

THE TURBAN  
FOR THE CROWN

The Islamic Revolution in Iran

Said Amir Arjomand

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## Chronology of Significant Events in Iranian History Since 1500

- 1501 Foundation of the Safavid empire and establishment of Shi'ism as the state religion of Iran.
- 1587–1629 Reign of 'Abbas the Great; centralization of Safavid state.
- 1722 Afghan conquest of Isfahan and the overthrow of the Safavid Dynasty.
- 1736–47 Reign of Nader Shah Afshar; subversion of Shi'ism.
- 1747–early 1760s Anarchy and the dominance of tribal warlords.
- mid-1760s–1779 Pacification of the tribes and the reign of Karim Khan Zand.
- 1779–94 Tribal anarchy and the rise of the Qajars.
- 1770s–1800 Independent growth of the influence of the Shi'ite hierocracy.
- 1796 Coronation of Aqa Mohammad Khan Qajar.
- 1797–1834 Reign of Fath 'Ali Shah Qajar; concord between the state and the Shi'ite hierocracy.
- 1834–48 Reign of Mohammad Shah Qajar.
- 1848–96 Reign of Naser al-Din Shah Qajar.
- 1848–51 Centralizing reforms of Mirza Taqi Khan, Amir Nezam.
- 1891–92 Nationwide protest against the tobacco concession is led by the Shi'ite religious leaders and results in its repeal.
- 1896–1907 Reign of Mozaffar al-Din Shah Qajar.
- Aug. 5, 1906 Iran is granted a parliament (*Majles*) in response to popular agitation led by the Shi'ite religious leaders.
- 1907–09 Reign of Mohammad 'Ali Shah Qajar.
- Oct. 25–Dec. 19, 1907 Reforming cabinet of Naser al-Molk, who also serves as finance minister.
- Feb. 29, 1908 Sani' al-Dawleh, minister of public works since Oct. 1907, also takes over the ministry of finance.
- June 23, 1908 Bombardment of the Majles and restoration of autocracy.
- July 1909 Conquest of Tehran by the Constitutionalists and restoration of constitutional government.
- 1909–25 Reign of Soltan Ahmad Shah Qajar.

- Oct. 30, 1910–  
Mar. 11, 1911 Reforming (second) Cabinet of Mostawfi al-Mamalek; Sani' al-Dawleh serves as finance minister until his assassination on Feb. 6, 1911.
- Nov.–Dec. 1911 Occupation of Northern Iran by Russian troops and aborting of the Constitutionalists' reforms.
- Oct. 1925 Abolition of the Qajar Dynasty.
- Dec. 1925 Reza Khan is declared Shah and monarchy is transferred to the Pahlavi Dynasty.
- 1925–41 Reign of Reza Shah Pahlavi; formation of a centralized bureaucratic state.
- 1941–79 Reign of Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi.
- 1944–53 Nationalization of oil, masterminded by Mohammad Mosaddeq, dominates Iranian politics.
- 1963–79 Mohammad Reza Shah's programs of reform and modernization, officially designated the "White Revolution" and the "Revolution of the Shah and the People."
- Feb. 1979 Overthrow of the Pahlavi Dynasty and end of monarchy.
- Dec. 1979 Ratification of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran by national referendum.