

## **Mohammad Jafar Yousefian Kenari, PhD**

**Speciality:** Drama and Performance Studies

**Academic Status:** Assistant Professor / Lecturer

**PhD:** Art Researches

**M.A:** Dramatic Literature

**BA:** Cinema (Directing)



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### **Biography:**

**M. J. Yousefian Kenari** is a current Assistant Professor of Drama & Performance Studies, Faculty of Arts and Architecture at Tarbiat Modares University (TMU), Iran. His PhD thesis on Oriental Effects of Modern Performances with a special focus on the Iranian non-conventional style of telling narratives has been published many times in Persian Language after 2010. Depicting an intercultural view on mutual and historical relations of western and oriental theatre, Yousefian Kenari tried to explore performative capabilities of Iranian indigenous communions and rituals. His paper on the comparative aspects of *Ta'ziyeh*, as an Iranian indigenous ritual, with Performance Theory has been published in IFTR's selected papers contributed by leading scholars of performance studies from around the world, edited by professor Khalid Amine, entitled as "Performing Transformations" (2013). His major research focus is about the Impact of Persian Culture in Oriental-driven Approaches of Western Theatre. The thesis statement is concentrated on an

intercultural approach to indigenous drama and performance, methodologically inspired by Edward Said's "*Orientalism*" (1978). It proves that the post 1960s Western Performances are interculturally related to some micro-organisms emerged in Oriental, especially Iranian, approaches to Theatre. The historical challenge of Iranian artists to develop a Persian style of dramatization here is also explored. He has translated several books and articles into Farsi including *Cathy Turner & Synne Behrndts' "Dramaturgy and Performance"* (2008) published by Palmgrave and "*Filmosophy*" (2006) by Daniel Frampton. His recent paper is published in International Journal of Humanities (IJH), spring 2010 entitled as "*Kiarostami's Unfinished Cinema; A Postmodern Reflection*" which is a comparative reading of Iranian filmmaking with Deleuz's cinematic theories.

Since 2008, he has supervised several M.A. theses and final projects of TMU's students and advised many other researchers to complete their studies on Iranian Contemporary Drama and Performance. His major interest is cultural studies of performance, but he also supports many different topics on Film philosophy and Media concerns, at the same time. He lectures some academic units of M.A level including "Dramatic Theories of the West", "Writing Plays for Radio & Television", as well as "Dramatic Aspects of Persian Literary Texts". Yousefian Kenari also instructs "Short Script Writing (SSW)" courses at B.A. level and leads some seasonal workshops on "Research Method in Arts & Drama". "Interactive Drama: A New Aesthetics of Computer-based Drama" (2007) is another research published in International Journal of Tehran Universit (ISC). He is awarded for the best paper writer at 14<sup>th</sup> international student Theatre Festival, 2004 for publishing "Umberto Eco; A Semiotic Approach to Process of Perormative Signification". He also certificated for the best Entrepreneur Instructor of Arts and Dramatic Studies in Iran, 2005. He is now a member of juries in Film and Theatre events, and contributes as a member of editorials for Iranian Academic Journals. Dr Yousefian has been an honor member of High Education Council of Iranian Youth Cinema Society (IYCS) from 2002.