’s of *Gulhā*, this time there were gathered in London to revive the memories of those sweet days and to bring back the memories of Dāvūd Pīrmā once again.

In this programme that was hosted by Mrs Elizabeth Mansfield and was conducted in English, pictures of Dāvūd Pīrmā and his efforts on promoting the poetry and literature of Persia was displayed, in addition to the latter a brief history of the programme was read to the audience.

In continuing the programme, the eldest son of Dāvūd Pīrmā spoke of some memories of his father and expressed his happiness for being able to see that this programme which was originally founded by his father has today crossed geographical borders, and emphasised that this expansion was one of the great wishes of his father.

In the next part of the programme, Surūsh Īzadī, the Iranian singer who now lives in Austria spoke of his memories of the programme and with the playing of the Tār, Santūr, and Tonbak and the declamation of Ādhar Pazhūhish sang some pieces of poetry.

After Surūsh, Nahid a well-known singer of yesterday appeared to share her views with others.

The most beautiful and heart-ravishing part of the programme was displayed after Nahid finished her performance, it was when the most famous trio-speakers of the *Gulhā* programme were standing next to each other and began to read poetries of ‘Attār, and Mawlānā, they were Fakhri Nikzād, Adhar Pazhūhish, Firuzeh Amir Mu’iz.

Akbar Gulpāīgānī who was the first singer of the *Gulhā* programme was the last guest of the event and sang the famous couplet of “*Mast-i mastam Saqia dastam begir*” (I am drunk and intoxicated! O Saqi, hold my hand) together with declamations. The famous master-player Mr. Hushang Žarīf was also present and was asked to come to the stage so he could be given a statue of appreciation.

In continuing the programme, Jamileh Kharrazi, the founder of Toos foundation, spoke of Toos foundation and its efforts in promoting Iran’s culture, she thanked and expressed her appreciations of those who took the trouble of travelling from every corner of the globe to
join this event. At the end of the programme according to custom a statue of the sage of Toos “Firdawsi” was given to all the artists present at the event.

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The immortal flowers and its mystical branches of “Colourful flowers”, “A single flower”, “Green leaf”, “Desert flowers” are a pretty and masterful collection of new and classical poets and also the traditional music of Iran, it was one of the most famous and popular radio programmes of its time that with the initiative of Dāvūd Pīrnīā broadcasted by radio Iran during 1957-1979. The popularity of this programme was such that they continuously increased its duration on air; furthermore, Iranian music was claiming its rightful name back from the influence of Arabic and Turkish music that over the years placed some considerable influence on it, it was again gaining back its consistency and originality.

Miss. Jamileh Kharrazi who coordinated and hosted part of the event and has spent most of her life away from her homeland, says: this is not only my duty to the young and Iranian people, but it is the duty of every Iranian to their literature and art of Iran, and that in an effort to rebuild the art and literature of Iran on an international level. When we asked her why the audience was upset and some were crying? She said: “What rises from the heart, will sink in the soul.” Dāvūd Pīrnīā left his soul as a souvenir for us in the Gulhā programme and I could only penetrate their inner feeling via the love and passion I myself have for this programme and share with its lovers. Because, the ruined youths and in love hearts all were refreshed in their soul and spirits.

Toos foundation participates in introducing one kind of Iranian art at any one time. These research and all these memories turned into reality due to the efforts of two humble lovers Mr and Mrs Lewisohn and at the end of the night of the event after all statues of appreciations were given out, it reached immortality.