



# Rethinking Iranian Nationalism and Modernity

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**Rethinking Iranian Nationalism and Modernity** From University of Texas Press

While recent books have explored Arab and Turkish nationalism, the nuances of Iran have received scant book-length study—until now. Capturing the significant changes in approach that have shaped this specialization, *Rethinking Iranian Nationalism and Modernity* shares innovative research and charts new areas of analysis from an array of scholars in the field.

Delving into a wide range of theoretical and conceptual perspectives, the essays—all previously unpublished—encompass social history, literary theory, postcolonial studies, and comparative analysis to address such topics as:

- Ethnicity in the Islamic Republic of Iran
- Political Islam and religious nationalism
- The evolution of U.S.-Iranian relations before and after the Cold War
- Comparing Islamic and secular nationalism(s) in Egypt and Iran
- The German counterrevolution and its influence on Iranian political alliances
- The effects of Israel's image as a Euro-American space
- Sufism
- Geocultural concepts in Azar's Atashkadeh

Interdisciplinary in essence, the essays also draw from sociology, gender studies, and art and architecture. Posing compelling questions while challenging the conventional historiographical traditions, the authors (many of whom represent a new generation of Iranian studies scholars) give voice to a research approach that embraces the modern era's complexity while emphasizing Iranian nationalism's contested, multifaceted, and continuously transformative possibilities.

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### **Review**

"Their efforts are laudable and their contribution a welcome addition that enriches the historiography of Iranian nationalism. The book should serve graduate students, researchers, and academics in Iranian history and contemporary Iranian politics well." (Omid Payrow Shabani *Journal of the Society for Contemporary Thought and the Islamicate World* 2015-03-10)

"Arguably the field's most significant contribution to date. . . . Such a work is long overdue." (David Yaghoubian, Associate Professor of History, California State University San Bernardino, and author of *Ethnicity, Identity, and the Development of Nationalism in Iran*)

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### **About the Author**

Kamran Scot Aghaie is Associate Professor of Islamic and Iranian History at the University of Texas at Austin, where he is also Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies His previous books are *The Women of Karbala: Ritual Performance and Symbolic Discourses in Modern Shi'i Islam* and *The Martyrs of Karbala: Symbols and Rituals in Modern Iran*. Afshin Marashi is the Farzaneh Family Associate Professor of Iranian Studies at the University of Oklahoma, where he is also Director of the Iranian Studies Program. His previous publications include the book *Nationalizing Iran: Culture, Power, and the State, 1870–1940*.

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