# Dr. Mohammad Afghari

Ph.D. in History, Postdoctoral Research Experience, Ph.D. Candidate in Iranian Studies

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## Summary

“History is a discipline in which one relives the past in one’s mind,” wrote R.G. Collingwood — a view that has deeply shaped my approach to historical inquiry. I strive to be a historian who explores the forgotten corners of human life. Holding a Ph.D. in History, with experience in a completed postdoctoral research program and currently a Ph.D. candidate in Iranian Studies, I have been fortunate to engage in contemporary history, archival research, and the exploration of intellectual history. Additionally, with a background in engineering and extensive experience in software development, I am keen to work in the fields of digital and computational history. My approach to history involves critically engaging with the past in order to better understand the intellectual and political foundations of the present.

## Research Interests

- Intellectual History and the History of Ideas
- Archival Studies in Contemporary History
- Digital and Computational History
- Historical Theory and Methodology

## Education

**Bachelor of Science in Electronic Engineering**Yazd University, Iran — 2001 - 2006
- Developed a strong foundation in analytical thinking and problem-solving.
- Gained proficiency in programming and computational skills, which later contributed to quantitative and statistical research in history.
- Discovered a deep interest in the humanities, leading to a shift toward historical research.

**Master of Arts in History**PNU University of Isfahan, Iran — 2011 – 2013
- Shifted from engineering to the humanities, focusing my studies on Iranian history, particularly the Safavid era.
- Completed my thesis on "The Role and Position of the Vakil Post in the Safavid Era," which was accepted with excellent grades.
- Graduated as a top student of the Faculty of History, which later led to my collaboration as a lecturer at the university.

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in History**
University of Isfahan, Iran — 2013 – 2019
- Focused on contemporary Iranian political history and archival studies as the specialization of my doctoral program.

- Thesis: "Historical Analysis of Political Participation During 5th to 24th Rounds of National Parliament Elections (1923-1978 A.D) (Case Study: Isfahan)," completed with distinction.
- Utilized my software engineering skills to develop a database of parliamentary election results and to conduct innovative statistical analyses tailored to parliamentary history studies.
- Graduated as an outstanding student, which led to my acceptance as a postdoctoral researcher at the same university.

**Postdoctoral Researcher in History**University of Isfahan, Iran — 2021 – 2023
- Conducted research on the history of parliamentarism in Iran, focusing on archival sources from the Iranian National Assembly.
- The outcome of this program included a book based on parliamentary documents and two academic articles.

**Second Ph.D. in Iranian Studies**University of Tehran, Iran — 2023 – Present
- Immediately after completing my postdoctoral research, I was admitted to a second Ph.D. candidate in Iranian Studies at the University of Tehran's Faculty of World Studies.
- Chose intellectual history and the history of ideas as the core specialization of this second doctoral journey.
- Currently preparing my dissertation titled: "Intellectuals and the Problem of Iran: An Analysis of the Shift in Intellectual Paradigms from the Naserid Era to the Islamic Revolution."

## Research Experience

- Selected Documents of the National Assembly Elections in Isfahan
Authored Book, Postdoctoral Research Output — 2023
Publisher: Isfahan Branch of the Academic Center for Education, Culture, and Research (ACECR)

- Fragile Alliance: An Analysis of the Victory of the Tudeh Party Candidate
Case Study: Isfahan Electoral District in the 14th National Assembly Elections (1943)
Research Article, Postdoctoral Research Output— 2023
Publisher: Al-Zahra University

- The Role of the Landowning Class in Pahlavi-Era Elections
Case Study: Shahreza Electoral District in the 14th National Assembly Elections (1943)
Research Article, Postdoctoral Research Output— 2023
Publisher: Journal of Social History Research, Institute for Humanities and Cultural Studies

- Critical Discourse Analysis of the New Left's Approach to the Issue of Iranian IdentityResearch Article, Second Ph.D. in Iranian Studies, University of Tehran— 2024
Publisher: National Studies Quarterly

- Analysis of the Fifth National Assembly Elections in Isfahan
Based on Unpublished Documents from the Islamic Consultative Assembly Archives
Research Article Derived from first Ph.D. Dissertation — 2021
Publisher: Ganjineh Asnad

- History of Professions, Industries, and Trade in Esfahan Province
from Ancient Times to the Islamic RevolutionResearch Project Collaborator and Chapter Author— 2014

- Review and Analysis of Historical Narratives in 'Siraj al-Ansab'
by Kia Ahmad Gilani Regarding the SafavidsSpecialized Article, Ph.D. in History, University of Isfahan— 2017
Publisher: Tarikhnigar Journal

## Work Experience

- Invited Lecturer in History
Payam Noor University, Isfahan, Iran — 2011 – Present
Taught undergraduate history courses with a focus on Iranian history, world history and historiography.

- Academic Advisor
University of Meybod, Iran — Ongoing
Advisor for two M.A. theses in Iranian history, guiding research in historical analysis and methodology.

- Scientific Journal Reviewer- Journal of Islamic and Iranian History
Al-Zahra University, Tehran, Iran — 2021 – Present
- Journal of Social History Research
Institute for Humanities and Cultural Studies, Tehran, Iran — 2021 – Present
Evaluated scholarly articles with emphasis on Iranian sociopolitical history.

- Coordinator, Iranian Local History Association
Isfahan University, Isfahan, Iran — 2017 – Present
Organized academic events and contributed to the development of local historiography in Iran through the association's initiatives.

- Information Platform Manager
Center for Studies on Culture and Civilization in the Safavid Era, University of IsfahanIsfahan University, Isfahan, Iran — 2018 – 2021

- Research Project CollaboratorIsfahan Chamber of Commerce, Isfahan, Iran — 2014 – 2016
Contributed to a historical-economic research project exploring the development of trade and industry in Isfahan from ancient times to the modern era.

## Skills

- Quantitative Research, Statistics, and Data Analysis
Expertise in applying statistical and quantitative research methods to historical studies, with a focus on data analysis and the interpretation of historical data.

- Programming and Software Development
Proficient in C++, C#, JavaScript, and PHP, with strong command of these languages. Familiar with Python, Java, and R, and experienced in designing and implementing both relational and NoSQL databases.

## Languages

- English, Advanced

- Persian, Native

- Arabic, Intermediate