

Mohammad Hossein Nikzad

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Summary

Independent filmmaker with five years of experience learning and practicing the craft, developing skills in writing, directing, editing, and producing. Creates short films that explore psychological narratives, blending drama, thriller, and surrealism to examine power, the human psyche, and social complexity.

Filmography

The Third Dream

2025

Writer & Director

Short Film, 18 min – Tehran, Iran

Genre: Drama, Thriller

Festival Selections: Tryon International Film Festival (USA, 2025), Tehran International Film Festival (Iran, 2025), Iranian Short Film Association (Iran, 2025), Silver Wave Film Festival (Canada, 2025), Canadian International Film Festival (Canada, 2025), Accolade Global Film Competition (USA, 2025), Sahar International Short Film Festival (UK, 2025), The European Independent Film Festival (France, 2026) WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival (USA, 2026), FOCUS Wales Film Festival (UK, 2026), River Film Festival (Italy, 2026), Ravenheart International Film Festival (Norway, 2026), Touchstone Independent Film Festival (USA, 2026), Capital City Film Festival (USA, 2026), Persian Film Awards (Canada, 2026), Festival de Cine Global Santo Domingo (The D.R., 2026), Ibiza Independent Film Festival (Spain, 2026), Big Muddy Film Festival (USA, 2026), Alternative Film Festival (Canada, 2026), Cinematic Luxe Indie Showcase (USA, 2026), Colortape International Film Festival (Australia, 2026), Southeast Asia International Film Festival (Thailand, 2026), AFSAD International Short Film Festival (Turkey, 2026), FOLCS International Short Film Competition (USA, 2026), Sunrise Film Festival (UK, 2026), International Philosophical Film Festival (Turkey, 2026), Cine Pobre Film Festival (Mexico, 2026), Beeston Film Festival (UK, 2026)

The Alienation

2023

Writer, Director, Editor & Producer

Short Film, 13 min – Tehran, Iran

Genre: Horror, Thriller

Festival Selections: Festival Angaelica (USA, 2025), Kuala Lumpur International Film Awards (Malaysia, 2025), Yes! Let's Make a Movie Film Festival (Canada, 2023)

The Trail

2022

Writer, Director & Producer

Short Film, 4 min – Tehran, Iran

Genre: Thriller

Festival Selections: Cineaste International Film Festival of India (India, 2024), Tiny Mountains Collective Film Festival (Australia, 2024), Lift-Off Filmmaker Sessions (UK, 2024)

Education & Training

Directing Diploma

2020 – 2022

Karnameh Institute of Arts and Culture – Tehran, Iran

Supervisor: Shahram Mokri | 288 Hours | GPA: 4.00/4.00

Cinematography Diploma

2021 – 2022

Karnameh Institute of Arts and Culture – Tehran, Iran

Supervisor: Alireza Barazandeh | 288 Hours | GPA: 4.00/4.00

Scriptwriting Diploma

2020

Karnameh Institute of Arts and Culture – Tehran, Iran

Supervisor: Farhad Tohidi | 72 Hours | GPA: 4.00/4.00

Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.)

2015 – 2022

Tehran University of Medical Sciences – Tehran, Iran

GPA: 3.30/4.00 (equivalent to 15.30/20) | Final two years GPA: 3.60/4.00

Thesis: Evaluation and Etiology of Drug Shortage in Prevention and Treatment of COVID-19

Supervisors: Dr. Shekoufeh Nikfar, Dr. Akbar Abdollahiasl

Professional Development and Training

Creative Writing Specialization Wesleyan University (Coursera) 32 Hours Grade: 100%	2024
The Art of Visual Storytelling University of Colorado Boulder (Coursera) 78 Hours Grade: 100%	2024
Photography Basics and Beyond Specialization Michigan State University (Coursera) 90 Hours Grade: 100%	2023
Modern and Contemporary Art and Design Specialization The Museum of Modern Art (Coursera) 61 Hours Grade: 100%	2023

Certifications and Credentials

Color Grading with Da Vinci Resolve Instructor: Matthew Falconer 33 Hours Udemy	2025	Adobe After Effects CC 2025 Bootcamp Instructor: Louay Zambarakji 35 Hours Udemy	2025
Greek and Roman Mythology Instructor: Peter Struck 26 Hours University of Pennsylvania (Coursera)	2024	Photoshop One-on-One Instructor: Deke McClelland 45 Hours LinkedIn Learning	2024
Scandinavian Film and Television Instructor: Eva Novrup Redvall 27 Hours University of Copenhagen (Coursera)	2023	Film, Images & Historical Interpretation Instructor: Dr Emmett Sullivan 21 Hours University of London (Coursera)	2023
Understanding Memory: Explaining the Psychology of Memory through Movies Instructor: John Seamon 10 Hours Wesleyan University (Coursera)	2023	Illustrator One-on-One Instructor: Deke McClelland 48 Hours LinkedIn Learning	2022

Awards and Honors

Best Non-European Dramatic Short Film – The European Independent Film Festival, France Awarded for writing and directing <i>The Third Dream</i>	2026
Gold Remi Award – WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival, USA Awarded for writing and directing <i>The Third Dream</i>	2026
Best Indie Short – Touchstone Independent Film Festival, USA Awarded for writing and directing <i>The Third Dream</i>	2026
Best Foreign Short Film – Canadian International Film Festival, Canada Awarded for writing and directing <i>The Third Dream</i>	2025
Best Asian Filmmaker – Accolade Competition, USA Award of Merit for writing and directing <i>The Third Dream</i>	2025
Best Short Film – Sahar International Short Film Festival, UK Jury Prize for writing and directing <i>The Third Dream</i>	2025

Best Play Award – <i>The Good Doctor</i>, Pharmacy School Art Festival	2018
Awarded for directing Neil Simon’s play at Tehran University of Medical Sciences	
First Place – Rational Drug Administration Art Festival Short Video	2017
Awarded for original short video production at the 8th Iranian Clinical Pharmacist Congress, Tehran	
Full Scholarship Recipient – PharmD Program, Tehran University of Medical Sciences	2016

Professional and Commercial Experiences

Commercial Teaser – Zenon® (Seylانه Sabz Holding)	2022
Writer & Director Tehran, Iran	
- Produced a promotional video for the launch of new hygiene products - Led creative direction and campaign execution, resulting in a 257% increase in Instagram engagement	
Head of Video Production & Teaser Creator – Academic Events	2016 – 2018
Writer, Director & Editor Tehran University of Medical Sciences Tehran, Iran	
First Iranian Traditional Medicine Student Congress (2018), 20th Iranian Pharmacy Students Seminar (2017)	
8th Iranian Clinical Pharmacist Congress (2017), First Pharmacognosy Seminar (2016)	
Produced all video content for the academic events listed above, gaining hands-on experience in scripting, directing, cinematography, editing, sound, and post-production.	

Skills and Software Proficiency

Creative Skills: Film Directing · Screenwriting · Cinematography · Editing

Technical Skills: Adobe Premiere Pro (Advanced) · Adobe After Effects (Intermediate) · Adobe Photoshop (Intermediate) · DaVinci Resolve (Intermediate)

Leadership and Community Engagement

Founder and Director – “Hamoon” Student Movie Critique Club	2016 – 2020
Pharmacy school, Tehran University of Medical Sciences	
Founded and led 14 curated film circles, screening 66 films and fostering analytical engagement among students.	
Administrator – Generic Artistic and Scientific Student Journal	2019 – 2020
Tehran University of Medical Sciences	
Served as editor-in-chief for two published issues of the journal, both of which were well-received by students and faculty.	
Topic Coordinator – Study Circle	2018 – 2020
Pharmacy school, Tehran University of Medical Sciences.	
Led sessions on Western philosophy and social sciences.	
Co-organizer & Co-facilitator – 23rd Iranian Pharmacy Students Seminar (IPSS23)	2019 – 2020
Tehran University of Medical Sciences	
Director & Administrator – Student Research Center	2018 – 2019
Pharmacy School, Tehran University of Medical Sciences	
Co-founder & Administrator – “Razi” Student Scientific Association	2018 – 2019
Pharmacy School, Tehran University of Medical Sciences	

Languages

English: Proficient

- TOEFL iBT (August 2025): 106/120 [Reading: 27/30 Listening: 28/30 Speaking 24/30 Writing: 27/30]