

Chronology of Significant Events in Iranian History Since 1500

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| 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 (<i>Majles</i>) 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. |

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| 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. |