

# Afon (Mohammad) Khari

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Detail-oriented researcher with a strong background in **Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Philosophy, Education, and Language**.  
I bring a unique blend of academic expertise and practical teaching experience.

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## EDUCATION

- MSc – Brain and Cognitive Sciences**, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL Sep. 2023-Aug. 2025
- Specialization: **Cognitive Science**
  - Coursework: *Computational Cognitive Neuroscience, Higher Cognitive Functions, Attentional Control and Decision Making, Philosophy of Cognition, Digital Twinning, Complexity Science*
  - Research Intern at the Music Cognition Group ([MCG](#)), Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation ([ILLC](#)), [Donders Institute](#), and [Radboud University Medical Center, Developmental Neuroscience \(Lifespan Cognitive Dynamics lab\)](#)
  - Panel Coordinator at the European Student Assembly ([ESA](#))
  - Writing Team Leader and Proofreader for the [ABC Journal](#)
- PhD (ABD) – Art Research**, Art University, Tehran, IR Sep. 2012-Aug. 2017
- TA - English for Academic Purposes (**EAP**) and Research Methods
  - RA - Interdisciplinary study of cognitive science principles with artistic inquiry on perception and creativity
- MA – Philosophy of Art**, Art University, Tehran, IR Sep. 2009-Aug. 2012
- TA - English for Academic Purposes (**EAP**)
- BA – English Language and Literature**, Guilan University, Rasht, IR Sep. 2003-Jun. 2008

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research Intern**, Music Cognition Group, ILLC, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL
- Focus on perceptual transformation of speech and music in tonal language users; dataset curation and design
- Research Intern**, Lifespan Cognitive Dynamics Lab, Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition, and Behavior, Nijmegen, NL
- Studied behavioral and neural data in **cognitive strategy shaping**; Used Dynamic Structural Equation Modeling (**DSEM**) to assess the impact of environmental noise and sleep patterns on fluid intelligence task performance

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## EMPLOYMENT

- Editor – Mind Brain Ed Think Tanks**, Japan Jan. 2021-Present
- Content and language editor for a monthly **Neuroscience and Teaching** journal published by the [JALT Mind, Brain, and Education SIG](#)
  - Collaboration with international academics to ensure high publication standards
- Lecturer and Project Manager – Özyeğin University**, Istanbul, TR Aug. 2018-Aug. 2023
- Taught English in preparatory and undergraduate programs; led professional development for students and staff
  - Led tech integration as **TLDU** Specialist and co-designed a critical thinking project on *Human Rights*
- EFL and EAP Teacher – Various Institutions**, IR and TR Sep. 2008-Aug. 2018
- Delivered **IELTS** and **ESP** courses for diverse learners; developed tests, curriculum, and assessments; taught online with detailed feedback
- Lecturer – Semnan University and Rasam University**, IR Sep. 2013-Aug. 2016
- *Research Methods* and *Philosophy* courses for MA students
  - *English for Academic Purposes (EAP)* courses for BA students

*I consent to the processing of my personal data for the purpose of recruitment for the position to which I am applying.*

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## SKILLS

- R and Python (Data Science & Computational Modeling)
- Academic Research Skills and Data Analysis
- Content and Language Editing
- Publication and Presentation
- Time Management and Teamwork
- Interpersonal Skills
- Attention to Detail
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Conflict Resolution and Adaptability
- Ethical Considerations
- Multicultural Collaboration
- Public Speaking

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## LANGUAGES

- English – Fluent
- Persian (Farsi) – Native Speaker
- Turkish – Good
- Dutch – Beginner

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## CERTIFICATES

<b><i>Machine Learning: Perceptrons Course</i></b> – codecademy	Jun. 2024
<b><i>Linear Algebra Course</i></b> – codecademy	Jun. 2024
<b><i>Philosophy of Science</i></b> – University of Pennsylvania	May. 2024
<b><i>Consciousness and the Mind</i></b> – Independent study	Apr. 2023
<b><i>Python Programming for Data Science</i></b> – University of Helsinki	Mar. 2023
<b><i>Elements of AI</i></b> – University of Helsinki	Jan. 2023
<b><i>Fundamentals of Neuroscience</i></b> – Harvard University	May. 2022
<b><i>Fostering Student Motivation and Engagement</i></b> – University of Oregon	Apr. 2020
<b><i>Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA)</i></b> – Cambridge English	Nov. 2017

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## PUBLICATIONS AND TALKS

- Khari, M. (forthcoming). *Simulating Strife: Computational Models of Human Conflict*. ABC Journal of Amsterdam Brain and Cognition.
- Khari, M. and Daley, J. (2025, May). *The Four Pillars of Learning: A Teacher's Guide to Cognitive Success*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2024, June). *Spirituality and Cyberspace: The Role of VR in Inducing Spiritual Experiences*. ABC Journal of Amsterdam Brain and Cognition.
- Khari, M. (2024, July). *What We Missed and Why?* Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2024, February). *The Reading Brain*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2024, January). *Hearts and Minds*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2023, May). *X = Y*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2023, March). *ChatGPT: The Double-Edged Sword of AI Language Models*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2023, January). *Fostering the Prosocial Neural Network Through Gratitude*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2022, October). Validating Emotions: Towards Fostering Teachers' Affective Autonomy and Well-being [Webinar]. EAQUALS online.
- Khari, M. (2022, October). "Embracing the Uncertainty: Fostering Creativity and Responsibility Through Storytelling in Rhizomatic Model of Learning." Paper [presented](#) at the Third International Conference Why Still Education, Edulab, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade, Serbia.
- Khari, M. (2022, October 1). Pigasus or Superswine: Body as a Mirroring Tool. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Kretschmer, H., Kelly, C., & Khari, M. (2022). The 3 Ks Explore Listening and the Brain. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002, August 1, 2022.
- Khari, M. (2022, June 1). 'We're All in This Together'. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2022, July). 'The Celestial Openness' [[Webinar](#)]. Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT).
- Khari, M. (2022, May 1). The Celestial Openness. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2022, January 1). Where the Comfort Zone Ends. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.

- Khari, M., & Kelly, C. (2021, December 1). Neuroscience shows us drama is an effective language teaching tool. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2021, Dec. 1). Let's 'Make a Drama out of it' this Time! Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, Oct. 1). The Kernel of Teaching: Human Connection. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, Oct. 1). The Magic of Care and Confidence. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, Sept. 1). Let the Brain Lead the Way! Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, July 1). An Earnest Investment. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, April 1). The Power of Storytelling. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M., & Kelly, C. (2021, Oct.). Neuroscience of Stories [[Webinar](#)]. İMBAT AKADEMİ.
- Khari, M. (2021, May). Cultural Context - Putting the Genie of Bias Back in the Bottle [[Webinar](#)]. Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT).
- Khari, M. (2021, Oct.). How to be an Effective Online Learner [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Feb.). Links to Strength [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Feb.). Psychology and Pedagogy [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Feb.). FSME [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Feb.). Enabling Learners' Autonomy [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Jan.). Neuroscience and Pedagogy I [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Jan.). Neuroscience and Pedagogy II [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.

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## HOBBIES

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| • Hiking                 | • Volunteering       |
| • Reading                | • Cooking            |
| • Learning new languages | • Listening to music |

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## REFERENCES

**Jessica Schaaf, PhD** – Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition, and Behavior, Nijmegen, NL

[jessica.schaaf@radboudumc.nl](mailto:jessica.schaaf@radboudumc.nl)

**Makiko Sadakata, PhD** – University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL

[M.Sadakata@uva.nl](mailto:M.Sadakata@uva.nl)

**Curtis Kelly, EdD** – Kansai University (emeritus), Portland, OR, US

[ctskelly@gmail.com](mailto:ctskelly@gmail.com)