

108 CHILDREN
AUTHORS FROM
IRAN

2017
2018





Iran Cultural Fairs Institute

Iran Cultural Fairs Institute was established as a non-governmental institute in 1992. The institute has been commissioned by the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance to stage a number of cultural events, particularly the landmark annual Tehran International Book Fair (TIBF), provincial book fair and cultural festivals at home and abroad since the past two decades. The ultimate goal in such projects has been to promote and expand book reading.

In the following there is a brief review of the institute's activities:

1) Tehran International Book Fair (TIBF)

Tehran International Book Fair is staged in Tehran early in May on an annual basis. The cultural event has turned into a landmark, momentous book fair in Middle East and Asia after 29 editions in a row. Millions of visitors inspect the fair every year, including thousands of university students, scholars, librarians, publishers and families. The event currently serves as the most significant cultural event in Iran.

2) Provincial Book Fairs

Provincial book fairs have been staged across the Islamic Republic as a major cultural event with a first such exhibition held in 1993. From the outset, Iran Cultural Fairs Institute took on the mission to stage the events across the country under the auspices of the IRI Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance. Some 265 editions of such fairs have already been held in total. The events are held on an annual basis in 30 provincial centers countrywide.

3) Participation in Book Fairs Overseas

Iran Cultural Fairs Institute has been representing the landmark Tehran International Book Fair and the Iranian publication industry at several international book fairs in Frankfurt, Bologna, Moscow, Beijing, Tokyo, Sharjah, Istanbul, and Paris among others. The institute has already joined over 70 book fairs overseas since 2006 and maintained a joint agreement for exchange of free-from-charge pavilions with authorities of many of these cultural events.

4) Publications in Contemporary Persian Literature

The institute has already published over 200 titles in the field of contemporary Persian fiction, literature and poetry. Some of these titles have been translated into foreign languages. The institute is ready for agreements with interested foreign publishers for the purpose of further translation of such Persian works into other languages.



Introduction

Historical researches on the sources of children's literature in Iran show that it originated in the pre-Islamic period. After the advent of Islam, too, among the works – both in verse and prose - of great literary figures, we encounter some texts that are specifically written for children. Some of these texts are written for those children who were to gain positions of power when they grew up, for instance would become the king.

However, what is before you is not going to discuss this history. It is not even going to discuss the development of modern children's and young adult literature in the decades closer to us, influenced by some famous writers, translators, and experts. If that was the case, many names would need to be added to the list of authors whose works are reflected in this collection.

Iranian children's and young adult literature in modern times has given rise to diverse literary, cultural, and intellectual trends. More than half a century has passed since the formation of the most important public and private organizations for children's and young adult literature in Iran and it was almost around the same time that Iranian children's and young adult books started participating in international biennial and annual book fairs, reaping many awards and meeting great success.

This collection deals specifically with today's Iranian children's and young adult writers who still write and are published. However, not all of these writers are included here.

There are some prominent figures in Iranian children's and

young adult literature who, although our contemporary and among the esteemed and renowned personages in Iranian literature, have not published a new work in recent years and thus not included in this list. However, they are always fondly and respectfully remembered by young Iranian writers.

Ali Ashraf Darvishian, Mahmoud Kianoush, Shokoufeh Taghi, Nasser Irani, and others are among the writers who should have been mentioned in this collection if it had been about contemporary Iranian authors, but the writers in this collection are chosen according to standards that will enable organizations and publishers from all over the world to get to know present-day Iranian writers who are still writing.

Naturally, the authors whose name and brief life history are included in this collection do not comprise all of present-day Iranian writers and the collection might have overlooked some names who are extremely significant and creditable in their respective fields.

However, in choosing individuals for this collection, a set of standards has been applied that will provide a relatively clear picture of Iranian children's and young adult literature to those who are interested in Iranian children's and young adult book market for different cultural or economic reasons.

Apart from the relative quality of their works and their popularity as a children's and young adult author in Iranian society, the standards used for choosing these individuals include:

- 1) Continued activity in children's and young adult literature
- 2) Receiving creditable children's and young adult literary awards in the last 5 years

- 3) Achieving international recognition in children's and young adult literature

- 4) Translation of their works to other languages

- 5) Being selected as board members for writers' unions in Iran, including the Iranian

Association of Writers for Children and Young Adults

Many of the authors presented in this collection are members of the Association of Writers for Children and Young Adults, which is the most important union for Iranian children's and young adult writers. However, the collection is not limited to the members of this association, and there are authors introduced here that met some of the abovementioned standards but were not members of the Association.

We hope that this collection can open a window to Iranian children's and young adult literature, help with the introduction of Iranian writers to writers from other countries and vice versa, and establish a cultural relation among them.



W R I T E R S



**Hamid
Abazari**



Hamid Abazari, writer, was born in Dezful in 1970. He studied aviation communication and received a BA. He has been an employee of Abadan airport for 15 years. Hamid Abazari has been involved in writing since 2007. His first novel is a series of youth stories titled 'Bilateral Traitor' published by Soroosh Publications in 2012. The novel 'Noble Panthers Society' by Fanni Publications and a children's story, 'Forgholi and the Spirits' by Tooti Publications are under print.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Bilateral Traitor (2012), Youths Novel, Soroosh Publications
Hoosha in Search of the Living Mystery of the Dome (2014), Amir Kabir Publications
Arman in Search of Friends (2012), Chekeh Publications
Loving with the Spirit of a Smashed Mosquito (2014) Hila Publications
Goggled Saw-Headed Dragon (2015), Elmi Farhangi Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Flying Turtle for Hoosha in Search of the Living Mystery of the Dome



Abbas Abdi

Abbas Abdi, writer, was born in Abadan in July 1952. He studied motor vehicle mechanics and also fishery. He has spent many years of his life on Qeshm Island, an island in the Persian Gulf.

Abdi, who started his writing career by publishing stories for adults, has been writing for young adult readers for a few years now. The location of all of Abdi's stories are towns and islands in the south of Iran. In writing his stories, he uses his recollections and personal and professional experiences by the sea. The boisterous life of children in the south of Iran plays a major role in his stories. Environmental concerns are visible in his works, too. In his novels, he discusses topics like preserving historical artifacts, the effect of Iran-Iraq war on people in the south of Iran, and the traditions and ways of the islanders.

Abbas Abdi can be considered the representative of the culture of southern Iran in Iranian children's literature.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Swimmer (2010), Kanoon
- Deaf Shark Hunter (2013), Kanoon
- The Day of the Whale (2013), Kanoon
- The Time of Turtles (2013), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Best Book at Poplar Award (the environmental award of Iran Technical Company), Best Book of Qeshm Festival



Narges Abyar

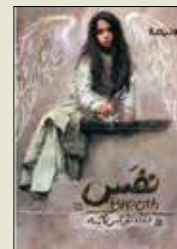
Narges Abyar, writer, graduated with a BA in Persian literature. She began her story writing activity since 1997 from Hozeh Honari. She has published over 30 novels and storybooks, written four feature film scripts and started making short and documentary films since 2005. Her first filmmaking experience entitled 'Kind Alley' was admired in the Short Feature Film Festival and screened in several international film festivals. In addition to writing seven feature film scripts and documentaries, she has directed three feature films and received many awards.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Mountain On the Tree's Shoulders (novel) (2001), Shahed Publications
- Third Eye (2006), Parto Bayan Publications
- The Worm Carrying Little Boy and Calamity Trench (youth novel) (2008), Ofogh Publications
- What Happened to Shabnam (2004), Children's Soroosh Publications
- Story of Two Fives (2007), Safir Ardehal Publications
- The Sad Life of a Happy Idol, Safir Ardehal Publications
- The Legend of a Skinny Spring (2008), Safir Ardehal Publications
- Poems of a Poor Black Fish Safir Ardehal Publications
- The Statue that Found Salvation (2010), Safir Ardehal Publications
- Recreation of One Thousand and One Nights (2010), Peydayesh Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Best Holy Defense Novel, Isfahan Literary Award, Superior Book Award, Literary Award of Hello Children and Nevisa Literary Award, Winner of literary award of Banooye Farhang (Culture Lady)





Ahmadreza Ahmadi

Ahmadreza Ahmadi, was born in May 1940 in Kerman. He migrated to Tehran in 1947 and attended Darolfonoon when he was a high schooler.

Ahmadreza Ahmadi is an avant-garde and influential contemporary Iranian poet for adults, but he began his work for children's and young adult literature with Kanoon. In 1970's, Ahmadi was active in the music department of this institute and valuable works in the field of children's music or literature accompanied by music were released under his supervision.

His stories are combinations of prose and poetry, creating a special style for children's and young adult literature, which distinguishes him. Using the imagination and repetitive motifs such as colors, nature, childhood, etc. link his works together. Concepts that are dealt with by Ahmadi in his works are global and human concepts. He has been recommended for Astrid Lindgren and Hans Christian Andersen awards by various Iranian organizations several times and his works have been translated into different languages.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Only You Kids Will Believe What I Have to Say (1970), Kanoon
- I Found My White Rabbit in Spring (1991), Markaz Publishing Co.
- I Wrote Rain and It Rained (1989), Kanoon
- I Have Seven Days in a Week (2001), Kanoon
- Three Vases (2009), Kanoon
- At Last There Were 7 Chairs in the Boy's Home (2010), Cheshmeh Publication
- The Color of Love Series (2012), Nazar Publishing Co.
- Came Back from Trip Under the Rain (2013), Saaless Publishing Co.
- The Big Old Desolate Garden (2014), Kanoon
- Autumn Winds, Spring Winds, and Two Doves (2014), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Children's Book Council's Best Book Award, Mehr Book of the Year Award (awarded by Mehr Taha foundation), Silver Flying Turtle Award, shortlisted for Hans Christian Andersen Awards, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)



Hassan Ahmadi

Hassan Ahmadi, writer and journalist, was born in Miyaneh (East Azarbaijan) in 1959. He migrated to Tehran as a child and studied in this city. He got his master's degree in filmmaking from the University of Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting. His first story was published in the press. In the 1980s he collaborated with the Literature Department of HozehHonari (a hub for young revolutionary artists and writers). He has also been the editor-in-chief of several renowned Iranian children's and young adult publications.

Hassan Ahmadi has collaborated with Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting in line with his studies as a writer and producer and he has made films and animations for children and young adults.

In the stories that Hassan Ahmadi writes for young adults, the eight-year war between Iran and Iraq is very pronounced. Families that were hurt by the war, those that got injured, teenagers at war, etc. are some of the themes of his works.

Also, social themes like poverty and injustice, as well as an interest in spirituality, are seen in his works.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- As Rain Was Falling (1985), Barg
- One Butterfly, One Thousand Butterflies (1986), Barg
- Dani and Mani (1999), Roozegar
- A Basket of Raspberries (1999), MehrabGhalem
- For the Sake of Birds (2000), Soroush
- Little Big Men (2001), Palizan
- Like a Game (2010), MehrabGhalem
- Mina and the Leopard (2012), Amirkabir
- Games and Moments (2012), Kanoon
- Doodled-over Sheets (2015), Amirkabir

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book Award from the Sacred Defense Book Festival, Best Book Award from Razavi Book Festival





Ahmad Akbarpour

Ahmad Akbarpour, writer, was born in Fars province in 1970 and got his bachelor's degree in psychology from Shahid Beheshti University in Tehran. He now resides in Shiraz and collaborates with Fars Network, the provincial state-owned television there.

In his stories, Akbarpour deals with themes such as fear, loneliness, and peace.

The most distinguishing characteristic of his works is their humor, which makes his writings captivating and agreeable. Akbarpour, who is always on the lookout for new and different elements, is thus able to look at his subject from a different perspective in some of his works and pull the reader's imagination along. He has also had the experience of rewriting some old legends.

Some of his works are translated into English, German, Korean, Italian, and Arabic.

Selected Works:

- That Night's Train (1999), Cheshmeh Publication
- The Emperor of Words (2002), Peydayesh Publishing Co.
- I'm Not My Dad's Servant Ofoq
- Southern Dreams (2005), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- A Silenced Girl with Noisy Birds (2006), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House
- The Giant and the Bicycle (2008), Ofoq
- Three Magical Whistles (2008), Ofoq
- If I Were a Pilot (2009), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House
- Amazing Whey (2012), Charkhofalak Publishing Co.
- Good Night, Commander (2014), Ofoq

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Book of the Year Award from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, UNICEF's selected book, Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, IBBY Honor Diploma, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)



Mohammad Kazem Akhavan

Mohammad Kazem Akhavan, writer and scriptwriter, was born in Tehran in 1960.

He is most active in writing film scripts for children and young adults. He has written the script for The Stories of Tabeta that was broadcasted from the national television in the 1990s and was very well received.

He has also been the board member of the renowned Iranian children's publication.

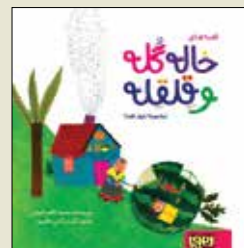
Fantasy and humor can be seen in most of Akhavan's works. He is the creator of one of the most popular fantasy characters among Iranian children, who although first appeared on TV, now its book versions are to be published. Akhavan's works mostly contain social themes that are presented clad in fantasy and humor.

Selected Works:

- Quickfoot(1987), NahadeHonarVaAdabiyat
- A Star on the Ground (1987), Kanoon
- My Cave-dweller Friend (2010), Kanoon
- The Stories of Auntie Goleh and Ghelgheleh(2015), Hoopa
- Balloons in the Snow (2016), Amirkabir

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon)





Jamalodin Akrami

Jamalodin Akrami, writer, poet, and scholar, was born in Semnan in 1957. He has studied surveying in Tehran University, but had been interested in arts from the beginning. He was selected in 1976 to be a drawing instructor in the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon).

He has been a board member in Iranian Illustrators Society and Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth.

Jamalodin Akrami's first works comprise his poetry collection. The novels he has written for young adults deal with different subjects, such as immigration, cultural contrast, rituals, and traditions. He has also had some experience in writing fantasy novels.

Akrami has done research on children's and young adult literature, e.g. Children and Illustrations in two volumes containing essays on illustrating children's books.

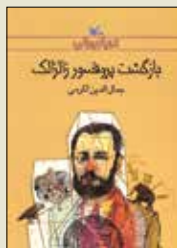
Some of the works by this writer have been translated to English, French, and Korean.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Lonely Turtledove (1993), Kanoon
- My Sea (2004), Shabaviz
- Golden Wing (2005), Shabaviz
- Stumpy-tailed Fox (2006), Shabaviz
- The Return of Professor Zalzalak (2011), Kanoon
- The Sons of the Sun (2011), Behnashr
- The Bald Hassan and the Destiny Genie (2012), Khaneye Adabaiyat
- Mr. Smoking-Hat's Wife (2013), Mehrab Ghalam

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon),
- Blue Bird Award (awarded by Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House)



Ezatollah Alvand

Ezatollah Alvand, was born in Tuyserkan in June 1974. He majored in dramatic literature in the University of Art. Besides being a writer, Alvandi is also a journalist and a poet. For a while, he was the editor of children's and young adult literature section in Hozehe Honari (Islamic Development Organization) and he is now a board member of the Iranian Association of writers for Children and Youth. Due to his mastery of the history of the Iranian traditional music, he has also conducted some research in this regard and has written the book entitled The History of Music in Iran for young adults. The influence of childhood locations and recollections is evident in his stories. Alvandi has other works that fall into the category of resistance literature which deal with Iran-Iraq war and have won him some awards.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Hills without Moonlight (2005), Shahed Publishing Co.
- An Orange-colored Man (2006), Shahed Publishing Co.
- Look at those Eyes (2009), Shahed Publishing Co.
- Kids, I'll Miss You (2009), Sooreh Mehr
- The Bird (2014), Sooreh Mehr
- Daddy, I Want to Play. Where Are You? (2014), Ba Farzandan
- My Dear Grandpa Reads Me Books (2015), Ba Farzandan

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Best Book Award from Roshd Short Story Festival (held by the Ministry of Education),
- Best Book Award from Revolution Story Festival





Davood Amiran

Davood Amiran, writer was born in Kerman on March 24th when his family was on Norooz vacation (Persian new year) in Kerman. Though originally from Tabriz, he spent his childhood in different cities due to his father's occupation. He published his memoirs of Iran-Iraq war at age twenty. Later, he published his satirical series titled 'Iraq is Tired', 'We are Children of Iran' and 'World Cup in Javadieh'. Satire and presence of young active and ambitious youths are characteristics of Amiran's works. His books have been translated in French, Turkish, Urdu and Arabic.

'World Cup in Javadieh' was a cultural representative in Germany's World Cup 2006 and it is supposed to be published and distributed in Russia in view of the World Cup 2018.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Farewell Karkheh (his first book), 1980, Sureh Mehr Publications
- Heaven for You, 1991, Sureh Mehr Publications
- Mr. Mayor, 2000, Sureh Mehr Publications
- Friends Don't Say Good Bye, 2003, Kanoon Publications
- The Scarecrow of Fiery Farm, 2003, Monadi Tarbiat Publications
- World Cup in Javadieh, 2004, Ghadiani Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Islamic Republic of Iran Book of the Year, Shahid Ghanipour Award, Shahid Shahid Award, Shahid Yousef Malek Shamran Award, Holy Defense Book of the Year, Book of the season. Four times winner of Ministry of Islamic Culture and Guidance Book of the Year Award for Resistance Literature.



Fereydoon Amoozadeh Khalili

Fereydoon Amoozadeh Khalili, writer and journalist, was born in Semnan in 1960. He majored in maths and computer sciences in Tehran University and entered the artistic field to pursue story writing for children and young adults more seriously.

Amoozadeh Khalili engaged in some press activities such as launching publications like Soroush Nojavan, Aftabgardan (the first children's newspaper) and Docharkheh, activities that make him one of the most influential figures in the history children's and young adult literary press.

He has also been a founder of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth as well its chairman for several terms and has taught workshops for writing young adult novels. The downplayed, objective tone that Amoozadeh Khalili uses in his fiction and is sometimes combined with humor gives his works certain features that distinguish them from many examples of young adult literature. Some of his works have been made into animations, e.g Black Yellow.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Three-month Holiday (1983), Soureh Mehr
- Beyond the Spruces (1991), Soroush
- Journey to Suleiman City (1994), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)
- The Night Grandma Was Our Guest (1995), Zekr
- Two Unripe Dates (1997), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)
- The God of Rainy Days (1999), Roozegar
- The Crows of Sa'at Boulevard (2007), Ofoq
- The Adventures of Professor Skolsky and General Pissolsky (2009), Ofoq
- Black Yellow (2009), Kanoon
- The Small Book on Writing Stories (2012), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens), Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Silver Flying Turtle Award.





Masoumeh Ansarian

Masoumeh Ansarian, writer, researcher and literary critic, was born in Malayer in 1957. She studied literature in high school and pursued judicial law. In 1993 she started working in the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults.

In 1994, she became editor-in-chief of Golbang magazine. The years 1997-2001 working with Ketab-e Mah children and youth monthly journal as a story critic, became a serious occupation for her. For many years she was a member of the editorial board and also worked for the Research Bulletin of Children and Youth Literature Quarterly. Sabbatical leave and visiting Munich's International Library provoked research ambitions in her and provided grounds for her to author the book 'Male Literature'. In this book Ansarian with a feminine approach re-reads and analyzes and makes critiques of 102 stories and novels from 19 known authors of our country, which was published by Kanoon in 2014.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- When do I Go to School? (1993), Saber Publications
- The Colored Pencils and I (2003), Shabaviz Publications
- The Glory of Resistance (2008), Sureh Mehr Publications
- Invitation (2001), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
- Sleepy Horse (2002), Manzoumeh Kherad Publications
- Guidelines for Methods of Literary Critique (2013), (from the -10 Volume Children's Literature), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
- Male Literature (2014), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
- Hide your Report Card (2016) Peydayesh Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Honorary Diploma, Press Festival, selected work in Hello Children Festival, Superior Books Festival, Listed in The of White Crow, Munich International Library



Arman Arian

Arman Arian, was born in 1981 in Tehran. He has majored in cinematic arts and entered the field of children and young adults by the series called The Persians and I.

The importance of The Persians and I Trilogy, which is inspired by historic and epic Iranian sources such as Ferdowsi's Shahnameh, is acquainting the young adult reader with Iranian mythology in a fantastic atmosphere. Judging from how young adults welcome fantastic series, this compilation was able to find its place among readers in a short time.

This writer employs Iranian mythical, epic, and historic sources as well as Holy Books in his works. Apart from writing stories, he does research on the same topics. He also has some works on writing for computer games.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Persians and I Series (2006-2003), Mowj Publishing Co.
- Ashvazdangheh (2009), Mowj Publishing Co.
- The Dream of the White Garden (2009), Iranban Publishing House
- One Hundred Pieces of Advice Heard One Thousand Times (2010), Iranban, Publishing House
- The Nightmare of the Black Garden (2011), Iranban Publishing House
- Ancient Future Series (2013), Zaffaran Publishing Co.
- Shahnamag (2015), Chekkeh Publishing Co.
- Patash Khwargar Series (2015), Ofoq

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, Children's Book Council's Best Book Award, Superior Young Shahnameh Scholar as recognized by Ferdowsi Foundation, IBBY Honor Diploma from Hans Christian Andersen Foundation in Denmark





**Mojgan
Baba Marandi**

Mojgan Baba Marandi, was born in 1969 in Tehran. She always dreamed of going to the moon or become an archeologist and discover mummies and write the biggest book in the world. Her first story titled 'Statue' was printed in Keyhan Bacheha children's magazine in 1995. In addition to writing for children, she has also been active in writing plays, film scripts and worked as director for puppet shows, set designer in theatre and story telling sessions. She is an MA graduate in performance literature and received a PhD in Persian literature.

Selected Works:

- Ghelghelak's Cocoon was by Grandma's Side, Amir Kabir Publications, 2016
- Wish Violets were under all Snow, Soroosh Publications, 2015
- Story of a Crow's Mood and Dreams, Peydayesh Publications, 2015
- Auntie Old Woman liked to Tell Stories, Elmi Farhangi Publications, 2015
- All Took Dirt Road, Soroosh Publications, 2015
- Seven Steps, Soroosh Publications, 2012
- My Red Indian Name, Soroosh Publications, 2012
- Mrs. Poet and Mr. Beethoven, Peydayesh Publications, 2011

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Selected in Festival of the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, Salam Bacheha Festival, Puppet Festival of Tehran Province, Roshd Educational Festival



**Gholamreza
Baktash**

Gholamreza Baktash, writer, was born in one of the villages of Malayer in 1972. He wrote poems since age fourteen and began working with Keyhan Bacheha (a children's magazine) in 1991. He majored in Persian language and literature. In 1998 Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults employed him in Literary Creations department. Baktash remained in his hometown and for years has been working with publications such as Keyhan Bacheha, Soroosh Koodakan, Poopak, Salam Bacheha, Roshd magazines, etc. He is currently a poetry specialist in Roshd-e Nojavan magazine.

Selected Works:

- Turn Stones to Hearts (2017), Beh Nashr Publications
- I Taste with My Two Eyes (2013), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults Publications
- Aseman (sky) without an A (2013), Dolat Publications
- Mileh Mileh Crow (2011), Ghoo Publications
- The Pine Tree's Youth (2011), Soroosh Publications
- As Soon as it was Announced on the Radio (2010), Paliz Publications
- Copying Spring (2007), Kanoon Publications
- A Sweet Apple, (2006), Sureh Publications

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Selected in Islamic republic of Iran Book of the Season, Children and Youth Nationwide Press Festival, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults Book, Holy Defense Best Book of the Year





Mahmoud Barabadi

Mahmoud Barabadi, was born in Sabzevar in September 1952 and became a reporter in his teens. He has a master's degree in urban planning and with such a specialization has written works for children about issues such as traffic ethics, etc.

Barabadi was a board member in Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth for several terms. He has also written movie scripts.

The remainder of his works are mostly young adult fiction. The majority of his young adult writings are realistic. He tries to reflect a small part of the problems in rural areas or town skirts. Some of his works have a cultural and historical context and he has tried to introduce the children to important historical figures through stories. His book entitled The Short-legged Water Drum has been translated into Mandarin and Korean.

Selected Works:

- Lazy Chick (1990), Peydayesh
- Lollipop (1991), Peydayesh
- The Short-legged Water Drum (1994), Shabaviz
- Grandpa and the Star (1995), Anjam Ketab Foundation
- Be Careful, Kids (1996), Bafarzandan
- Dangerous Game (2004), Tehran Transport and Traffic Organization
- The Man Who Invented Sound (2009), Shahr Publishing Co.
- Noise Pollution (2010), Shahr Publishing Co.
- Alexander the Macedonian (2011), Madrese
- The Mystery of the Abandoned Orchard (2014), Kanoon

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Honor Diploma for the Best Script from Roosta Literary-Artistic Festival, Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran



Mohammadreza Bayrami

Mohammadreza Bayrami, was born in a village in Ardabil in 1961 and migrated to Tehran with his family in his teens. He started his writing career by submitting one of his stories to radio. He has been present in renowned children's and young adult publications and has worked as a fiction expert for Hozeh Honari. Bayrami writes for adults as well, but when it comes to children's and young adult literature, he mostly writes young adult novels. He is a realist writer, who, because of his life experience, mostly writes about the life and nature of his birth place village and, in a simple, fluent language, portrays the life of poverty and travail that its residents lead, as well as their relationships. Another topic that Bayrami discusses in his books is the eight-year Iran-Iraq war.

His book entitled The Mountain Called Me has been translated to German.

Selected Works:

- The Poplar in Our School (1989), Javaneh
- On the Precipice (1992), Hozeh Honari
- The Mountain Called Me (1992), Hozeh Honari
- The Smoke Behind the Hill (1996), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- The Eagles of Hill Sixty (2007), Sooreh Mehr
- Wolves Aren't Scared of Snow (2008), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- At the Country (2010), Sooreh Mehr
- From Behind the Cloud (2012), Kanoon
- Hello, Rock (2013) Assr Dastan
- The Fifth Chapter of Silence (2014), Kanoon

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, The Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian writers in two decades, Golden Bear Award and Blue Cobra Award from Switzerland, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival





Hossein Bokayee

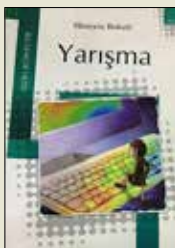
Hossein Bokayee, was born in 1961 in Tabriz. His academic major was chemistry. In addition to his academic and teaching career, he is also author, translator and researcher of children and youth literature and has worked in many capacities such as editor-in-chief and literary specialist for many children and youth publications, as specialist for Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, as specialist for book production in various publishing companies and teaching creative writing, journalism, etc. He is an active member of Children and Youth Writers Association as well as having acted as jury in various children and youth festivals. He has also worked with UNICEF's cultural activities as consultant. He has also written many articles and essays on social issues and satire that have been published in the press. Some of his works have been translated in Turkish.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Carriage Riding Sun (under print) Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
- When Grown-Ups Leave us Alone (from the series When Grown-Ups) Shahr-e Ghalam Publications, 2016
- When Grown-Ups Get Bored (from the series When Grown-Ups) Shahr-e Ghalam, 2016
- The Smart Kid Novel.Com, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, 2016
- Story Elements in Children and Youth Stories, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, 2013
- Fortune, Komak Amouzeshi Publications, 2001

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Selected in Press Festival of Young Journalists Forum, Press Festival, UNICEF Organization for collaboration on production of books for children and holding writing workshop for youths



Ahmad Dehghan

Ahmad Dehghan, writer, was born in Karaj in 1966. He studied social sciences and electrical engineering and received a BA. His first novel titled 'Journey to Heading 270 Degrees' was published in 1996 and it was chosen as one of the superior literary works of 20 years of story writing and Resistance Literature. The novel has been translated many times over in the world. Dehghan has also written many articles on the subject of Iran-Iraq war. His stories include incidences on the Iran-Iraq war. He is one of the most prominent authors of Holy Defense literature.

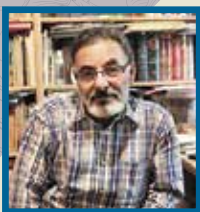
▲ **Selected Works:**

- Journey to Heading 270 Degrees (novel) (1996), Sanobar Publications
- Field Ranger (2009), Neyestan Publications
- Four Person Squadron (1996), Sureh Mehr Publications
- Roaming in Strange Land (2009), Neyestan Publications
- I am the Murderer of your Son (2004), Ofogh Publications
- Children of Karoon (2014), Sureh Mehr Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- 20 Years of Resistance Literature Award, Ministry of Islamic Culture and Guidance Award, Terra Incognita Literary Award, Russia





Jafar Ebrahimi

Jafar Ebrahimi, poet and story-writer, was born in a village in Ardabil in 1951 and migrated to Tehran in his teens. He began his career in children's and young adult literature in 1979, publishing some of his works in magazines. In 1981, he became in charge of the poetry council of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon). He has also been on the editorial board of some children's and young adult publications and collaborated with the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting and some children's and young adult literature publishers. His poems have been included in the school textbooks of Iranian students.

Ebrahimi writes both for children and for young adults. The categories of his writings also vary, covering poetry, stories, rewriting, biographies, etc. His tender style and poetic outlook appear in his stories too.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- No Cloud in the Sky (1995), Nahade Honar Va Adabiyat
- O' Sky, Cry Tears of Blood (1997), Kanoon
- The Sweet Stories of Sadi's Golestan (rewriting / 1997), Peydayesh
- The Witches of the Shadowless Town (1999), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- Hoopoe's Song (1999), Kanoon
- I Have Come to Love (2003), Shabaviz
- Mysteries in the Wind (2007), Kanoon
- Alak Dolak, a Little Person (2013), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)
- Peace Like Freshly Brewed Tea (2013), Peydayesh
- The Bird Is My Sister (2014), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, Best Book Award from The Book Festival of The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Book of the Year chosen by Soroushe Nojavan magazine



Tahereh Eybod

Tahereh Eybod, children's and young adult writer, was born in Shiraz. She studied English language at the university and began her career in children's and young adult literature in early 1980s.

Besides writing, she also has executive experiences, e.g. literary expert in the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), being on the editorial boards of some children's and young adult literature publications, being a board member of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth for several terms, etc. She has also taught story writing in various organizations.

The content of her works reflect a similar diversity. Eybod has written works with themes such as war, religion, family, etc. She has written fantasy novels for young adults, mini-stories for children, and works in which humor is the most distinguished characteristic.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Flower-bed in Flower Pot (1996), Zolal
- Thinking of the Rose (2000), Monadi Tarbiat
- The Adventures of Mr. Charkheshi's Family (2001), Kanoon
- Gonggi Stories (2005), Behnashr
- The Game of the Moon and the Star (2005), Madrese Publications
- A Message to the Cotton Wool Cloud (2007), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House
- The Fish Began to Cough (2009), Shahr Publishing Co.
- The Tail-Headed Black Monster (2011), Amirkabir
- Liasandmaris Fairy Tales (2011), Kanoon
- The Big Wolf and the Fat Fish (2016), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Book of the Year Award from the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book Award from Parvin Etesami Book Fair, Book of the Year chosen by Soroushe Nojavan magazine, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)





Hossein Fattahi

Hossein Fattahi, writer and translator, was born in 1957 in Yazd. He studied in his hometown until 1975; then he came to Tehran to study accounting in Tehran University.

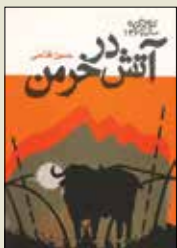
Fattahi started his literary career in 1981 by becoming a member of the editorial board in one of the oldest children's and young adult magazines in Iran and continued working for it until 2002. Apart from these activities, he has also written several narrative biographies about the lives of prophets, prophet Mohammad's descendants, and martyrs. However, he might be known to his readers most of all because of his works about Iran-Iraq war. His first experience in writing war stories for young adults was *Fire in the Crops* that was published in 1988 and not only won awards for Fattahi but was also adapted for the screen.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Fire in the Crops (1988), Amirkabir
- The Child and the Storm (1988), Barg
- The Eighth Little Amir (1991), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)
- The Love of the War Years (1994), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)
- Island Boys (1997), Sareer
- Bandits (1997), Kanoon
- Star Boy (1988/ Avicenna's biography), Office of Islamic Culture Publications
- Elias (peace be upon him) (2005), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)
- 15 Stories Selected from Ferdowsi's Shahnameh (2010), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)
- 10 Illustrated Stories from Javame-ol-hekayat (2014), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Keyhan Bacheha's Best Book Award, Sacred Defense Book of the Year Award, Golden Plaque Award from the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon)



Marjan Fouladvand

Marjan Fouladvand, was born in Jahrom in 1971. She is a PhD student of Persian language and literature. Fouladvand has worked with various newspapers and magazines and is now the editor-in-chief of a children's publication.

Fouladvand has also collaborated with different publishers as an expert and she is interested in research on children's and young adult literature, especially in rewriting and recreating.

Most of her works are related to Old Persian literary texts which befits her field of studies. She uses myths and old legends in her works and links them with humane and global concepts, such as peace and friendship. Fouladvand's different outlook on rewriting and recreating has made her one of the most successful writers in this genre.

Some of Marjan Fouladvand's works have been translated into French, Norwegian, Italian, and Mandarin.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Butterfly among Light Decoration (2000), Sooreh Mehr
- The Parrot and the Merchant (2003), Kanoon
- The Kind Moon (2004), Kanoon
- Rostam and Sohrab (2004), Kanoon
- Chinese and Roman Artists (2007), Kanoon
- Me and an Empty Vase (2010), Kanoon
- Arash (The Tale of the Storyteller Shooting an Arrow) (2011), Ofoq
- Jinjanber, the Spring Bird (2013), Kanoon
- Rostam and Esfandiyar (2014), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens), Mehdi Azar Yazdi Literary Award (Award for the Best Rewriting and Recreating of Old Texts)





Davood Ghaffarzadegan

Davood Ghaffarzadegan, writer, was born in Ardabil in 1959. He finished his studies there in a primary teacher training college and became a teacher. In 1980, he published his first work in the press. In 1988, he was transferred to Tehran and began working for a publishing office which belonged to the Ministry of Education.

For more than 20 years now, Ghaffarzadegan has been writing for adults as well as for children and young adults, dealing with various subjects. The location of most of his writings is where he is completely familiar with. Among his other activities, one can point to recreating and rewriting old legends for children.

This writer's narrative language changes depending on the content of his work. Sometimes it is poetic and full of signs and symbols and sometimes it is humorous.

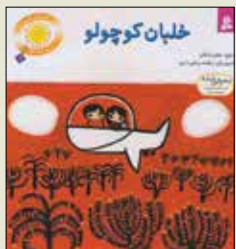
Some of his works are translated into other languages.

Selected Works:

- Cranes' flight (1990), Barg
- The Little Pilot (1991), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- Winter on Its Way (1992), Hozeh Honari
- Stone Throwers of the Azure Cave (1996), Hozeh Honari
- Midnight Song (1997), Sareer Publishing Co.
- 7 Old Champions, 8 Young Boys (2004), Sabz Khameh
- Midnight Rooster and another Story (2008), Taka Publishing Co.
- A Hundred Proverbs, A Hundred Stories (2010), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- Why Did the Bear's Tail Become Short? (2013), Sooreh Mehr Publication
- The Story of the Unfinished Drawing (2013), Sooreh Mehr Publication

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

The Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian writers in two decades, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival



Shokooh Ghasemnia

Shokooh Ghasemnia, poet and writer, was born in Tehran in July 1954. Ghasemnia has a bachelor's degree in political science and began writing stories and composing poems and songs for children at the end of the 1970s. She has founded organizations and publications for children under five.

Ghasemnia is among the first notable poets who used colloquial language in the poetry for children under five and intentionally chose a literature that was different from the dominant children's literature and was instead close to colloquial language and Iranian folkloric literature. Ghasemnia's poems are full of friskiness and childlike imagination.

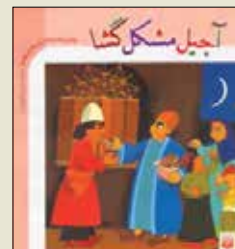
She has been editor-in-chief as well as on the editorial board of specialized children's publications. she has also written the lyrics of some songs for the children's programs on Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting.

Selected Works:

- Golak Is So Kind (1989), Nahade Honar Va Adabiyat
- The Moon and the Fish (1992), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- The Legend of the Monster and the Girl (1997), Peydayesh
- Hassani Songs (1998), Peydayesh
- It's Raining Cats and Dogs (1999), Peydayesh
- Problem-solving Nuts (2001), Peydayesh
- Greener than the Spring (2005), Madrese
- Sequin Bubbles (2005), Arghavani
- Tiny Heli in Giant Land (2014), Peydayesh
- 3, 2, 1 Collection, Three Stories (2016), Shahr Ghalam

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

The Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian poets in two decades, Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon)





Samaneh Ghasemi

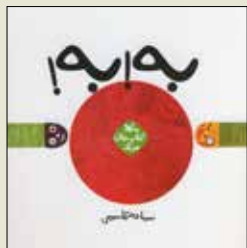
Samaneh Ghasemi, writer, was born in Qazvin in 1981. She studied graphic design and children's literature. She is a permanent member of Iranian Painters Society, member of 'Words and Picture' group in Shiraz University Studies Center. She is an author and illustrator of children's books and has attended many individual and group exhibitions.

Selected Works:

Author, designer and illustrator of Bah Bah (2015) Kanoon Publications,
Author, designer and illustrator of A New Friend (2016), Kanoon Publications
Articles, Who is Involved in Children's Literature? (2013) Roshan-an Specialized Children and Youths Magazine, Recognizing Target Groups 2, No. 15
The Hidden Adult, defining children's literature written by Perry Nodelman translated by Golboo Mohajer, Samaneh Ghasemi, Roshanan Specialized Children and Youths Literature Magazine, Recognizing Target Groups 2, No. 2013 ,15
Techniques of Decentralization in Picture and Text and Picture Interaction in Illustrated Books, presented in the 4th National Convention of Children and Youths Literature, University of Shiraz (Children and Youths Literature and Illustration)
Techniques of Decentralization in Picture and Text and Picture Interaction in Illustrated Books, Children's Literary Studies Magazine, Science and Research Bi-Annually, No. 2015 ,11

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Honorary Diploma, Kanoon Festival of Children and Youths Books, Flying Pencil Award, Kanoon's Festival of Children and Youths Books, Commendation Plaque, 2nd Annual Iranian Book Design (Shirazeh Medal), Silver Medal of Flying Turtle Award



Yousef Ghojogh

Yousef Ghojogh, novelist, was born in 1968 in a plush green village called Okhli Bala in Golestan province. He finished elementary school in his hometown and middle and high schools in the city of Gonbad. He then moved to Tehran to pursue his studies and graduated with a BA in Persian literature and an MA in anthropology. He is originally from Turkmen tribes, a warm people with special cultural traditions residing in the north of Iran. For that matter, the Turkmen culture and beliefs are strongly reflected in his novels. His first book was published in 1992. The themes of his books mostly involving his native surroundings, revolve around youths' problems and cultural/social issues. His novel 'Battle in Gook Tepe' has been translated in Turkmen of Turkmenistan and his other novel Lalou has been translated in English and printed in Braille.

Selected Works:

Palanquin (1992), Barg Publications
My Gift, the Pigeon's Nest (1994), Peydayesh Publications
Nineteen Tales from Central Asia (1996), Ghadiani Publications
Seven Brothers and One Sister (1997), Ghadiani Publications
Flying Horse (2009), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
Men of Tomorrow (2010), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
Lalou (2010), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
A Ladder towards the Sky (2012), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Commendation, Shahid Ghanipour Book of the Year Festival, National Children and Youth Book of the Year Festival, Roshd Book Festival





Siamak Golshiri

Siamak Golshiri, author and translator, was born in August 1968 in Isfahan. He started playwriting and similar activities at high school. He got his master's degree in German language and literature.

Golshiri began his professional career in 1370 by publishing his stories in various creditable publications. Most of Golshiri's stories happen in contemporary Iran especially in Tehran. The characteristics of his stories include numerous scenes and a completely impartial prose, which is free from adjectives and adverbs.

His "Vampire" series in five volumes is known as one of the best-selling novel series in the history of Iranian children's and young adult literature. Golshiri has been teaching creative writing at universities and other centers for more than ten years. He has been a board member of the Association of Writers for Children and Youth.

Selected Works:

- Samak Ayyar (rewriting, 2005), The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon)
- The First Day of Summer (2010) Kanoon
- Qaboosnameh (rewriting, 2012) Parseh Translation and Publishing Co.
- Ghosts Alley, Tehran (from the "Vampire" series, 2013), Ofoq
- The Fog Forest (from the "Vampire" series, 2013), Ofoq
- The Ghost of Death (from the "Vampire" series, 2013), Ofoq
- Meeting the Vampire (from the "Vampire" series, 2014), Ofoq
- Arash and Tahmineh (2013), Ofoq
- Bardia and the Queen of Ivory Land (2014), Kanoon
- A House in the Dark (2015), Ofoq

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Mehr Award for the Best Novel of the Year, Plaque of Appreciation from the Sixth Festival of Superior Children's and Young Adult Books, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens).



Hoda Haddadi

Hoda Haddadi, writer and illustrator, was born in Tehran in 1976. She has majored in graphic arts at the Faculty of Fine Arts. Haddadi's first story was published in the 1980s in an important young adult magazine in Iran. She began illustrating for children by working with a number of specialized children's and young adult publications and so far has illustrated the works of many renowned Iranian writers for children and young adults.

Although Hoda Haddadi is best known as an illustrator, she is an active story writer too. She has written for different age groups. She has written stories for children, stories for young adults, composed poems, and written young adult novels. Her writings for young adults depict unconventional characters who are trying to bond with their surroundings.

Some of her works have been translated to other languages.

Selected Works:

- Compartment 2005) 11), Behnashr
- Two Friends (2007), Shabaviz
- The Clown (2012), Kanoon
- I Love You as Much as All the Meows (2014), Chekkeh
- Magical Stories Series (2015), Khaneye Adabiyat

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon)





Noora Haghparast

Noora Haghparast, writer, was born in Tehran in 1961. She studied literature and has been active as a writer, translator and editor in the field of children and youths literature for 35 years.

Her Literary Activities in Cludes Authorship, Translation and publication of 5 books in English, German and Russian. Authoring over 60 books, translation of 25 book titles, 8 film scripts, 15 plays and over 200 various articles for children's publications. She has also been active in managing children's programs in Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting and children's publications.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Where has Nok Tala Gone? (1997), Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon)
- One is Not Enough (2011), Kanoon
- The Story of A Sad Lion (2008), Kanoon
- The Sly Lizard and the Town of Color Pencils (1997), Sadaf Publications
- Wheat Grain (2012), Monadi Tarbiat Publications
- Blue Butterflies (2003), Beh Nashr Publications
- The Dolphin, Wolf and Chocolate and I (2011) Amir Kabir Publications
- Marvin Wanted More (2005), Joseph Theobald, Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Winner of Awards and commendation letters from Ministry of Culture, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, Children's Books Council, Soroosh, Roshd Festival, Flying Turtle



Rudabeh Hamzeii

Rudabeh Hamzeii, poet, writer, was born in Tehran in 1965. Rudabeh has mostly worked with children and youth publications. She has worked in performance arts (theatre) and writes for television programs. She first wrote adult poetry but when her children became toddlers she turned to writing poetry for children after purchasing a series of low quality children's poetry books. Her poems since 1991 were printed in children and youth magazines and received recognition to the point that her first two books won several awards from reputable festivals in children and youths sections.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Pink Fancy (2011), Sureh Mehr Publications
- Chick Khan (2012), Madreseh Publications
- It wasn't I; it broke on its Own (2016), Payam Mashregh Publications
- Oh What a Bad Act (2016), Baragh Publications
- My Sister Star (2016), Amir Kabir Publications
- A Collection of Kindness (2011), Sureh Mehr
- From Pomegranate to God (1995), Beh Nashr Publications
- The Songs of a Pedestrian (1999), Nashr-e Shahr
- Young Elephant Lullaby (2016), Payam Mashregh Publications
- Where's the Sound Coming from? (2016), Amir Kabir Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected Poet by Iranians abroad, Jaam-e Jam Television, Photography Studio Television Program, Commendation for writing and poetry reciting of various television programs





Seyed Saeed Hashemi

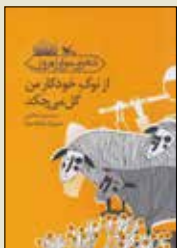
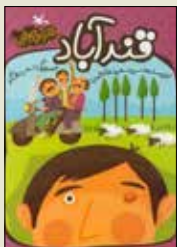
Seyed Saeed Hashemi, writer, poet, was born in Qom in 1975. He studied Persian literature and received his MA. He has been the editor-in-chief of two children and youth magazines (Salam Bacheha and Loobia Sehr Amiz). Loobia Sehr Amiz after Gol Agha Bacheha has been the only satirical magazine especially for children. He has also worked in the capacity of jury in literary festivals such as Book of the Year, Kanoon, Razavi Book of the Year and Children and Youth Press Festival. Some of his works such as 'Poet of Sparrows' has been translated into other languages. He is among the few contemporary poets and authors who also works in the area of children and youth satire. He began writing satire at age 16 and at 17 years old he became member of the Salam Bacheha editorial board.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Flower Trickle from My Pen (2015), Kanoon Publications
Inside Parenthesis (1994), Charkh-o-Falak Publications
Mr. Sun and I (2000), Madreseh Publications
Cherry Granddad (2016), Charkh-o-Falak Publications
Child of the Sunshine and Moonlight (2013), Boostan-e Ketab Publications
Nose Lending (2011), Charkh-o-Falak Publications
In Color Gray (1999), Tose-e Ketab-e Iran Publications
Mr. Bacteria Neighborhood (1997), Charkh-o-Falak Publications
The 'J' First Graders (1997), Nasim Andisheh Publications
Old Man and the Chair (1996), Astan Ghods Razavi Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected book in Big Smile Festival, Book of the Year in Bright Future Festival, Golden Pen Festival



Maryam Hashempour

Maryam Hashempour, poet, was born in Karaj in 1979. She is a graduate of Persian literature. She wrote poetry for children but began her professional career by attending classes of Mostafa Rahmadoost. The first time her poems were printed in a children and youths magazine, she bought all copies of the magazine from a newspaper stall near her house. The poem was titled 'Sky's Birthday'. She has also worked with many children and youth magazines and some literary foundations as a literary specialist. Her embarking on children and youth poetry was so impressive that prompted her to major in Persian literature and receive her BA degree with honors.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Where is your Teeth, Frog? (2016), Peydayesh Publications
I Run, the Penguin Runs (2015), Kanoon Publications
Happy Birthday to Me (2014), Peydayesh Publications
A Teapot full of Croaking (2014), Kanoon Publications
Both the Newspaper and Cookie (2013), Amir Kabir Publications
Blue Hat, Green Hat (2016), Ofogh Publications
They Bought our Playground (2013), Nashr-e Shahr Publications
To the Rainbow Bridge (2000), Sarir Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected for Salman Harati Literary Award, Kanoon's Book of the Year Festival, Fajr Poetry Festival, Roshd Book Festival, Parvin Etesami Festival





Ebrahim Hassanbeigi

Ebrahim Hassanbeigi, writer, was born in a village in Gorgan in June 1957. He has a B.A. in Persian language and literature and started professional writing in the early 1980s by publishing his works in the press. His first collection of stories was published in the mid 1980s.

He has been on the founders' board of Iran Pen Society and on the editorial boards of credible Iranian publications. He has also taught story-writing in various centers.

Hassanbeigi's works draw from his personal experiences. As he had been in the trenches of Iran-Iraq war, some of his works are about Iranians' defense of their land. He also has some religious works. However, the most eye-catching feature of his works is his attention to different peoples of Iran, especially the Torkamans. The Torkamans mostly live near the writer's hometown. He depicts the traditions and culture of this people and strives to bring diverse cultures and religions together.

Some of his works are translated into other languages.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Wheat Feast (1989), Barg
- Flower Bud on the Carpet (1991), HozehHonari
- The Mystery of Christ (1992), Madrese Publications
- Deep Roots (1994), Barg
- Fatemeh and Her Drawings (Series) (1999), MehrabGhalam
- Ashkaneh (2004), Ghadyani
- Spotted White Horse (2009), Iran Pen Society
- Mohammad (PBUH) (2011), Amirkabir
- Sophie and the Magic Lamp (2012), Kanoon
- Amirhossein and the Magic Lamp (2014), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens), Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from The Book Festival of The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon)



Mahdi Hejvani

Mahdi Hejvani, born in 1960, is a writer, scholar, editor-in-chief, and a tenured professor. He has a PhD in arts research. Hejvani has worked extensively on children's and young adult literary criticism and has been very active in founding cultural and civil organizations.

Mahdi Hejvani has played an important role in founding and launching Ofoq Publishing Company, Research Quarterly for Children's and Young Adult Literature, Flying Turtle NGO (the organization for evaluating children's and young adult books), the monthly magazine called Book of the Month in Children's and Young Adult Literature, the Association of Writers for Children and Youth, and the Association of Illustrators for Children and Youth. Hejvani was the chairman of the Association of Writers for Children and Youth for a while.

Honoring Mahdi Hejvani as an influential figure in Iranian children's and young adult literature was held by the Association of Writers for Children and Youth at Iranian Artists Forum in Tehran in March 2016.

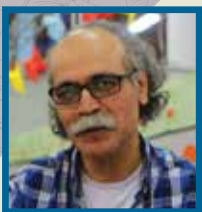
▲ **Selected Works:**

- Bath Symphony (1995), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)
- The Statue's Finger (1997), Soureh Mehr
- The Raisin Smiles of a Happy Family (2003), Charkhofalak
- The Seventh Bench by the Lake (2006), Ofoq
- The Scorpions of the Ship Bambak (2009), Ofoq
- This Weblog is Relinquished (2013), Ofoq
- Jeejoo + Shimpalo + Me Series (2014), Chekkeh Publishing Co.
- Carrot Milkshake (2015), Ofoq
- Call Me Pretty (2015), Kanoon
- It's Time We Ate Some Pistachios (2015), Kanoon

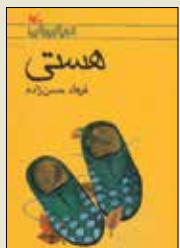
▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Best Book Award from the Cultural Society of Children's Publishers, Silver Flying Turtle Award, Children's Book Council's Special Book Award, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival





Farhad Hassanzadeh



Farhad Hassanzadeh, writer and humorist, was born in April 1962 in Abadan. He started his professional career in the field of children's and young adult literature in 1989 through working with different children's and young adult publications. He is a founder of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth and had also been a board member for two terms. Hassanzadeh has pursued writing humor for children and young adults earnestly. However, the strong point of his works are novels like *Hasti* that have been written for young adults. In these novels, he deals with concepts that are important for teenagers and he has tried to portray their concerns. Due to what he has experienced in his life, war has a pronounced presence in his novels. In his novels, he shows the problems that war can cause for children and young adults, e.g. migration, etc. but does not use a motto-like tone. Some of the books by this author has been translated into English, Mandarin, Malay, and Kurdish. Farhad Hassanzadeh has been nominated by Iran for the international Astrid Lingren Award 2017 and Hans Christian Andersen Award 2018.

Selected Works:

- Bath Symphony (1995), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)
- The Statue's Finger (1997), Soureh Mehr
- The Raisin Smiles of a Happy Family (2003), Charkhofalak
- The Seventh Bench by the Lake (2006), Ofoq
- The Scorpions of the Ship Bambak (2009), Ofoq
- This Weblog is Relinquished (2013), Ofoq
- Jeejoor + Shimpalo + Me Series (2014), Chekkeh Publishing Co.
- Carrot Milkshake (2015), Ofoq
- Call Me Pretty (2015), Kanoon
- It's Time We Ate Some Pistachios (2015), Kanoon

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Best Book Award from the Cultural Society of Children's Publishers, Silver Flying Turtle Award, Children's Book Council's Special Book Award, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival



Mohsen Hejri



Mohsen Hejri, writer and scholar, was born in 1963 in Borujerd and started his career in children's and young adult literature in the 1990s.

Besides writing for children and young adults, he has taught children's literature in Kanoon educational centers, has been a journalist as well as a board member in the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth, and has written theoretical and scholarly books about children's and young adult literature, among his other activities.

Most of Hejri's works are related to young adult literature. The history of Iran is one of his biggest concerns and is seen in most of his novels. In books such as *The Eighth Region*, he uses a narrative approach to relate the lives of important historical and religious Iranian figures. Hejri avoids mentioning religious and philosophic concepts directly and, taking the characteristics of his readers into account, he acquaints them with the culture of their country in the form of a story.

Selected Works:

- A Fire As Gentle As Violets (1998), Kanoon
- The Last Wave (1998), Kanoon
- Standing on the Soil (1999), Kanoon
- The Rising of That Star (2006), Kanoon
- Sarbedaran (2006), Madrese Publications
- The Moghuls (from the collection *The Story of Iranian Intellect* / 2009), Ofoq
- Jonah (PBUH), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)
- The Father of the Soil (2011), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)
- Eagle's Eye (2011), Kanoon
- The Eighth Region (2014), Kanoon

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Mehr Book of the Year Award (awarded by Mehr Taha foundation)



Laleh Jafari

Laleh Jafari, writer and translator, was born in Isfahan in 1966. She has a bachelor's degree in dramatic literature from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Tehran University. Jafari started her career by making short movies for children in Iranian Youth Cinema Society. She has also written and performed puppet shows and written the scripts for several animations. However, the lion share of her work is writing fiction for children and young adults. Besides writing, she also translates and has collaborated with various children's and young adult publications.

Laleh Jafari mostly writes for children under five and older, although there are some titles for young adults among her works as well.

Some of Laleh Jafari's works have been translated to other languages.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Athletic Crow (2003), Madrese Publications
- The Red Sock (2003), Shabaviz
- The Prettiest Place (2007), Shabaviz
- The Wild Giant (2009), Behnashr (Parvaneh Books)
- Mr. Rooster (2010), Elmi-Farhangi
- Sho'eyb (2010), Amirkabir (Shokoffeh Books)
- Honk, Honk, Story (2013), Amirkabir (Shokoffeh Books)
- Narwhale, the Unicorn Whale (2013), Kanoon
- Mrs. Giant, Mr. Giant, and Ten Other Stories (2014), Peydayesh
- My Parrot and I (2015), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Best Book Award from the Press Festival held by the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, Best Book Award from Hello Children Festival



Abbas Jahangirian

Abbas Jahangirian, writer and scholar, was born in Qom in 1954. He has a master's degree in dramatic literature from Tehran University.

He teaches story writing at the university and also writes plays and collaborates with the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting.

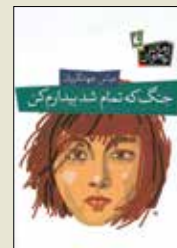
The main themes of Abbas Jahangirian's works comprise teenage love, Iranian-Islamic identity and the environment. Some of his works have attracted the attention of directors because of their visual style and they have been adapted for the cinema and television, e.g. Hamoon and the Sea and New Year's Day. Several books by Abbas Jahangirian have been translated to Armenian, Russian, and English.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Pomegranate Twig (2007), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House
- Girls Dreams Aren't False (2009), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- Hamoon and the Sea (2009), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- Prince Pumpkin (2010), Kanoon
- The Story of Rostam and Sohrab (2010), Kanoon
- Wake Me Up When the War is Over (2010), Ofoq
- Anooshiravan (2011), Madrese Publications
- Tooran the Toor (2011), Kanoon
- Where Are You, Mother? (2012), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- The Monster's Shadow (2015), Kanoon
- The Boy of Bread and Salt (2015), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book of the Season Award from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance





Claire Joubert

Claire Joubert, writer and illustrator, was born in Paris in May 1961. She was brought up in a Christian family. She converted to Islam at the age of nineteen and immigrated to Iran when she got married. Claire Joubert has a bachelor's degree in educational sciences.

She illustrates her stories herself. With a cursory look at her works, one can easily perceive her preoccupation with issues such as faith and religion, identity, children's relations with their surroundings, etc. Most of this writer's works are for primary-age children.

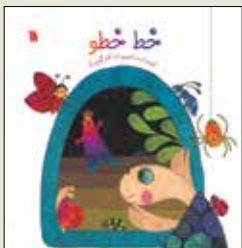
Joubert is also interested in doing research on children's literature and philosophy for children. She writes both in Persian and French and has published some French books in Lebanon and France, but her preference is to write in Persian.

Selected Works:

- The Burnt Tree (1996), Office of Islamic Culture Publications
- In Search of God (2005), Kanoon
- God's Cookies (2008), Kanoon
- Goodbye, Old Raccoon (2012), Kanoon
- Doodles (2012), Soroush
- Oh, No! (2014), Kanoon
- Acorn Soup (2014), Kanoon
- Problem-solving Soup (2014), Elmi-Farhangi
- My Penguin and I (2015), Iran Technical Company
- Mumushi Stories Series (2016), Danesh Negar

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Best Book Award from Hello Children Festival, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, Best Book Award from Parvin Etesami Book Fair



Azra Jozdani

Azra Jozdani, writer and translator, was born in 1968 and has a bachelor's degree in Persian language and literature from Tehran University. She began her literary career in children's and young adult literature late at 1990s by writing for children's and young adult publications.

She works with Islamic Republic of Iran Radio and not only writes but is also an editor of children's and young adult literature.

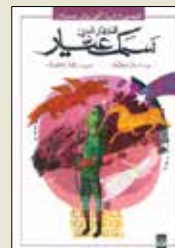
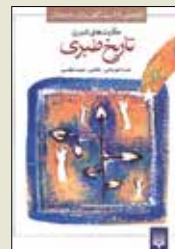
Jozdani began her career by writing for young adult readers and later also wrote some works for children both under and over the age of five. Her children's stories are fanciful and yet deal with children's real issues. She is one of the few writers who pays attention to the under-five age group. Kind Manya, a series that she has written, has been made into an interactive book.

Selected Works:

- Prince Pear (2001), Soroush
- The Queen of Waters (2002), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- The Sweet Tales of Tabari History (rewriting / 2003), Peydayesh
- The Picture of Dad Number What (2003), Farhang Gostar
- Go Up, Old Elevator! (2004), Howze Noghreh
- Open Your Arms (2005), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
- Mr. Gerdooyee (2005), Shabaviz
- It Should Be Fun (2005), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- Essi (2006), Shabaviz
- Manya Series (2011), Chekkeh

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)





Fariba Kalhor

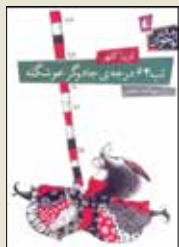
Fariba Kalhor, was born in September 1961 in Tehran. She continued her education in this city and got well as a master's in educational management. Kalhor began working for the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon) as a cultural coach, a job that introduced her to the world of children's and young adult literature and she began her collaboration with Roshd publications that were published by the Ministry of Education. She has been among the founders, managers, and editorial members of some of the children's and young adult publications in Iran. This writer's books are about different matters and are for different age groups. Besides writing stories, she has also been active in translation, rewriting, recreating, and writing educational materials. However, what distinguishes Kalhor from many children's and young adult writers is that she was one of the first in Iran who took novel writing for young adults seriously. Most of her young adult novels can be classified into science fiction and fantasy genres.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Today, My Swallow (1991), Kavir
The Smart Ones on Planet Urak (two volumes/ 1999-1992), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)
Sons of Flower (1994), Zolal Publishing Co.
Governor's Whistle (1994), Mehrab Ghalam
The -6000year-old Green Man (1998), Mehrab Ghalam
Salomé and Her Rabbit (2001), Soroush Publishing Co.
Long and Short Stories for Children (2009), Ghadyani (Banafsheh Books)
The Return of Hardad (2011), Kanoon
Escape Again and Again (2014), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House
The Motorcyclist Tiny Stories (2014), Soureh Mehr

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Children's Book Council's Special Book Award, Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from Hello Children Festival, and the Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian writers in two decades



Mojgan Kalhor

Mojgan Kalhor, writer, translator, and editor, was born in May 1971 in Tehran. She started her career by writing for different publications. She was on editorial boards of influential children's and young adult magazines during the 1990s and was also a member of the Translation Council and the Comedy Council of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon).

Kalhor is one of the writers who have worked on writing short stories for young adults. Among her works, we see story collections like The One Who Combed My Hair whose heroines are lonely teenage girls facing difficulties and obstacles. Her series called Aftab and Madam Aziz has been adapted into a television series.

As an editor, she works with leading children's and young adult literature publishers and some of her works have been translated into other languages such as French and Spanish.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Crows Don't Fly (1993), Gol Publishing Co.
Aftab and Madam Aziz Series (1996), Hamshahri Publishing Co.
The Stories of Khosrow and Shirin (rewriting / 2003), Peydayesh
The One Who Combed My Hair (2003), Kanoon
Hey, Will You Be My Friend? (2005), Kanoon
I Won't Look into the Mirror (2003), Peydayesh
A Girl with a White Ribbon (2013), Kanoon
The Fisherman and Spring (2013), Kanoon
Who Knows Mr. Soorati? (2015), Ofoq
The Adventures of the Turtle and the Monkey (2015), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Book of the Year chosen by Soroushe Nojavan Magazine, Best Book Award from Hello Children Festival, Best Book Award from Parvin Etesami Book Fair





Minoo Karimzadeh

Minoo Karimzadeh, was born in 1964 in Shahrekord. She began working for Kanoon as an editor in 1985. Besides writing and editing, she also has some experience in writing scripts for feature films and telefilms.

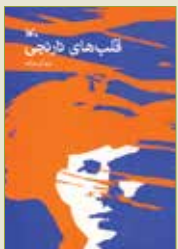
Her main preoccupation when writing has always been the youth, especially teenage girls. In her stories, teenage girls usually face two problems: the troubles and prejudices imposed on them by the society on one hand and on the other hand the prejudices imposed by their families, whether knowingly or inadvertently. Karimzadeh deals with such matters in her stories and tries to put the readers in the middle of the events by creating an adventure so that they, too, will experience the ups and downs that the main character undergoes and in the end feel a change in themselves just as the perception of the heroine changes. Most of Karimzadeh's published works are for young adults. Her "Last Ticket" has been published in an anthology of Oceanic stories in Japan.

Selected Works:

- When Yalda Was Not around (2005), Kanoon
- Orange Hearts (2010), Kanoon
- Before Packing the Suitcase (2011), Kanoon
- Gordafarid's Dream (2013), Kanoon
- The White Birthday (poems, 2015), Kanoon

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Best Book of the Season Award from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)



Solmaz Khajevand

Solmaz Khajevand, writer, was born in Tehran in 1984. She graduated with a BA in performance literature and an MA in Persian language and literature. As one of the youngest Iranian writers in children's literature, in her last days of high school she signed a contract to publish her book with Amir Kabir publications. Khajevand by knowledge of Iranian children's characteristics and creation of fantasy characters and new fictional atmospheres in her stories in a satirical tone has attempted to communicate closely with her readers. She has also worked with children and youth publications on numerous projects among which are authoring over hundreds of stories in children and youth publications. She is also a literary specialist in the monthly journal of Yeki Bood Yeki Nabood (a children and youth magazine), a member of the editorial board and editor-in-chief of the satire section of Kooleh Poshti magazine for youths.

Selected Works:

- Line and No Line (2004), Amir Kabir Publications
- It is Nighttime Should I Sleep? (2007), Beh Nashr Publications
- Lady Aniseh and Toopaz Khan (2015), Hoopa Publications
- Shekarestan Series (2015), Sureh Mehr Publications
- I'm a Thief and Snatch Babies (2015), Elmi Farhangi Publications
- Fox and the Bear (2015), Faraye Elm Publications
- Tantana's Adventures (seven volumes) (2016), Fanni Iran Publications

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Selected by Salam Festival, Radio Play, Radio Theatre Festival of Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, Flying Turtle List, Sepidar Festival for the book series 'Tantana's Adventures'





Sepideh Khalili

Sepideh Khalili, writer, translator and journalist was born in Tehran in 1959 and began her professional career in writing and translation since 1989. Khalili has a PhD in clinical psychology from Braunschweig University in Germany and a member of Iranian Children Psychologists Association. She has authored and translated over 150 books for children and youths. She is also a member of Textbook Writing Council Office and a specialist in foreign books in the National Children and Youth Library. She founded Roshd Children's magazine in 1993 and throughout the years has worked as editor-in-chief of various publications such as Roshd-e Koodak, Roshd-e Noamooz, Shahed-e Koodakan and Parastoo (an addition to Bachehaye Shargh magazine).

Selected Works:

Like No One, 2016, Ghadiani Publications
Surprise Eggs and Five other Stories, 2016, Kanoon Publications
Titi and Tata, 2013, Tavalod Publications
Jonas; Meeting God in a Fish's Stomach, 2011, Loh-e Danesh Publications
Boostan-e Sa'adi, 2011, Sureh Mehr Publications
Moosh Mooshak and Shapes, 2010

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Winner, Parvin Etesami Award, Top Book Festival



Foroozandeh Khodajoo

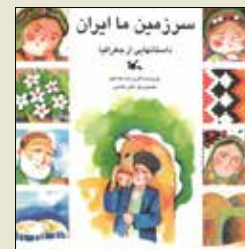
Foroozandeh Khodajoo, writer, was born in Kermanshah in 1962. She wrote for as long as she remembers. Her first book titled 'Sympathizers and Same Language Speakers' was published when she was fifteen years old. She continued writing at leisure and later regularly and the result of her work in these years has been the authorship of hundreds of stories and articles and some eighty books.

Selected Works:

The City of Grey Flowers (1989), Amirkabir
The Star in the Mirror (1994), Madrese Publications
Oxygen and Its Playmates (1999), Kanoon
The Red Bus (2003), Borhan School Publishing Co.
The Train Game (2004), Shabaviz
The Mouse and the Fish (2005), Shabaviz
Playing on the Slide (2009), Shabaviz
Mrs. Giant Goes to a Wedding (2009), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
Cheep Cheep, Chippity Cheep (2011), Amirkabir
Delicious Dreams (2012), Behnashr (Parvaneh)

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Best Book Award from The Book Festival of The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book of the Season Award from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, IBBY's Selection and Introduction in the List of Selected Books for Children with Special Needs





Sorour Kotobi

Sorour Kotobi, writer and translator, was born in Ahwaz in 1959 and became fond of stories when, as a child, she would listen to local stories in Khoozestan. Kotobi got a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from the Isfahan University of Technology, but after a while she abandoned the field and delved in children's and young adult literature instead, publishing her first story in a children's magazine.

She has created works for different age groups, but the bigger portion of her writing is dedicated to preschoolers and she tries to write for this age group in different genres. Besides writing stories for this age group, she has also written scientific books.

Some of her works are translated into other languages.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The City of Grey Flowers (1989), Amirkabir
- The Star in the Mirror (1994), Madrese Publications
- Oxygen and Its Playmates (1999), Kanoon
- The Red Bus (2003), Borhan School Publishing Co.
- The Train Game (2004), Shabaviz
- The Mouse and the Fish (2005), Shabaviz
- Playing on the Slide (2009), Shabaviz
- Mrs. Giant Goes to a Wedding (2009), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
- Cheep Cheep, Chippity Cheep (2011), Amirkabir
- Delicious Dreams (2012), Behnashr (Parvaneh)

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Best Book Award from The Book Festival of The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book of the Season Award from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, IBBY's Selection and Introduction in the List of Selected Books for Children with Special Needs



Hadis Lazar Gholami

Hadis Lazar Gholami, poet and writer, was born in 1981 in Tehran. She has a bachelor's degree in communication science and has worked for different Iranian children and young adult publications.

Hadis Lazar Gholami has been a board member of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth for several terms and has also written film scripts. She has created works for children, young adults, and adults. Some of her works, e.g. Foxy, has been acclaimed by critics and children's literature organizations.

She is one of the new generation writers of children's and young adult literature and tries to have a fresh point of view, introducing new spaces to this field and keeping pace with her readers. This approach can be seen both in her poetry and in her fiction: a mischievous, playful approach that takes the reader along.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- There is the Geranium between Us (2004), Shabaviz
- The Sour Cherries in Paradise Are Ripe (2006), Shabaviz
- Cockadoodle-giant (2010), Ofoq
- Foxy (2012), Ofoq
- I Love You Series (2014), Chekkeh
- On the Nose of a Large Elephant (2009), Elmi-Farhangi
- Bitti and Zitti (2015), Elmi-Farhangi
- Fountain Girl (2015), Hoopa Publishing Co.
- Why Did Roya Hop to the Party? (2015), Elmi-Farhangi
- Eighth-Floor Witch (2016), Hoopa Publishing Co.

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens), Best Book Award from Hello Children Festival, Yellow Deer Award (chosen by parents and children)





Mahdokht Kashkoui

Mahdokht Kashkoui, writer and scholar, was born in 1949. She has a PhD in ancient language and cultures from Tehran University and has done many researches related to her field of studies.

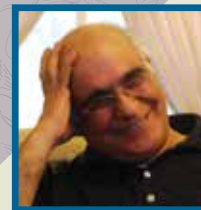
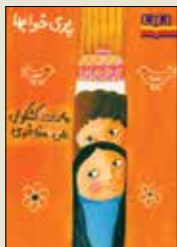
Kashkoui is a co-author of the Encyclopedia for Children and Young Adults (Children's Book Council) and collaborated with the national radio and television (both before and after the Islamic Revolution of Iran) in research and educational planning. Mahdokht Kashkoui has various works; however, due to her studies, Iran is regarded as a geography and culture in some of her works and her stories have an atmosphere resembling ancient Iranian mythology and legends. She creates fantastic and imaginary landscapes and takes her readers to the world of myths, gods, devils, etc.

Selected Works:

- Our Way, Our Share (1984), Fatemi
- The Legend of the Desert (1994), Shabaviz
- Childhood Nostalgia (1999), Shabaviz
- Anybody Faster (2001), Shabaviz
- Neither the Star, Nor the Cloud (2002), Shabaviz
- The Story of Creation (2003), Shabaviz
- The Fairy of Dreams (2003), Shabaviz
- Farshid(2003), Shabaviz
- Noon (2007), Shabaviz
- A Wish (2003), Shabaviz

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Special Flying Turtle Award, Children's Book Council's Best Book Award



Houshang Moradi Kermani

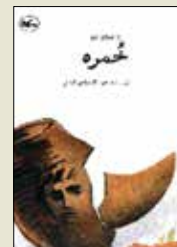
Houshang Moradi Kermani, writer, was born in August 1944 in a desert village in Kerman and was brought up by his grandparents in the absence of his parents. After finishing the elementary school, he moved to Kerman and once he graduated from high school, he migrated to Tehran and majored in English language. The trace of these experiences can be seen in his works, which portray poverty and deprivation with a unique sense of humor. Working for the press formed his signature simple prose, one that is close to people's daily parlance and is full of expressions used by ordinary people. He started writing for the radio in 1973. The most famous and pivotal character of his stories, i.e. Majid, was created and gained fame during this collaboration. The atmosphere of The Stories of Majid was different from the stories that were published for children and young adults in that period. It was not political. The Stories of Majid were realistic and simply dealt with the day-to-day life of a playful boy who loved literature, and lived with his grandmother. Many of Moradi's works are translated to other languages and have found their way into textbooks not only in Iran but also at schools in other countries.

Selected Works:

- The Children of the Carpet Weaving House (1980), Sahab Books
- The Stories of Majid (five volumes), 1987-1979, Sahab Books
- The Water Urn (1989), Sahab Books
- Mommy's Guest (1996), Nashreney
- A Sweet Jam (1998), Moin Publisher
- You're No Stranger Here (2005), Moin Publisher
- Rice and Stew (2007), Moin Publisher
- The Cistern (2011), Moin Publisher
- The Stem End of the Cucumber (2014), Moin Publisher

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Shortlisted for Hans Christian Andersen Awards, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens), Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, IBBY Honor Diploma, Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award.





Naser Keshavarz

Nasser Keshavarz, poet and writer, was born in April 1962 in Tehran.

Keshavarz began his professional career by publishing his poems in children's press and gradually became one of the successful children's and young adult poets. Keshavarz has published numerous titles in this field, and the anthology of his poems is one of the best-selling works in Iranian children's and young adult literature. Some of his poems are included in textbooks and are taught at school in Iran.

Keshavarz tries to use all of his senses in his poetry and write them in a language that children can understand, so that the children can also experiment these feelings and his discoveries. Childlike playfulness is one of the features of his poetry, showing up both in form and in his view of the world around him.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Crow Doesn't Know (1998), Peydayesh
- The Cat Handed Me a Meow (1999), Ofoq
- The Human and the Butterfly (1999), Behnashar (Parvaneh)
- This Way Please Just Hush! (2004), Behnashar (Parvaneh)
- The Fish Handed Me Water (2005), Ofoq
- Better than a Petal (2012), Soroush
- Pootka and Pootka(2012), Chekkeh
- Honk and Walk (2013), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)
- I Went Up and Came Down (2013), Chekkeh
- Your Father's Moustache Is Spinning (2013), Zaffarani

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from The Children's and Young Adult Book Festival, the Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian poets in two decades.



Jamshid Khanian

Jamshid Khanian, was born in June 1961 in Abadan and is now residing in Isfahan.

He started serious writing in the 1980s. At first, he wrote adult literature and won some awards for his story collection as well. Maybe this is what distinguishes Khanian from many children's and young adult writers: he left adult literature field to write novels for young adults and he keeps trying to introduce new experiments into this genre with each of his works, from playing with form and narration style to a fresh take on the world around him.

He is an author from the south of Iran. Thus he deals a lot with Iran-Iraq war in his works. The pacifist viewpoint is very pronounced in his works and he portrays the destruction that is left in the wake of the war.

Playwriting is also one of Jamshid Khanian's serious preoccupations. Most of his plays have been staged and have won him numerous awards.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Earth's Childhood (1997), Sareer
- The Night of Bold Cats (2001), Kanoon
- The Shark (2002), Kanoon
- Elephantine Tortoise (2006), Ofoq
- Nahi (2007), Kanoon
- Seventh Floor Facing West (2008), Ofoq
- Jonah's Love Poems in the Belly of the Fish (2010), Kanoon
- The Dwarf Emperor of Liliput Land (2015), Ofoq

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Superior Book Award in the Superior Book Festival held by the Cultural Society of Children's Publishers, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, Golden Flying Turtle Award, Children's Book Council's Best Book Award, Mehr Book of the Year Award (awarded by Mehr Taha foundation), listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)





Mostafa Khoraman

Mostafa Khoraman, was born in January 1956. He started his career in children's and young adult literature in early 1980s and published his first stories in a collection belonging to Hozeh Honari (Islamic Development Organization).

He collaborated with children and young adults groups in Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting and has participated in writing scripts for series and movies.

Khoraman was the chief executive officer in renowned children's and young adult literature magazines and was the board member of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth.

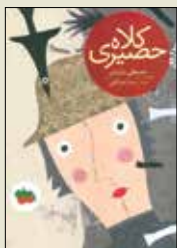
In his stories, which are mostly written for young adults, portrays teenagers in war, the events during the Islamic Revolution of Iran, and today's teenagers' concerns. The characters in his stories mostly belong to the low income class and their relationships are close and warm.

Selected Works:

- The Rock and the Glass (1990), Soroush
- Instead of the Other (1996), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- The Adventures of Officer Abdi's Son (1998), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- The Birthday (1999), Soroush
- The Fourth Incident (2001), Ghadyani
- Where Do Angels Come from? (2006) Ofoq
- Girls Versus Girls (2011), Ofoq
- The Third Wish (2014), Kanoon
- Ghalandari Family's Interrogation (2014), Ofoq
- Straw Hat (2015), Ofoq

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon),
- Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival,
- Best Book Award from Hello Children Festival



Morteza Khosronejad

Morteza Khosronejad, writer, translator, and scholar, was born in Kashmar in 1954. He continued his studies until he got his PhD in educational psychology and the philosophical history of education.

He is a tenured assistant professor in Shiraz University, the head of the Center for Studying Children's Literature in this university, and on the editorial board of academic and specialized children's and young adult publications.

Khosronejad has published many articles and research books on children's and young adult literature, presenting his opinions on the nature of children's and young adult literature, the audience, etc.

Khosronejad uses the recreation of legends and folktales immensely in his narrative works. His stories pursue a specific target. He tries to use literature as a way to help with the development of philosophical and critical thoughts in children so they would be able to look differently at the world.

Selected Works:

- Innocence and Experience (2003), Markaz
- Stories, Games, Joy Series (2010), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
- Mind-exercising Stories (2011), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
- The Story of War and Peace (2013), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Best Book Award from Hello Children Festival,
- Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon),
- Best Scholar Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran





Mehri Mahouti

Mehri Mahouti, writer, poet was born in Babol in 1961. She went to middle and high school in the same lush green area and moved to Tehran to continue her studies. She couldn't however stand to major in banking as she was not an enthusiast of numbers and figures.

She therefore quit that major and having met people in the publishing industry, she embarked on a new venture in publications. Her first children's story was printed in Keyhan Bacheha and her first book titled 'Like the Sun' was published in 1993. She has so far published over five hundred books on children and youth literature. According to herself she is a child who never wants to grow up.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Yousef's Wolf (2016), Madreseh Borhan Publications
- Miss Ant (2016), Beh Nashr Publications
- Three Pearls (2013), Monadi Tarbiat Publications
- Dwarf Stories (2013), Madreseh Publications
- Trees' Wedding (2013), Abrang International Publications
- Chirping Shoes (2014), Peydayesh Publications
- Cow, Shahr-e Ghalam (2015), Chekeh Publications
- Friend of Pickaxe and Adz (2016), Nashr-e Shahr Publications
- Baby Shirt (2015), Kanoon Publications
- Your Gift (2014), Talayee Publications
- Mr. Lazy's Adventures (2011), Nashr-e Shahr

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected children's book by Poopak and Salam Bacheha magazines for the book 'Daddy's Guest' Children's Publishers Award, Honorary awards from Madreseh and Monadi Tarbiat publications



Biuk Maleki

Biuk Maleki, poet and editor, was born in Ghazvin in 1960. He completed his education in Tehran and started his career in children's and young adult literature by writing for the press and continued with working for the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), the radio, and some publishing organizations.

Maleki is a professional, successful poet who, unlike other children's and young adult writers and poets, is not a prolific writer by a long shot and would rather have the poetry collections he gets published be less in number and greater in quality.

Most of Maleki's poetry collections have a central theme each, and the poems in that collection are about that theme. Maleki's social and naturalistic approach and his interest in subjects such as environment, love, and peace have given a humanistic orientation to his poetry. He is almost the only Iranian poet who composes his poems solely for young adult readers.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Star Shower (1987), Barg Publishing Co.
- On the Wing of the Rainbow (1991), Soroush Publishing Co.
- Behind a Smile (1992), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- Of Morning Ambience (1997), Soroush
- The Alley of Windows (1997), Kanoon
- On the Sidewalk (2000), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- Come Get the Apple (2008), Kanoon
- The Scarecrow Was in Love (2010), Ofoq
- Late at Night (2015), Peydayesh
- Why Are You Stone? (2015), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

The Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian poets in two decades, Golden Bicycle Award (best book according to the readers), Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award





MohammadReza Marzoughi

Mohammadreza Marzoughi, was born in 1976 in Abadan, Iran. His childhood is tied with faint memories of the 1979 revolution and vivid recollection of the war that began since he was four years old. The war, the revolution and post revolution days became subjects of many of his books. At age four with the intensity of the war his family were forced to flee their city and move to Bushehr. He spent his early youth in that city and port which became the background of many of his stories. In 1990 upon returning to his war-stricken city the desire sparked in him to write about what he liked to experience from up close. He published his first story in 1993 in Soroosh Nojavan magazine (a youth publication) Marzoughi since 1996 moved to Tehran from Abadan to pursue his academic studies in theatre. His first novel was also published in the same year.

▲ **Selected Works:**

The Tales of Lagoon (4 volumes) (children's stories) Shokoofeh Amir Publications, 2013
Children of Rafael Ship (youth novel) Kanoon Publications, 2014
Vahid Street Willies (youth novel) Hoopa Publications, 2016
DVD of Giants' Mysteries (youth novel) Hoopa Publications, 2016
Naghasha Neighborhood kid (-7volume youth novel- 4 volumes have been published) Hoopa Publications 2017

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected for Ghanipour Book of the Year, Sepidar Short Story Award



Fatemeh Mashhadi Rostam

Fatemeh Mashhadi Rostam, writer, poet, critic and journalist was born in Tehran in 1968. She has a record of literary and artistic activities in her portfolio. Almost, there is no cultural or art activity in which she does not have a share. That includes writing film scripts and plays, puppeteering, dubbing, singing, presenting, story telling, writing articles and reports in children, youth and adult magazines. She has also appeared on various children and youth television programs as a literary specialist and critic.

▲ **Selected Works:**

The Gardener and Angel of Sigh (2014), Monadi Tarbiat Publications
Life Means This (2012), Ghoo Publications
Thump, Thump, Thump (1995), Shabaviz Publications
I'm a Train; O I'm a Train (2014), Fereshtegan Publications
A Crow's Vow, A Mouse's Vow (2014), Shabaviz Publications
The Story of Three Friends (2011) Nashr-e Shahr
My Little Sister and Two Other Stories (2016), Beh Nashr

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected in Society of Publishers Festival of Superior Books, Superior Journalist on Books by Ministry of Islamic Culture and Guidance, Selected by Institute for Intellectual Development of Children, Selected in Bologna International Festival, Italy





Elham Mazareei

Elham Mazareei, writer, was born in Shiraz in 1979. She majored in microbiology and received a BA. She is active in Angosht-e Jadooyee (Magic Finger) Children and Youth Stories Association in her hometown and has various writing experiences in children's novels, illustrated stories and biographies in her artistic portfolio. She has also worked in production of audio books.

Selected Works:

- Chimney-Headed Mom (2013) Ofogh Publications
- Govanji and Magical 360 Degrees (2014) Peydayesh Publications
- The Mustached Commander's Little Daughter (2, 2014nd Edition, 2015, Ofogh Publications
- What is a Cat's Tail Good for? (2016), Hoopa Publications, 1st and 2nd editions
- Jimbal Jumbo and Smokeless Magic (2016), Cultural and Recreational Organization of Isfahan Municipality
- The Magic of Ajool Pajool City (2016), Cultural and Recreational Organization of Isfahan Municipality
- Surena in the Land of Dinosaurs (2017), (five volume children's novel), Peydayesh Publications

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Qazvin Dusty Smile Festival, Andimeshk Molk-e Malakoot Festival, Sanandaj International Goolan Festival for the story The Magical, Commendation, Shiraz Short Story Festival



Mohammad Kazem Mazinani

Mohammad Kazem Mazinani, poet and writer, was born in Damghan in 1963. He majored in Persian language and literature at Shahid Beheshti University. Besides composing poetry and writing, he has collaborated with different publications and has published his works in children's and young adult magazines.

Mazinani also writes for adults and such novels of his have been acclaimed, but when it comes to children's and young adult literature, he is better known for his poems. The unharnessed imagination in Mazinani's poems has a defamiliarizing effect and because his poetry does not follow the familiar path of children's poetry, at first it was not considered suitable for children, but gradually it opened its way and he is now known as a distinct and successful poet.

Selected Works:

- The Lost Sea (1992), Kanoon
- Only Pomegranate Laughed (1995), Kanoon
- Water Means Fish (1996)
- The Girl Who Married the Sun (2006), Shabaviz
- The Mysterious Island (2007), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- The Chairs Are Tired (2007), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- The Boy Who Became a Crow (2009), Sooreh Mehr
- A Collection of Stories from The Thousand Nights and One Night (Rewriting / 2011), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- The Mermaids' Wet Songs (2011), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- Cockroaches Are Alone (2014), Sooreh Mehr

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- IBBY Honor Diploma, Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, The Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian poets in two decades.





**Mahdi
Mirkiaei**

Mahdi Mirkiaei, writer and scholar, was born in 1973 in Tehran. He has a PhD in the history of Post-Islamic Iran and engages in academic activities besides writing novels and stories for children. Mahdi Mirkiaei employs ritual symbols, folktales, and religious and cultural beliefs of people from different parts of Iran.

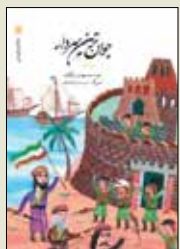
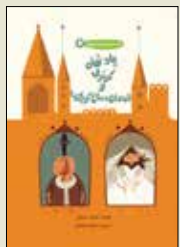
Mirkiaei has tried to acquaint his readers with historic events by creating fantastic characters and using humor. He has also strived to pay attention to the characteristics of children's and young adult literature in writing stories that deal with history and social issues, as in *The Dwarf King and Forty Great Problems*, which is one of his distinctive works. So far, he has written novels, short stories, and books on the contemporary history of Iran. Some of these works have been translated to other languages.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Where Are You Coming from, Rose? (1991), Ghoo Publishing Co.
The Dwarf King and Forty Great Problems (2001), Mehrab Ghalam
The Thief Whose House Smelled of Jasmine (2001), Vijeh Shahr
The King of Rubbish Scavengers (2001), Ofoq
The Long-haired Fairy (2003), Shabaviz
The Playful Fairy and the Sovereign's Statue
Fun in the Fairground (2014), Kanoon
The Dwarf King series (2015), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
Habib and Mirza Sheypour (2015), Peydayesh
Let's Write Stories (2014), Talayee

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from Quranic Stories Festival, Best Book Award from The Book Festival of The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, Best Book Award from Khatam Festival



**Mohammad
Mirkiani**

Mohammad Mirkiani, was born in Tehran in 1958. He became interested in literature when he was working in the printing house. He went to Islamic Republic of Iran Radio in the late 1980s and began writing a radio play. Mirkiani has written for all age groups and in his books he focuses on the history of Iran, Iranian-Islamic culture, Old Persian Literature, tales, and colloquial literature. Furthermore, he has tried different genres such as short story, novels, rewriting, etc.

He has also taught story writing courses in the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon).

Some of Mirkiani's works have been turned into video and television products. He has written the script of some of the series on Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting and has been the head of the children's and young adult group in IRIB TV1 (Channel 1 of the national TV).

Some of his works are published in other languages.

▲ **Selected Works:**

My Lonely Day (1989), Barg
The Legend of the Four Brothers (1994), Madrese
After Dad's Trip (1994), Madrese
Papar (1997), Kanoon
Baby Goat's Song (1999), Madrese
Alley Kids (2003), Kanoon
Our Story Became a Proverb (2005), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
Tin Tin and Sinbad (2010), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
That's the End of Our Story (2011), Mehrab Ghalam
Our Good Stories (2015), Madrese

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

The Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian writers in two decades, Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)





Javad Mohaghegh

Javad Mohaghegh, poet and writer, was born in Hamedan in 1954. He completed his studies in Hamedan and, after getting his diploma from Teacher Training College after the Islamic Revolution of Iran, he taught literature in different towns and villages for years. Afterwards, he joined the press and was the editor-in-chief of some renowned publications. He has also been a board member of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth, a board member of Iran Pen Society, and the vice-president of Iranian Organization of Poetry and Fiction. His poems and writings reflect his religious culture and beliefs. His youth and his interest in events such as the Islamic Revolution and Iranians' defense against the Iraqi invasion (under Saddam Hussein's rule) is evident in his works. He is a writer who more than anything writes about the Islamic Revolution of Iran, the eight-year war between Iran and Iraq, the official faith in Iran (Shiism) and the biography of great Islamic figures.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Waiting like Me (1995), SourehMehr
Science and Faith in Talking with Scientists (1998), Madrese Publications
A Good Sleep (2002), Kanoon
In Our Home (2002), SourehMehr
I Adore You (2004), Taligh
The Rain Was an Excuse (2007), Peydayesh
The Yoghurt Drink and Lies (2007), Zolal
And the Sun of Guidance (2010), Kanoon
Butterflies' House (2012), Behnashr
I Ran and Ran (2015), Madrese

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Several times winner of the Best Book Award from the Press Festival held by the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Book of the Year Award from Teachers' Book of the Year Festival



Mohammad Hadi Mohammadi

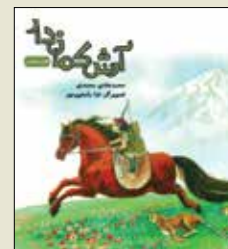
Mohammad Hadi Mohammadi, writer, scholar, and critic, was born in Tehran in 1961. He started his writing career at the age of 22, writing for adults, children, and young adults. Mohammadi published a few fiction books up to 1994, focusing on ideas such as peace and justice in his stories, but afterwards his time was mostly spent on criticism and research on children's and young adult literature. Mohammadi's most important work has been introducing the program of creative child-centered education in Iran. The result is several volumes of educational books. He has shown interest in the educational functions of literature for the past few years and has worked on teaching Persian language and mathematics through stories. Mohammadi was the board member of Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth. Some of his works have been translated into English, Istanbul Turkish, and Korean.

▲ **Selected Works:**

The Little Girl and the Silk Doe (1990), Amirkabir Publishing Co.
Turnip and Wisdom (1998), Markaz Publishing Co.
Wandering without the Sun (2003), Chista
The Music of the Gypsy's Tar (2013), The Scholarly Foundation of Children's Literary History
Emperor Potato IV (2014), The Scholarly Foundation of Children's Literary History
Nokhodi's Mini Stories (2014), The Scholarly Foundation of Children's Literary History
Arash the Archer (2015), The Scholarly Foundation of Children's Literary History
The Snowman and the Rose (2015), The Scholarly Foundation of Children's Literary History

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran and International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), Golden Flying Turtle Award.





Mozghan Mostagh

Mozghan Mostagh, writer, was born in Andimeshk in 1966. She is a graduate of philosophy major. Since early years in school she was commended for her essay and composition writing and participation in contests. That prompted her to more seriously pursue writing and attend story-writing classes. Later on, she began working with children and youth radio programs and Keyhan Bacheha magazine and taught story writing in the Society for the Blind. She also collaborated with 'Iran-e Sepid', the only Braille newspaper in the Middle East and various children and youth publications. Some of her books have been translated in other languages such as Korean, Chinese, Italian and Turkish.

Selected Works:

- Fox and the Fawn, 2000, Jahan-e Pooyesh Publications
- This is the Story of a Crow in the Garden, 2000, Jahan-e Pooyesh
- The Window Close to the Sky, 2004, Shabaviz Publications
- The Curly-Haired Boy, 2009, Shabaviz Publications
- The Singing Ostrich, 2004, Shabaviz Publications
- The Fanciful Giraffe, 2016, Elmi va Farhangi Publications
- The Ears of Mr. Bear, 1996, Rahnamaye Andisheh Publications

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Gained rankings from the Young Writers Association, Janbazan Foundation, Commendation Plaque for the article "Mother Tongue" in Sicily of Italy



Afsaneh Moosavi Garmaroodi

Afsaneh Moosavi Garmaroodi, writer, was born in 1968. She is a PhD graduate of Persian language and literature and teaches in Islamic Azad University. She has been teaching Persian language and literature for years and currently the editor-in-chief of Roshd Noazmooz magazine. Editing children's books and writing articles on children's education and growth are among her professional activities.

Selected Works:

- Mr. Human, Mr. Leopard, (Amir Kabir Publications) 2016
- Mr. Habibi (Amir Kabir Publications) 2016
- What Color is My Pain? (Amir Kabir Publications) 2016
- Thirty Tales of Imam Reza's Life (PBIH) Madreseh Publications 2012
- Pretend Stories, Chekeh Publications 2013
- Tales from Prophet Abraham's Life, Madreseh Publications, 2012
- One Name and A Few Stories (Series) Chekeh Publications, 2012
- I Think I Have Grown Up, Zeytoon Publications 2002

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Selected in Kanoon's Press Festival in Environmental Novels, Razavi Book of the Year Award, Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book of the Year Festival Award, Commendation Plaque and Prize in Kanoon's Press Festival





Saeedeh Moosavi Zadeh

Saeedeh Moosavi Zadeh, writer, poet, was born in Mashhad in 1966. She studied philosophy in University of Shahid Beheshti and received a BA. She began her first work with rewriting stories from the Shahnameh for children. The six volume series gained the title of Superior Work for her in children and youths literature in the province. Moosavi Zadeh has worked for years as teacher, poetry specialist and author with children and youths Publication including Keyhan Becheha, Roshd Noamooz, Roshd Danesh Amooz, and Soroosh Koodak. This poet and author from Mashhad is also skilled in satire.

Selected Works:

- One Serving of Mouse (2012), Elmi Farhangi Publications
- Rain Poem (1999), Beh Nashr Publications
- Snow and Snow (2014), Sureh Mehr Publications
- The Edible Book (2014), Sureh Mehr Publications
- Details (2015), Kanoon Publications
- High-Heeled Poems (2016), Ghadiani Publications
- The Neighbor's Chicken is a Goose (2015), Charkh-o-Falak Publications
- The Tiny Four-Wheeled (2016), Amir Kabir Publications
- The Gluttonous Giant (2015), Fanni Nardeban Publications

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Commendation in Book of the Year, Children's Literature Section, Mashhad, Selected in Flying Turtle List, Parvin Etesami Award, Selected in Children's Poetry Section



Abdolmajid Najafi

Abdolmajid Najafi, was born in Tabriz in 1959. He majored in Persian language and literature and lives in his hometown. Najafi teaches storywriting and worked as an expert and instructor in the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon) for a while. He is also active in promoting reading books.

Most of his works are imbued with regional, geographical, and historical features as well as folkloric literature of Azarbaijan (a Turkish-speaking province in Iran). Themes such as children's and young adults' concerns, love for nature, life and striving to overcome difficulties can be seen in Najafi's fiction.

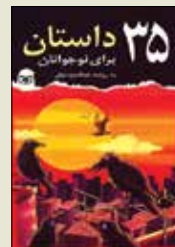
Some of Najafi's stories are translated into Urdu, English and Arabic.

Selected Works:

- Wool Jacket (1991), Zekr (Ghasedak Books)
- Mom's Eyes (1995), Sooreh Mehr
- Mountain Boy (1996), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- Above Eagle's Nest (2004), Sooreh Mehr
- Paper Boats (2007), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- The Unfinished Mother Bita (2010), Ghatreh
- The Potato Symphony (2010), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- Scarecrows Sleep Standing (2011), Ghatreh
- The Mystery of the Three Sisters' House (2013), Kanoon
- The Best Place in the World (2015), Amirkabir

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens), Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award





Hamidreza Najafi

Hamidreza Najafi, writer, translator, was born in Tehran, 1964. In addition to writing for youths he has also left prominent literary works for adults. His first novel titled Samsam Street was written at age thirty nine and ten years later the second edition was published, which received well recognition by critics and young adults. This novel is a special narration on the subject of Iran-Iraq war. All of his works have gained him significant awards and recognitions.

Selected Works:

Mathnavi Ma'anavi of Molavi, Parseh Publications, 2014
Samsam Street, Kanoon Publications, 2003, 2nd Edition 2012
Ice Nanny of the Boy and the Summer, Kanoon Publications, 2011
Crazy in Moonlight, Cheshmeh Publications

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Selected Novel by Kanoon, Best Story Series, Isfahan Festival,
Selected In White Ravens Use Novel of White Crow List of Munich Library



Hamid Navaee Lavasani

Hamid Navaee Lavasani, was born in 1963 in Tehran, Iran. He studied cultural affairs and received an AA. His is known as an author of science fiction novels and has produced great works in that regard. He is a critic and specialist in children and youth literature and an active member of the Children and Youth Writers Association. Two of his books have recently been published titled 'Daydreamer' and 'World War III' series in the Our Books project by Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults.

Selected Works:

Light and Shade like Life, Sureh Mehr Publications, 2016
The Heart of Nokhody Planet, Monadi Tarbiat Publications, 2014
Foreteller, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults Publications, 2015
The Rusty Chest of Grandfather, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults Publications, 2012
Frozen Planet, Madreseh Publications, 2013
Daydreamer, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, 2012
World War III, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, 2012
The Mystery of Aflak Fortress, Sureh Mehr Publications, 2012
Space Zero Zone, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, 2001
Bicycle Bell, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, 2003



Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Selected in Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults Book Festival, Selected in Festival of Teachers' Book, Children and Youth Press Festival for the science fiction book Award



Erfan Nazar Ahari

Erfan Nazar Ahari, writer and poet, was born in Tehran in August 1974. She has a PhD in Persian language and literature and has done some research in this field as well.

Nazar Ahari, now a PhD student of philosophy, not only writes but also teaches at universities and other academic centers. One can see the trace of Nazar Ahari's field of studies in her works, which have a mystical essence and thrive on traditional Persian literature. Both in her poetry and in her stories, she tries to take young adult readers into her inner world and let them explore it. The concepts seen in her works are global ones dealing with the lost spirituality of modern individuals.

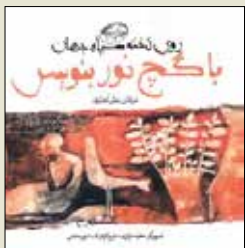
She is one of the authors of the book entitled *The Story of Peace* that is published in South Korea. Her works are translated into other languages as well.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Of Simple Days (1996), Hozeh Honari
- Where's Your Backpack? (2002), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
- Strike through Letters (2003), Saber Publishing Co.
- Leili Is the Name of All the Girls on Earth (2004), Saber Publishing Co. (Daneh Books)
- A Prophet Went by Our Home (2005), Saber Publishing Co.
- God-flavored Tea (2005), Ofoq
- A Whale Is Beating in Your Chest (2006), Saber Publishing Co.
- Generous Is Your Alias (2007), Saber Publishing Co.
- Write on the World's Blackboard with the Chalk of Light (2009), Nooronar Publishing Co.
- Two Days till the End of the World (2010), Nooronar Publishing Co.

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Best Book of the Season Award from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Book of the Year Award from the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Children's Book Council's Special Book Award, Honor Diploma from the International Board of Books for Young (IBBY) in Spain



Abdulrahman Ounagh

Abdulrahman Ounagh, writer and a teacher of story writing was born in 1960 in Khajeh Nafs a district of Gamishan city in Turkmen Sahra. He received an AA degree in Religious Studies and Arabic and began teaching the same subject in Gamishan and later in Gonbad Kavoods. Abdulrahman Ounagh started writing stories since 1981. His first story titled *Yelmak* was printed in 1984 in *Keyhan Bacheha* (a children's magazine) and later added in a book. Ounagh published his first novel in 1987 titled '*Tales of Turkmen Sahra*'. He pays special attention to the customs and native culture of Turkmen people and attempts by use of storytelling tools to introduce this culture to young children.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Soortak, Ghadiani Publications, 1989
- Gour Oghli Epic, Ghadiani Publications, 1999
- Little Shepherd, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, 2013
- Agh Oily's Cry, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, 2015
- Red Circle, Amout Publications, 2015
- In the Depth of Fuzzy Nights, Hoze Honari Publications
- The Call of the Desert, Sureh Mehr Publications, 2016
- Khayer Khojeh Mystery, Sureh Mehr Publications, 1998

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Winner, Teachers Festival Award, Mehr Festival Award





Abdossaleh Pak

Abdossaleh Pak, writer and translator, was born in Bandar Torkaman. Pak has been the literary expert in Kanoon in Golestan Province. He is very interested in Iranian legends, especially the legends & beliefs of Torkaman peoples and uses many of them in his stories. His works are among the best references for getting acquainted with Torkaman's peoples' literature in Iran, and he strives to keep alive the roots, the past, and the customs of their forefathers by retelling and rewriting of old legends and keeping them fresh in memories.

Torkaman people's legends that are commonly told among them in Torkaman language have been translated by him as he hopes to strengthen cultural bonds among Iranian peoples by doing so.

Pak tries to keep alive the characters of Iranian folktales in his stories and retell the joys, pains, defeats, and victories of Iranian peoples.

Selected Works:

- Forty Lies (Compilation and Rewriting of 15 Legends from Torkaman Sahra, 1998), Ghadyani Publishing Co. (Banafsheh)
- Endless Road (1999), Hozeh Honari
- Wooden Girl (Compilation and Rewriting of 15 Legends from Torkaman Sahra, 2000), Ghadyani Publishing Co.
- The Singing Wolf (bilingual: Persian and Torkaman, 2008), Kanoon
- The Tail-less Fox (bilingual: Persian and Balouchi, 2008), Kanoon
- 56 Torkaman Legends for Young Adults (2009), Ghadyani Publishing Co. (Banafsheh)
- The Other Side of Imagination Fence (2012), Kanoon
- Night Hunters (2015), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Honor Diploma from Roosta Literary Festival, Honor Diploma from Golden Bicycle Festival, Best Book Award from Roshd Short Story Festival



Zohreh Parirokh

Zohreh Parirokh, writer and scholar, was born in Mashad in September 1959.

She completed her studies in management and got a job at the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon).

During her career in the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), she was the editor-in-chief of specialized magazines for children under five and older children and also in charge of Morghak Project (books for children under five). She has also worked as an illustrator.

Parirokh works specifically on the literature aimed at children under five. She tries to introduce a new atmosphere and outlook into the literature of this age group and at the same time maintain the readers' bond with the colloquial language and literature of Iran.

Some of her works have been translated to other languages.

Selected Works:

- Come, Come, A Story! (1989), Kanoon
- The Old Woman and the Wolf (2006), Madrese Publications
- Polka Dot Hanky (2006), Neyestan
- Go Slowly, Come Slowly (2010), Kanoon
- Furry Bugaboo, Little Worm (2010), Kanoon
- The Prophet and the Gloomy Rooster (2010), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)
- I Am a Penguin (2010), Kanoon
- The Tenth Rabbit (2013), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)
- Hey, Mind Your Dreams (2015), Amirkabir

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Best Book Award from Parvin Etesami Book Fair, Best Book of the Season Award from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Best Book Award from The Book Festival of The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)





Soroor Pourya

Soroor Pourya, writer, was born in 1944 in Masjed Suleiman. She has a BA in English and French literature. She is one of the pioneers of children and youth literature, an editor and translator of youth literature as well, working for Institute of Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults as literary critic and specialist since pre-revolution years. Pourya has acted as jury in several children and youth literary festivals and has also worked as specialist and creative director for prominent children and youth publishing companies. She has about three hundred children and youth publications of which many have been translated in other languages.

▲ **Selected Works:**

The Pigeons didn't Come (2011), Madreseh Publications
Ancient Persian Tales (2011), Fereshtegan Publications
The Cunning Crow (1992), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
Pouring Stars (1993), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
White Horse and the Green Valley (1989), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected In, Book of the Year, on the environment, Winner, Morphology Award, Selected in Roshd Book Festival, Parvin Etesami Literary Award, Kanoon Book Festival



Mostafa Rahmandoost

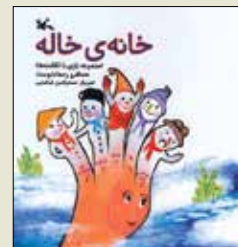
Mostafa Rahmandoost, poet, writer, and translator, was born in July 1950 in Hamedan. Rahmandoost majored in literature and has worked in different positions for years, including the manager of children's section of Amirkabir Publishing (Shokoofeh), consultant to the Vice President, the head of the National Library, and the head of the National Library for Children and Young Adults. Rahmandoost's poems appear in the textbooks of Iranian children and taught at schools. By publishing some of his works under the title of Uncle Mostafa in the USA, Rahmandoost made it possible for Iranian children living abroad to read, listen to, and buy his books. He is particularly invested in the growth of children's publications and the first project of digitalizing Iranian children's books, called "Doostaneh," was supervised and carried out by him. In his writings, Rahmandoost pays tribute to Iranian folkloric literature and historic texts, using folktales in modern Iranian children's literature.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Prettier than Spring (1988), Madrese Publications
To Each His Own (1998), Zekr Publishing Co.
Dad Came and Brought Bread (1999), Kanoon
The Earth's Child (2003), Madrese Publications
The Story of Two Lonely Turtles (2006), Kanoon
Zoroaster (Peace Be upon Him) (2010), Amirkabir Publishing (Shokoofeh)
Where's My Chick? (2010), Madrese Publications
There Were Five Fingers That... (2012), Peydayesh Publishing Co.
Home Songs (2012), Shahr Publishing Co.
Worshipping Songs (2014), Ofoq

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, Best Book Award from the Sacred Defense Book Festival, UNESCO Prize for promoting peace, friendship, and humanitarian concepts in his works, the Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian writers in two decades.





Shahin Rahnama

Shahin Rahnama, poet, writer, was born in Amlash in 1975. He spent elementary and middle school years in Amlash and went to high school in Langeroud and received his diploma in nursing but since he was not interested in working in hospitals he changed major and continued his studies in plastic arts. Since youth he turned to poetry and story writing and worked with various magazines. He has published over thirty books on poetry, short stories and novels for all age groups. For years apart from teaching he worked as producer of children's programs in Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB), Gilan province. Many songs have been composed on his lyrics both in Tehran and Gilan IRIB.

Selected Works:

- Fake Sorrows (youth poetry), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
- Blue of Smile, (youth poetry), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
- Selected Contemporary Literature, (44 short stories), Neyestan Publications
- Greener than Spring, (youth poetry), Soroosh Publications
- A Short Route to the Moon (youth poetry), Peydayesh Publications
- Kissed me and Left, (children's poetry), Shokoofeh Amir Kabir Publications
- Charlie (youth novel) Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults
- Night Said I'm Dark, (youth poetry), Shokoofeh Amir Kabir Publications
- A Small Green Garden's Package (4 books for children), Sureh Mehr Publications
- What was Your Heart's Address?, (youth poetry), Sureh Mehr Publications

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Winner, Yamini Sharif Award, Hello Book of the Year for the book, Numerous Awards on lyricism and production of children and youth programs



Mahdi Rajabi

Mahdi Rajabi, was born in August 1980 in Khomein. He majored in filmmaking and dramatic literature. Mahdi Rajabi is one of the new generation writers for children and young adults who has attracted the attention of his teenage readers by inventing strange locations and atmospheres and creating interesting characters. Rajabi understands the language of today's youth very well, and in his works he trespasses the common divisions in writing stories for children and young adults and creating fantastic characters. The teens in Rajabi's stories are clumsy, solitary, and reserved heroes who change the path of the story by their efforts and curiosity.

Rajabi writes for adults as well, and this is perceptible in his children's and young adult works. He has also written scripts for a few series, telefilms, and experimental animations.

His works, such as Canned Giant, have attracted critics' and scholars' attention by introducing new experiments into Iranian children's and young adult fiction.

Selected Works:

- The Bogeyman Cries at Night (2012), Chekkeh Publishing Co.
- The Money Tree (2014), Gissa
- The Mystery of the Magic Tree (2014), Gissa
- Canned Giant (2013), Ofoq
- The Horse Nightmare (based on Homa and Homayoon, 2014), Ofoq
- The Criminal Confesses (2015), Ofoq
- The Hair-braiding Sandwich Maker (2015), Ofoq
- The Dark Sisters (2015), Ofoq

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens), Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, Silver Flying Turtle Award, Best Book Award from The Children's and Young Adult Book Festival.





Mohammad Ramezani

Mohammad Ramezani, was born in Maragheh in 1964. He majored in theatre in the Faculty of Cinema and Theatre in Tehran University of Art. Besides writing stories, Ramezani also writes film scripts and plays. Some of his undertakings have been writing plays for children based on their textbooks and devising educational materials that incorporate games.

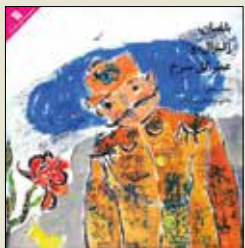
A preoccupation of his is researching and performing Naghali, an Iranian storytelling tradition based on Ferdowsi's Shahnameh. However, the majority of his works consists of short stories and novels for young adults. He creates a fantastic world in his works and, using humor, he tries to have the reader accompany him. As he is very much invested in his hometown, he is concerned with local literature and was the secretary for Tabriz Book of the Year Festival for one term. Ramezani has also published some illustrated stories for children and a novel for adults.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Miracle of the Blue Tear (1994), Sooreh Mehr
- The Gardener, the General, and the Scent of the Rose (2001), Soroush
- Dad Brought Laughter to Our Home (2011), Soroush
- Childhood See-saw, Hachi Koochi's Car (2012), Kanoon
- Crows Are Kind, Kind and Lonely (2012), Soroush

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Best humorist in Iranian Children's and Young Adult Publications Festival



Majid Rasti

Majid Rasti, was born in 1954 in Tehran and has a bachelor's degree in English language. He started his career in children's and young adult literature by publishing a book for children in 1976. He has also some experience in writing film scripts and making television shows for children and young adults. He is a member of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth and had also been the chairman for a term. Rasti has also worked in education and has taught several courses of creative writing for children. Majid Rasti has been a part of editorial boards in children's and young adult publications as well. Rasti takes writing for preschooler more seriously than for any other age group and most of his books target this age group.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Small Flower-bed (1987), Nahade Honar Va Adabiyat
- This Side of the World, That Side of the World (2009), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
- The Stories of Grandma and Dad (2011), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
- Water Said, "I'm Not Drinkable" (2013), Shahr Publishing Co.
- Donya Is to Be Born (2013), Soroush
- My Elephant and I (2014), Peydayesh
- Cousin Hedgehogs (2015), Ofoq
- The Little Boy Named Ghoreh Series (2016), Behnashr (Parvaneh)

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Best Book of the Season Award from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival





Babk Saberi

Babak Saberi, writer, was born in 1965 in Tehran. He lives in Yazd with his wife and two daughters. He graduated in orthopedic surgery in 2000. Although known as a physician but sometimes he is asked if he really is a writer. He has been writing children's stories for twenty five years and his works have been translated and published and received recognition in various languages such as Chinese, French, Arabic and Italian.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Black Crow Travels, Fatemi Publications (Tooti book), 2016
- Why do You Sing, Cricket? Fatemi Publications (Tooti book), 2016
- Great Friend, Neyestan Publications, 2015
- Water Manners and 14 other stories, Koodakan Publications, 2004
- Sprout, Koodakan Publications, 2004
- Story 4, Koodakan Publications, 2009
- Blue Said:..., Koodakan Publications, 2012

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Backpack Award, Germany for Best Illustrated Children's Book, Announced in the White Crow List of Munich International Youth Library, Best Book of the Year Award, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults



Atousa Salehi

Atousa Salehi, poet, writer, and editor, was born in June 1972. After winning the first competition for honorary reporter held by an important young adult magazine called Soroush Nojavan, she began her professional career. Her first published works were poems printed in children's and young adult publications.

In her career, she has been in charge of the poetry pages of the weekly magazine and the first Iranian children's newspaper called Aftabgardan. She has also worked as an editor and expert for several public and private publishing companies.

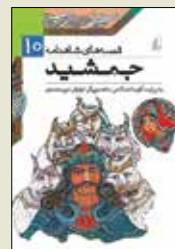
Atousa Salehi's poetic viewpoint is the ring that links all of her works together. Critics recognize her series of Shahnameh Stories as one of the most successful recreations of this significant classic Iranian literary work ever published for children and young adults.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- With Spring's Permission (young adult poetry, 1996), Noghteh Publishing Co.
- A Song for the Rain (young adult poetry, 1998), Soroush Publishing Co.
- Jirack and Jurack Quatrology (children's story / co-author: Mojgan Kalhor, 1999), Markaz Publishing Co.
- Dear Sea (simple poetry, 1999), Cheshmeh Publication
- Like Everybody, but Like Nobody (2006), Kanoon
- Nobody Has Dreamt of the Little Monkey (2006), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House
- I Miss You (young adult poetry, 2007), Peydayesh Publishing Co.
- My Pretty Car Lettuce (2007), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House
- Shahnameh Stories Seriex (recreation, 2008), Ofoq
- Even a Minute Is Enough (2010), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Crystal Pen Award from the Eleventh Press Festival in young adult poetry, statuette and honor plaque from Parvin Etesami Book Fair, Children's Book Council's Special Book Award, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)





Mohammadreza Sarshar

Mohammad Reza Sarshar, writer and scholar, was born in Kazeroun in 1953. He studied industrial engineering at the University of Science and Technology. A few of his works got published in literary publications before the Islamic Revolution, but the bigger part of his career is after the Revolution.

Besides writing, he has been a host of a popular radio show. He has also been the editor-in-chief and founder of several publications and cultural organizations.

Sarshar's stories have a religious ambience. In some of his works, he introduces outstanding historical and religious figures through the story. Another theme seen in his works is Iran-Iraq war.

He is a member and the chairman of Iran Pen Societ. Some of his works have been translated into other languages.

Selected Works:

- Little Immigrant (1986), Kanoon
- Hungry for a Meeting (1987), Kanoon
- Asil Abad (1990), Office of Islamic Culture Publications
- If Dad Dies (1990), Office of Islamic Culture Publications
- There Where It Isn't Home (1992), Kanoon
- Rain or No Rain (1996), Madrese
- That Adorable Grandpa (2001), Payam Azadi
- Look at the Camel (2011), Office of Islamic Culture Publications
- Flea in the Oven (2011), Soroush
- 10 Stories from Prophet Mohammad (PBUH), (2014), Ghadyani

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival



Ali Asghar Seidabadi

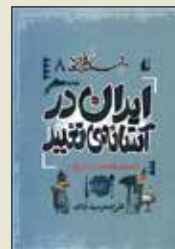
Ali Asghar Seidabadi, writer, poet, and scholar, was born in July 1971 in a village in Khorassan. Apart from writing for children and young adults, Seidabadi is also interested in doing research in this field. He has been the editor-in-chief of Research Quarterly for Children's and Young Adult Literature. He was a board member of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth for a term. Seidabadi is a writer who pays attention to non-fiction children's literature and has written some of the volumes in the series called The Story of Iranian Intellect and The Culture and Civilization of Iran. In his works, Seidabadi tries to introduce new experiments into children's and young adult literature and create new spaces. Examples include writing blank verse for children, a fresh take on local tales and Iranian literary heritage, introducing modern concepts into young adult novels. Some of his books have been translated into English, Turkish, Arabic, and Thai.

Selected Works:

- What Is Your Name, Little Girl? (2006), Shabavis
- A Rainbow in My Pocket (2007), Ofoq
- Sweet Meaningful Stories (2007), Ofoq
- The Throneless Prince of the Underground (2010), Cheshmeh Publication
- The White Butterfly and Colorful Windows (2011), Ghatrech
- Carpet-moustache Grandpa (2013), Ofoq
- The Stories of the Goat with a Belled Anklet (2014), Mahak Publishing Co.
- A New Window to Shahnameh Series (2014), Panjereh
- Baby-teaching Series (2016), Shahr Ghalam Publishers

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Children's Book Council's Special Book Award, Superior Book Award in the Superior Book Festival held by the Cultural Society of Children's Publishers, Appreciation Award in Cultural Researches Festival, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)





Abbas Ali Sepahi Younesi

Abbas Ali Sepahi Younesi, poet, was born in Gonabad in 1975. He studied family studies. His first published a series of satirical poems titled 'Mr. Yogurt' and his youth poetry book titled 'Only You Understand Me' is currently under print. He has worked with many children and youth publications including Soroosh Nojavan, Salam Bacheha, Hafta Nameh Khaneh, Baran, Keyhan Bacheha and Roshd.

Selected Works:

Ani and Mani (2014), Madreseh Borhan Cultural Publications
I Neither Became Thread Nor Bear (2016), Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults Publications
It May Be Around Here (2008), Amir Kabir Publications
God Speed Dear God (2009), Amir Kabir Publications
At Night the Crows... (2014), Sureh Mehr Publications

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Selected in Village Literary Festivals of Ayandeh Roshan, Holy Defense Poetry, Children and Youths Press, Fajr Poetry Festival, Book of the Year Festival of Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, Book of the Year Festival of Poopak and Salam Bacheha magazines



Asadollah Shabani

Asadollah Shabani, poet and writer, was born in July 1958 in Hamedan. He has a bachelor's degree in Persian language and literature. After the Islamic Revolution in Iran, he started working for the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon). This started him on the path of writing for children. Training Kanoon's teachers, working in the literary section of Kanoon magazines, being an expert in the Poetry Council and in charge of the Old Texts Council consist some of his activities in Kanoon in the past thirty years.

Major, Shabani knows the literary heritage of Iran very well. He uses colloquial language in composing poetry for children since he believes that colloquial literature has the closest language to that of children.

Selected Works:

The Last Free Bird (1993), Kanoon
Branches as Musical Instruments (1995), Kanoon
The Sweet Stories of Ferdowsi's Shahnameh (1996), Peydayesh Publishing Co.
Ortolan's Song (1997), Farda Publishing Co.
Lullaby for My Dear Doll (2006), Behnashr (Parvaneh Books)
Our Earth, Our Heart (2007), Kanoon
Divine Glass Bubble Bowl (2009), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
God, Gracious God (2009), Behnashr (Parvaneh Books)
Someone Passed by My Heart (2009), Touka Publishing Co.
You Say Then I'll Say Series (2016), Khatkhathi Publishing Co.

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Children's Book Council's Best Book Award, Superior Book Award in the Superior Book Festival held by the Cultural Society of Children's Publishers





Afsaneh Shaban-nejad

Afsaneh Shaban-nejad, poet and writer, was born in Kerman in May 1963. She has a bachelor's degree in Persian language and literature and a master's degree in dramatic literature. She began her career in children's and young adult literature by writing for the press and she was also the editor-in-chief of the radio program for preschoolers and school-age children. At one point, she was also in charge of the poetry council at the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon).

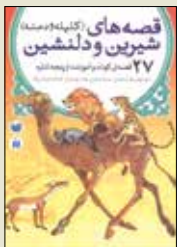
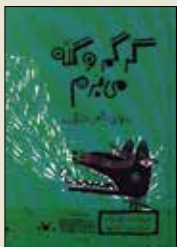
Shaban-nejad has many published books in the field of children's and young adult poetry and stories. The most distinguishing feature of her works is their variety. She has written for various age groups, composed poetry, and written stories and even plays for children. She focuses on nature, but also deals with modern-day urban issues. Her works are imbued with a childlike imagination.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Thousand-girl Orchard (1998), Kanoon
- This Side of the Desert, That Side of the Desert (1999), Kanoon
- Auntie Negin's Gift (2007), Kanoon
- A Bowlful of Dew (2007), Madrese Publications
- The Freeway (2007), Touka Publishing Co.
- The Bird Said, "I'm a Poet!" (2007), Kanoon
- Caller-Caller, Say What Color? (2008), Kanoon
- Atalak Tee Tatala (2011), Honar Abi
- What Colors Are Sunlight and Moonlight? (2012), Honar Abi
- Happali Happo Was Asleep (2014), Peydayesh

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

The Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian poets in two decades, Best Book Award from The Book Festival of The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), New Horizons Award (Bologna Children's Book Fari), nominated for Astrid Lingren's Award, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)



Shahram Shafiei

Shahram Shafiei, writer, editor, humorist, and journalist, was born in February 1971. He was also a board member of the Association of Writers for Children and Youth for various terms.

In children's and young adult literature, Shahram Shafiei is known for his humour above all else. He has also done some research on writing humor. He tries to use both verbal and content-based humor in his works. Some of Shafiei's works are collections of jokes he has devised for children and young adults, and he has even done some stand-up comedy for children and young adults.

Some of Shafiei's books have been translated to Arabic, Turkish, and Russian and some of his works are published in Turkey, Tajikistan, etc.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Moon Down the Well (1997), Peydayesh Publishing Co.
- Moonlight Got Married Last Night (2000), Soroush Publishing Co.
- Why Do the Bald Fare Well? (2001), Roozegar Publishing Co.
- Creamy Love (2004), Sooreh Mehr Publication
- The Island of the Boors pentalogy (2016-2010), Kanoon
- The Stories of the Wild West pentalogy (2010-2005), Sooreh Mehr Publication
- Share the Joke with Us (2016-2012), Peydayesh Publishing Co.
- Don't Lend the Sock Stink pentalogy (2016), Neyestan Books

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

The Golden Moon Award of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth recognizing the best Iranian writers in two decades, Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, Book of the Year chosen by Soroushe Nojavan magazine, Best Book Award from The Book Festival of The Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon)





Hamidreza Shahabadi

Hamidreza Shahabadi, writer and scholar, was born in Tehran in June 1967. He has a master's degree in history and started writing for children and young adults by publishing a story in 1989. Besides writing stories, he has made a few short movies, written plays, taught story writing, and been the production manager and deputy manager of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon) Publishing, which is the most important and the oldest state-owned publisher.

Shahabadi is one of those young adult writers who write for adults as well and his novels are based on his researches about historical events. For example, his young adult novel entitled Lullaby for the Dead Girl is about Ghoochani girls being sold during Qajar reign. His interest in history has brought history and narrative literature together. In most of his stories, he has a historical outlook and in telling his stories, he puts the action and characters in a historical context, while remaining faithful to documented facts.

Selected Works:

- That Friday (1999), Kanoon
- The Legend of the Young Archer (2000), Kanoon
- Green Prayers (2001), Kanoon
- The Confessions of Slaves (2008), Kanoon
- Constitutional Period (from the collection The Story of Iranian Intellect / 2009), Ofoq
- Lullaby for the Dead Girl (2009), Ofoq
- When Moji Got Lost (2012), Kanoon
- Nobody Dares (2013), Kanoon

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Children's Book Council's Special Book Award, Best Book Award from The Children's and Young Adult Book Festival, Imam Reza's Best Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)



Tayebeh Shamani

Tayebeh Shamani, poet, writer, was born in Damghan in 1976. She studied botanical production technology and received her AA. She spent her childhood and youth years in her hometown and embarked on learning poetry for adults but eventually after college and marriage, moved to Tehran with her husband. She attended poetry sessions of Nasser Keshavarz and Afsaneh Sha'ban Nejad and became more involved with children's poetry. Her first poem was published in Soroosh Nojavan, a youths' magazine. Tayebeh has worked for years with several children's magazines such as Nabat Koochooloand, Roshd Noamooz in the area of poetry.

Selected Works:

- Pull the Cat's Tail (2014), Kanoon Publications
- Path of Homework (2016), Mehr Zahra Publications
- The Dawn Traveler (2013), Sarir Publications
- Ghech Ghech (2015), Kanoon
- Two Friends (2016), Amir Kabir Publications
- Free Light Fanni (2015), Nardeban Publications
- Daddy's Honey (2015), Shamim Shaghayegh Publications
- Grandfather (1992), Entekhab-e No Publications
- Tiny (2016), Amir Kabir Publications

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

Selected for Golden Pen Award, Kanoon's Book of the Year Award, Resistance Festival, National Festival of Yad and Yadegar





Fatemeh Sarmashghi

Fatemeh Sarmashghi, writer was born in one of the villages of Bijar and soon moved with her family to Karaj. She was admitted in the University of Tehran Faculty of Literature in 1997 and published her first stories in a student magazine. She received her master's degree in 2005 in the Social Sciences Research Institute with the thesis titled 'A Sociological and Feminist Approach in Analyzing the Novel Sovashon'. She taught in the Social Sciences Faculty in University of Semnan. She published her first book in 2007.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Mummy, When did You Come Alive?, Elmi va Fahangi, 2010
- What do You do Little Elephant?, Elmi va Farhangi, 2010
- The Branch that Saw Everything, Elmi va Farhangi, 2011
- The Gluttonous King, Shabaviz Publications, 2012
- Miss Radish, Elmi va Farhangi, 2015
- The Mystery of Mani's Painting, Chekeh Publications, 2004
- Simorgh was my Grandfather, Fanni Publications, 2007
- Doghdoo, Miss Sila and Grandma's Giants, Hoopa Publications, 2006

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected book in Story-writing Contest of Elmi va Fahangi Publications, The 3rd best book among unpublished novels, Sepidar Festival



Seyyed Navid Seyyed Aliakbar

Seyyed Navid Seyyed Aliakbar, is one of the younger writers of Iranian children's literature. He was born in 1983 in Tehran and majored in the restoration of historic artifacts. Seyyed Aliakbar began his story writing career at the age of seven when he had his stories published in magazines. The distinguishing feature of Aliakbar's stories is the pure and authentic imagination seen in them. Most of his works are for children.

He tries to create a fantasy embedded in reality and associated with real life by using the cultural capacities and characteristics of Iranian children. It is this feature that distinguishes his works from those by the other new generation Iranian writers and attracts the attention of scholars and critics.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Junior Giant Must Stay at School (2007), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House
- The Story of Sarah, Apple Jam, and the River (2008), Elmi-Farhangi Publishing House
- Melika and Her Cat Series (2011), Ofoq
- My Dad Tastes Good with Sauce (2012), Shabaviz
- The Circle (2014), Afarinegan
- From the Diary of a Giraffe-dwelling Writer (2014), Afarinegan
- Teaching Mommy-wrapped Story Writing for no Reason (2015), Golagha
- The Stories of the Clever Donkey Foal (2015), Chekkeh

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Flying Turtle Award, Silver Best Book Award of Isfahan Literary Awards, IBBY's Selection and Introduction in the List of Selected Books for Children with Special Needs





Mohammadreza Shams

Mohammadreza Shams, was born in Tehran in 1957. He was studying in an art school when he became acquainted with a theater troupe, which caused him to opt for acting and playwriting. Besides theater, he composed poetry and after the Islamic Revolution in Iran, his poems and stories were published in renowned Iranian children's and young adult magazines. Shams is particularly skilled in creatively rewriting legends. Using the techniques of Iranian curiosity texts, he has tried to write very short fantasy stories for children. In these stories, inanimate objects become alive and obtain personalities, with their relationships forming the story. Shams has also written scientific stories.

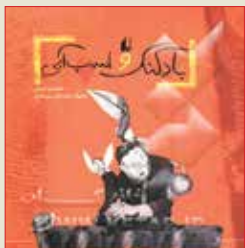
Some of his works have been translated into English, Mandarin, Turkish, and Thai.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- The Lunatic and the Well (2001), Hannaneh
- Crazy Girl (2001), Hannaneh
- The Balloon and the Hippo (2006), Ofoq
- Me, My Step-Mom, and Dad's Nose (2010), Ofoq
- A Distance That Got Old (2010), Peydayesh
- Breakfast of the Imagination (2010), Cheshmeh
- The Thief Who Became a Butterfly (2010), Cheshmeh
- Backwards Stories (2013), Kanoon
- Telling Two Stories (2014), Soroush
- The Bald Apple (2015), Peydayesh

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens), IBBY Honor Diploma, Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon), Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran, Best Book Award from the Cultural Society of Children's Publishers



Mojgan Sheikhi

Mojgan Sheikhi, was born in 1962 in Tehran. She graduated with a BA in English language translation. She also holds a certificate of Dutch language from the Netherlands. She began working with Keyhan Bacheha since 1984. Her years of literary work and authorship resulted in over hundred and fifty illustrated book and rewriting some of the ancient Persian literary works. Some of her books have been translated in Turkish and Fanoos Daryayee Publications EL FARO has translated her revised ancient Persian works into Spanish. She has also worked with Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) children and youth television programs and acted as jury in various festivals.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Diaries of a Crow, Zekr (Ghasedak) Publications, 2014
- Twelve Illustrated Stories from Elahi Nameh, Ghadiani (Banafsheh), 2017
- The Eighth Traveler (youth novel) Ghadiani (Banafsheh) Publications, 2016
- Adventures of a Space Boy, Zekr (Ghasedak) Publications, 2014
- The Sun of Khwarezm, Farhang-e Eslami Publication Office, 2015
- Lullabies of Miss Crow, Elmi Farhangi Publications, 2016
- Fridays of Auntie Kangaroo, Elmi Farhangi Publications, 2016
- Summer and the White Goose, Amir Kabir Publications, 2012
- Illustrated Stories from Attar's Tazkarat al-Olya, Ghadiani (Banafsheh) Publications, 2015
- Illustrated Stories of Khajeh Nassir-e-Din Toosi, Ghadiani (Banafsheh) 2015

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected book of the Islamic Republic of Iran Book Award, Parvin Etesami Festival, Justice and Solidarity Award, Berlinale International Festival for screenplay adaptation of the book





Naghi Soleimani

Naghi Soleimani, writer, critic, and journalist, was born in Tehran in 1961. His first works for children and young adults were published in creditable children's literature publications.

Soleimani is a writer who concentrates more on young adults in his works. In his almost three-decade career, besides publishing stories for young adults, he has also worked with various young adult magazines. He has engaged in writing humor for this age group and beyond such creations, he has done research on young adult humor as well.

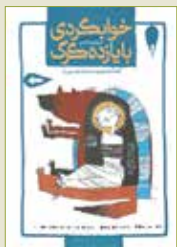
In his other works, Soleimani introduces authors such as Lev Tolstoy and Feodor Dostoievski to young adults in order to acquaint them with the summits of international story writing. He also has some works based on the biographies of great religious figures. The series that Soleimani has written about the life of Prophet Mohammad has won various awards.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Dark Blue Circles (2007), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- The Honorable Apple Was Waiting for Newton (1995), Zola
- Children's Detective (1995), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- The New Legend: A Collection of Stories and Funny Pieces (1997), Soroush
- The Vase at the Window (2000), Soroush
- The Antics of the Pilot and the Air Bus (2001), Farhang Gostar, Apple Books
- Momentarily: Selected Short Stories (2002), Farhang Gostar
- The Prophet (2006), Behnashr (Parvaneh Books)
- Brother: Stories from the Lives of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) and Ali (PBUH) (2008), Soroush
- Dad's Heart Is in His Sock (2009), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Book of the Year chosen by Soroushe Nojavan magazine, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, Best Book Award from Quranic Stories Festival



Susan Taghdis

Susan Taghdis, was born in 1959 in Shiraz. She began her career as a writer by publishing her first story in Keyhan Bacheha Magazine. Susan Taghdis has been a founder of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth and has also been a board member.

Taghdis has tried her hand in various fields including reporting, journalism, script writing, etc. She has also composed poetry for children. However, the activity that Taghdis is known for is writing stories for preschoolers and children.

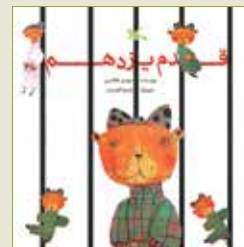
Writing stories for preschoolers may be one of the least visited areas of Iranian children's and young adult literature. Her stories for this age group develop with extreme brevity and sentences are short and simple, without any redundant description. Traces of humor is present both in Taghdis's language and in the content of her works. Some of her works are translated to other languages.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Leila and the Sultan (1991), Nahade Honar Va Adabiyat
- A Gift for You (1993), Ghasedak Books
- Not Talking to You Anymore (1997), Barg Publishing Co.
- Have You Seen a Yellow Nose? (2002), Madrese Publications
- A Sock with Holes (2003), Shabaviz Publishing Co.
- Here Barberry, There Raspberry (2003), Ghasedak Books
- The Eleventh Step (2004), Kanoon
- My Beautiful Horse (2007), Amirkabir Publishing (Shokoofeh)
- A Long Way (2010), Shabaviz Publishing Co.
- Whose Nose Made That Noise? (2013), Soroush Publishing Co.

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Best Book Award from Parvin Etesami Book Fair, Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival





Mehdi Tahouri

Mehdi Tahouri, writer, poet was born in Hamedan in 1975 but lived in Tehran until age six when his family moved back to Hamedan. Tahouri states in that regard: "My early years in two completely different cities of Hamedan and Tehran were the first sprouts of recognizing humans in me."

Hamedan's literary societies and gaining knowledge on literary criticism pushed him towards writing and poetry, which he began since high school.

At age 22 he moved to Tehran and embarked on writing for magazines, which resulted in hundreds of poems, reports, interviews, notes, etc. in various publications.

At age 25 he attended the university and graduated with a BA in journalism. At the same time he wrote narrations for documentary films. He has written tens of texts for tens of documentary films. He published his first book at age 28 and since, his stories were published one by one. Tahouri is currently teaching story writing and manager of the contents of a few websites.

▲ **Selected Works:**

For the Sake of Polar Bears (2016), Fanni Iran Publications
The Ducks are Swimming (2016), Fanni Iran Publications
Potato and the Dragon (2016), Amir Kabir Publications
By the Blossom in the Flower Patch (2004), Chekeh Publications
Dagestan Warriors (2006) Madreseh Publications
Legend of Oji (2005), Shabaviz Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Commended in the Roshd Book Festival



Hossein Tavalayee

Hossein Tavalayee, writer, was born in Rasht in 1980. He is a PhD graduate in health and social welfare and for many years a literary specialist in the General Office of Literary and Artistic Creations of the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults and has also worked with various children and youths magazines. Besides poetry he is also active in writing short stories.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Delicious Coffees, Amir Kabir Publications, 2016
The Train Sandwich, Kanoon Publications, 2012
Behind the Scene of My Heart, Kanoon, 2000
Trees Love Birds, Elmi Farhangi Publications, 2000
The Birds' Phone Numbers, Amir Kabir Publications, 2001
Let's Talk a Few Branches, Elmi Farhangi Publications, 2000
Here's Some Fresh Worms, Amir Kabir Publications, 2016
The Sun's Slippers, Kanoon Publications, 2011
Oh God, Please, Shahr-e Ghlam Publications, 2011

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected in Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, Book of the Year Festival, Fajr Poetry Festivals, Selected twice in Story-Telling Festival, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults





Anahita Teymourian

Anahita Teymourian, writer, was born in Narmak district of Tehran in 1971. Her parents were both teachers and that alone was reason to have artistic and cultural aspirations for their first child. Her father was away from home for some years but not his dreams. The longing and sorrow for her father being away became reason for the home girl's early daydreams and imagination. She studied architecture and graduated from Art University in 1998 but architecture was never a suitable means for her to express herself. Painting and writing seemed better options.

Her first book (Moon and the Fox) was published by Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults in 1999 and later translated into other languages, which gained her the literary award of the Octagonal International Center Children and Youth Literary Studies. Teymourian has authored and illustrated several books, all translated in over twenty languages.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Moon and the Fox, 2000, Kanoon Publications
Gheleh Night's Stories, 2014, Soroush Publication
The Kind Sara, 2014, Kanoon Publication
Everybody's Child, 2010, Kanoon Publication

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Commendation Plaque, Presidential Office (Seyed Mohammad Khatami), Literary Award, Octagonal International Center for Children and Youth Literary Studies, France, Commendation Plaque for holding European Children's Literature Festival in Tehran, National Association of Children's Rights, Film Script writing, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults Festival



Seyed Mohammad Tolooee Barazandeh

Seyed Mohammad Tolooee Barazandeh, poet, writer, translator, was born in Rasht in 1979. He studied filmmaking and performance literature in the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Tehran. He published his first series of poems titled Memoirs of an Acrobat in 2003. His first novel Victim of Favorable Wind in 2007 which won him the fifth literary award of 'Vav' or the different novel of the year. He was also nominated for 8th Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book of the Year Award. He is among new generation of Persian writers.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Real Madrid, (youth novel) (2014), Ofogh Publications
Memoirs of an Acrobat (poetry) (2003), Simsa Publications
Victim of Favorable Wind (novel) (2011), Ofogh Publications
I am Not Janet (short stories) (2011), Ofogh Publications
Anatomy of Depression (novel) (2016), Ofogh Publications
Father's Trainings (2014), Ofogh Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected in Chehel Literary Award, Golshiri Literary Award, The most technical book of the year, Vav Literary Award





Jafar Toozandehjani

Jafar Toozandehjani, writer, was born in Neyshabur in April 1962. He started his career in children's and young adult literature by publishing his works in publications and has continued his collaboration with young adult magazines.

He has also been a board member of Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth and has taught story writing.

Toozandehjani mostly writes for young adult readers. His novels are fantasies rooted in his hometown legends. His Monster Party is inspired by legends on the one hand and shows the real, tangible life of the people of Neyshabur (a city in Khorasan) on the other hand. To write his novels, Toozandehjani also uses Old Persian texts like One Thousand Night and One Night. Moreover, he has some books that introduce historical figures.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Water Pots (1992), Hozeh Honari
- A Man Who Wanted to Buy a Train (2000), Monadi Tarbiat Cultural Foundation
- A Man Who Was Lost (2001), Behnashr (Parvaneh)
- Monster Party (2002), Madrese
- The Castle Magic (2005), Madrese
- Why Did the Sea Get Angry? (2006), Kanoon
- Dad's Lost Paradise (2010), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)
- The Worm That Became a Monster (2011), Kanoon
- The Legend of the Three Kings (2013), Ofoq
- Mina's Secret (2014), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- Mehregan Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from Shahid Habib Ghanipour Book Festival, listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens)



Mohammadreza Yousefi

Mohammadreza Yousefi, writer, was born in Hamedan in October 1953. Yousefi has majored in history at the Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Tehran University. He is one of the prolific Iranian writers of children's and young adult literature. He was a board member of the Iranian Association of Writers for Children and Youth for a term.

Yousefi has been writing for children and young adults of different age groups for more than three decades. The topics he deals with in his works are diverse, e.g. child labor, children with special needs, the history and culture of Iran. He has also written some movie scripts, plays, and theoretical discussions of children's literature. Moreover, he has rewritten and recreated some old Persian literary texts, such as Shahnameh, for children. In some of his works, he has used Persian folkloric literature.

▲ **Selected Works:**

- Sea Traveller (1994), Madrese Publications
- A Star Called Giant (1998), Ghadyani (Banafsheh)
- The Girl from the Green Planet (2002), Shabaviz
- The Smell of the Rain (2002), Madrese Publications
- Children of the Soil (2005), Ofoq
- Wolves Don't Cry (2010), Ofoq
- Prince Rhinoceros (2010), Soroush
- The White Horse (2010), Behnashr
- If I Were Rostam's Child (2011), Amirkabir (Shokoofeh)
- Call Me When It's Story Time (2011), Kanoon

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

- IBBY Honor Diploma from the Netherlands, Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award, Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran





Nasser Yousefi

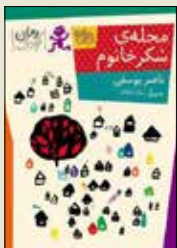
Nasser Yousefi, writer, studied psychology in the University of Tehran and later received his PhD in Norway and Sweden majoring in pre-school education. With a large group of specialists in pre-school education, he founded the Research Institute of World Children. The institute later became one of the most professional and specialized research and education organizations in the area of young children's education. Nasser Yousefi is quite experienced in working with the United Nations agencies and international organizations. The United Nation's High Commissioner for Refugees, UNESCO, UNICEF, Population Council, International Organization of Young Children's Education, Harvard University's Education and Development Center, International Center of Freelance Teachers, etc., are among organizations with which Yousefi has worked.

▲ **Selected Works:**

Miss Sugar's Neighborhood (2014), Ofogh Publications
I Grow Green (2013), Peydayesh Publications
Ashi Mashi Sparrow (1999), Peydayesh Publications
Tak, the Little Fox (1994), Markaz Publications
The Sky was Purple (2017), Markaz Publications
Apple Tree (2011), Ofogh Publications
The Ever Red Flower (1992), Kanoon Publications

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Selected by Children's Book Council, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults Festival, International Foundation of World Literature, Selected in Islamic Republic of Iran Festival of War and Peace, Listed in Munich Library



Maryam Zandi

Maryam Zandi, writer, poet, was born in Malayer in 1986. She studied physics and art research. She has been working with journals and the press since 2002 (Poetry, literary texts, interviews). Magazines include Children's Soroosh, Keyhan, Hamshahri, Pooyandegan, Roshd-e Nojavan, Baran, Entezar-e Nojavan, Poopak, Salam Bacheha, Doost, Kooshesh. She has also been in charge of literary creations of Hamedan's Hoze Honari (Art Center) since 2014.

▲ **Selected Works:**

The Flower's Book Opened (2010), youth poetry, Fasl-e Panjom Publications
Respect for Flowers (2011), joint series with Hoze Honari of Hamedan
Happy Birthday (2013), children's poetry, Dar al-Hadis Publications
I Left My Mood with You (2015), youth poetry, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults Publications
Time for Snow Flower (2016) children's poetry, Amir Kabir Publications
Sky's Homework, children's poetry, Sureh Mehr Publications
My One and Only Bear, children's poetry, Sureh Mehr Publications, under print

▲ **Selected Awards and Recognitions:**

Commended, Parvin Etesami Literary Award, Qom Children and Youth Book of the Year, Shiraz Literary Award, Holy Defense Provincial Poetry Festival, Hamedan's Children and Youths Poetry Convention





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