

Sunday, November 21

ON THIS DAY



▲ **2008: Burmese comedian Zarganar was given 45 years in jail for organising relief for victims of Cyclone Nargis, which killed 138,000**

1694: French Enlightenment writer and philosopher Voltaire was born in Paris as Francois-Marie Arouet

1843: Thomas Hancock patented vulcanised rubber

1985: Two French secret service agents were jailed for 10 years for sinking the Greenpeace ship *Rainbow Warrior* in New Zealand

2009: A gas blast at a coal mine in Heilongjiang province, northeastern China, killed at least 104 people