

 Ghaem Maghami Ehsan (11.08.1982)



Iranian Grandmaster (2001). Graduate of Law School. **Ehsan Ghaem Maghami is the first international Chess Grandmaster in Iranian history.** He holds the degree of Bachelor of Law and in 2015 he completed his education in sports education from the University of Tehran. He's married with Women International Master [Shayesteh Ghader Pour](#).

11-time Iran national chess champion: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iranian_Chess_Championship.

Owner of multiple Asian medals in different categories (individual, team and club tournaments).

Ghaem Maghami defeated Anatoly Karpov in a friendly match, totaling 20 games 10½-9½ (combined standings of classical, rapid and blitz games) in Tehran 2009, named 'Mate of the King' which comes from the Persian Shahmat (Checkmate); note, there were special rules in effect.

Match in celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Islamic Revolution of Iran:

<http://www.fide.com/component/content/article/4-tournaments/3710-mate-of-the-king> (FIDE)

<https://en.chessbase.com/post/ghaem-maghami-beats-karpov-in-mate-of-the-king-> (ChessBase)

Won or shared first at Rasht Iran 2001, 1st; Dubai Intl (closed) 2004, 1st; Yemen Pres. Cup 2004, 1st; Saipa Tehran 2004, 1st; **Isle of Man ("Monarch Assurance") Open in Port Erin 2004, =1st** (winner on tie-break above Kiriakov, in a field including Smirin, Volkov, Moiseenko, Milov, Zhang Zhong, Rogers, Kotronias, Agrest, Ramesh, a bunch of the best Brits as Speelman, Chandler, Conquest, Gallagher, Wells, Howell, Rowson, Williams, McNab (the winner of the inaugural IoM edition), Arakhamia-Grant, Li Ruofan, Houska, Bosboom-Lanchava, Skripchenko, as well as legendary Korchnoi, 73 or novice Nakamura, 17, already above Elo 2600); United Insurance Dhaka 2007, 1st; **ZMDI Dresden Open 2007 1st and ZMDI Open 2008, =1st** (winner after play-off vs. Ovsejevitch); **Fajr Open 2008, 1st; Dubai Open 2008, 1st-4th** (with So, the winner on tie-break, Gagunashvili, and Li Chao); Subic Open 2009, 1st; Parsvnath Open 2010, 1st; Avicenna Open in Hamadan 2010, 1st; Ramezan Open, Tehran 2012, =1st; **Canadian Open 2014, that year held in Montreal, 1st-3rd** (with Tiviakov, the winner after play-off, and Van Kampen); World Open, held in Arlington 2015, =1st (5th on tiebreak)



He set a new world record of 604 boards for Simultaneous Chess Exhibition by an individual.

The simultaneous exhibition took 25 hours from 8th to 9th February 2011 at the sports stadium of the Shahid Beheshti University in Tehran. The final results were 580 wins, 16 draws and 8 losses for a total score of 588 out of 604 or 97.35 percent: <http://en.chessbase.com/post/new-world-record-for-604-board-simul-by-iranian-gm-maghami>

Ghaem Maghami is the first board of the national Iranian team since 2000.
Best ELO rating: 2633 in April 2005, ranked das no. 67 of the world.

Game to replay: <http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1532617> (Ghaem v. Karpov 1-0)

What made this match somewhat unusual is that every game is played to a total finish, mate, stalemate etc. - no resignation or agreed draws. It's still possible however to lose on the clock.



Karpov vs. Ghaem Maghami, Iran 2009 (Photo: CNC)

Sources: <http://www.chessnc.com/biography/person-631.html> (CNC)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ehsan_Ghaem-Maghami (Wikipedia)
<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessplayer?pid=49243> (Chessgames)
<http://theweekinchess.com/html/twic517.html#6> (Isle of Man, Port Erin 2004)
<http://theweekinchess.com/html/twic701.html#6> (Dubai Open 2008)
<http://chessevents.com/tag/world-open-2015-standings/> (World Open, Arlington 2015)
<http://theweekinchess.com/chessnews/events/51st-canadian-open-championship-2014>
(Two Videos from the 2014 Canadian Open Chess Championship in Montreal, play-off matches, Ghaem Maghami beating Robin Van Kampen, Ghaem Maghami losing to Sergei Tiviakov)

Incident at <Basel Schachfestival (Open) in 2016>, report by Hartmut Metz:

Der iranische Grossmeister Ehsam Ghaem Maghami verzichtete auf das Duell mit der Israelin Yuliya Naiditsch Shvayger, obwohl ihn die kampflöse Niederlage um alle Chancen auf den Turniersieg und die 2'500 Franken Preisgeld brachte!

Ghaem Maghami hatte den Veranstaltern schon nach der ersten Runde mitgeteilt, dass er gegen die Israelin nicht antreten dürfe. Dort hatte das Paarungsprogramm auch bereits das iranisch-israelische Duell ausgespuckt. «Wir losten aber noch einmal neu, weil wir Ghaem keinen Stein in den Weg legen wollten», gesteht Organisator Zanetti.

In der Runde 5 konnten die Organisatoren aber keine Milde mehr walten lassen – schliesslich hätte jetzt eine neue Auslosung die finalen Preisränge deutlich mehr beeinflussen können. «Da konnten wir nicht mehr anders. Ich erklärte es Ghaem. Er verstand es», berichtet Zanetti. Der Iraner war schon einmal vor ein paar Jahren auf Korsika von einem Turnier ausgeschlossen worden, als der Spitzenspieler gegen einen Israeli nicht antrat.

Maghami dürfe kein Vorwurf gemacht werden, glauben die Organisatoren. Ihm und seiner Familie drohen dem Vernehmen nach ansonsten Repressalien. Dass er freiwillig auf die Chance verzichtet hätte, mit einem Sieg gegen eine weit schwächere Internationale Meisterin auf Platz zwei in der Gesamtwertung vorzustossen, bezweifelt das Team um Organisator Bruno Zanetti. Der international spielende Grossmeister und seine Frau, die ebenfalls Nationalspielerin ist, geben sich sonst weltoffen. http://www.tageswoche.ch/de/2016_2/sport/707917/