Mohammad Ali Kadivar

Boston College, Department of Sociology

Phone: 617-552-4134

E-mail: kadivarm@bc.edu

Updated on 4/16/2024

Education

PhD in Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA (2016).

Committee: Charles Kurzman (Chair), Kenneth Andrews, Chris Bail, Neal Caren, Graeme Robertson

MA in Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA (2011).

MA in Political Sciences, Department of Political Sciences, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Tehran University, Tehran, Iran (2007).

BA in Political Sciences, Department of Political Sciences, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Tehran University, Tehran, Iran (2005).

Academic Employment

Assistant Professor of Sociology and International Studies. Boston College (2018-present).

Postdoctoral Fellow. Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs (2016-2018).

Research Interests

Political Sociology, Comparative Historical Analysis, Revolutions, Social Movements, Global Sociology, Global South, Middle East, Iran

Book

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. 2022. *Popular Politics and the Path to Durable Democracy*. Princeton University Press.

Academic Journal Articles

* indicates graduate student co-authors at the time of publication.

Kadivar, Mohammad Ali, Neil Ketchley, Abolfazl Sotoudeh-Sherbaf, and Christopher Barrie. 2024. "Online Calls for Protest and Offline Mobilization in Autocracies: Evidence from the 2017 Dey Protests in Iran." *European Sociological Review*.

Khani, Saber*, and Mohammad Ali Kadivar. 2024. "Sanctuaries or Battlegrounds? State Penetration in Places of Worship, University Campuses, and State Bureaucracy for Pro-Government Mobilization: Evidence from Iran (2015–2019)." *Comparative Political Studies* 57(10):1668–1702.

Mohammad Reza Farzanegan, & Mohammad Ali Kadivar. 2023. "The effect of Islamic Revolution and War on Income Inequality in Iran." *Empirical Economics*. 65: 1007–1026.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. 2022. "Social Development and Revolution in Iran." *Sociology of Develop*ment. 8(2): 213-237.

Kadivar, Mohammad Ali, and Vahid Abedini*. 2020. "Electoral Activism in Iran: A Mechanism for Political Change." *Comparative Politics* 52(3):493–514.

Kadivar, Mohammad Ali, Adaner Usmani, and Benjamin H. Bradlow*. 2020. "The Long March: Deep Democracy in Cross-National Perspective." *Social Forces* 98(3):1311–1338.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar & Neil Ketchley. 2018. "Sticks, Stones and Molotov Cocktails: Unarmed Collective Violence and Democratization." *Socius: The Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* 4:1-16.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. 2018. "Mass Mobilization & the Durability of New Democracies." *American Sociological Review* 83(2): 390-417.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. 2017. "Preelection Mobilization and Electoral Outcome in Authoritarian Regimes." *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* 22(3): 293-310.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar & Neal Caren. 2016. "Disruptive Democratization: Contentious Events and Liberalizing Outcomes Globally, 1990-2004." *Social Forces* 94(3): 975-996.

Kadivar, Mohammad Ali. 2013. "Alliances and Perception Profiles in the Iranian Reform Movement, 1997 to 2005." *American Sociological Review* 78(6):1063–86.

Articles in Progress

Mohammad Ali Kadivar, Saber Khani*, Vahid Abedini, and Samira Barzin. "The Contingency of Structures: Triggers and the Spatial Expansion of Revolutionary Episodes in Iran."

Mohammad Ali Kadivar & Saber Khani*. "Wartime Losses and Political Gains: State-Led Mobilization Through War Memorials in Iran"

Saber Khani* & Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Compliance on Campus: Universities and Pro-Government Mobilization in Autocratic Regimes"

Honors, Fellowships, and Grants

Research Improvement Grant. Boston College. Summer 2023.

Ignite Grant. Boston College. Summer 2021.

Reinhard Bendix Student Paper Award. The Comparative Historical Sociology Section of American Sociological Association. 2016.

Sociology of Development Best Student Paper (Honorable Mention). The Sociology of Development Section of American Sociological Association. 2016.

Elise Boulding Graduate Student Paper Award. The Peace, War, and Social Conflict section of American Sociological Association. 2016.

Best Graduate Student Publication. Global & Transnational Sociology of American Sociological Association. 2015.

Max Weber Fellow. European University Institute (Declined), 2016.

Harvard Academy of International and Area Studies Fellow (Finalist), 2016.

Odum Award for Excellence in Research. Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina. 2014.

Mayer Zald Memorial Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award. Collective Behavior and Social Movement Section (CBSM) of American Sociological Association (ASA). 2013.

The Bodman Award for a Graduate Paper, Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Seminar. 2013.

Summer Research Fellowship. The School of Arts and Sciences. University of North Carolina At Chapel Hill. Summer 2013.

Selected Conference Presentations & Invited Talks

Mohammad Ali Kadivar, Killian Clarke, Maria Snegovaya, Josef Woldense. "Democracy and And the Ancien Regime" Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. November 13, 2023.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Iranian Protests Through a Comparative Lens" The Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies. New York University. October 26, 2023.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "How Oil Fuels Unrest? Pollution, Deprivation, and Ethnicity in 2019 Antiregime Protests in Iran" SNF Agora Institute, Johns Hopkins University. Baltimore, MD. September 28, 2023.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar, Arang Keshavarzian, and Nazanin Shahrokni in conversation with Naghmeh Sohrabi. "Iran's Women, Life, Freedom Movement: One Year Later" Crown Center for Middle East Studies, Brandeis University. Waltham, MA. September 14, 2023.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar, Craig Calhun, and Dolores Trevizo. "Special Session. Democracy in Distress: Global Perspectives on 21st Century Authoritarianism" American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. August 18, 2023.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Popular Politics and the Path to Durable Democracy" Harvard University, History, Culture and Society Workshop, October 14, 2022; Yale University, Sociology Colloquium, February 1 2023; Harvard Kennedy School, February 9 2023; University of Texas at Austin, Sociology Colloquium October 6, 2023.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar, Mehrangiz Kar, Zeynab Peyghambarzadeh, and Fatemeh Shams. "Roles of gender and women in the current protests in Iran." UCLA Iranian Studies Bilingual Lecture Series. October 30, 2022.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar, Arang Keshavarzian, and Nazanin Shahrokni in conversation with Naghmeh Sohrabi. "Women, Life, Freedom": What's New about Iran's 2022 Protests?" Crown Center for Middle East Studies, Brandeis University. October 7, 2022.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Contentious Politics in Iran: Recent Developments and Patterns." UCLA Iranian Studies Bilingual Lecture Series. October 24, 2021.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Social Development and Revolution in Iran." Sociology Colloquium Series. Oxford University. October 11, 2021.

Kate Alexander, Diana Fu, Mohammad Ali Kadivar, Neil Ketchley and Sidney Tarrow. "The Futures of Social Movement Research" Alternative Futures and Alternative Protests, Manchester University. June 8th, 2021.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar, Narges Bajoghli, Peyman Jafari, Manata Hashemi. "Global Uprising: Protest Cycles and Repression in Iran" NYU Georg Kevorkian Center for Near East Studies. November 24th, 2020.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Development, Demography, Politics, and Diffusion: A Wave of Anti-Regime Protest in Iran." Politics and Social Change Workshop, Harvard University, October 15, 2018.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar "After the Iranian Protests: Prospects and Obstacles to a Democratic Transition in Iran" University of Denver, February 22, 2018.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "The Ayatollahs and the Republic: The religious establishment in Iran and its interaction with the Islamic Republic" *New Shia politics across the Middle East*, Elliott School for International Affair, George Washington University, October 12th, 2017.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "The Predicaments of Rapid Success: Egypt's Failed Democratization, 2011-2013." *American Sociological Association*. Seattle, August 2016.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Popular Transitions and the Fate of Young Democracies." *Department of Sociology Colloquium Series*. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, March 2015.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Pre-Election Mobilization and Democratization in Authoritarian Elections," *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*. Washington DC, August 2014.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar & Neal Caren. "Disruptive Democratization: Contentious Events and Liberalizing Outcomes Globally, 1990-2004". *American Sociological Association*. San Francisco, August 2014.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar & Ali Reza Eshraghi. "When Do Grand Ayatollahs support pro-democracy movements?" *American Sociological Association*, New York, August 2013.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Alliances and Opportunities in the Iranian Reform Movement, 1997-2005" *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Denver, August 20 2012.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Electoral Effervescence; Micro Mobilization in the Iranian Green Movement (2009)" *Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Washington D.C. December 2011.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Tumultuous Democratization" *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, August 22 2011.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Contested perceptions of opportunity and threats and Changing Coalitions Within Iran's reform Movement (1997-2005)" *Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting*, San Diego November 18-21 2010.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "The Streets of Tehran," Elon University, November 16, 2009.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "A La Recherche Du Temps Perdu; The Failure of the Reform Movement in Iran (1997-2005)" in *Annual Meeting of Northeast Political Science Association*, Boston Nov. 23-25 2008.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Machiavellian Democratization" *Annual Meeting of Southern Political Science Association*, New Orleans January 7-10 2009.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Transition to Democracy in Spain: a Multi-Dimensional Analysis" to *international and interdisciplinary colloquy on "Pathways to Democracy"* by UNESCO Chair for Human Rights, Peace and Democracy. Tehran Iran, April 2007. (In Farsi).

Teaching

Wars and Revolutions in the Middle East. Boston College: Fall 2024.

Reassessing Contentious Politics and Social Movements with Cases from the Middle East. Brown University: Spring 2017, Fall 2018. Boston College: Spring 2019, Spring 2020.

Social Movements and Collective Behavior. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Spring 2013, Fall 2014; Boston College: Spring 2021, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025.

Social Theory. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: Summer 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2014, Summer 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2016. Boston College: Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024.

Perspectives on Sociology. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Summer I 2015.

Political Sociology. Boston College: Fall 2018, Fall 2020, Spring 2024.

Revolution and War in Iran. Boston College: Spring 2021. Spring 2022.

Comparative Revolutions. Boston College: Spring 2023, Spring 2025.

Contention in the Global South (Graduate Seminar). Boston College. Spring 2023.

Op-eds & Essays

Benjamin Bradlow & Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "How Brazil Can Prevent an Authoritarian Resurgence? A Robust Civil Society Can Stop the Far Right." *Foreign Affairs*. January 12, 2023.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar "Are Iran's hijab protests different from past protest waves?" *Washington Post's Monkey Cage*. September 23, 2022.

Kadivar, Mohammad Ali, Peyman Jafari, Mehdi Hoseini, and Saber Khani. "Labor Organizing on the Rise Among Iranian Oil Workers." *Middle East Report Online*. August 25, 2021.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. " چه باید کرد؟ اعتراض، سازماندهی، ائتلاف، و گفتگوی ملی [What to be done? Protest, organizing, alliance making, and national dialogue]". Rouzarouz. June 20, 2021.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar, Saber Khani*, and Abolfazl Sotoudeh*. "Iran's Protests Are Not Just About Gas Prices." Foreign Affairs. December 5, 2019.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Iran shut down the Internet to stop protests. But for how long?" *Washington Post's Monkey Cage*. November 27, 2019.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Why Haven't Reformists Joined the Protests Sweeping Iran?" *Washington Post's Monkey Cage*. January 4, 2018.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "The Ayatollahs and the Republic: The religious establishment in Iran and its interaction with the Islamic Republic" *Project on Middle East Political Science*. December 17, 2017.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Tajrobe-ye Hezb-e Kargar dar Brezil" [The Experience of the Workers Party in Brazil]. *Shargh Daily*. July 22 2017. (Farsi)

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Iranian President Rouhani won reelection. Here's how reformists got him there." *Washington Post*'s *Monkey Cage*. May 23 2017.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Working for Democracy; Trapped in the U.S." *AFT Voices*. May 7 2017.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar & Ali Honari. "Iran's Grass-roots Politics and the Nuclear Deal" *Washington Post*'s *Monkey Cage*. April 6 2015.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "The Battle Over Higher Education in Iran" *Middle East Report*. February 20 2014.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Iran's Moderation Project and Lessons of the Reform Era". *Lobelog*, November 12 2013.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Az Dard-e Bi-Archivi" [The Problem of Archiving in Iran]. *Bahar*, August 11 2013. (Farsi).

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Political Prisoners: A Strong Voice in Iranian Politics". *Inter Press Agency*, August 09 2013.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "A New Oppositional Politics: The Campaign Participants in Iran's 2013 Presidential Election". *Jadaliyya*, June 22 2013.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Bahar-e Arabi va Mas'ale-ye Sazmandehi [The Arab Spring and the Question of Organizing] *BBC Persian*. November 16 2012. (Farsi).

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Tahddiyat Al-intikhabat Ar-Riyasiyyat-i Al-Iraniyyat-i Al-Muqbila [The Challenges of the Forth Coming Presidential Election in Iran]" *Jadaliyya* September 30 2012 (Arabic).

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "To Participate or Boycott? Challenges of the 2013 Election and the Iranian Opposition." *Jadaliyya*, September 4 2012.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Water-pistol Rebels in Iran," *Institute for War & Peace Reporting*, August 17, 2011.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Rahpeymayi-ha-ye pish-e ru: Forsati bara-ye tavajjoh be Aqshar-e Mahrum [Forthcoming Demonstrations as an Opportunity to Attract Lower Classes to the Green Movement]." *Jomhuri-Khahi*, March 6th 2011. (Farsi).

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Darsi az Enqelab-e Tunis bara-ye Sabz-ha [The Tunisian Revolution and a Lesson for the Greens]." *Kaleme*, February 7th 2011. (Farsi).

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Javanan-e Mesr va Javanan-e Jonbesh-e Sabz [Egyptian Youth, and the Green

Movement Youth]." *Kaleme*, February 3rd 2011. (Farsi).

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Pishnahad-ha-ye Musavi va Senario-ha-ye Pish-e ru [Musavi's Propositions and Likely Scenarios]" *Jaras*, January 2nd 2010. (Farsi).

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Musavi-ye Sarmaye-dar [The Capitalist Musavi]." *Puyesh-e Moj-e Sevvom*. May 24th 2009. (Farsi).

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Tavazon-e Qova va Bazigaran-e Siyasi dar Entekhabat-e Dahom [The Balance of Power and the Political Actors in the 10th Presidential Election]. *Puyesh-e Moj-e Sevvom*. May 15th 2009 . (Farsi).

Mohammad Ali Kadivar, "Entekhabat-e Majles va Aghaz-e Fasli Naw [7th Parliament Election in Iran and Failure of Reformists]", *Aftab Monthly*, March 2004. (Farsi).

Media

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. Interview with BBC Persian. BBC Persian. January 25, 2023.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. Interview with BBC Persian. BBC Persian. October 7, 2022.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. Interview with BBC Persian. BBC Persian. May 16, 2022.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. Story in the Public Square. *PBS*. August 22, 2021.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Water Protests in Khuzestan". *Iran Podcast*. July 30, 2021.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. Interview with BBC Persian. *BBC Persian*. June 20, 2021.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "How U.S. Protests For Racial Justice Have Impacted The Country's Global Image" *National Public Radio (NPR)*. August 1, 2020.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "A System Failure": Iran Admits to Downing Airplane, Sparking Renewed Anti-Government Protests" *Democracy Now*. January 13, 2020.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Blowback? U.S. Assassination of Soleimani May Weaken Growing Protest Movement in Iran" *Democracy Now*. January 8, 2020.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar "Iran's Elections: A Conversation with M. Ali Kadivar" *Project on Middle East Political Science*. May 13 2017.

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Fallout from Trump Action on Immigration" *Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs*. February 7 2017.

Farzin Vahdat, Mehrzad Boroujerdi, Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Roshanfekran-e Irani [Iranian Intellectuals]". *BBC Persian*. January 6th 2011. (Farsi).

Abdi Kalantari, Hosein Qazian, Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Soqut-e Nezam-e Siayasi [A Discussion on the Collapse of Political Regime]. *BBC Persian*, January 14th 2011. (Farsi).

Said Amir Arjomand, Abdi Kalantari, Mohammad Ali Kadivar. "Eslam-e Siyasi [the Political Islam]. *BBC Persian*, June 27th 2010. (Farsi).

Research Experience

Research Assistant for Professor Charles Kurzman, summer 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2013.

Research Assistant for Iran Data Project funded by Social Science Research Council, 2009-2011
http://www.princeton.edu/irandataportal/

Publications in Farsi

Mohammad Ali Kadivar. 2022. جنبش و دموکراسی: بحثهایی پیرامون ارکان جنبش دموکراسی‌خواه: سازماندهی، ائتلاف، اعتراض Organization, Connection and Contention: How Pro-Democracy Movements Succeed? Daneshkadeh, Vol 2, Nashr-e Aasoo.

Translations of articles and book chapters by Adam Przeworski, Nancy Bermeo, Samuel P. Huntington, Terry Lyn Karl, Donald Share, Alfred Stepan, in گذار به دموکراسی ملاحظات نظری و مفهومی *Transition to Democracy; Conceptual and Theoretical Consideration*, Tehran, Gam-e No Publication (2007).

Professional Service

Member of the Editorial Board for *American Sociological Review*, 2021-2023. Middle East Report 2022-2023.

Council Member for Political Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association. 2023-2026.

Member of the Advisory Board. Middle East Law and Governance 2022-present.

Associate Editor of Book Reviews for *Social Forces*, 2012-2016.

Occasional Reviewer *for American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, American Political Science Review, World Politics, Comparative Political Studies, International Studies Quarterly, Social Forces*, *Social Problems, Comparative Politics, Theory and Society, Socius, Sociological Quarterly, Mobilization*, *Social Movement Studies, International Labor Review, Ethnic and Racial Studies, the Journal of World System Research, British Journal of Middle East Studies, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Political Power and Social Theory, and Iranian Studies*.

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association

Middle East Studies Association

Languages

Farsi (Native)

English (Fluent)

Arabic (Advanced)

Turkish (Elementary)