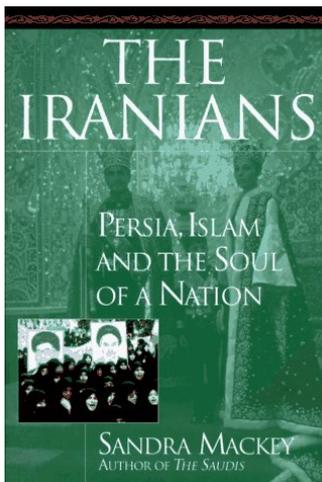


[PDF] The Iranians: Persia, Islam And The Soul Of A Nation

Sandra Mackey, Scott Harrop - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: The Iranians: Persia, Islam a

Author: Sandra Mackey, Scott Harrop

Released: 1996-05-01

Language:

Pages: 448

ISBN: 0525940057

ISBN13: 978-0525940050

ASIN: 0525940057

[**CLICK HERE FOR DOWNLOAD**](#)

pdf, mobi, epub, azw, kindle

Description:

The Iranians chronicles the history of the Iranian people, from the "glory days" of Persia to the overthrow of Mohammed Riza Shah and the rise of the Ayatollah Khomeini. Through many centuries, Islamic Iran fell repeatedly to invaders--Turks, Mongols, Afghans, Russians, and the British--only to spring back and reassert its cultural and spiritual autonomy while absorbing elements of other civilizations. But after the 1950s, rapid modernization disturbed every facet of Iranian life. Mackey shows how Iran's pendulum swung from nationalism to monarchism to rigid Shia fundamentalism, while also offering harsh judgment of Western attitudes and policies toward Iran.

From Publishers Weekly In an engrossing blend of history and reportage, Middle East expert Mackey (*The Saudis*) portrays a proud, anxious people caught between two interlocking traditions competing for the nation's soul. On the one hand, there is the legacy of ancient Persia, which brought forth Zoroastrianism with its belief in a supreme God, a philosophy of tolerance and justice, and magnificent art; and on the other, there is the predominant Shiite Muslim religion, which mirrors Persian nonconformity in its schismatic break with Sunni orthodoxy, but which also galvanizes the masses with calls for an egalitarian society, retribution against the West and strict adherence to Islamic moral code. Shah Muhammad Reza Pahlavi, in her analysis, abandoned Islamic traditions and, wrapping himself in the cloak of kingship, pushed a shallow resurrection of the glories of ancient Persia. His fall in 1979 left the U.S. adrift in the crucial Persian Gulf; and contemporary Iran, with its ongoing military buildup, its opposition to the Israel-Arab peace process and its refusal to lift the death edict for Salman Rushdie, reinforces deep-rooted authoritarian traditions. Nevertheless, Mackey strongly urges the U.S. to replace its policy of isolation and embargo with reconciliation toward President Hashemi Rafsanjani and the moderate pragmatists he supposedly represents.

Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

- Title: *The Iranians: Persia, Islam and the Soul of a Nation*
 - Author: Sandra Mackey, Scott Harrop
 - Released: 1996-05-01
 - Language:
 - Pages: 448
 - ISBN: 0525940057
 - ISBN13: 978-0525940050
 - ASIN: 0525940057
-

"The Iranians" approaches its subject primarily by means of historical narrative. From Zoroaster to Xerxes and Khomeini to Khatami, the account is mainly factual and descriptive. However, Mackey also intersperses her own personal experiences in Iran, and she is not timid about drawing conclusions or stating opinions. For example, she describes with equal candor the follies of the British, the Americans, and yes, the Iranians themselves. This is sure to offend some people, as any 400-page summary of one of the world's great civilizations inevitably will. A very readable history of Iran and the Iranians. I would recommend it to anyone, especially in the Western world, as it gives the reader a very good insight into the Iran of today. Read more. The Iranians: Persia, Isl has been added to your Basket. Add to Basket. Buy Now. Provides a portrait of the troubled nation of Iran and the complex religious, historical, political, and cultural forces--especially the dichotomy between Islam and the culture of ancient Persia--that continue to shape it. See all Product description. Customers who bought this item also bought. (Most Iranian Jews speak Farsi, adhere to Persian culture more than Jewish culture, and live scattered within the general population. Generally, they do not share the passionate attachment to Israel which characterizes many Jewish groups.) They suffer little of the ostracism historically visited on the Bahais, a mid-nineteenth century offshoot of Islam, who have always lived as a suspected, even hated, minority in Iran. [page 129]. The Bahai religion began as a messianic movement within the Shia sect of Islam. In 1844, during the reign of the third Qajar shah, [page 130]. Muhammad, a young man just past adolescence named Mirza Ali Muhammad declared himself the long awaited Mahdi. The Shah and the Ayatollah: Persia and Islam 9. The Persian Empire of Muhammad Reza Shah Part IV 10. The Double Revolution 11. The Internal and External: Wars for the Iranian Nation 12. Islamic Government: Religion, Culture and Power 13. The Islamic Republic of Iran: The Failed Quest for Justice Epilogue Afterword to the Plume Edition Endnotes Selected Bibliography Index. In the last decades, the Iranians' intertwined destinies of Persia and Islam resulted in the violent shift of leadership and policy from the imperious "King of Kings," Muhammad Reza Shah, to the zealous Ayatollah Khomeini. Without a current icon of culture and authority, the Iranians now struggle with their present and search for their future in the decaying Iranian Revolution. The author's personal knowledge of Iran gives her book a superbly human dimension. In The Iranians, eminent Middle East expert Sandra Mackey brings us invaluable understanding of a complex, contradictory, and sometimes volatile people. Beginning with the ancient Persian empires that ruled from India to Greece and later humbled mighty

Iran seems destined to perplex many Americans for years to come. It is routinely labeled a rogue state, the humiliation of the hostage crisis of 1979-80 has not faded from memory, and Iran is now seen by many as the major impediment to Arab-Israeli peace. Challenging these simplistic perceptions seems to be the unstated purpose of this survey of Iranian history.Â Iran seems destined to perplex many Americans for years to come. It is routinely labeled a rogue state, the humiliation of the hostage crisis of 1979-80 has not faded from memory, and Iran is now seen by many as the major impediment to Arab-Israeli peace. Challenging these simplistic perceptions seems to be the unstated purpose of this survey of Iranian history. (Most Iranian Jews speak Farsi, adhere to Persian culture more than Jewish culture, and live scattered within the general population. Generally, they do not share the passionate attachment to Israel which characterizes many Jewish groups.) They suffer little of the ostracism historically visited on the Bahais, a mid-nineteenth century offshoot of Islam, who have always lived as a suspected, even hated, minority in Iran. [page 129].Â The Bahai religion began as a messianic movement within the Shia sect of Islam. In 1844, during the reign of the third Qajar shah, [page 130]. Muhammad, a young man just past adolescence named Mirza Ali Muhammad declared himself the long awaited Mahdi. In the last decades, the Iranians' intertwined destinies of Persia and Islam resulted in the violent shift of leadership and policy from the imperious "King of Kings," Muhammad Reza Shah, to the zealous Ayatollah Khomeini. Without a current icon of culture and authority, the Iranians now struggle with their present and search for their future in the decaying Iranian Revolution. The author's personal knowledge of Iran gives her book a superbly human dimension.Â In *The Iranians*, eminent Middle East expert Sandra Mackey brings us invaluable understanding of a complex, contradictory, and sometimes volatile people. Beginning with the ancient Persian empires that ruled from India to Greece and later humbled mighty