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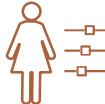
Women's Progress;

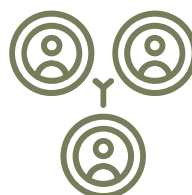
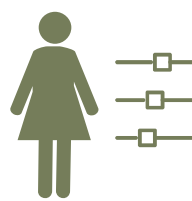
The Narrative of Today's Iran



Vice Presidency of
Women and Family Affairs

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Introduction

In the contemporary world, sustainable and fair progress remains unattainable without ensuring the effective participation of women and their equal access to social, economic, cultural, and legal opportunities. From this perspective, the Islamic Republic of Iran, in line with its main values, notably human dignity, justice, the strengthening of the family institution, and social responsibility, has designed and implemented a set of policies, laws, programs, and institutional mechanisms to enhance the status of women and the family in different fields. This approach considers women not just as a group in need of protection, but as effective agents in the national development process, as human and cultural capital of society, and as pillars of social sustainability.

Within this framework, paying attention to the physical, mental, and social health of women, improving their access to healthcare services, and supporting family health and security are inseparable parts of the country's public policies. Simultaneously, establishing the foundational infrastructure for education, research, skills training, and the scientific growth of women, as a base for individual and social empowerment, has been put on the agenda, followed by the expansion of educational opportunities and the strengthening of knowledge infrastructure. Moreover, expanding economic opportunities, supporting entrepreneurship, facilitating women's access to the labor market, and backing micro, home-based, cooperative, and local businesses are among fundamental areas of policymaking to promote women's economic independence and enhance their role in national growth.

Furthermore, women's social, cultural, and civic participation, and their presence in decision-making and governance processes, represent the country's justice-oriented policy. This policy seeks to strengthen women's social roles while realizing their capacities at various managerial, executive, and public levels. Along this path, legal and institutional support mechanisms have been pursued to safeguard women's dignity, strengthen family foundations, reduce social harms, and enhance individual and social security, with multiple mechanisms established to prevent, protect, and enable effective intervention in vulnerable situations.

On the other hand, social justice is achieved when a country's supportive structures respond purposefully and intelligently to the needs of vulnerable populations. Accordingly, the development of welfare systems, insurance coverage, supporting women-headed households, the strengthening of economic and social capacities of rural and nomadic women, and the empowerment of women and children with disabilities, alongside the utilization of National Monitoring and Surveillance Systems, shows the country's determination to establish an indigenous model of welfare, social support, and sustainable empowerment. At a broader level, strengthening cultural values, reinforcing Muslim women's identity, and seeking to create balance among women's individual, familial, and social roles are among the guiding principles of these policies.

What follows in this report is a concise yet meaningful overview of the most significant measures, capacities, and achievements of the Islamic Republic of Iran in 7 main areas related to women and the family, areas that portray the country's comprehensive approach to elevating women's status, strengthening the family, expanding social justice, reinforcing institutional support, and creating the conditions for the active and effective participation of women in national progress.

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Islamic Republic of Iran



01

Women in Education

Education,
Scientific
Empowerment,
and the Pioneering
Role of Elite
Women



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1) Education, Scientific Empowerment, and the Pioneering Role of Elite Women



In the Islamic Republic of Iran, education is one of the most fundamental pillars for empowering women and girls. Over the past decades, through educational justice, expanded access, the development of scientific infrastructure, and supporting academic advancement, the country has paved the way for making generation of aware, specialized, influential, and elite women. Achievements in literacy, general education, higher education, presence in strategic fields, academic promotions, participation in the national education system, and international research accolades show that Iranian women not only enjoy extensive educational opportunities but have become a cornerstone of knowledge production, human capital development, and the nation's scientific and technological future.

By focusing on educational justice, the Islamic Republic of Iran has created a dynamic environment in which girls and women can develop their human capital and engage in active social, scientific, and entrepreneurial participation. The following indicators and data show this structural transformation:

1-1- Equal Access to Basic Education and Eradication of Illiteracy



- **Comprehensive Coverage and Bridging Gender Gap:** The literacy rate among women aged 10 to 49 has risen to over 96%. Furthermore, the gender gap in access to primary and secondary education for girls has narrowed to less than 3%, indicating comprehensive educational Coverage nationwide.
- **Diverse Specializations in Upper Secondary Education:** The distribution of female students in upper secondary education highlights their readiness for strategic economic sectors:
 - 64% of graduates in Experimental Sciences
 - 39% of graduates in Mathematics and Physics
 - 42% of graduates in the Technical-Vocational branch
 - 35% of graduates in the Work and Knowledge branch

1-2- Leading Role in the Educational Network and Teacher Training System



The national teacher training and sustainable human development chain is deeply rooted in society and relies on women's capabilities. According to the latest data, women constitute 62% of the teaching workforce, 363,445 female teachers compared to 223,671 male teachers, making them the primary pillars of the country's educational network. Additionally, half of all senior school management positions are held by women.





Distribution of Teachers by Educational Level

Educational Level	Female Teachers	Male Teachers	Female Share(%)
Primary	206,669	84,942	71%
Lower Secondary	70,995	64,972	52%
Upper Secondary	85,781	73,757	54%
Total	363,445	223,671	62%

1-3- Gender Balance in Higher Education and Postgraduate Studies



- **Overall University Share:** Female enrollment in universities has shown consistent growth over the years; currently, nearly 52% of the total student population in the country is women.
- **Balance at the PhD Level:** Based on official data from 2018 to 2025, women's presence at the highest academic level has been established. On average, women comprise 46% of the total PhD population nationwide, serving as the primary source of future academic faculty and leaders of cutting-edge national projects.

Trend in PhD Student Population (2018–2025)

Academic Year	Female PhD Students	Male PhD Students
2018-2019	67,223	80,186
2019-2020	68,091	80,084
2020-2021	69,759	81,139
2021-2022	64,373	73,320
2024-2025	67,928	78,299

1-4- Leadership and Scientific Authority of Women in Basic Sciences



Contrary to global trends often marked by declining female participation in pure sciences, Iran's basic sciences (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Geology) have an elite and feminine structure. Women constitute over 68% of all specialists in these fields.

Population of Basic Science Specialists (Academic Years 2017–2024)

Academic Year	Women in Basic Sciences	Men in Basic Sciences
2017-2018	151,052	65,611
2018-2019	145,172	65,130
2019-2020	141,525	64,803
2020-2021	139,355	66,743
2021-2022	148,122	73,190
2022-2023	139,994	66,610
2023-2024	143,187	66,369



1-5- Systematic Development of Girls' Human Capital in STEM Fields



The national educational policy has created a sustainable framework for girls to enter advanced scientific disciplines in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Official statistics on graduates and entrants in this field from 2018 to 2025 are as follows:

Annual Enrollments in STEM Fields (2018–2025)

Academic Year	Female Students (STEM)	Male Students (STEM)
1 st year: 2018-2019	41,960	85,600
2 nd year: 2019-2020	36,644	94,838
3 rd year: 2020-2021	45,927	104,536
4 th year: 2021-2022	32,053	152,875
5 th year: 2022-2023	27,440	144,985
6 th year: 2024-2025	25,975	155,108

1-6- Dynamism of the Academic Pyramid and Women's Structural Advancement in Academic Ranks



An analysis of faculty promotion trends from 2017 to 2025 reveals a fundamental transformation within the academic staff of universities:

- **Overall Faculty Share:** Currently, women hold over 22% of all academic faculty positions in the country's universities and 46% of faculty positions in medical sciences universities.
- **Full Professor:** The number of women in this rank has grown steadily, increasing from 929 in 2017 to 1,197 in 2025.
- **Assistant Professor:** Female Assistant Professors have experienced a significant increase, rising from 12,407 to 15,172, representing a 36% share of all Assistant Professors nationwide, while the male population in this category has declined over the same period. This balance ensures a more active female presence at Associate and Full Professor levels in the near future.

Trends in Academic Ranks by Gender (2017–2025)

Year	Female Full Professors	Male Full Professors	Female Assistant Professors	Male Assistant Professors
2017	929	5,362	12,407	30,534
2018	963	5,365	12,929	30,982
2019	1,088	5,768	13,329	31,038
2020	820	5,535	13,456	28,739
2021	1,021	6,123	15,147	29,503
2022	1,128	6,438	14,990	28,191
2025	1,197	6,791	15,172	27,014



1-7- Distinguished Presence Among the World's Top Scientists



Recent assessments show a qualitative leap in the research achievements of Iranian women scientists in global academic circles:

- **118% Surge in the Top 1% Elite Layer:** The number of highly cited women scientists in the top 1% globally has jumped from 81 to 177.
- **Advancement in the Annual Dynamics Index (Top 2% Worldwide):** The number of women whose achievements place them in the world's top 2% grew by 47%, reaching 375.
- **Career-Long Impact:** The number of Iranian women in this category has steadily increased to 73.
- **Academic Breadth in Humanities, Arts, and Architecture:** Women maintain a stable presence, with 40 highly cited researchers in these fields.

Status of Elite Researchers and World-Class Scientists by Gender

International Scientific Index	Period 1 (Women)	Period 1 (Men)	Period 2 (Women)	Period 2 (Men)	Recent Data (Women)	Recent Data (Men)
Top 1% Highly Cited Researchers	81	618	130	756	177	884
Top 2% Highly Cited Researchers (Single-Year)	254	1,662	316	1,821	375	1,951
Top 2% Highly Cited Researchers (Career-Long)	49	680	60	807	73	945
Researchers in Humanities, Social Sciences, Arts & Architecture	47	284	46	376	40	373

- **International Honors and Credibility:** Winning the UNESCO Nanoscience Medal and the UNESCO-L'Oréal Award by Prof. Sudabeh Davaran for nanomedicine and Dr. Elahe Elahi for genetics, awarding the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Gold Medal to Dr. Maryam Eslami for biomedical engineering, and winning the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) Award by Professor Afsaneh Safavi (Chemistry) are evidence of this scientific authority.
- **Student Olympiads:** The ongoing success of girls in international Olympiads (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Computer Science), exemplified by role models such as Ms. Maryam Mirzakhani, underscores the vitality of the national talent identification system.



1-8- Leadership in Innovative Institutions, Technology, and Advanced Industries



- **Knowledge-Based Companies and Tech Hubs:** Women hold 25% of senior management and CEO positions in knowledge-based companies (with 4,133 female CEOs actively involved). Furthermore, 24% of the official inventor community and 24% of laboratories within the national strategic technologies network are directly managed by women.
- **Pioneering Roles in Nanotechnology and the Pharmaceutical Industry:** The significant presence of women in commercializing nanomedicine and nanomaterials, alongside their critical roles as lead scientists and national project managers in developing vaccines and novel anti-cancer drugs, has positioned Iran as a regional hub for pharmaceutical self-sufficiency.







02

Women's Health

Health, Universal
Healthcare,
Support Services,
Reproductive
Health, and
Vital Biological
Indicators



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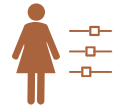


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2) Health, Universal Healthcare, Support Services, Reproductive Health, and Vital Biological Indicators



A thriving society depends on the sustainable health and social security of all its members. The government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, through a holistic approach, has prioritized women's health by developing healthcare infrastructure, focusing on reproductive health, and safeguarding biological wellness. This area addresses vital indicators and the improvement of life expectancy, as well as a comprehensive system of support services and rehabilitation as a backbone for crisis management and enhancing the quality of life for affected women. These measures reflect the government's commitment to creating an environment in which physical health and social security are intertwined, ensuring the vitality and dignified participation of women across all national arenas. The following achievements are based on the latest official statistics and national monitoring:

2-1- Improved Life Expectancy and Biological Sustainability



Thanks to improved lifestyle quality, equal access to treatment, and enhanced public health, the average life expectancy for women in Iran has steadily risen to 78 years, exceeding the global average.

2-2- Distinct and Specialized Expertise in the Female Healthcare Workforce



One of the most remarkable reflections of respecting women's inherent and religious rights is the self-sufficiency achieved in training skilled medical personnel:

- **Women's Share of Obstetricians and Gynecologists: 98%.**
- **Safety and Psychological Security in Childbirth: Over 95% of all births nationwide are performed by specialized female medical and midwifery staff, providing the highest level of psychological security, religious respect, and privacy protection for women.**

2-3- Elite Presence in the Highly Specialized Medical Training and Treatment Corps



The presence of female human capital in the national health system is structurally significant:

- **Specialist Physicians: 44% of all specialist physicians in the country are women.**
- **Subspecialists: 35% of medical subspecialists are women.**
- **Community-Level Services: Per 100,000 women, there are 60 active midwives and 2.8 obstetricians/gynecologists.**
- **Education and Research: This specialized body supports the 46% share of female faculty members in the country's medical sciences universities.**

2-4- Significant Reduction in Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) and Promotion of Safe Childbirth



Through the establishment of a network of health houses and comprehensive health centers, the following achievements have been realized:

- **Reduced Maternal Mortality:** The MMR has decreased to the standard indicator of 16 per 100,000 live births (a reduction of over 90% compared to previous decades, commended by the World Health Organization).
- **Skilled Birth Attendance (SBA) Indicator:** Over 98.5% of births occur in hospitals and other standard facilities by skilled medical and midwifery teams (this indicator is consistent across rural and urban areas).

2-5- Universal Health Coverage, Screening, and Structural Support



- **Newborn and Maternal Screening:** Implementation of mandatory national screening programs (genetic, thyroid, metabolic) for nearly 100% of newborns and comprehensive pre-pregnancy care.
- **Vaccination:** Over 99% coverage for children (comparable to developed countries).
- **Universal Health Insurance:** 100% coverage for all pregnant mothers and children under 5 (regardless of financial status), with free basic reproductive health services.
- **Infertility Treatment:** 114,853 IVF surgeries to treat infertility.

2-6- Welfare, Biological, and Environmental Infrastructure



Justice-oriented infrastructure development has led to over 96% of the population having access to:

- Safe drinking water networks.
- Sanitary sewage disposal.
- Sustainable energy networks (electricity and gas).

2-7- Support Services, Rehabilitation, and Empowerment



To support vulnerable women and family, the following supportive infrastructures are offered:

- **Safe Houses (under the State Welfare Organization):** 28 centers.
- **Health Houses (under the State Welfare Organization):** 29 centers.
- **Psycho-Social Support Centers for Girls and Family (Daily):** 20 centers.
- **Non-Governmental and Non-Residential Empowerment Centers for Vulnerable Women (Rah-e Novin):** 14 centers.
- **Child and Family Educational Support Centers (for Working and Street Children - Day Centers):** 48 centers.
- **Crisis Intervention Centers for Individual, Family, and Social Crises (Welfare Organization):** 384 centers.
- **Specialized Human Resources:** widespread activity of social workers across these sectors



2-8- Safe Shelters and the Evolution of Admissions



Safe shelters are temporary for women and girls exposed to domestic violence or severe family crises and have experienced significant capacity growth.

Population of Professionals in the Support Sector

Country/Sector	Women	Men	Total
Specialists/Social Workers	4,141	743	4,141

2-9- Service Delivery and Crisis Intervention Structure (Social Emergency Services)



The national support and crisis intervention system is designed around three operational levels: the 123 hotline, mobile services, and crisis intervention centers. 123 Hotline (Social Emergency) is the largest and most accessible channel, accounts for the largest share of admissions and service delivery, and plays a key role in initial response, client referral, and facilitating access to support services.

2-10- Modern Approaches to Rehabilitation and Sustainable Empowerment



Based on practical experience and the reform document, the national support approach has shifted from “temporary and emergency shelter” to “multidimensional empowerment and sustainable reintegration into society.” This model focuses on:

- **Economic and Livelihood Empowerment:** providing sustainable employment opportunities through job market linkages, promoting home-based businesses, supporting women’s entrepreneurship in collaboration with NGOs, and providing technical skills training aligned with market demand.
- **Psychological Empowerment and Self-Efficacy:** Providing active social work services, psychotherapy, and training in vital skills such as “crisis decision-making,” “stress management,” and “improving self-efficacy” to prevent relapse into cycles of harm.
- **Support Network Development:** utilizing safe family ties, facilitating access to independent housing, and reforming support laws to enhance the legal and social security of vulnerable women.







03

Women in Innovation

Entrepreneurship,
Strategic
Technologies, and
the
Knowledge-Based
Economy



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3) Entrepreneurship, Strategic Technologies, and the Knowledge-Based Economy

Economic planning in Iran is designed around empowerment, innovation, and the facilitation of sustainable employment for educated women. This area reflects the growing presence of women in the modern economic ecosystem, as well as in strategic technologies, innovation, and entrepreneurship. This presence extends from managing knowledge-based companies and laboratory networks to developing cooperatives and inventions, and from leading businesses and startups to strengthening the foundations of the country's knowledge-based economy, demonstrating women's contribution to this endeavor.



3-1- Managerial Share in the Modern Economy and Technology Companies

- Women hold 25% of leadership positions in knowledge-based companies.
- Women manage 24% of laboratories in the strategic technologies network.
- 24% of the country's inventors are women.



3-2- Startup Entrepreneurship Index

- The women's startup entrepreneurship index has grown by 17% compared to men's.
- For every 10 male startup entrepreneurs, there are 8.2 active female startup entrepreneurs



3-3- Structural Economic Capital and the Women's Employment Ecosystem

Currently:

- 4,133 women are CEOs of knowledge-based companies.
- 4,000 women are active as senior entrepreneurs.
- 5,776 active women's cooperatives operate nationwide.
- 12,000 companies owned by women are active in leading sectors such as agriculture, industry, and architecture.



These indicators show that the country's economic policies regarding women are not merely symbolic but are focused on building structural capacity in management, entrepreneurship, innovation, business ownership, and participation in strategic technologies. Women's presence in managing knowledge-based companies, technology laboratories, the innovation ecosystem, specialized cooperatives, and leading industries indicates the gradual formation of a model of "knowledge-based, innovative, and sustainable economic empowerment" for Iranian women.





04

Women in Sport

Sports Diplomacy
and the
Development
of Women's
Human Capital in
Professional Sport



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4) Sports Diplomacy and the Development of Women's Human Capital in Professional Sport



Iranian women's advancement in sports in recent years goes beyond individual achievements; it is a structural revolution in the country's educational and sports management systems. This area reflects investment in "human capital," with the foundation of women's professional sports strengthened through the training of world-class coaches and referees. The data in this area is evidence to the doubling of organized female athletes and the flourishing of talent who, in specialized and secure environments, have not only reached championship levels but also set new standards for technical knowledge and sports management, nationally and internationally.

4-1- Growth in the Elite Base (Professional Coaches and Referees)



Statistics show the creation of an elite chain that not only leads national teams but also plays a primary role in training sports instructors.

a) Development of Senior and International-Level Coaches

- **International-Level Coaches:** The number of senior female coaches certified by global federations increased by 149% (nearly 2.5 times), rising from 379 in 2017 to 946 in 2025.
- **National-Level Coaches:** The number of senior female coaches (instructors and top league leaders) grew by 183%, from 129 to 366 in 2025.

b) Development of Professional and International Referee Networks

- **International-Level Referees:** The number of Iranian women referees with official cards from global or continental federations increased by 70%, from 135 in 2017 to 230 in 2025.
- **National-Level Referees:** The number of official women referees at the top national level and in premier leagues reached 266 in 2025, up from 159 in 2024.

Indicators of Women's Professional Sports

Specialized Indicator	2017	2021	2025 (Latest)	Total Growth Rate
Female Coaches (International Level)	379	653	946	+149%
Female Coaches (National Level)	129	246	366	+183%
Female Referees (International Level)	135	198	230	+70%
Female Referees (National Level)	159	213	266	+67%



4-2- Revolution in Public Sports and Organized Participation



The development of community-level infrastructure (dedicated clubs and public sports stations) has led to a structural leap in lifestyle and the number of official athletes (with sports insurance cards):

- **Doubling of Female Athletes:** The population of organized female athletes grew by 100.9%, from 934,594 in 2021 to 1,877,652 in 2025.
- **Comparative Analysis:** While the growth rate for male athletes over these three years was 43.9%, the pace of women's participation (100.9%) was significantly higher, indicating the success of creating safe and dedicated environments.

Comparative Growth of Organized Athletes

Gender	2021	2022	2023	2025	3-Year Growth Rate
Women	934,594	1,505,552	1,750,800	1,877,652	+100.9%
Men	1,624,428	2,169,341	2,306,478	2,337,992	+43.9%

4-3- International Authority in Paralympic Sports



- **Global Recognition:** In 2025, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) selected the Islamic Republic of Iran as the “World's Best Country in the Development of Women's Paralympic Sports” for its structural changes to support women with disabilities.
- **Growth in Paralympic Participation:** Women's participation grew from 4 athletes in Barcelona 1992 to 12 athletes in Paris 2024 (winning 7 medals).
- **Growth in Para-Asian Participation:** From 34 female athletes in Guangzhou 2010 (winning 17 medals) to 82 female athletes in Hangzhou 2022 (winning 40 medals), with a 42% growth in participation rates.
- **Grassroots Sports for People with Disabilities:** Over 60,000 athletes are supported by the National Paralympic Committee, with more than one-third being women.
- **Inspiring Role Models:** Icons such as Sareh Javanmardi (4-time Paralympic gold medalist) and Zahra Nemati (3-time Games champion and UN Goodwill Ambassador) symbolize resilience and success on this path.







05

Women in Leadership

Pillars of
Decision-Making
and Senior
Executive
Management



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5) Pillars of Decision-Making and Senior Executive Management

The organized representation of women at different levels of policymaking, decision-making, and executive management in the country has accelerated significantly in recent years, moving from symbolic participation to genuine influence in governance. This transformation reflects the expansion of managerial opportunities for women, the strengthening of human capital in the national administrative system, and the move toward broader utilization of women's scientific, executive, and strategic capacities at senior management levels.



5-1- Development of Management Platforms in the New Government

- **Expanding management infrastructures under the new government:** Since the beginning of the 14th government, over 2,750 female managers have been appointed to executive bodies.
- **Involvement in the cabinet and important positions:** The appointment of women to key and strategic positions, including the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development and the Spokesperson of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, reflects this structural transformation at the macro-management level.



5-2- Senior Structural Management and Involvement at Executive Levels

Through direct presidential appointments, 21 women have been assigned to manage institutions represented in high councils and national assemblies. Additionally:

- Deputy Ministers and equivalent ranks: 66
- Directors-General: 458
- Board Members of State Companies: 113
- Deputy Governors: 2
- County Governors: 23
- District Administrators: 91
- Mayors: 16
- active female Village Administrators: 3,714



5-3- Empowerment of Leadership and Management Pillars

To enhance competencies and strengthen decision-making capabilities, over 8,000 women have received specialized training in management and decision-making skills.









06

Women's Well-being

Welfare,
Social Justice,
and
Indigenous
Support Structures



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6) Welfare, Social Justice, and Indigenous Support Structures



Within the framework of achieving social justice and strengthening public welfare, the Islamic Republic of Iran has prioritized policies and supportive mechanisms to improve the conditions of vulnerable groups, particularly women, children, the elderly, rural populations, and persons with disabilities. This approach, relying on strategic planning, national monitoring and surveillance systems, the expansion of welfare services, the extension of insurance coverage, and the strengthening of indigenous support structures, seeks to reduce social inequalities while providing conditions for the economic and social empowerment of target groups. This section reviews the country's most important measures regarding women-headed households, rural and nomadic communities, and support for women and children with disabilities.

• Strategic Programs and Smart Monitoring

- Developing strategic program “Enhancing the Status and Monitoring of Women and Family Affairs”
- Launching “National Monitoring and Surveillance System” to systematize the policymaking process

• Supporting Women-headed Households

- Implementing “One-Stop Window for Welfare Services for women-headed households
- Expanding social security insurance coverage
- Establishing a guarantee fund for employment loans for women-headed households to strengthen their economic stability (focusing on the economic empowerment of income deciles 1 to 5, based on Cabinet approval):
 - a) **Banking Facilities and Guarantees:** Establishment of the “Guarantee Fund for Employment Loans for Women-Headed Households” to remove the “guarantor” obstacle for obtaining loans.
 - b) **Operational Achievement:** From 2022 to August 2024, over 4,500 guarantee applications were reviewed, 1,876 applicants were introduced for guarantee issuance, and approximately 500 women-headed households successfully obtained banking facilities.

• Developing Rural and Nomadic Communities

- Establishment of 4,200 microcredit funds based on the NSIE model
- Membership of over 60,000 women in 2,000 rural and nomadic cooperatives
- Annual training of 300,000 rural and nomadic women in entrepreneurship promotion
- The approval of providing social security insurance coverage for rural housewives with three or more children

• Empowerment of Women and Children with Disabilities

- Offering Skills training to 459,161 women with disabilities in 31 provinces.
- Launching over 1,300 daily educational-rehabilitation centers for children with disabilities under 14, based on the IEP model
- Continuation of supportive production workshops







07

Women in Culture

Cultural

Elevation and

Women's Role in

the Field of Media

and Literature



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7) Cultural Elevation and Women's Role in the Field of Media and Literature



The comprehensive realization of women's capabilities in the Islamic Republic would be incomplete without addressing their role in "knowledge production" and "guiding public opinion." This section narrates the influential involvement of women in the country's two main cultural pillars, including "media management" and "composing literary work." Considering statistical data, we witness a transition from marginal participation to "structural authority", where women, not only as authors and translators but also as policymakers and managing directors of publications, hold the pulse of the country's intellectual and cultural currents. This area provides evidence of the key and growing role of women in shaping national identity and presenting the nation's scientific and

7-1- Media Management and Playing a Role in the Press



Statistical analysis shows the firm involvement of women in senior media management positions.

- **Key Achievement (2025):** Women hold a 21.8% share of managing director positions in the country's press.

Comparative Data

Year	Female Managing Directors	Male Managing Directors	Total	Women's Share (%)
2016	302	1,249	1,551	19.4%
2018	396	1,563	1,959	20.2%
2021	379	1,524	1,903	19.9%
2022	165	1,062	1,227	13.4%
2023	203	815	1,018	19.9%
2025	303	1,084	1,387	21.8%

Analytical Note: Despite periodic fluctuations in the media market, the trend of women's involvement in 2025 stabilized at 303 managing directors, reaching its highest percentage (21.8%), meaning that more than one-fifth of the official press, news agencies, and news websites in the country are directly managed by women.



7-2- Leap in Knowledge and Literary Production (Publishing Sector)



- The growth rate of women in (book) authorship and translation has significantly outpaced that of men, shifting the balance of intellectual power in women’s favor.
- **Key Achievement:** A 112.3% growth in the community of women authors and translators from 2016 to 2025.
 - **Comparative Growth Rate:** While the male community grew by 35.6% during this period, the female community grew by 112.3% (more than double).

Comparative Data

Year	Female Creators	Male Creators	Total Creators	Women's Share (%)
2016	25,990	54,595	80,585	32.2%
2018	31,699	63,149	94,848	33.4%
2020	33,438	61,783	95,221	35.1%
2022	45,219	71,402	116,621	38.8%
2023	50,647	72,531	123,178	41.1%
2025	55,188	74,079	129,267	42.7%

Analytical Note: Women’s share of the total authors and translators in the country has increased from 32.2% to 42.7%. This structural transformation shows that the country’s intellectual and literary discourse is now significantly influenced by women’s elite and educational perspectives.





08

Women in Conflict

Human

Consequences and

Infrastructure

Damage Resulted

from Military

Attacks

(Ramadan War)



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8) Human Consequences and Infrastructure Damage Resulted from Military Attacks (Ramadan War)



Wars always inflict the deepest wounds on civilians and the most defenseless members of society, women and children. The US-Israeli military attacks during the Ramadan War have gone beyond a military confrontation to a full-scale humanitarian catastrophe. Not only have thousands of innocent people been killed, but vital infrastructures, from classrooms and university centers to hospitals and residential buildings, have been deliberately targeted. The targeting of medical and relief staff, along with the widespread destruction of homes, has not only deprived families of their right to life and security but has also fundamentally challenged the development and enjoyment of basic human rights for future generations. This section presents the horrific dimensions of these damages in the human, educational, medical, and infrastructure areas, providing a clear picture of the violation of civilian rights and the depth of suffering imposed on society.

8-1- Civilian Casualties and Vulnerable Groups



- Of the **3,519** civilian citizens who lost their lives, **517** were women, and 386 were children.
- Of the over 30,000 injured, 5,046 women and 1,997 children were recorded among the victims.

8-2- Destruction of Educational and Scientific Infrastructure



- Direct attack and destruction of 1,489 educational facilities (schools)
- Serious damage and destruction of 30 university and higher education centers

8-3- Targeting of the Health System and Relief Services



- Medical Centers: Damage or destruction of 71 hospitals, 245 health centers, and 63 emergency centers.
- Medical Staff: 24 killed and 118 injured.
- Relief Workers: 4 Red Crescent rescuers killed, 92 injured, and 47 operational vehicles and 2 rescue helicopters were destroyed. Additionally, 82 Red Crescent centers were damaged.

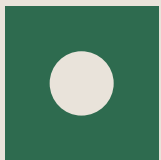
8-4- Damage to Shelters and Civilian Units



Around 138,000 civilian buildings were damaged, of which 113,000 were residential buildings. These destructions have led to the displacement and loss of shelter for tens of thousands of families.







Conclusion and Vision: The Iranian Woman: The Core of Development and Sustainable Participation



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Conclusion and Vision: The Iranian Woman: The Core of Development and Sustainable Participation



Reviewing the 8 areas of this report provides a comprehensive picture of a dynamic and comprehensive movement. The advancement of women in the Islamic Republic of Iran is not a one-dimensional effort; it is the result of the synergy between supportive structures, strategic planning, and the flourishing of individual talents.

From Science to Entrepreneurship: The remarkable growth of women's participation in scientific, medical, and managerial fields reflects a vast human capacity that, when linked to entrepreneurship, has turned into tangible "generating economic value."

Justice in Welfare: Indigenous supportive structures and empowerment programs for women-headed households (the welfare and social justice area) ensure that progress is inclusive and that no one is left behind on the development path.

Resilience and Authority: Addressing the human consequences of war and infrastructure damage, alongside outstanding achievements in cultural and sports fields, shows that the Iranian woman, amidst crises, has not only been stopped but has also become a factor for social resilience and a symbol of strength on the international arena, relying on her national and religious identity.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, specifically the Vice Presidency for Women and Family Affairs, relying on this background and with a clear vision for the future, remains committed to taking stronger steps toward realizing the full participation of women.

We seek to build a society where no capacity is overlooked and every woman, from villages to metropolises, has the opportunity to realize her potential in security and dignity. This is a path that began with national resolve and will continue toward the pinnacles of excellence, guided by the wisdom and participation of women.







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