

# Biography of Sa'id Soltanpour

Edited by Christina McDonough

- 1940 Born in Sâbzevar in the province of Razavi Khorasan in northeastern Iran.
- 1960-74 Worked as a teacher in the poor district of south Tehran.
- 1960-65 Collaborated with the Art Forum Ânâhitâ. Played the role of Othello.
- 1961 Activist in the teachers' strike of May, 1961.
- 1965 Together with Mâhin Oskuyi, directed *The Three Sisters* by Anton Chekhov.
- 1965-69 Studied theatre at the Academy of Fine Arts of the University of Tehran.  
Directed *Death In Front* by Vesilin Anchev.  
Wrote *The Station* and directed its TV production.
- 1968 Published „Sedâye Mirâ“ (*The Dying Sound*), poems from 1961-68.  
Read at Shâbhâye Sher (Poetry Nights).  
Contradicted the syndicate of theater artists in Iran.  
Together with Nâser Râhmâni-Nejad, founded the Iranian Theater Association.
- 1969 Directed *An Enemy of the People* by Henrik Ibsen. In an attempt to avoid censorship, he renamed the play *Dr. Stockmann*. After eleven performances the theater was closed.
- 1970 Directed „Amuzgârân“ (*The Teachers*) by Mohsen Yalfâni. Both the writer and the director were arrested.  
Published „noui az honâr noui az ândisheh“ (*A Kind of Art, A Kind of Thought*)
- 1971 Directed *The Visions of Simone Machard* by Bertold Brecht.
- 1972 Although officially forbidden, published „noui az honâr noui az ândisheh“ (*A Kind of Art, A Kind of Thought*) underground, which resulted in his arrest. Continued to direct *The Visions of Simone Machard* by Bertold Brecht. After eighteen performances the theater was closed.
- 1974 Discharged from his employment with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs.  
Sentenced to three years in prison.  
Wrote „âvâzhâye bând“ (*Songs from Prison*).
- 1974-77 While in prison, wrote a book of poetry entitled „âz koshtargâh“ (*From the Slaughter Field*).
- 1977 Released from prison.  
Attended the second session of the Iranian Writers Association on July 7 and was one of the 98 writers who signed the Association's communiqué.  
Read at poetry nights at the Technical University of Tehran.  
Read at historical poetry nights of the Goethe-Institut in Tehran.  
Travelled to Europe and helped form the "From Arrest to Exile" committee.  
Published „hâsânâk“.
- 1978 Returned to Iran
- 1979 Elected to the board of the Syndicate of Artists and Theater Employees.  
Presented „âbâs âgha“ and „mârg bâr imperialism“ (*Death to Imperialism*)  
Candidature for „Iranischen Vols-Fedae Guerrillas“ to Parliament.

- 1980            Attended the first meeting of the „Iranischen Vols-Fedae Guerrillas” before they split.
- 1981            April 16 – arrested and elected *in absentia* to the board of the Iranian Writers Association.  
June 21 – executed.