



Moniru Ravanipur

1954–

Short-story writer and novelist Moniru Ravanipur was born in the village of Jofreh and raised in the provincial capital Shiraz. She completed an undergraduate degree in psychology at Shiraz University.

Ravanipur's first book was a collection of nine short stories called *Kanizu* (1989). In the winter of 1989, Ravanipur published her first novel, *Ahl-e Gharq* (The people of Gharq). A year later, she published a second novel, *Del-e fulâd* (The steel heart). In 1991 her second collection of short stories, *Sang-e shaytân* (Stone of satan) was published.

Ravanipur's productivity during the first twelve years of the Islamic Republic makes her a leading figure in the generation of fiction writers who began publishing after the Iranian Revolution. Her productivity likewise signals the mainstream presence, begun in the 1960s, of female narrators and voices in Iranian fiction. Simin Daneshvar, Mahshid Amir-Shahi, Goli Taraqqi, Shahrnush Parsipur, M. Shahrzad, Ghazaleh Alizadeh, Mihaan Bahrami, and Farideh Lasha'i were the chief women story writers from the 1960s, all of them active in Iran or abroad in the 1980s, when Ravanipur began adding her distinctive narrative voice to theirs.

Ravanipur's success further signals mainstream acceptance of regionalism in Iranian fiction. Sadeq Chubak, Ahmad Mahmud, Mahmud Dowlatabadi, and Amin Faqiri offered regional focus and local color in fiction from the 1960s onward, while Ravanipur gives her distinctive texture of Shiraz and Persian Gulf littoral life in her narratives.

Ravanipur's novel *Kowli kenâr-e âtesh* (The gypsy by the fire) was scheduled to go to press in 1991.