

**ON THE OCCASION OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST
INSTALMENT OF ARDESHIR ZAHEDIE'S MEMOIRS**

**ARDESHIR ZAHEDI HAS TWO IMPORTANT
ATTRIBUTES AS A PARTICIPANT AND AN
OBSERVER OF IRAN'S MODERN HISTORY:**

**ONE IS A VERY STRONG AND
LASTING MEMORY AND
THE OTHER IS A LIBRARY
FULL OF HISTORICAL
DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS**

William Rice, the American journalist, wrote this about Ardeshtir Zahedi some 30 years ago: "He has a head full of politics and diplomacy, and backed by an unrelenting drive and ambition in international diplomacy. In fact, we can talk about him as a dynamo and a restless soul in the field.

The memoirs and political writings of Ardeshtir Zahedi show that whichever country he was assigned to as an Ambassador or representative, from the first days and months of his new post, he established a friendly and effective personal relationship with the most influential and effective leaders of that country. His two tours as Ambassador to the United States show that in the diplomatic corps, no one was stronger and more influential than he was. And this is apparent from the way that those diplomats who knew him personally talk about him and sing his praises.

According to Rice you can disagree with the political opinions and diplomacy of Zahedi, but you could never deny his abundant smarts and relenting capacity in carrying out his duties as a representative of Iran.

In his capacity as Foreign Minister, Zahedi gave a new venue to Iranian diplomacy, and as Rice says: "Zahedi is capable of turning a quiet and static diplomatic atmosphere into a dynamic and energetic one with great success in a very

short period of time. If the late Shah of Iran had a few more Zahedi's in his court, he could have easily turned the America and Europe into accepting his views with far more outreaching results for all especially Iran would not have been where it ended up at the end."

An English diplomat who knew Zahedi and had a close personal relationship with him during his tenure as Ambassador to England has said: "Today in 2012 in spite of the fact that Zahedi is living in his 83rd year of life, he has two devoted and loyal friends; one is a strong and sharp memory, the other a library full of documents and papers. Very few historians of political events of the last ¾ of a century are not in a position to take advantage of this treasure trove of historical documents.

Zahedi has established a large library in his home in Montreux, Switzerland, and every week he entertains heads of state, present and past. A review of these documents tells the story of a life which has been witness to many a historical event, familiar and some still secret. The many documents which Mr. Zahedi presents in his memoirs as evidence of events that have taken place during his tenure as Ambassador and Foreign Minister are invaluable in setting some historical events in perspective, and as such, they are a very important contribution to history of the years of the rule of Mohammad



Reza Shah Pahlavi.

The Wikipedia writes: Ardeshtir Zahedi is from two great families who are an integral part of Iran's modern history. His father; Fazlollah Zahedi is one of the most renowned military men of the Pahlavi era, as well as the Prime Minister after the fall of Mossadegh. His maternal grandfather; Nassrollah Khan Moshiroldowleh was the first Prime Minister after the establishment of the Mashrooatiat. (Parliamentary Democracy) The English translation of the first part of Zahedi's memoirs indicates that his trend has penetrated every fiber of his being.

After finishing his education at the age of 20 in the US and return to Iran he became the Deputy Director of the Point Four US Aid Project in Iran, and during the fateful events of the summer of 1953, he was active along with his father who was in hiding. During the tenure of his father as Prime Minister (1953-1955) he was the liaison between the Shah and his father and two years later in 1957, he married the Shah's daughter Princess Shahnaz. The marriage lasted for seven years but until the last days of the Shah he remained a trusted advisor to him.

The first part of Mr. Zahedi's memoirs is the story of the moments and continuous events all of them backed by historical document that rivet the reader to his chair. In this book, events such as those of 28th of Mordad (August 18-1953) with backing from many documents are revisited. The narrative and documents revise this part of the history of Iran, set the record straight and can not possibly be ignored.