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.

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 (<u>MCG</u>), Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation (<u>ILLC</u>), <u>Donders Institute</u>, and <u>Radboud University Medical Center</u>, Developmental Neuroscience (<u>Lifespan Cognitive Dynamics lab</u>)
- 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

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

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 <u>JALT Mind, Brain, and Education SIG</u>
- 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

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

LANGUAGES

- English Fluent
- Persian (Farsi) Native Speaker

- Turkish Good
- Dutch Beginner

CERTIFICATES	
Neuroscience and Neuroimaging (fMRI) - Johns Hopkins University	Oct. 2025
MRI Fundamentals - Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)	Aug. 2025
Learn Python 2 – codecademy	Jun. 2024
Machine Learning: Introduction with Regression - codecademy	Jun. 2024
Machine Learning: Perceptrons – codecademy	Jun. 2024
Linear Algebra – codecademy	Jun. 2024
Philosophy of Science – University of Pennsylvania	May. 2024
Consciousness and the Mind - Independent study	Apr. 2023
Python Programming for Data Science - University of Helsinki	Mar. 2023
Elements of AI – University of Helsinki	Jan. 2023
Fundamentals of Neuroscience - Harvard University	May. 2022
Fostering Student Motivation and Engagement - University of Oregon	Apr. 2020
Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA) - Cambridge English	Nov. 2017

PUBLICATIONS AND TALKS

- Khari, M. (in press). Beyond the algorithm: educational justice for plurilingual students in AI-assisted classrooms. In Language education and human rights in democratic educational settings
- Khari, M. (2025, October). Clickbait Neuroscience: Lessons from "Your Brain on ChatGPT". Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2025, June). 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 <u>presented</u> 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.

HOBBIES

- Hiking
- Reading
- Learning new languages

- Volunteering
- Cooking
- Listening to music

REFERENCES

Prof. Dr. Rogier Kievit – Developmental Neuroscience, Faculty of Medical Sciences (Radboudumc), Nijmegen, NL

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

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Makiko Sadakata, PhD - University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL

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

ctskelly@gmail.com