

The Cyrus cylinder

<u>The First Declaration of Human Rights By Cyrus The Great</u>



With the beginning of the round in which it is displayed Cyrus Babylonian cylinder in the United States, exploring the BBC Kashiyar Johndede how could King famous liberal named after ancient Persian craft that inspired Thomas Jefferson, one of the founding fathers of the United States of America

And take the cylinder made of clay, dating back to about two thousand and six hundred years, the form of American football, was manufactured by order of the Persian King Cyrus after he seized the city of Babylon in 539 BC Some scientists point to the cylinder as the first charter of human rights in the world, it is also written in cuneiform inscriptions, and encourage the freedom of worship in all parts of the Persian Empire, and allow residents who have been displaced to return to their homelands. And exited the cylinder from the British Museum on loan to the United States to show in some museums in a time when "the relationship between the United States and Iran is not in the best case," says Julian Raby, director of exhibitions "Freer Land and Sackler" which hosts artifact Babylonian now

Raby said: It is essential that the American public understands the contribution of Iran is normal in human life. Has extended the empire founded by Cyrus and Darius from the Balkans to Central Asia at the height of its glory. It was the first model to a state based on diversity and tolerance among different cultures and religions, according to the British Museum director Neil McGregor

But the biggest discovery for many people, says McGregor, is "the importance of Cyrus to those who wrote the Constitution of the United States of America

McGregor added: "The story of Persia, Iran, is part of the story of the contemporary United States. The cylinder of Cyrus the basic artifact exhibition entitled "Cylinder of Cyrus and ancient Persia: A New Beginning", which displays 16 pieces from the collection of the British Museum

This cylinder was made of clay in the form of barrels had been buried in the city of Babylon after Cyrus captured the city, and the re-discovery of the cylinder in 1879 in what was called Mesopotamia, and now

Iraq, at the hands of an archaeologist and a British diplomat Hormozd Rasam. The cuneiform inscriptions blog describes on Alastonh how Cyrus conquered Babylon invitation of the Babylonian Murdoch god, I also remember how free Cyrus Nations Babylonians as slaves, and many brought their gods to their sacred sites .Although no reference cylinder of the Jewish people by name, mentioned in the Book of Chronicles, Book of Ezra that Jews were among those who freed them Cyrus and returned to their land for the construction of the second temple.

McGregor says that this work, which was interpreted to allow freedom of worship and the return of displaced persons to their places, Cyrus earned a reputation as the "king of liberal and enlightened. In addition to acquisitions borrowed from the British Museum, to display in Washington, DC, also presented a copy of book Serubedia, or encyclopedia of Cyrus, a book of Greek philosopher Xenophon about the life of King Cyrus. The two books of Thomas Jefferson and Infezan in the U.S. Library of Congress, and the publication of this books which is in both Greek and Latin in Europe in 1767. As students a contemporary of Socrates, philosopher Xenophon wrote about how the rule of King Cyrus of community-based on tolerance

The book gained fame during the Age of Enlightenment among political thinkers in Europe and America, including those who drafted the U.S. Constitution in 1787

Raby says: "In the eighteenth century, this form of religious tolerance on the basis of a country with diverse cultures, and not single dominant religion, became a model for the founding fathers of America. The count of people like Thomas Jefferson, who drafted the Declaration of Independence of the United States, and became the third president of the United States, the book Guinness Cyrus philosopher Xenophon as a reference to the life and the rule of the Persian King Cyrus. The Bible was another source of information about King Cyrus, also addressed the invasion of Babylon and the emancipation of Jews Raby said: "What is unusual about King Cyrus, is that it emerged as a model for statesmanship princes in two of the pillars of Western cultures, two Greco-Roman heritage, and the Bible

State Cyrus future. Jefferson has not only read the book in detail, but recommended family members to read it as well, and according to the great Trustees Freer & Sackler Gallery, Masumah Farhad. Farhad said Jefferson asked his grandchildren in a letter to him to study the book Serubedia. She added: "Jefferson wrote: When you start to learn Greek, the first book you should Tgroh is Serubedia book.

Although it is a source of inspiration for European and American philosophers, was taken-state model established by Cyrus only in the eighteenth century in the United States

McGregor added: "European countries unable to establish a tolerance in the structure of the state, they only had to have a religious state like Britain, or were against religions such as France after the revolution. The Cyrus cylinder will move from Washington to other museums in all of Houston, and New York, and San Francisco.

Reference: BBC