

Profiles of Dismissed Iranian Academics

Academic freedom violations in 2021-2023

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Introduction

A new wave of pressure on Iranian academics began with the inauguration of Ebrahim Raisi's conservative government in 2021. This pressure escalated significantly following the *Woman*, *Life*, *Freedom* nationwide movement in 2022, in which Iranian universities emerged as significant hubs of activism. As a result, many scholars who opposed government intervention in the academic life of the universities--including police raids on campuses--and signed letters in support of detained or suspended students or simply voiced their disagreement with the university's handling of the situation, were fired, suspended, prohibited from teaching, or forced into early retirement.

To compile the *Profiles of Dismissed Iranian Academics*, we consulted official university letters, public announcements by relevant professors, statements from their peers at the same or other universities, and newspaper reports. The following elements should be taken into consideration when using this profile:

- 1. The *Profiles* are based on information collected from daily newspapers in Iran. Best efforts were made to crosscheck them with other sources, including the information posted on platforms of the scientific associations or by dismissed academics on their social media accounts.
- 2. The dates entered for the dismissals are not always accurate, as they represent the dates when the news of the dismissals appeared in the media.
- 3. Most of the professors dismissed in 2022 were verbally notified by the dean or Herasat office (branch of the Ministry of Security in universities) that their work would be suspended. The legal procedures require that they receive formal letters from the head of faculty and have the opportunity to present their case before a disciplinary committee. In some cases, the professors requested official letters of dismissals, but their request was denied by the university.

- 4. Most of the dismissed faculty were informed that their work had been terminated due to "general disqualification" or "disqualification for non-scientific issues." The terms, interpreted as political disqualification, put academics at risk of not getting a job at other colleges or universities even though their academic qualifications are uncontested.
- 5. Some academics were fired under legally mandated terms: Professors are required to retire at the age of 65 or after 30 years of service, as per the "Academic Staff Employment Rule at Universities and Higher Education and Research Institutes." If the institutes still need their services, they may be asked to continue; however, the terms are applied differently in each case depending on political and personal ties to the administration.
- 6. In some instances, the university denied or reversed its dismissal of a professor due to undisclosed pressures or mediation, resulting in a return to work. These specific cases are detailed in the file to the degree possible.
- 7. The names of the individuals, faculties, and universities are taken from the universities' official English websites. When a profile was unavailable on the university's website, it was taken from the academic's official social media pages. When data could not be accessed, the item was left blank.
- 8. A few professors have gone through what is known as a "teaching ban," by which their names are removed from platforms that offer their courses to enrolled students. Some have had their names added back to the platform after enrollment.
- 9. Given the fluid nature of some of these cases and the periodic release of new information, the *Profiles* will be updated every six months.
- 10. The *Profiles* are supported by an Excel file that includes the same information as this file and will be used for quantitative study.

List of the Names

1	_Abolfazl Shayan
2	_Abtin Golkar
3	_Ahmad Shekarchi
4	_Ahmad Sodagar
5	_Ali Akbar Amini
6	_Ali Sarzaeem
7	_Ali Sharifi-Zarchi
8	_Alireza Azad
9	_Alireza Radmehr
10	_Amene Aali
11	_Amir Maziar
12	_Amir Nikpey
13	_Amir Reza Rokn
14	_Amir Sajedi
15	_Ammar Ashoori
16	_Arash Abazari
	_Arash Beidollahkhani
18	_Arash Reisinezhad
19	_Arman Zakeri
20	_Armin Amir
21	_Azin Movahed
22	_Aziz Shafiei Zarghani
23	_Baharak Akhtar Danesh
24	_Behrooz Chaman Ara
	_Bijan Ghonchepour
26	_Bijan Nayeri
27	_Darush Rahmaniyan
28	_Didokht Sadeghi
	_Eisa Amini
	_Elham Tavakoli
31	_Eslam Nazemi
32	_Farshad Asgarikia
33	_Farzan Sojoodi
	_Fatemeh Rajaei-Rad
35	_Ghasem Azizi
36	Cholam Haydar Fhrahim Ray Salam

37.__Gholamreza Shahbazi 38. Hamid Bahrami Zadeh 39. Hamid Shans 40. **Hamideh Khademi** 41.__Hasan Razmi 42.___Hasan Taheri 43. Hassan Bagheri Nia 44.___Hosein Tafazoli 45.___Hossein Heidar 46. Hossein Mesbahian 47. Iman Afsarian 48.__Iraj Mehraki 49.___Jalil Maleki 50. **Javad Atefeh** 51. Koroush Golnari 52. Kusha Gorji Sefat 53. Mahshid Gohari 54. Masood Olia 55.__Malektaj Khosravi 56.__Mehdi Khoei 57.___Mehdi Shahrabi 58. __Mina Motalebnajad 59. Mohamad Mehdi Oloumi 60.___Mohammad Ali Khosravi 61.__Mohammad Bayat 62. ___Mohammad Fazeli 63. Mohammad Hosein Emad 64.___Mohammad Ragheb 65. Mohammad Reza Motamed 66. Mohammad Rohani 67.___Mohammadreza Nazarinejad 68.___Mohammad Sadegh Ahmadakhondi 69. Mohammadsaeed Sheikh Rezaei 70. **Mohsen Borhani** 71.___Mohsen Khalili 72. Mojgan Paknejad 73. Morteza Kalhor

74.___Morteza Nemati

75.___Mostafa Azarakhshi 76.___Musa Akrami 77.__Negar Zeilabi 78. Nemat Ahmadi 79.___Niloofar Razavi 80.___Pantea Vaeznia 81.___Pooya Aryanpour 82.__Raheleh Alimoradzadeh 83.___Rasool Akbarloo 84.___Reza Omidi 85.__Roham Afghani Khoraskani 86.___Sadegh Zibakalam 87.___Seyed Akbar Jafari 88.___Seyed Javad Emami 89. Shahriar Nafissi 90.___Shamsi Abbasalizadeh 91.__Shiva Alinaghiyan 92.__Somayeh Sima 93.___Susan Safaverdi

94. Zahra Khoshk Jan

95.__Zahra Noei

Profiles of Academics who have been Dismissed since 2021

1. Abolfazl Shayan

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor-- Dean of the Department

2. University: Jahrom University

3. Faculty: Kinesiology

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Suspended6. Dismissal Date: November 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Shayan backed his students' right to protest on campus by not reporting their absences to the office of education when they canceled class to participate in a sit-in at the university during the *Woman, Life, Freedom* (WLF) movement.

2. Abtin Golkar

Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
 University: Tarbiat Modares University

3. Faculty: Humanities

4. Department: Russian Language Teaching

5. How Dismissed: Forced Resignation

6. Dismissal Date: January 2024

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Golkar's regular promotion application was rejected by the Herasat office and the head of his faculty at Tarbiat Modaras University due to his criticisms of the government's meddling in university affairs. The denial caused him to leave the university.

3. Ahmad Shekarchi

Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
 University: Shahid Beheshti University

3. Faculty: Letters & Human Sciences

4. Department: Social Science5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: Jan 2024

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Although not formally announced, it seems his contract was not renewed, as Shekarchi is one of the signatories to letters opposing students' arrests on campus and their suspension from university.

4. Ahmad Sodagar

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. Department: Orthodontics5. How Dismissed: Retired6. Dismissal Date: Jan 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but he is one of the signatories of a protest letter against the decision to expel one of the students from his faculty for joining the protests during the WLF movement.

5. Ali Akbar Amini

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch

3. Faculty: Political Science

4. Department: Political Science5. How Dismissed: Early Retirement

6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He is one of the nine professors from the political science faculty at Tehran's Azad University who were forced to retire after being charged with having westernized views, being "anti-revolutionary," and not following the

political line of the Supreme Leader.

6. Ali Sarzaeem

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Allameh Tabataba'i University

3. Faculty: ECO College of Insurance

4. **Department:** Insurance

5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal

- 6. Dismissal Date: April 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** Sarzaeem maintained that internal conflicts within his faculty, not political issues, motivated the decision to dismiss him, though the exact factors leading to the decision were not disclosed.

7. Ali Sharifi-Zarchi

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Sharif University of Technology

3. Faculty: Computer Engineering

4. **Department:** Artificial Intelligence Group

5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Sharifi-Zarchi was vocal on Tweeter about student arrests and suspensions at his university during the WLF movement and it is possible to consider his criticisms of the way students were treated at the time as factors leading to the non-renewal of his contract.

8. Alireza Azad

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

3. Faculty: Theology and Islamic Thought

4. **Department:** Islamic Thought

5. How Dismissed: Fired

6. Dismissal Date: December 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Alireza Azad was among the signatories of the collective letters advocating for university independence and student protests rights on campus. When asked to retract his signature, he refused.

9. Alireza Radmehr

1. Academic Ranking: Lecturer

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch

3. Faculty: Political Science

4. **Department:** Political Science

5. How Dismissed: Early Retirement

6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He is one of the nine political science faculty professors at Tehran's Azad University who were forced to retire after allegations of having westernized views, being "anti-revolutionary," and not following the political line of the Supreme Leader.

10. Amene Aali

Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
 University: Allameh Tabataba'i University

3. Faculty: Psychology & Education

4. **Department:** Education

5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** In her interview, Aali clarified that no one ever gave an explanation for her dismissal; however, she heard from department colleagues what had been said about the decision: that she had supported the student sit-ins, signed the statements, and voiced her opposition to the students' suspensions.

11.Amir Maziar

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Art

3. Faculty: Theoretical Sciences and Advanced Art Studies

4. Department: Philosophy of Art5. How Dismissed: Suspended6. Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to an interview with him, his name was taken off the department's course schedule even before he was given the suspension order, the grounds for which were "disruption of the educational order." No committee meeting was held to discuss the removal. He believes there was no educational problem at all because he had been officially promoted to the position of associate professor and was even noted as a prominent researcher. He was told orally that he shouldn't voice his complaints and criticisms online. Maziar feels this violates the law; he did not write anything that went against accepted norms.

12. Amir Nikpey

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Shahid Beheshti University

3. Faculty: Law4. Department:

5. How Dismissed:

6. **Dismissal Date:** January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to newspaper reports, Amir Nikpay is among a group of Shahid Beheshti University faculty who were dismissed for supporting their students during the Fall 2022 and winter 2023 protests on campus.

13.Amir Reza Rokn

1. Academic Ranking: Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. Department: Periodontics5. How Dismissed: Retired

6. Dismissal Date: January 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but he is one of the signatories of a protest letter against the decision to expel one of the students during the protests.

14. Amir Sajedi

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch

3. Faculty: Political Science

4. Department: International Relations5. How Dismissed: Early Retirement

6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He is one of the nine professors from the political science faculty at Tehran's Azad University who were forced to retire after being charged with having westernized views, being "anti-revolutionary," and not following the political line of the Supreme Leader.

15. Ammar Ashoori

1. Academic Ranking:

2. University: Islamic Azad University-Central Branch of Tehran

3. Faculty: Arts & Architecture

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Forced Resignation

6. Dismissal Date: September 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Ashoori was forced to resign due to allegations that he had supported popular protests.

16. Arash Abazari

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Sharif University of Technology

3. Faculty:

4. **Department:** Philosophy of Science

5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: January 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Abazari was dismissed under the rubric of "general disqualification." In a statement, the Academic Association of Philosophy at University of Tehran denounced the political meddling in his case and warned against any interference of political forces in future decisions about university professors' careers.

17. Arash Beidollahkhani

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

3. Faculty: Law & Political Science

4. **Department:** Political Science

5. How Dismissed: Suspended

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Beidollakhani was suspended due to allegations that he supported the student protests in 2022. The university relied on complaints made by Basiji students against him and his in-class lectures.

18. Arash Reisinezhad

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

University: University of Tehran
 Faculty: Law & Political Science

4. **Department:** International Relations

5. How Dismissed: Suspended6. Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to Ali Sharifi-Zarchi, a Sharif University of Technology professor who has been vocal on recent university dismissals, Raisinejad had supported protesting students during Iran's nationwide protests.

19. Arman Zakeri

Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
 University: Tarbiat Modares University

3. Faculty: Humanities4. Department: Sociology

How Dismissed: Non-renewal
 Dismissal Date: October 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Zakeri's contract has not been renewed since 2020 but his teaching continued until 2022, when the university cut his salary and removed his name from the offered course platform. According to an interview with one of his colleagues, Zakeri was dismissed for his independent and critical views.

20. Armin Amir

Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
 University: Allameh Tabataba'i University

3. Faculty: Social Sciences

4. **Department:** Cultural Studies

5. How Dismissed: Forced Resignation

6. Dismissal Date: June 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** In an interview, Armin Amir stated that he had been under intense pressure at the university ever since he discussed the 2020 presidential elections and argued that candidates approved by the Guardian Council could not resolve Iran's current issues. "They suggested that I resign, and they threatened to expel me," he said.

21. Azin Movahed

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: University of Tehran

Faculty: Fine Arts
 Department: Music

5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban6. Dismissal Date: June 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Azin Movahed joined other professors in her faculty to protest the suspension and dismissal of her students. She was told that she is suspended, and her salary was cut. She had taught for 30 years in her faculty.

22. Aziz Shafiei Zarghani

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Shiraz University

3. Faculty: Metallurgy & Civil Engineering

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Cancellation of Contract

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Zarghani clarified that he was verbally dismissed, and that the reason given was "lack of enough research." He stated that contract faculty needed to receive a certain number of points in order to be eligible for contract renewal, and he was told that he did not have the required number of points. However, he believes that the university has not been treating professors equitably in this regard and that it was using a double standard, favoring likeminded instructors. Zarghani has posted critical content online, just like other citizens.

23. Baharak Akhtar Danesh

1. Academic Ranking: Professor

2. University: Shahid Bahonar University

Faculty: Veterinary Medicine
 Department: Clinical Sciences
 How Dismissed: Suspended
 Dismissal Date: September 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Akhtar Danesh was among the signatories of collective letters by university professors supporting students' rights to protest on campus.

24. Behrooz Chaman Ara

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

University: University of Kurdistan
 Faculty: Language and Literature

4. **Department:** Kurdish Language and Literature

5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: October 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** In a letter addressed to one of his colleagues, which was published online, he explained that his final employment order was not issued because of contentions by security or political institutions outside the university rather than because of issues related to his scholarly work. The Province Intelligence Office issued his dismissal order under the rubric of "general disqualification" and notified him by phone. He stated in a media interview that "our universities have become subservient due to contractual agreements and pressures for cooperation (with the authorities) or threats of employment termination."

25.Bijan Ghonchepour

1. Academic Ranking: Visiting

2. University: Tehran University of Art

Faculty: Visual Arts
 Department: Sculpture

5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Ghonchepour was banned verbally from teaching. He is a signatory to an open letter supporting students detained on campus during the 2022 movement.

26.Bijan Nayeri

1. Academic Ranking: Professor

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch

3. Faculty: Political Science
4. Department: Political Science
5. How Dismissed: Early Retirement
6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He is one of the nine professors from political science faculty at Tehran's Azad University who were forced to retire after being charged with having westernized views, being "anti-revolutionary," and not following the political line of the Supreme Leader.

27. Darush Rahmaniyan

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

University: University of Tehran
 Faculty: Letters & Humanities

4. **Department:** History

5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban6. Dismissal Date: September 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** In an interview, he explained why he was banned from teaching: "They probably think I talk too much! Throughout the past few years, I have been vocal in critiquing various issues. These criticisms have not been limited to just recent months, or weeks; rather, I was like this all the recent years."

28. Didokht Sadeghi

1. Academic Ranking: Lecturer

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch

3. Faculty: Political Science

4. Department: International Relations5. How Dismissed: Early Retirement6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** She is one of the nine professors from political science faculty at Tehran's Azad University, who were forced to retire after being charged with having westernized views, being "anti-revolutionary," and not following the political line of the Supreme Leader.

29. Eisa Amini

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch of Tehran

3. Faculty: Law4. Department: Law

5. How Dismissed: Suspended6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** In an interview, he discussed his history of disagreements with the vice president of Azad University while serving as president of the Central Bar Association. He added that the members of the university's disciplinary board were replaced by the new administration in the winter of 2021. It was only then that they accused him of an educational violation, stating that a few years earlier he had neglected to send the comprehensive examination form to other professors for signatures. In his opinion, the disciplinary board which decided to suspend him for two years did not convene properly: only 12–13 people showed up for the meeting, whereas in order to qualify as a legal meeting, more attendees were required.

30. Elham Tavakoli

1. Academic Ranking:

2. University: Allameh Tabataba'i University

3. Faculty: Psychology & Education

4. Department:

- 5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban
- 6. Dismissal Date: November 2022
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but she is one of the signatories of protest letters against the ways students were treated in 2020 movement.

31.Eslam Nazemi

- 1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor
- 2. University: Shahid Beheshti University
- 3. Faculty: Computer Science and Engineering
- 4. **Department:** Software & Information Systems
- 5. How Dismissed: Suspended
- 6. Dismissal Date: November 2022
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** He was suspended and banned from entering the university for signing the collective letter of professors at his university in support of the students' right to protest.

32. Farshad Asgarikia

- 1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
- 2. University: Soore University
- 3. Faculty: Art
- 4. **Department:** Cinema
- 5. How Dismissed:
- 6. Dismissal Date: August 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to the newspapers, Asgarikia was dismissed from the university for non-academic reasons.

33. Farzan Sojoodi

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Art

3. Faculty: Cinema & Theatre

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Fired

6. Dismissal Date: March 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Mohammadreza Hasnaei, who was appointed president of the University of Art by Ebrahim Reisi administration, revived the initiative to infuse Islamic concepts into contemporary art. He terminated several professors' collaboration, among them, Sojoodi.

34. Fatemeh Rajaei-Rad

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Babol University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. **Department:** Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

5. How Dismissed: Fired

6. Dismissal Date: December 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** She was fired on the grounds of "inappropriate behavior contrary to Islamic values," after she appeared at a ceremony without a headscarf.

35. Ghasem Azizi

- 1. Academic Ranking: Professor
- 2. University: University of Tehran
- 3. Faculty: Geography
- 4. Department:
- 5. How Dismissed:
- 6. Dismissal Date: August 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to the newspapers, the name of this person is among the dismissed academics.

36.Gholam Heydar Ebrahim Bay Salami

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: University of Tehran

3. Faculty: Entrepreneurship

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Fired

6. Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** One of the reasons for his dismissal was his signature on a collective letter to the Supreme Leader advocating for reform. His reports regarding the arrests and rights violations of protesting students during the professors' meeting with the University of Tehran board during the protests were the other factor. In this meeting he spoke about the importance of "prohibiting the entry of security and armed forces into the university environment."

37. Gholamreza Shahbazi

1. Academic Ranking:

2. University: Soore University & Tehran University of Art

3. Faculty: Art

4. **Department:** Theater

5. How Dismissed: Resignation

6. Dismissal Date: September 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was dismissed from university for protesting student repression.

38. Hamid Bahrami Zadeh

1. Academic Ranking:

2. University: Allameh Tabataba'i University

3. Faculty: Psychology & Education

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban6. Dismissal Date: November 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to the media reports, he was banned from teaching for political or non-academic reasons.

39. Hamid Shans

1. Academic Ranking: Visiting

2. University: Tehran University of Art

3. Faculty: Visual Arts4. Department: Sculpture

5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban6. Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was dismissed for signing the letters protesting student repression.

40. Hamideh Khademi

- 1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
- 2. University: Allameh Tabataba'i University
- 3. Faculty: Psychology & Education
- 4. Department:
- 5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: August 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** Khademi along with Aali and her other colleagues were dismissed from Allameh Tabataba'i University without notice or explanation; however, they have heard from their department colleagues that they were fired for supporting the student sit-ins, signing statements, and voicing opposition to the students' suspension.

41. Hasan Razmi

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. **Department:** Endodontics

5. How Dismissed:

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but he was one of the signatories of a protest letter against the decision to expel one of the students from his faculty during the protests.

42. Hasan Taheri

- 1. Academic Ranking:
- 2. University: Babol University of Medical Sciences
- 3. Faculty:
- 4. Department:
- 5. How Dismissed: Retired
- 6. Dismissal Date: August 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was dismissed for political or non-academic reasons.

43. Hassan Bagheri Nia

- 1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
- 2. University: Hakim Sabzevari University
- 3. Faculty: Literature and Humanities
- 4. **Department:** Psychology and Educational Sciences
- 5. How Dismissed: Early Retirement
- 6. **Dismissal Date:** February 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** He was suspended for criticizing politically motivated suspension orders for his students. He called for and participated in a silent sit-in on campus to support them. He criticized the security forces' intervention in classrooms.

44. Hosein Tafazoli

1. Academic Ranking: Professor

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch

Faculty: Political Science
 Department: Political Science
 How Dismissed: Early Retirement

6. **Dismissal Date:** January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He is one of the nine professors from political science faculty at Tehran's Azad University, who were forced to retire after being charged with having westernized views, being "anti-revolutionary," and not following the political line of the Supreme Leader.

45. Hossein Heidar

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. Department: Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

5. How Dismissed:

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but he was one of the signatories of a protest letter against the decision to expel one of the students from their faculty during the protests.

46. Hossein Mesbahian

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

University: University of Tehran
 Faculty: Letters & Humanities

4. **Department:** Philosophy

- 5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban
- 6. Dismissal Date: August 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but he was one of the signatories of protest letters against the politically charged suspension of the students. His students held placards saying, "Where is my professor?" as they protested his dismissal on campus. A large group of faculty and students at his university signed a protest statement against his dismissal.

47. Iman Afsarian

1. Academic Ranking: Visiting

2. University: Tehran University of Art

3. Faculty: Visual Arts4. Department: Sculpture

5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban

6. Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He was expelled from the university for signing letters denouncing student repression, according to media reports.

48. Iraj Mehraki

- 1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor
- 2. University: Islamic Azad University- Karaj Branch
- 3. Faculty: Literature & Foreign Language
- 4. Department:
- 5. How Dismissed: Fired
- 6. Dismissal Date: November 2022
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to one member of the faculty, Mehraki was suspended after the university security summoned him for signing a letter in support of the detained students and asked him to withdraw his signature, which he refused to do.

49. Jalil Maleki

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch of Tehran

3. Faculty: Law4. Department: Law

5. How Dismissed: Suspended6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to Eisa Amini, a professor in the university's College of Law, the disciplinary board, which was replaced in the winter of 2021, accused both him and Maleki, then the head of the faculty, of failing to send the comprehensive examination form to other professors for signatures a few years earlier. Also according to Amini, the disciplinary board which decided to suspend them for two years did not convene properly: only 12–13 people showed up for the meeting, whereas in order to qualify as a legal meeting, more attendees were required.

50. Javad Atefeh

1. Academic Ranking: Visiting

2. University:

3. Faculty:

4. **Department:** Theater

5. How Dismissed:

6. Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to the media reports, the name of this person is among the dismissed academics.

51.Koroush Golnari

1. Academic Ranking: Instructor

2. University: Tehran University of Art

Faculty: Visual Arts
 Department: Sculpture
 How Dismissed: Suspended
 Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He was expelled from the university for signing letters denouncing student repression, according to media reports.

52. Kusha Gorji Sefat

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: University of Tehran

3. Faculty: Social Sciences4. Department: Sociology

5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. Dismissal Reason: According to media reports, his contract was not renewed for

political reasons.

53. Mahshid Gohari

1. Academic Ranking: Visiting Professor

2. University: Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

3. Faculty: Letters & Humanities

4. Department: Persian Language and Literature

5. How Dismissed: Fired

6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, she was dismissed for signing letters protesting against student repression.

54. Masood Olia

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Art

3. Faculty: Theoretical Sciences & Advanced Art Studies

4. Department: Philosophy of Art5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: September 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to some social media posts, administrators were under pressure to fire professors who opposed the 2022 movement's violent treatment of students by "forces from outside the university." His former students protested his firing by calling for his reinstatement and by refusing to enroll in any of his courses that are now being taught by new professors.

55. Malektaj Khosravi

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch

Faculty: Political Science
 Department: Political Science
 How Dismissed: Early Retirement

6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** She is one of the nine professors from political science faculty at Tehran's Azad University, who were forced to retire after being charged with having westernized views, being "anti-revolutionary," and not following the political line of the Supreme Leader.

56. Mehdi Khoei

Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
 University: Allameh Tabataba'i University

3. Faculty: Social Sciences4. Department: Sociology5. How Dismissed: Fired

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to some social media posts, he received a letter of termination and had no option to file a complaint. In a letter to the university administration, his students protested his firing, claiming that "his only crime was supporting his students."

57. Mehdi Shahrabi

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. **Department:** Pediatric Dentistry

5. How Dismissed:

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but he was among the signatories to a protest letter against the decision to expel one of the students during the protests.

58. Mina Motalebnajad

1. Academic Ranking: Professor

2. University: Babol University of Medical Sciences

3. **Faculty:** Dentistry

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Retired6. Dismissal Date: April 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to newspaper reports, she was dismissed for political or non-academic reasons.

59. Mohamad Mehdi Oloumi

1. Academic Ranking: Professor

2. University: Shahid Bahonar University

3. Faculty: Veterinary Medicine4. Department: Clinical Sciences

5. How Dismissed: Suspended

6. Dismissal Date: September 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was dismissed for signing the letters protesting against student repression.

60. Mohammad Ali Khosravi

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch

3. Faculty: Political Science

4. Department: Political Science5. How Dismissed: Early Retirement

6. Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He is one of the nine professors from political science faculty at Tehran's Azad University, who were forced to retire after being charged with having westernized views, being "anti-revolutionary," and not following the political line of the Supreme Leader.

61. Mohammad Bayat

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. **Department:** Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

5. How Dismissed:

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but he is one of the signatories of a protest letter against the decision to expel one of the students during the protests.

62. Mohammad Fazeli

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Shahid Beheshti University

3. Faculty: Letters & Human Sciences

4. Department: Social Science5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal

6. **Dismissal Date:** February 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason**: Fazeli was working as a consultant with the previous government so his dismissal from university after Ebrahim Raisi came into office in 2021 was deemed political. However, the university claimed he did not meet the standard legal points for promotion and had to leave.

63. Mohammad Hosein Emad

1. Academic Ranking: Visiting

2. University: Tehran University of Art

3. **Faculty:** Visual Arts

4. **Department:** Sculpture

5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban6. Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He was banned from teaching for signing letters denouncing student repression, according to media reports.

64. Mohammad Ragheb

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Shahid Beheshti University

3. Faculty: Letters & Human Sciences

4. Department: Persian Language and Literature

5. How Dismissed: Suspended6. Dismissal Date: November 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to some social media reports, he was "suspended" from his position and dismissal from heading the AZFA International Center (Teaching Persian Language to Non-Persian Speakers) for signing a collective SBU faculty letter to support students' right to protest and for his participation in the student strikes that protested state violence against peaceful protestors.

65. Mohammad Reza Motamed

1. Academic Ranking:

2. University: Iran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Neurology

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed:

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

Dismissal Reason: According to media reports, he was banned from teaching for political or non-academic reasons.

66. Mohammad Rohani

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Iran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Neurology

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Dismissal from Board of Medical Specialties

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was banned from teaching for political or non-academic reasons.

67. Mohammadreza Nazarinejad

1. Academic Ranking:

2. University: University of Guilan

3. Faculty: Letters & Humanities

4. **Department:** Law

5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports his contract was not renewed for political or non-academic reasons.

68. Mohammad Sadegh Ahmadakhondi

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. Department: Orthodontics5. How Dismissed: Retired6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports he was dismissed from university for political or non-academic reasons.

69. Mohammadsaeed Sheikh Rezaei

1. Academic Ranking:

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. Department: Endodontics5. How Dismissed: Retired6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports he was dismissed from university for political or non-academic reasons.

70. Mohsen Borhani

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

University: University of Tehran
 Faculty: Law & Political Science

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Suspended6. Dismissal Date: October 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Professor of Law Mohsen Borhani, who is well-versed in Sharia law, made criticisms using terminology from Shia jurisprudence. Even in light of current laws, he contends, many of the actions taken by the security and judicial authorities are improper. His vigorous participation in public discourse led to his expulsion from the university.

71. Mohsen Khalili

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

Faculty: Law & Political Science
 Department: Political Science

5. How Dismissed: Fired

6. Dismissal Date: January 2024

7. **Dismissal Reason:** Leaving the service or being absent without a valid excuse.

72. Mojgan Paknejad

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Dentistry

4. **Department:** Periodontics

5. How Dismissed:

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but she is one of the signatories of a protest letter against the decision to expel one of the students during the protests.

73. Morteza Kalhor

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Iran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Medicine

4. **Department:** Orthopedic

5. How Dismissed:

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports he was banned from teaching for political or non-academic reasons.

74. Morteza Nemati

- 1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
- 2. University: Shahid Chamran University of Ahvaz
- 3. Faculty: Letters & Humanities
- 4. Department: Geography & Planning
- 5. How Dismissed: Forced Resignation
- 6. Dismissal Date: September 2022
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** His university rejected his regular promotion application, for no clear reason, thus leading to his dismissal. He was asked why he spoke about politics in his classes.

75. Mostafa Azarakhshi

- 1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
- 2. University: Shahid Beheshti University
- 3. Faculty: Theology and Religious Studies
- 4. **Department:** Islamic Thought
- 5. How Dismissed: Fired
- 6. **Dismissal Date:** January 2024
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** He was suspended for signing a statement requesting the release of detained protesting students.

76. Musa Akrami

- 1. Academic Ranking: Professor
- 2. University: Islamic Azad University- Science & Research Of Tehran Branch
- 3. Faculty: Law, Theology, & Political Science
- 4. **Department:** Philosophy
- 5. How Dismissed: Early Retirement
- 6. Dismissal Date: December 2022
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was dismissed for signing the collective letters to protest repression of students and calling for the release of those detained.

77. Negar Zeilabi

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Shahid Beheshti University

3. Faculty: Theology and Religious Studies

4. **Department:** History & Civilization

5. How Dismissed: Suspended

6. Dismissal Date: November 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** It has not been officially announced, but she was suspended for signing the collective letter issued by her colleagues at Shahid Beheshti University in support of the students' rights.

78. Nemat Ahmadi

1. Academic Ranking:

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch of Tehran

3. Faculty: Human Science

4. **Department:** History & Archeology

5. How Dismissed:

6. **Dismissal Date:** February 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was suspended for political or non-academic reasons.

79. Niloofar Razavi

- 1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
- 2. University: Shahid Beheshti University
- 3. Faculty: Architecture and Urban Planning
- 4. **Department:** Landscape Architecture & Reconstruction
- 5. How Dismissed:
- 6. Dismissal Date: December 2022
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** She was suspended for signing the professors' collective letter at her university in support of the students' right to protest.

80. Pantea Vaeznia

- Academic Ranking: Visiting
 University: Alzahra University
- 3. Faculty: Art
- 4. Department: Graphic Design5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: October 2022
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, she was dismissed from university for her support for the students of Al-Zahra University during the 2022 protests.

81.Pooya Aryanpour

- 1. Academic Ranking: Visiting
- 2. University: Tehran University of Art
- 3. Faculty: Visual Arts4. Department: Sculpture
- 5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban6. Dismissal Date: February 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was dismissed for signing letters protesting against student repression.

82. Raheleh Alimoradzadeh

- 1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor
- 2. University: Iran University of Medical Sciences
- 3. Faculty: Medicine
- 4. Department: Geriatric medicine5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban6. Dismissal Date: August 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, she was dismissed for signing letters protesting against student repression.

83. Rasool Akbarloo

- 1. Academic Ranking: Visiting
- 2. University: Tehran University of Art
- 3. Faculty: Visual Arts

4. **Department:** Sculpture

5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban6. Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was banned from teaching for signing letters protesting against student repression.

84. Reza Omidi

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: University of Tehran

3. Faculty: Social Science

4. Department: Social Planning5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: December 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** His regular promotion application was rejected for "general disqualification," not academic issues; this was confirmed by the dean of Social Science Faculty at University of Tehran.

85. Roham Afghani Khoraskani

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Shahid Beheshti University

3. Faculty: Architecture & Urban Planning

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, his contract was not renewed for political or non-academic reasons.

86. Sadegh Zibakalam

1. Academic Ranking: Professor

2. University: University of Tehran

3. Faculty: Law & Political Science

4. Department: Political Science

5. **How Dismissed:** Retired (After 30 years)

6. **Dismissal Date:** May 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He was banned from the classroom in October 2022 followed by an order to retire. His forced retirement followed a series of repressive measures against him, such as an 18-month prison sentence in January 2018 for discussing the protests of the December 2017 with *Deutsche Welle* Persian Service and highlighting their grassroots nature.

87. Seved Akbar Jafari

1. Academic Ranking: Professor

2. University: Sharif University of Technology

3. Faculty: Physics4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Forced Resignation

6. Dismissal Date: December 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** He was summoned and interrogated by the authorities for supporting his students during the WLF movement. He sent his resignation to the academic board of the faculty after being harassed by interrogators.

88. Seyed Javad Emami

- 1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor
- 2. University: Iran University of Science & Technology
- 3. Faculty: Architecture and Environmental Design
- 4. Department:
- 5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban
- 6. Dismissal Date: October 2023
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** He has been banned from teaching for signing a statement, with two other professors, condemning chemical attacks on schools that targeted female students. In a media interview, he recalled that his university's Herasat threatened him with "arrest," but now he is faced with pressures for early retirement.

89. Shahriar Nafissi

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

3. Faculty: Medicine

4. **Department:** Neurology

5. How Dismissed: Dismissal from Board of Medical Specialties

6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, he was dismissed for political or non-academic reasons.

90.Shamsi Abbasalizadeh

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tabriz University of Medical Sciences

Faculty: Medical Sciences
 Department: Gynecology
 How Dismissed: Suspended
 Dismissal Date: November 2022

7. **Dismissal Reason:** She was expelled from the university for signing letters denouncing student repression, according to media reports.

91.Shiva Alinaghiyan

1. Academic Ranking: Lecturer

2. University: University of Tehran

3. Faculty: Anthropology

4. Department:

5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: August 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports she was dismissed after being charged with "general disqualification."

92. Somayeh Sima

1. Academic Ranking: Associate Professor

2. University: Tarbiat Modares University

3. Faculty: Civil & Environmental Engineering

4. Department: Hydro Engineering5. How Dismissed: Non-renewal6. Dismissal Date: September 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** She lost her job when the Professors Disciplinary Committee at her university accused her of contributing to campus unrest by signing several statements in support of students' rights. She was never permitted to defend herself.

93. Susan Safaverdi

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Islamic Azad University- Central Branch

Faculty: Political Science
 Department: Political Science
 How Dismissed: Early Retirement
 Dismissal Date: January 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** She was among a group of professors at Islamic Azad University- Central Branch dismissed or forced to retire at the same time. They were informed of the orders by phone and asked to go to the administration office to complete the termination process. She explained in her media interview that she was accused of being "anti-establishment" or "not revolutionary."

94. Zahra Khoshk Jan

1. Academic Ranking: Assistant Professor

2. University: Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman

3. Faculty: Literature and Humanities

4. Department: Social Science5. How Dismissed: Suspended6. Dismissal Date: February 2023

7. **Dismissal Reason:** She was suspended by the Committee on Faculty Members' Offenses at her university for her support of the student three-day strikes in December 2022, during which she did not hold her classes. She has been banned from teaching and even entering the university.

95. Zahra Noei

1. Academic Ranking:

2. University: Allameh Tabataba'i University

3. Faculty: Psychology & Education

- 4. Department:
- 5. How Dismissed: Teaching Ban
- 6. Dismissal Date: November 2022
- 7. **Dismissal Reason:** According to media reports, she was banned from teaching for political or non-academic reasons.