HISTORY 379

ISLAM IN IRAN

SPRING 2008

Lectures: Tuesday and Thursday, 11-12.15, Humanities 1101
Professor David Morgan, Humanities 4113; 263-1826: domorgan@wisc.edu
TA: Lynnette Garcia: lmgarcia2@wisc.edu

SCOPE OF THE COURSE
The aim of the course is to examine the history of Islam in Iran, against the pre-Islamic religious background of Iran, from the Arab conquest and the coming of Islam in the 7th century AD to the aftermath of the Islamic Revolution of 1978/9. It will attempt to situate Iran in the wider context of the Islamic world as well as paying attention to the distinctive features of Islam which have evolved in Iran, particularly since the 16th century.

REQUIREMENTS
Students will be expected to write two book reviews, of about 2-3 pages each, to be submitted on 19 February and 25 March, and a paper of about 10 pages, to be submitted on 1 May. Books chosen for review should be directly relevant to the course. Students are at liberty to choose their own topics for their paper, subject to approval by me: I can offer suggestions for suitable topics and appropriate reading. There will also be a mid-term quiz, to be taken in class. Students are expected to attend the lectures, do the reading and be prepared to talk: I prefer, normally, not to lecture non-stop for 75 minutes.

REQUIRED READING
A.M. Ansari, Modern Iran. The Pahlavis and After (Harlow, 2nd. ed., 2007)
M. Momen, An Introduction to Shi’i Islam. The History and Doctrines of Twelver Shi’ism (New Haven, 1985)

RECOMMENDED READING
A.Bausani, Religion in Iran (New York, 2000)
N.R. Keddie, Modern Iran. Roots and Results of Revolution (New Haven, 2006)

LECTURE AND READING LIST
Topics are listed broadly by week during the semester, though we may not stick rigidly to this. Required and recommended reading is mentioned first; additional reading for those who may wish to explore a particular topic further then follows.

   Required: Garthwaite, ch. 1-4

2. Religions in pre-Islamic Iran: Zoroaster, Mani, Mazdak.
   Required: Foltz, ch 1, 2, 6; Garthwaite, ch. 2, 4
   Recommended: Bausani, part 1
   Suggested: on Zoroastrianism, M. Boyce, Zoroastrians. Their Religious Beliefs and Practices (1979); R.C. Zaeher, The Dawn and Twilight of Zoroastrianism (1961); he also contributed a useful summary in R.C.

3. Muhammad and the early development of Islam. The Arab conquest of Iran.

**Required:** Garthwaite, ch. 5; Momen, ch 1


4. The Succession to Muhammad and the origins of the Sunni-Shi'i divide. The Shi'i Imams.

**Required:** Momen, ch 2-3, 7-8


5. Islam in Iran in the early Islamic centuries. The Isma'ilis (Assassins) in Iran.

**Required:** Foltz, ch. 7; Garthwaite, ch. 5; Momen, ch. 4

**Recommended:** Bausani, pp. 146-77; Lewis, *The Assassins*


Required: Foltz, ch. 7; Garthwaite, ch. 5; Momen, ch 5, 11
Recommended: Bausani, pp. 209-37

7. Rise of the Safavids (1300-1500) and the imposition of Shi'ism in the 16th century.

Required: Momen, pp. 105-12; Foltz, ch. 7; Garthwaite, ch. 6
Recommended: Bausani, pp. 299-325


Required: Momen, pp. 112-30, and ch 13; Foltz, ch. 7
Recommended: Bausani, ch. 7

9. "Church-state" conflict and accommodation during the Qajar period (19th and early 20th centuries). Emergence of the Babi and Baha'i faiths.

Required: Foltz, ch. 8; Garthwaite, ch. 7; Momen, pp. 130-46, 231-2
Recommended: Bausani, ch. 8; Keddie, ch. 1-4
10. Islam and the state during the Pahlavi period (1921-79).

Required: Ansari, ch 2-6; Garthwaite, ch. 8; Momen, pp. 246-61
Recommended: Keddie, ch. 6-7


Required: Ansari, ch 7; Garthwaite, ch. 8; Momen, pp. 282-9
Recommended: Keddie, ch. 9
12. The course of the Revolution and the establishment of the Khomeini regime (1978-89).

Required: Ansari, ch 8; Foltz, ch. 9; Garthwaite, ch. 8; Momen, pp. 282-99
Recommended: Keddie, ch. 9-10

13. Islam and the "clerical" state in Iran since the death of Khomeini.

Required: Ansari, ch. 8-10; Foltz, ch. 9; Garthwaite, ch. 8;
Recommended: Keddie, ch. 11-12, and Epilogue in the 2006 edition

14. Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan