

# The Shekarestan Book Collection (30 volumes)

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Literary & Translation Agency

**Author: Group of Authors**

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**Fatemeh Sarmashghi (1978-Bijar)** is an Iranian author and translator who write mainly for children. She studied Persian Literature. She has penned a lot of books for kids.



**Leila Mo'azami (1978-Tehran)** is one of the Iranian writers who write for children. "Wooden Shadow" is one of her bestselling book.



**Mahmood Barabadi (1952-Sabzevar)** was a board member in Iranian Association of writers for Children and young adults for seven times. The remainder of his works is mostly young adults' fiction and most of them are realistic.



**Payam Ibrahimi (1988-Tehran)** is a writer and translator of children's books. He has many years of experience in this field and he has published many works.

# About the Collection:

The Shekarestan Book Collection is a written narrative of the attractive Shekarestan animation series, published by Soore-ye Mehr Publications. Each volume of the Shekarestan book is published in 24 pages and relates to an episode of the animated film, containing a story based on ancient Iranian fables, narratives, and legends. The collection will consist of 100 volumes, of which 30 volumes have been released so far. The characters play different roles in each episode based on the dramatic requirements of each story. The tales of this collection were selected based on the ancient Iranian / oriental stories, proverbs, fables and folklore and then, they were rewritten in a modern and up-to-date style.

The titles of the published volumes of this collection are:

*“Half a Fistful of Salt”, “Anti-theft Spells”, “The Water Tap”, “The Magical Feather”, “Uncle Nowrooz and the Forty Thieves”, “The Lost Brother”, “The Treasure Chest”, “Donkey is Gone and Donkey is Gone”, “Consequences of Being Crafty”, “The Bohlol’s Flea”, “The White Ear, The Black Tail and the Others”, “The Wise Man and the Maniac”, “Smart and Smarter”, “The Broken Jug”, “The Foundling”, “The King’s Dream”, “A Rare Friend”, “The Great Horse Racing”, “The Ordinary Fortuneteller, The King’s Fortuneteller”, “Enchanted Chickens”, “The Friendly Policeman”, “The Mat Weaver and The Bandits”, “Happy Shoemaker”, “The Thief and Golensa”, “Cart Wheel Spokes”, “Ancestral Keepsake”, “Chickens and Floods”, “Pennilessness Patient”, “The Donkey Riding the Pharaoh”, and “The Unknown Illness”*

## The Lost brother



One day, two Indian Maharajas went to Shekarestan to find their missing brother. When the people realized that the Maharaja is going to give half of his wealth to his lost brother before death, everyone tried to introduce himself as the lost brother, and to this end, they invented various stories. But the Maharaja figured out their trick soon and ignored them. A humble poor man who had no one in the world lived in Shekarestan. By narrating his true story, he proved to Maharaja that he was the real brother of Maharaja.

### *Book excerpt:*

There was a man in Shekarestan and everyone knew him. He had no family or acquaintances. He was a professional beggar who used to get up every morning and walk around the city, and wherever there was a funeral service or vowed food dispensing, he sneaked in, cried for the deceased, and finally received some food. When there was no funeral service, he stood at a corner and panhandled. . .

## The Magical Feather



That morning, when Khajeh Salman arrived at his shop, he found out that the thief had broken into his shop and taken his golden rose water sprinkler. The next day, other people's shops and houses were also subject to theft. The sheriff heard the news. He searched everywhere to find the crafty thief, but there was no trace of him. The news was transmitted to the king. He ordered to find the thief as soon as possible. But after a while, the king's palace was robbed and the royal crown was stolen. Finally, the crazy Bohlool could find the Shekarestan's thief with a trick.

### *Book excerpt:*

When the king learned the matter about the thief, he said to his Vizier, "Bring the thief fast, I want to see how he looks."

The Vizier whispered under his breath lest the king hear him, "He looks like you," and then said loudly: "The thief has not been arrested yet."

The king said, "What the hell? I want to see the thief face to face".

The Vizier bowed respectfully and said, "But your majesty, this thief is very cunning. They could not apprehend him."

The king said, "I do not take no as an answer. You must arrest the thief until tomorrow."

The Vizier said, "Yes sir, your majesty's wish is my command."

## The Friendly Policeman



The Businessman had a son called Free Rider who was reluctant to work. His father was looking for a solution, and one day told him that thereafter, he would not receive any petty cash and he had to work and earn money. The Businessman's son was upset because he could not go with his friends after debauchery. His mother, who loved him so much, gave him a stack of banknotes and told him to give the money to his father in the afternoon and tell him that he had worked. In the morning, Free Rider, with the excuse that he wanted to work as a taxi driver took his father's car and drove to the red district area with his friends. At night, he gave the bank notes to his father and said that he had been carrying passengers and made the money. The father who knew what was going on tossed the money aside and remarked that it was not too much. The next day, Free Rider's mother gave him another stack of banknotes and the rest is history. . .

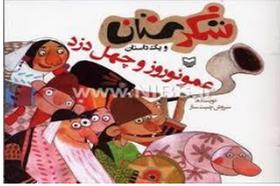
### *Book excerpt:*

Early in the morning, Free Rider took the Businessman's car and drove to his friends' hangout. They were not far from the town when the police stopped them for speed limit violation.

When he found out Free Rider had no driving license, he adjusted the hat on his heads and said, "The car must be grounded."

Free Rider, hinted by his gigolo friends, took out his mother's money from his pocket and said: "If you let me go this time, we will give you this money in return."

## Uncle Nowrooz and the Forty Thieves



In Shekarestan, everyone was happy by the arrival of spring and the Nowrooz (New Year), except for Zafar the Thief. He was unemployed and looked for a job before the beginning of the New Year. He went to The Forty Thieves Co. and asked to be hired, but because he had no record of grand theft in his file, they did not hire him. Zafar the Thief decided to commit an important burglary and plotted to kidnap Uncle Nowrooz. He went to the Nanny Cold and tied her arms and legs. As Uncle Nowrooz entered the Nanny Cold's house, Zafar, the thief, caught and tied him with rope and took him to a cave. Everybody in Shekarestan was worried why Uncle Nowrooz had not arrived. Soon, the news of Uncle Nowrooz kidnapping spread in Spokesman.

### *Book excerpt:*

The disappointed and tired Zafar was walking around the city. He heard the voice of Nanny Cold, who was singing loudly while cleaning the house. Zafar stopped and thought, 'in Shekarestan, they say the winter leaves when an old lady called Nanny Cold packs up, cleans house, and waits for Uncle Nowrooz.' Zafar, the thief, has heard that Nanny Cold will work so hard that she drops asleep, and when Uncle Nowrooz arrives, she will be sleeping and never meets Uncle Nowrooz, and . . .

## The Bohlool's Flea



The king of Shekarestan wanted to own all magnificent things. One day, The Vizier said to the king jokingly, “The king of Morocco has built a great palace.” The king was upset by hearing the news and ordered to build a palace much larger than the palace of the king of Morocco. Since the royal treasury was empty, they ordered that the people must pay more taxes. All of the wealth of Bohlool was only a flea, which he handed over to the sheriff as a tax. They brought the taxes to the king. As they unpacked them, the Bohlool’s flea jumped inside the king’s apparel. The king’s body started to itch. But no matter what he did, he could not calm it down. He asked the sheriff to beat him with his stick and the rest of the story. . .

### *Book excerpt:*

One day the Vizier, to disturb the king and laugh with others, uttered, “Your majesty, I have heard that the king of Morocco has built a palace that is larger than all palaces of the world!”

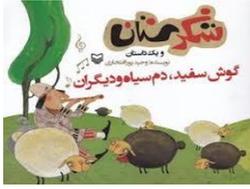
The king said, “You mean it is bigger than my palace too?”

The Vizier said, “Your palace is not big. His palace is so large that a camel with its cargo gets lost in it.”

The king, who could not bear to see or even hear those things, was angry and said, “Now that this is the case, you must build for me a palace that is larger than the king of Morocco’s palace.”

The Vizier said to himself, “OMG, it is my bad. We just wanted to laugh a bit, but it backfired on me.”

## The White Ear, the Black Tail, and the Others



Khangholi had a hundred sheep. Every morning he counted them and submitted them to the shepherd to take them for grazing and in the evening also counted them again and received them from the shepherd. On that day afternoon, he counted the sheep but their number was not 100. He asked the cause from the shepherd. The shepherd said the wolf had hunted the White Ear lamb. The next day, another lamb was missing again. The shepherd said the eagle had taken the Black Tail sheep that time. Khangholi started to think and decided to chase the shepherd to find out the reason for the reduced number of his sheep. Until one night, he went to the stable and saw that the shepherd and the butcher of Shekarestan were there . . .

### *Book excerpt:*

Khangholi had a hundred fat and chubby sheep. Every morning, he stood at the door of the stable and praised his sheep and said goodbye to them. Then he advised that they do not fight over the fresh grass. The sheep also responded by baa baa. Finally, he entrusted the sheep to Muzaffar, his shepherd. Then, he whistled the sheep and went to the desert.

## The Enchanted Chickens



That day, the teacher had caught a cold and his nose was stuffy. It was time to teach the children the alphabet in the class. Because of his stuffy nose, instead of the word *Aleph*, he said *Anef*, and the kids also pronounced it *Anef*. The teacher thought that the children were mocking him. He decided to punish them. Meanwhile, someone knocked on the classroom door. The servant entered the classroom with a tray of food and sweets and said to the teacher, “Today is the wedding feast of the Businessman’s son. This food is for the kids and you are also invited to lunch.” When the teacher smelled the food, he craved to keep the food for himself. But the kids noticed the teacher’s intention.

### *Book excerpt:*

The teacher said: “Mind your business till I come back.”

The teacher went to the door. A servant was behind the door. He said hello and added, “Today is the wedding of the Businessman’s son. He has invited you to come for lunch. However, this tray of food and sherbet is for the school children.”

The professor said, “Congratulations. Say hello to the Businessman and tell him I will be there.”

Then he took the food tray and smelled the dishes and said, “Wow! What an aroma and color. It would be a waste if I give it to the kids to eat. I can eat it by myself throughout a week.”

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