



AFTER 40 YEARS

Despite sports progress, women in Iran are still prohibited from entering football stadiums. However, a significant milestone was achieved during the 2018 FIFA World Cup when, after 40 years, they were finally granted access to Azadi Stadium in Tehran to experience live football matches.

On March 1st, during a meeting between Gianni Infantino, the president of FIFA, and Hassan Rouhani, the former president of Iran, the lifting of the ban on women's presence in stadiums was discussed. Subsequently, selective permits were issued, allowing women to enter sports venues.

The long-awaited opening of the doors at Azadi Stadium coincided with the excitement of the FIFA World Cup in Russia.

Families were now able to come together and enjoy the thrill of watching the Iranian national team compete.

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Iranian People cheers after the Iranian National Football Team defeated Morocco team during The FIFA World Cup 2018 at Vanak square on March 25, 2018, in Tehran, Iran.



A huge billboard in Iran's capital Tehran in support of the national team at the World Cup is criticized as it does not include women. This billboard has changed shortly during the 2018 FIFA World Cup on Jun 14, 2018, at Valiasr square in Tehran, Iran.



An Iranian football fan cheers at Azadi Stadium during the live broadcast of the 2018 FIFA World Cup match between IRAN and Portugal in Tehran, Iran on June 25, 2018. Iranian women were allowed to enter at Tehran stadium to watch a live broadcast of two matches of the 2018 FIFA World Cup between Iran v Spain and Portugal.



Iranian football fans Cheers at Azadi Stadium during the live broadcast of the 2018 FIFA World Cup match between IRAN and Portugal in Tehran, Iran on June 25, 2018. Iranian woman were allowed to enter at Tehran stadium to watch a live broadcast of two matches of the 2018 FIFA World Cup between Iran vs Spain and Portugal.



Iranian football fans are seen at Azadi Stadium during the live broadcast of the 2018 FIFA World Cup match between IRAN and Portugal in Tehran, Iran on June 25, 2018. Iranian women were allowed to enter at Tehran stadium to watch a live broadcast of two matches of the 2018 FIFA World Cup between Iran v Spain and Portugal.



One of the Iranian female fans holding the flag of Iran in Azadi Stadium of Tehran on June 25, 2018, is taking a photo as a memento during the FIFA World Cup 2018 match between Iran and Portugal.

In Iran, women are still not allowed to enter the football stadiums and in FIFA World Cup 2018 after 40 years, they could enter the Azadi Stadium of Tehran to watch the match live stream.



Two Iranian football fans smoke at Azadi Stadium during the live broadcast of the 2018 FIFA World Cup match between IRAN and Portugal in Tehran, Iran on June 25, 2018. Iranian women were allowed to enter at Tehran stadium to watch a live broadcast of two matches of the 2018 FIFA World Cup between Iran v Spain and Portugal.



An Iranian women pray at Azadi Stadium during the live broadcast of the 2018 FIFA World Cup match between IRAN and Portugal in Tehran, Iran on June 25, 2018. Iranian woman were allowed to enter at Tehran stadium to watch a live broadcast of two matches of the 2018 FIFA World Cup between Iran vs Spain and Portugal.



An Iranian woman is seen with her boy at Azadi Stadium during the live broadcast of the 2018 FIFA World Cup match between IRAN and Portugal in Tehran, Iran on June 25, 2018. Iranian women were allowed to enter at Tehran stadium to watch a live broadcast of two matches of the 2018 FIFA World Cup between Iran v Spain and Portugal.



A women surfing on mobile at Azadi Stadium during the live broadcast of the 2018 FIFA World Cup match between IRAN and Portugal in Tehran, Iran on June 25, 2018. Iranian woman was allowed to enter at Tehran stadium to watch a live broadcast of two matches of the 2018 FIFA World Cup between Iran v Spain and Portugal.