



**Mehrak Kamali Sarvestani**

Persian Program Coordinator, Persian Language and Iranian Studies Lecturer

Ohio State University  
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures  
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**EDUCATION**

**PhD in Modern Persian Literature**

**January 2016**

University of Arizona, School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies

Minor: History

Degree GPA: 3.976

Dissertation Title: *Fictional Uncertainty in Modern Persian Literature: Polyphony, Becoming, and Ambiguity in Shahriar Mandanipour's Work*

Committee: Anne H. Betteridge, Leila Hudson, Yaseen Noorani, Kamran Talattof (Chair)

**M.A. in Sociology of Literature**

**Spring 2003**

Tehran University, Tehran, Iran

Thesis Title: *Woman in Persian Contemporary Novel: The Sociological Analysis of Bamdad-e Khomar.*

Advisor: Yousef Abazari

**B.A. in Social Science Research**

**Spring 2000**

Tehran University, Tehran, Iran

**ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

**Ohio State University, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Culture**

**September 2014 –Present**

Persian Language Program Coordinator  
Persian Language Course Designer and Lecturer  
Persian Literature and Iranian Culture Course  
Designer and Lecturer

**University of Wisconsin-Madison, Arabic, Persian, Turkish Language Immersion Institute (APTLII)**

**June-August 2010 – June-August 2016**

Persian Faculty Associate- Lecturer in Persian language (elementary, intermediate, and advanced)



**University of Arizona, School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies**

- August 2007 – December 2013** Instructor, Designer and Teaching Assistant of Persian Language Courses (elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels), the Religion of Islam, and Middle Eastern Humanities.
- August 2008 – May 2013** Designer and Instructor, Web-based and Regular Courses, Middle Eastern Humanities.
- June 2009 – August 2011** Designer and Instructor, Web-based and Regular Courses, the Religion of Islam.
- August 2007 – May 2009** Graduate Assistant, planning course materials for Intermediate Persian language.

**Baha’i Institute of Higher Education (BIHE), Tehran, Iran**

- September 2003 – September 2006** Persian Faculty Associate- lecturer and course designer in the courses of “Sociology of Persian Literature” and “Sociology of Iranian Cinema”

**Andisheh Khalagh High School, Tehran, Iran**

- September 2002 – September 2006** Sociology of Iranian cinema Instructor.

**COURSES TAUGHT**

Ohio State University, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

- PRS 1101 Elementary Persian I
- PRS 1102 Elementary Persian II
- PRS 1103 Intermediate Persian I
- PRS 2104 Intermediate Persian II
- PRS 2105 Intermediate Persian III
- PRS 2701 Persian Literature in Translation
- PRS 2241 Persian Culture
- PRS 3101 Advanced Persian: Reading and Composition
- PRS 5193 Advanced Persian: Reading and Composition

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Arabic, Persian, Turkish Language Immersion Institute

(APTLII)

- LCA 328 Elementary Summer Immersion Persian
- LCA 428 Intermediate Summer Immersion Persian
- LCA 528 Advanced Summer Immersion Persian

University of Arizona, School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies

- PRS 101 Beginning Persian I
- PRS 102 Beginning Persian II
- TRAD 160A Middle Eastern Humanities
- TRAD 160B Religion of Islam
- PRS 401 Intermediate Persian I
- PRS 402 Intermediate Persian II



Baha'i Institute of Higher Education (BIHE), Tehran, Iran

SOL 270

Sociology of Persian Literature

SOC 350

Sociology of Iranian Cinema

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Modern and Classical Persian and Middle East Literature, Pedagogy and Persian Language,  
The Modern History of Iran and the Middle East, Sociology of Literature

## SELECTED REASERCH PARTICIPATIONS

- PhD dissertation, "*Fictional Uncertainty in Modern Persian Literature: Polyphony, Becoming, and Ambiguity in Shahriar Mandanipour's Work*", January 2016.
- "The Study of Cultural Differences between in-Iran and out-Iran Literary Works, 2008 – 2009"
- Participated in the research for the project entitled *Modernity, Sexuality, and Ideology in Iran: The Life and Legacy of Popular Female Artists*; Professor Kamran Talattof, School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, 2004 – 2006.
- "Renovation of Social Life in Bam after the Earthquake" Employer: Housing Institution of Islamic Republic of Iran, 2005-2006.
- "The Project of Strategic Plan of Youth Leisure" Employer: Youth National Organization, Executer: Farnahad Consultant Engineers, 2005.
- Sociology of Persian literature; MA thesis, "*Woman in Persian Contemporary Novel: The Sociological Analysis of Bamdad-e-Khomar (The Morning After)*", May 2003.
- "Social Science Development in Iran" Employer: Technique, Researches and Science Ministry - Executer: Iran Sociology Society, 2002.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

- **Educational Package for Persian Intermediate Courses**  
Since last fall, I have worked on an educational package for Persian language intermediate courses including authentic (poems, short stories, essays, news) and creative texts, language games, audios, videos, role plays, etc.
- **From the Revolution to Family Collapse: Fictional Representation of Family Crisis in Post-1979-Revolutionary Persian Literature**  
My project draws on my premise that the revolutionary resistance against parents' authorities after the Iranian-1979-Revolution, against family norms, and against the religious and political control which dominated Iranian youth everyday lives could be considered as a part of their struggle for achieving modernity. This revolutionary situation led most Iranian fiction writers to attempt to represent the complexity of Iranians' struggle for modernity through family crises in their works. In this project, I explore literary representations of family contradictions in post-revolutionary Persian fiction and memoirs.



## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### Translations from English to Persian

- *Siyasat-e Neveshtar: Pazhoheshi dar Sha'r va Dastan-e Moa'ser*, Tehran: Namak, 1394 (2015).

The translation of Kamran Talattof, *The Politics of Writing in Iran: A History of Modern Persian Literature*, Syracuse, New York: Syracuse University Press, 2000.

- "Zanan-i Ghahraman dar Asar-i Nizami Ganjavi: Motalea Shakhssiyyat Padazi Zan va Jansiyyat dar Adabiyyat-i Kelasik-i Farsi", *Iran Nameh*, 27: 4 (2012), 238-256.

The translation of "Nizami's Unlikely Heroines: Characterizations of Women in Classical Persian Literature" in Kamran Talattof, Jerome W. Clinton, and Kenneth A. Luther. *The Poetry of Nizami Ganjavi: Knowledge, Love, and Rhetoric*. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave, 2000, 51-82.

- The 4th chapter of *The Contemporary Philosophy of Social Science by Brian Fay*, *Jamea Daneshjooi* (student's magazine), No.2, April-May 2002.

### Articles in Persian

- "Ravaiat-e Dastani-e Tarikh-e Hokomati" (The Fictional Narrative of A Governmental History) *Ghalmro*, January 2018

<https://ghalmro.org/index.php/magazines/book/13/1.html?page=133>

- "Morche-ie Omidvar va Zemestani-e Siah: Khaterati az Salha-ie 1363 - 1367" (Optimistic Ant and the Black Winter: Memories of 1984 – 1988 ) *Aasoo*, November 2017

<http://www.aasoo.org/fa/articles/1032>

- "Boridan az Rishheha: Khaterati az Salha-ie 1356 - 1362" (Detaching form the Roots: Memories of 1977 – 1983) *Aasoo*, August 2017

<http://www.aasoo.org/fa/articles/878>

- "Baznami-ie Zanan-e Mojahed dar Film-e Sianoor" (The Representation of Mojahed Women in the Movie of 'Sianoor') *BBC Persian*, March 29 2017

<http://www.bbc.com/persian/blog-viewpoints-39433335>

- "Puzkhand-e Hamishegiy-e Bijan Sotudeh Mahani: Darbarey-e Dastan-e Kutah-e 'Mored-e Dust-e Ma'" (Bijan Sotudeh Mahani's Grin: about the Short Story, "Our Friend's Case")

*Akhbar-rooz*, August 19 2016

<http://www.akhbar-rooz.com/article.jsp?essayId=75236>

- "Bazkhani Namey-e Tarikhiy-e Mostafa Rahimi be Ayatollah Khomeini" (Rereading Mostafa Rahimi's Historical Letter to Ayatollah Khomeini) *BBC*, April 11 2016

[http://www.bbc.com/persian/blogs/2016/04/160408\\_144\\_nazeran\\_rahimi\\_khomeini\\_letter](http://www.bbc.com/persian/blogs/2016/04/160408_144_nazeran_rahimi_khomeini_letter)

- "Hamavaii ba Jokhay-e Ghoumi-Mahalli: Avagheb va Piamadhayash" (The Consequences of Local-Ethnic Jokes) *BBC*, November 13 2014

[http://www.bbc.com/persian/blogs/2014/09/140925\\_144\\_nazeran\\_jokes\\_ethnic](http://www.bbc.com/persian/blogs/2014/09/140925_144_nazeran_jokes_ethnic)

- "Az *Kalidar* ta *Zaval-e Colonel*, Az Omid ta Tabahi" (From *Kalidar* to *Colonel*, from Hope to Decadence), *Davat*, November 09 2014.

[http://www.rezaghassemi.com/maghaleh\\_229.htm](http://www.rezaghassemi.com/maghaleh_229.htm)



- "Be Dastan-e Zendeg-ie Man Goosh Konid: Leila Zomorrodian va Pirozee-ie Shekast" (Listen to My Life Story: Leila Zomorrodian and the Victory of Defeat) *Asre-nou*, May 19 2014  
<http://asre-nou.net/php/view.php?objnr=31028>
- "Adabiyat-e Afsordegi dar Iran Baa'd az Enghelab" (Depression Literature after the Iranian 1979 Revolution), *Zamaneh*, March 04 2014.  
<http://www.radiozamaneh.com/135315>
- "Dargiri-ye Ensan-e Irani ba Khordeh Farhangha-ye Mazhabi va Sekular" (Contradiction between Religious and Secular Sub-Cultures among Iranians), *Zamaneh*, November 24, 2013.  
<http://www.radiozamaneh.com/109293#.UqVOZfRDu6M>
- "Az bein raftan-e Marzha-ye Jaa'li Bein-e Zan va Mard" (Damaging the Artificial Boundaries between Man and Woman), *Zamaneh*, September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013.  
<http://www.radiozamaneh.com/98539#.UkkFHYakpAE>
- "Doshvari-ye Baznami-ye Rabete-ye Asheghane-ye Zan va Mard dar Chand Roman-e Farsi" (The Problematic of Love Making in a Number of Modern Persian Novels), *Zamaneh*, September 9<sup>th</sup> 2013. <http://www.radiozamaneh.com/96283#.UkkHUYakpAG>
- "Hess-e Taa'logh be Makan: Yek Didgagah-e Jamea'shensaneh be Zendegi-ye Mardom-e Bam Baa'd az Zelzeleh" (Sense of Belonging to a Place: A Sociological Approach to the Life of People of Bam after the Earthquake), *Bulletin of Iran Sociology Society*, 2004.
- "Ancheh Ma Az Mardom-e Bam Yad Gereftim" (What We Learned from People of Bam), *Jostarhaye Shahrsazi* quarterly, vol 8, spring 2004.
- "Goshadeh Dasti-ye Maa'maraneh ve Hozor-e Zende-ye Ensani: Mojtama' Tejari-ye Golestan" (Architecture Generosity and Human Alive Presence: Spatial Arrangement of Golestan Business Complex", *Jostarhaye Shahrsazi* quarterly, vol. 6, Autumn 2004.
- "Madarseh dar Barabar Jamea': Daneshamooz dar Kkeshakesh-e Dow Farhang ve Dow Nasl" (Schools Facing Society: Students in Struggle with two Cultures and Generations) *Lawh* monthly magazine, N. 12, January 2002
- "Amoozesh-e Aali Gheir Entefai" (Non-profitable Higher Education), *Lawh* monthly magazine, N.3, 1998
- "Bazparvari-ye Irani" (Iranian Rehabilitation), *Jamea Salem* monthly magazine, N.40, 1999
- "Danshgah-e Bimar" (The Sick University), *Jamehe Salem* monthly magazine, N.39, 1999
- "Betafavoti-ye Ejtemaii" (Social Indifference), *Jamehe Salem* monthly magazine N.36, 1998

#### Books in Persian

- Co-editor and Contributor of the book entitled *Tadvin-i Rahbordhay-i Miliy-i Gozaran-i Ooghat-i faraghat-i Javanan* (Developing National Strategies for Leisure of the Youth), Sazman-i Miliy-i Javanan, Tehran, 2004.  
<http://www.faraghat.org/Portal/File/ShowFile.aspx?ID=4ca86ec4-e73b-4364-88a4-3b6959e13715>
- Co-editor and Contributor of the book entitled *Islah-i Niazam-i Modirriyat-i Tosia'a Shahri dar Iran bar Asas-i Roikard-i Rahbordi* (Developing Iranian Urban Management Based on the Strategic Approach), Vizarart-i Maskan va Shahrsazi, Tehran, 2008.

#### Book Reviews in Persian

- "Siasatha-ye Nevisandegi dar Iran" (The Politics of Writing in Iran) (review *The Politics of Writing in Iran: a History of Modern Persian Literature* by Professor Kamran Talattof), *Social Science Monthly Review*, No.78, April 2004.
- "Natavan az Zan Boodan" (Incapable to Be a Woman) (A critique of *From Her Side*, a novel by Albadses Pedes), *Karnameh* monthly magazine, 2003.



- "Farakhi-ye Donia va Del-e Koochak-e Baa'ziha" (Extent of World and Someone's Little Heart) (review of *Tehran a City without Sky*, a novel by Amir Hasan Chehelan) *Jostarhaye Shahrsazi* quarterly, vol 4, spring 2003.

Journal Reports in Persian, *Lawh* monthly magazine

- "Enghelab-e Fahangi dar Iran: Yek Gozresh-e Donbale dar" (Iran's Cultural Revolution: a Serial Report", N.3, 1998; N.4, 1999; N.5, 1999; N.6, 1999; N.7, 1999; N.8, 2000
- "Arziabi dar Hozeh Elmiyeh va Daneshgah" (Evaluation in Islamic Seminary and University), N.7, 1999
- "Dar Tir 18<sup>th</sup>: Che Kasi Kebrit ra Keshid va Chera?" (The Disaster of Tir 18th in Tehran), N.6, 1999

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

- Coordinator of Persian Language Program at Ohio State University August 2014-present
- Organizer of Iranian film screening at Ohio State University Spring 2016-present
- Member of Selection Committee of Docademia (Documentary for Academia) First Global Short Film Competition Spring 2016
- Advisor of Iranian Cultural Association (ICA) at Ohio State University 2014-present
- Member of South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA) 2012-present
- Member of the Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA) 2008 - present
- Member of the International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS) 2008 - present
- Founder and Organizer of Iranian Book Club in Tucson 2009 - 2014
- Member of monthly Iranian Poetry Evening events in Tucson, AZ 2007 - 2014
- Member of Sociologists without Borders 2006 - present
- Member of Cultural Researches Office- city group in Iran 2003 – present
- Member of Sociology Group- Iran Sociology Society in Iran 2002 - present
- Member of Child Home in Shoush Sqr. Tehran, Iran- Head of Research and Investigation Team, 2002 – 2006

**MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS AND EDITORIAL POSITIONS**

- Persian Literary Studies Journal of Shiraz University, Shiraz – Iran, 2013 – 2014.
- *Lawh* Monthly Magazine, Tehran – Iran, 1997-2001.
- *Jostarhaye Shahrsazi* Quarterly, Editor in Chief, Tehran-Iran, 2003-2005.

**SELECTED SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

Conference Papers

- "Literary Representations of the Interaction between Questing for Modernity and Family Crisis in Post-Revolutionary Iran", Middle East Studies Association 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, USA, Washington DC, November 22-25, 2014.



- “The Coexistence and Contradiction between Certainty and Uncertainty in Shahriar Mandanipour’s Fiction” International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS) Biennial Conference, Canada, Montreal, August 6-10, 2014.
- “Fictional Uncertainty and the Interaction between Subject and Object in *Censoring an Iranian Love Story* by Shahriar Mandanipour” South Central Modern Language Association (70<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference) New Orleans, Louisiana, October 3-5, 2013.
- “Khak by Masoud Kimiai: Iranian Peasants in Transition” in International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS) 2010 Biennial Meeting, Los Angeles, May 2010.
- “The Contradiction between Nationalism and Internationalism: The Dream of Revolution and Iranian Azerbaijan National Government (1945-1946)” in 24th Annual Middle East History and Theory Conference, University of Chicago, May 2009.
- “A Socio-Cultural Justification of the Success of *the Morning After*” in the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Graduate Conference in Middle Eastern Studies, 2008.
- “Changing Female Roles in Iran”, Annual Membership Meeting, Tucson Council for International Visitors, April 2007.

#### Invited lectures/panels

- “Fictional Uncertainty in Post-Revolutionary Persian Fiction: Interaction Between Writing Styles and Censorship” University of Hawai’i at Manoa, February 5, 2013. Invited. Lecture.
- “Teaching Persian as a Foreign/Second Language” University of Hawai’i at Manoa, February 4, 2013. Invited lecture.
- “Education Under Fire”, Presenting a documentary about the growth of the Baha’i Institute for Higher Education in Iran, Center for Middle Eastern Studies – University of Arizona, November 2012.

#### Colloquia Participation

- “Sahriar Mandanipour’s ‘Shatter the Stone Tooth’: A Manifesto of the Discourse of Uncertainty.” MENAS Graduate Colloquium Series – University of Arizona, January 31, 2013.

#### **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS**

- Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Conference, Boston, November 2016.
- Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Conference, Washington DC, November 2014.
- International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS) 2014 Biennial Meeting, Montreal, August 2014.
- South Central Modern Language Association (70<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference) New Orleans, Louisiana, October 3-5, 2013.
- Western Consortium Language Workshop on Engaging language and Culture through Innovative Technologies, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, March 2013.
- International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS) 2010 Biennial Meeting, Los Angeles, May 2010.
- Western Consortium Middle East Language Workshop on Curriculum and Language Class Objectives Analysis, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, April 2010.
- Media and Middle East, Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES), University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, December 2009.
- Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Conference, Boston, November 2009.



- Western Consortium Middle East Language Workshop on Curriculum and Language Class Objectives Analysis, University of Texas in Austin, April 2009.
- Annual Middle East History and Theory Conference, University of Chicago, Chicago, May 2009.
- Language Fair, the University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, May 2009.
- Western Consortium Middle East Language Workshop on Curriculum and Language Class