

Kasra Online
Feature Documentary
Soudabeh Beizaei
Iran



Tag Line

Resilience unveiled: A mother's awakening in the face of Lockdown

Log Line

The lockdown announcement disrupts Mahsa's serene family life, necessitating a shift to online education for all schools. Through this challenging period, Mahsa embarks on a journey of self-discovery, ultimately recognizing her own needs and priorities. This awakening leads her to make an important decision that will shape the course of her life.

Short Synopsis

In Iran, during the unexpected lockdown, Mahsa's family life is disrupted. She carries the weight of hardship and familial challenges, including an addict husband. With the shift to online education, Mahsa, who lacks formal education herself, faces the daunting task of overseeing her son Kasra's schooling. Despite these obstacles, Mahsa embraces online learning, determined to provide the best opportunities for her son. Her journey becomes a testament to resilience and a mother's dedication to her child's education. Mahsa's efforts inspire others facing similar challenges, showing that education is a lifelong journey. Through her love and willingness to learn, Mahsa strengthens her bond with Kasra and discovers her own potential for growth. Her story exemplifies a mother's transformative power and dedication to her own as well as her child's future, even in the face of academic challenges.

Longer Synopsis:

In the face of an unexpected lockdown, Mahsa, a devoted wife and mother in Iran, finds her once serene family life upturned. Born into a world of hardship, poverty, and familial challenges, she married at a young age, carrying the weight of her family's struggles on her shoulders. Adding to her burdens, Mahsa also faces the constant challenges of living with an addict husband who places high

expectations on her and blames her for any perceived shortcomings. Amongst all this, she has a son named Kasra, who is 8 years old.

The announcement of a shift to online education for all schools adds another layer of complexity to Mahsa's already burdened life. As someone who hasn't received formal academic education herself, the prospect of overseeing her son's education online becomes a daunting challenge. She must navigate unfamiliar technologies and academic concepts, all while dealing with the daily pressures of her family's circumstances.

However, amidst these overwhelming circumstances, Mahsa refuses to let her lack of formal education define her. Determined to provide Kasra with the best opportunities, she musters the courage to embrace the online learning platform. With unwavering determination and a deep love for her son, Mahsa embarks on a journey of self-education, learning alongside Kasra as they navigate the challenges of virtual classrooms together.

Mahsa's story becomes a testament to the power of resilience and the lengths a mother will go to ensure her child's education and well-being. Her efforts to overcome her own educational limitations inspire not only Kasra but also those around her. She demonstrates that a strong will and dedication can bridge the gaps created by circumstances and empower a mother to rise above her challenges.

In the face of addiction, societal expectations, and the challenges of online schooling, Mahsa's journey becomes a source of inspiration for all mothers who may find themselves in similar situations. Her determination and perseverance remind us that education is not confined to the walls of a classroom, but rather a lifelong journey that can be undertaken by anyone with the desire to learn and grow.

Through her unwavering love for Kasra and her willingness to embrace new challenges, Mahsa not only supports her son's education but also discovers her own potential for growth and self-improvement. In this shared journey, Mahsa and Kasra build a stronger bond, fostering a love of learning and resilience that will shape their futures.

Mahsa's story illuminates the transformative power of a mother's love, determination, and willingness to step outside her comfort zone, proving that even in the face of academic challenges, a mother's dedication can propel her child towards a brighter and more promising future.

Director Statement:

As a woman director in Iranian society, my film explores the struggles and resilience of women like Mahsa, who face societal expectations and limited opportunities. Through her story, I aim to showcase the transformative power of a mother's love and determination. Despite challenges, Mahsa defies limitations, proving that education is a lifelong journey that transcends traditional classrooms. I seek to challenge stereotypes, foster empathy, and empower viewers to recognize the profound impact of a mother's dedication on shaping a brighter future.

About the director:

Soudabeh Beizaei is an acclaimed actress and director. Her filmography works are shorts "A Man of Integrity" (2017), "Like My Name Pegah" (2018), and "Immortality" (2016). She collaborated with Mohammad Rasoulof, a seasoned filmmaker, in her early career, creating a thought-provoking documentary that earned her the Best Documentary Award at the Independent Documentary Festival of the Cinema House. Despite facing challenges in domestic distribution, Soudabeh's passion for storytelling led her to embark on her next project. Her documentary explores the emotional connection between an elderly tambourine-player and a young city girl grappling with isolation and disconnection from societal norms. Through her work, Soudabeh delves into themes of identity and the search for meaning in a fragmented world. Her dedication to highlighting the human experience showcases her resilience and commitment to her craft. Soudabeh Beizaei continues to make a significant impact on the film industry, offering thought-provoking narratives that resonate with audiences. This documentary marks her first feature documentary.

About the Producer:

She started young with Film festivals and worked with different film organizations and well-known companies in the distribution industry in Iran. Also worked as a production manager and executive for award-winning projects.

Now she is the CEO of AYVISION film distribution and production company working on contents from Iran, Turkey, India and some Middle Eastern countries. They feature documentaries in production and post-production stages(co-production with France) beside some short and feature documentaries and dramas for sale and distribution. The latest documentary named 'Whose Dream Are You Living' produced by the company was selected for Hotdocs Pitching forum and decision makers, Medimed, Close Up and Jihlava.

Trailer Link :

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/677846026>

Link :

<https://vimeo.com/832896933?share=copy>

Password: kasra