

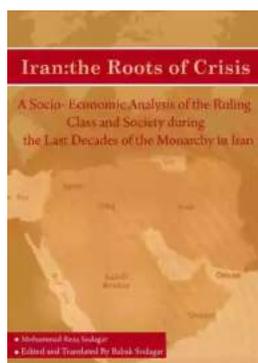
# The Roots Of Crisis: Unpacking Iran's Ongoing Turmoil

In recent years, Iran has faced numerous challenges that have led to a state of deep political and social crisis. These conflicts have not only affected the Iranian people but also have significant implications for the region and the world at large. To comprehend the current situation, it is essential to understand the historical and cultural factors that have contributed to Iran's current turmoil.

## Ancient History: Persia and Political Legacies

The roots of Iran's crisis can be traced back to its ancient history as Persia, a dominant power in the region for centuries. The Persian Empire, known for its vast territories and rich civilization, laid the foundation for a complex political and cultural legacy that continues to influence the country today.

Centuries of conquest, invasions, and empire-building have shaped Iran's political landscape. The establishment of monarchies, the influence of religious leaders, and the struggle for power have all played a role in shaping the Iranian society we see today. These historical factors have created a culture of political and social fragmentation, which has contributed to the current crisis.



## Iran: the Roots of Crisis by Roselis von Sass(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 377 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 114 pages  
Lending : Enabled



## **Islamic Revolution: The Rise of the Ayatollahs**

In 1979, Iran experienced a revolution that would redefine its modern history. The overthrow of the Shah and the establishment of an Islamic Republic under the leadership of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini brought significant changes to the country's political and social fabric.

The Islamic Revolution marked a shift towards a theocratic regime, with religious leaders gaining substantial power and influence. The Ayatollahs' aim to create an Islamic state based on strict religious principles was met with opposition from various factions within society, leading to ongoing conflicts and strained political stability.

## **Regional Influence: Geopolitics and Interests**

Iran's position in the Middle East has also been a crucial factor in the current crisis. The country's geopolitical importance, its vast reserves of oil, and its historical rivalry with neighboring powers have placed it at the center of regional conflicts.

Iran's involvement in proxy wars and support for militant groups, such as Hezbollah and Hamas, has raised concerns among its regional rivals and the international community. These actions have further deepened divisions and triggered tensions that have contributed to the ongoing crisis.

## **Economic Challenges: Sanctions and Inflation**

Economic challenges have exacerbated Iran's crisis, with international sanctions and internal mismanagement contributing to a struggling economy. The sanctions

imposed by the United States and other countries have severely impacted Iran's ability to trade and access international markets.

Inflation, unemployment, and widespread poverty have become significant issues, leading to growing discontent among the population. The economic hardships faced by ordinary Iranians have fueled social unrest and anti-government sentiments, further destabilizing the country.

## **Human Rights: Repression and Struggles**

Human rights violations and political repression have been long-standing concerns in Iran. The government's suppression of dissent, censorship of the media, and restriction of civil liberties have created an environment of fear and oppression.

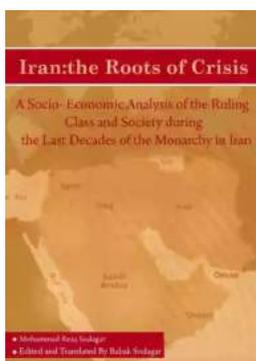
Activists, journalists, and minority groups have faced persecution, leading to further divisions and a sense of injustice. These ongoing struggles for basic rights and freedoms have also contributed to the current crisis and amplified internal and external tensions.

## **The Path Forward: Seeking Stability and Resolution**

Overcoming Iran's deep-rooted crisis requires a multi-faceted approach and a genuine commitment from both the Iranian government and the international community. Addressing political, social, and economic reforms, promoting human rights, and engaging in diplomatic efforts are essential steps towards stability and resolution.

Understanding the roots of Iran's crisis is crucial for finding long-term solutions and creating a more peaceful and prosperous future. By acknowledging the

historical and cultural factors that have influenced the current turmoil, meaningful progress can be made towards resolving the ongoing crisis in Iran.



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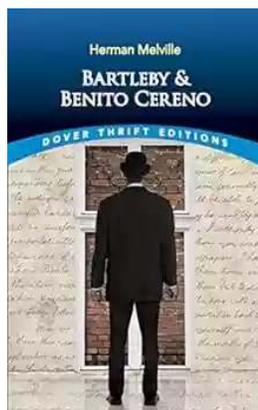
### A Socio-Economic Analysis of the Ruling Class and Society during the Last Decades of the Monarchy in Iran

Mohammad Reza Sodagar (1932-1989) carried out extensive research into the development of Iranian economy and society during what he called its growth and expansion phases. He wrote and published many books on this subject during his lifetime. His last book, "The Development of Capitalist Relations in Iran, The Expansion Phase 1963 to 1979" was posthumously published in Tehran in 1990. This edited translation is focused on his analyses of the Iranian bourgeoisie and the Shah's reactions and solutions to issues arising within Iranian society in the critical period before the 1979 revolution. It is extracted from two chapters of the book, which we hope will be useful in understanding the nature of Iran's ruling class, its world outlook and its policies from a political economic perspective in the critical period prior to the fall of the Shah. The author analysed the solutions which were then developed and presented by the Iranian state to the problems

and conflicts of an expanded capitalist economy, in the context of the tumultuous changes occurring within Iranian society at that particular juncture. His study of the reaction of the dominant autocratic ruling class to the forces calling for change is not only of historic interest but, in the editor's view, is of relevance to the understanding of current events in the Middle East with the “Arab Spring” as well as the broader and current question of the relationship between economic development in expansion phases with political formations and policies of governing states in the so called emerging economies.

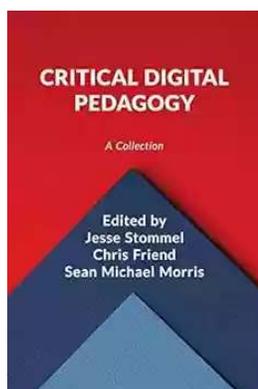
The work is based on the author's primary and secondary research as well as his personal experiences.

Babak Sodagar, 4th July 2012



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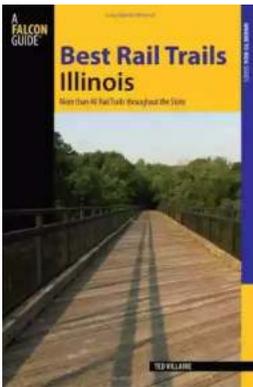
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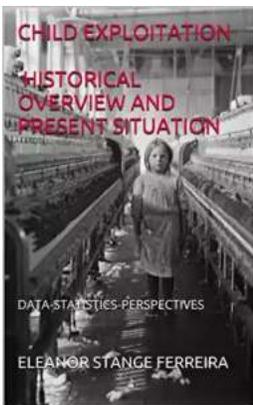
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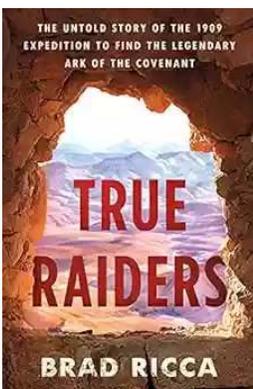
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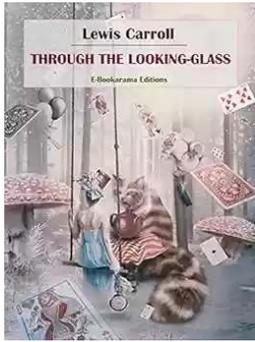
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