Politics of Modern Iran

CRITICAL ISSUES IN MODERN POLITICS

Edited and with a new introduction by Ali M. Ansari, University of St Andrews, UK

A quarter of a century on from the revolution of 1979 there is an ongoing political struggle within Iran between traditionalists and modernists, with the ever-younger average age of the population playing a dynamic role.

On the international stage, the big issues remain Iran’s hostility towards Israel and the development of nuclear power in the face of US and international opposition. This is all in addition to the oil question and the strategic interest of Russia, an issue which harks back to the 19th century but remains unresolved, as well as Iran’s concern about the proper stewardship of the holy places of Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem.

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