

Book Review:

ARDESHIR ZAHEDI'S MEMOIRS THIRD VOLUME

This book accurately depicts, previous volumes have been sufficient for confirmation, and it also skillfully fits into the geopolitical issues of the twenty-first century.

On almost 600 pages, filled with memories and historical accounts, Ardeshir Zahedi draws, with poignant authenticity, a picture of the last years of imperial Iran, torn between her various passions, her nationalism and the modernism of its elite.

The Iranian people, one of the most ancient of the world, had aspired to turn away from the East, and embrace the West and the tranquility of the modern world. Far from the unforgiving Islamic repression, which has been in power for over forty years now, reigning a suffocated nation, which has, however, lost nothing of her aspirations of yesterday.

Throughout this book, which goes beyond a mere compilation of memories, the Shah's former Foreign Minister, as well as ambassador to Great Britain and the United States, takes us back to a grand period of Iranian diplomacy, before the escapades of the Islamic revolution of 1979 overshadowed the country.

Beyond political, cultural and international perspectives, portrayed with more accuracy even than in the previous two volumes, the narrative subtly falls in line with twenty-first century geopolitical issues. Like a braisant snubbing, the

mullah-regime's hatred of the United States could nevertheless not curb the western friends' tragic veneration of the Islamic Republic, almost bordering on self-subjection to servitude.

This book projects the celebration of a great civilization, amicably disposed to us and prone for a rebirth, far from the macabre unease, imposed by the removal of the Shah, toward the end of the last century.

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