1953 CIA-backed Coup:

Event: The CIA-backed coup that toppled Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadeq and installed Mohammad Reza Pahlavi as the Shah of Iran (1953).

Significance: This event led to deep-seated mistrust of the U.S. and the UK in the Iranian public consciousness.

>SAVAK and Shah's Rule:

Event: Creation of SAVAK (1957).

Significance: SAVAK, with CIA and Mossad involvement, suppressed opposition, paving the way for the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Hezbollah's Origins (1983):

Event: Truck bombings of the U.S. Marine Battalion and French Multinational Force buildings in Beirut (1983).

Significance: Formation of Hezbollah as a response to the Israeli invasion, with Iran providing support.

Hezbollah's Global Activities:

Event: Hezbollah's involvement in global criminal activities, including drug smuggling and arms trading.

Significance: Hezbollah's role in funding itself and acting as an arm of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

Hamas:

Comparison with Hezbollah: Formation during the first Intifada (1987).

Significance: Sunni group, more flexible in alliances, and conflicted with Iran during the Syrian civil war.

Houthi Movement:

Event: Emergence of the Houthi movement in the late 1990s.

Significance: Houthi rebels act as Iran's proxy in Yemen, escalating tensions with Saudi Arabia and the UAE

Continuation :

1979 Islamic Revolution:

Event: Ayatollah Khomeini's leadership and the overthrow of the Shah's regime (1979).

Significance: The revolution reshaped Iran's political landscape, uniting diverse groups against the monarchy.

Events post-Revolution:

American Hostage Crisis (1979): 52 Americans held hostage for 444 days.

Iraq's Invasion (1980): Saddam Hussein's attempt to curb revolutionary influence.

Iran-Iraq War and Gulf War (1980-1991):

Event: The invasion of Kuwait (1990).

Significance: Economic strain and the threat of technologically superior U.S. forces fueled Iran's interest in advancing its computing program.

Iranian Kurdistan (1979):

Event: Kurdish uprising in Mohabad (1979).

Significance: Suppression of Kurdish autonomy aspirations and violent crackdown on uprisings.

Hezbollah's Origins (1983):

Event: Truck bombings of the U.S. Marine Battalion and French Multinational Force buildings in Beirut (1983).

Significance: Formation of Hezbollah as a response to the Israeli invasion, with Iran providing support.

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Hezbollah's Global Activities:

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Houthi Movement:

Event: Emergence of the Houthi movement in the late 1990s.

Significance: Houthi rebels act as Iran's proxy in Yemen, escalating tensions with Saudi Arabia and the UAE

On the day of the 23rd of August, 1979, the Kurdish population of the town of Mohabad seized control. The city of Mohabad is a central figure in the Iranian side of Kurdistan, as it was the de-facto capital of the independent Kurdish Republic duting the period of 1946-1947. . The revolt was triggered by the seizure of power in the nearby town of Paveh by the local Kurdish tribes. The trend continued on to the towns of Saqqaz, Divan Darreh and finally the town of Mohabad.

In terms of the Iranian-Kurdish population's sentiments about the 1979 Islamic Revolution, they have felt a tremendous disappointment towards it, as it did not improve their circumstances of achieving their goal of full-autonomy over the Kurdish regions of Iran. Early in 1979, Ayatollah Khomeini met the Kurdish leaders of Iran, and warned them against their ambitions of autonomy. Afterwards, Khomeini ordered their arrest, and that meant a life in hiding. From among the Kurds that fought in the uprising of Mohabad, they expressed the sentiment of fighting for more autonomy over their regions, but not to be completely cut-off from the rest of Iran.

\_1979: Kurdish revolt grows in Iran\_. (1979, August 23). [http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/august/23/newsid\_2535000/2535165.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/august/23/newsid\_2535000/2535165.stm)

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After Mohabad was under Kurdish control, the Iranian government ordered the Iranian Armed forces to attack the city. The Air Force conducted severe aerial bombardments of the city. The reported casualties by the Kurdish population were exceeding 600 deaths. The rebels fled to the hills with their light weaponry, amongst the ruins of their heavy machinery seized from the Shah's army. The Iranian government's response in those times echoes a voice from their future, where summary executions were common place in these events, where 80 Iranian-Kurds were sent to their deaths by a firing-squad. In the field of rhetoric, the Iranian government reported that four Israeli soldiers, a French individual and 2 Iraqi officers were arrested in Iranian-Kurdistan.

\_Wayback Machine\_. (2013, November 9). [https://web.archive.org/web/20131109105510/http://iranhrdc.org/files/pdf\_en/1979-Newspapers/9-04-79-Iranians-take-rebel-Kurdish-town.pdf](https://web.archive.org/web/20131109105510/http://iranhrdc.org/files/pdf\_en/1979-Newspapers/9-04-79-Iranians-take-rebel-Kurdish-town.pdf)

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The individual who was tasked with resolving the Mohabad uprising was Ayatollah Sadegh Khalkhali, who was the head of the Revolutionary Court. After the Iranian army took control of the Kurdish towns, summary trials followed shortly by summary executions happened to boys and men for alleged revolutionary participation in the events of their towns.

\_Iran Human Rights Documentation Center - Haunted Memories: The Islamic Republic’s Executions of Kurds in 1979\_. (2012, June 2). [https://web.archive.org/web/20120602222138/http://www.iranhrdc.org/english/publications/reports/3508-haunted-memories-the-islamic-republics-executions-of-kurds-in-1979.html?p=11#.T8qR97DP1qa](https://web.archive.org/web/20120602222138/http://www.iranhrdc.org/english/publications/reports/3508-haunted-memories-the-islamic-republics-executions-of-kurds-in-1979.html?p=11#.T8qR97DP1qa)

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The Kurdish peoples of Iran make up about 9% of the total population of Iran. They are mostly based on the border areas with Iraq and Turkey. Most of the Kurdish peoples of Iran are Sunni Muslim, while less than a third of Iran's Kudish population are Shia Muslim. The only two areas of historical Kurdistan that have been officially recognized in the modern-day countries that engulf Kurdish territory are the Iraqi Kurdistan and Iranian Kurdistan regions. Syrian and Turkish Kurdish areas have not been recognized by Syria nor Turkey, as neither of them concede to the desires of the Kurdish peoples for increased autonomy.

The Kurds of Iran have fought for their independence during the Safavidm Qajar and Pahlavi periods of Iranian history.During the Iraq-Iran war of 1980-1988, Contrary to the assumptions of of both the Iraqi and Iranian Kurdish populations , who thought that their counterpart would unite with them to fight for Kurdish independence, Iraqi Kurds and Iranian Kurds both organized loyalist militias to aid their respective countries as a show of allegiance. Since the Iraq-Iran war of 1980 to 1988, and throughout the 1990s and 2000s, Iranian Kurds have sided with either the Iranian authorities, Saddam Hussein, and other entities.

Nonetheless, fighting between Kurdish and Iranian forces took place between 1979 and 1982. The region of Karmanshah with its Shia-Kurdish population mostly heeded no attention towards establishing an independent Kurdistan, but the younger generation thinks otherwise, as many have joined Leftist groups in Kurdistan(Kurdistan - Iran, n.d.).

Kurdistan—Iran. (n.d.). Retrieved November 13, 2023, from https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/war/kurdistan-iran.htm

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[Photos of Iran before the 1979 Islamic-Revolution](https://www.businessinsider.com/iran-before-the-revolution-in-photos-2015-4?op=1#in-1953-the-shah-had-to-flee-iran-after-a-western-backed-coup-to-overthrow-iranian-prime-minister-mohammad-mosaddegh-failed-a-second-coup-succeeded-in-overthrowing-mosaddegh-who-wanted-to-nationalize-the-iranian-oil-industry-to-britains-chagrin-and-the-shah-returned-to-the-country-5)

#### The 1953 Iranian Coup

- Iran's feelings towards the United States go back a long way in modern history, but one can say it would originate from the CIA-backed coup in Iran that topped Iran's democratically-elected prime minister Mohammad Mosaddeq, and ushered in Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's rule as the Shah of Iran. The CIA publicly admitted their role in the coup-de-tat in 2013.

##### Source :

The 1953 US-backed Coup and the instatement of the Shah's rule

[https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/oct/13/cia-1953-iran-coup-undemocratic-argo](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/oct/13/cia-1953-iran-coup-undemocratic-argo)

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Guardian News and Media. (2023, October 13). \_CIA admits 1953 Iranian coup it backed was undemocratic\_. The Guardian. https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/oct/13/cia-1953-iran-coup-undemocratic-argo

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- #### The US and British role in the 1953 Anti-Mosaddeq coup-de-tat

Mossadeq as a prime minister was a thorn on the United Kingdom's side, as he had nationalized the British Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, which we all know today as BP. He was highly distrustful of the United Kingom, and the British thought that the coup would help protect their interests by installing Mohammad Reza Pahlavi as the Shah of Iran. At the time, they could not do it alone, and they needed the US' assistance in making it a reality. The operation was nicknamed TPAJAX by the CIA, and Operation Boot by the United Kingdom's MI6. The Shah ruled until the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran. The Iranian public, especially when considering how the Shah's rule started, mistrusted both the United Kingdom and the United States of America due to their previous meddling in Iran's political sphere.

> [https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/aug/19/cia-admits-role-1953-iranian-coup](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/aug/19/cia-admits-role-1953-iranian-coup)

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> Guardian News and Media. (2013, August 19). \_Cia admits role in 1953 Iranian coup\_. The Guardian. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/aug/19/cia-admits-role-1953-iranian-coup

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The type of government that was in place was a Dynastic Monarchy.

#### The SAVAK : The Shah's Intelligence Service

Iran was extremely liberal before the revolution. Politically. Iran was the US' and Israel's best friend in the region; there was substantial collaboration : Creation of SAVAK.

SAVAK was created in 1957, and the name refers to the Organization of Intelligence and Security of the Nation. The agency hunted for communists and leftists, as the Cold War was very much alive at that time. The CIA and the Israeli Mossad both were part of its existence in the fearsome fashion in Iranian minds, and the oppression meted by the Shah's SAVAK paved the way to the 1979 Islamic Revolution(Karimi & Gambrell, n.d.).

Gambrell, N. K. and J. (2019, February 6). \_Torture still scars Iranians 40 years after revolution\_. The Times of Israel. https://www.timesofisrael.com/torture-still-scars-iranians-40-years-after-revolution/

Research : The name change after the revolution ( "Persia" to "Iran")

Reasons for the revolution : Oppression of the king's security apparatus, (hatred of the US and Israel as they both assisted in the creation of SAVAK "The security apparatus for the Shah")

(Bender, J. (n.d.). \_25 photos show what Iran looked like before the 1979 Revolution turned the nation into an Islamic Republic\_. Business Insider. https://www.businessinsider.com/iran-before-the-revolution-in-photos-2015-4?op=1#tehran-funded-study-abroad-in-europe-for-iranians-and-schools-and-clinics-were-built-throughout-the-iranian-countryside-to-care-for-poorer-children-as-part-of-the-shahs-white-revolution-21)

#### 1979 : Islamic Revolution

The 1979 Islamic-Revolution in Iran was a revolution that did not fit the western definition of what a Revolution is. Typically, revolutions that have happened in the past were by the underprivileged being united as a front against the privileged class, which often happens to be either affiliated with the state or considered to be a part of the state's apparatus. This revolution united both rich and poor against the Shah's dynastic monarchy.

The spearhead of this revolution, Ayatollah Khomeini, was on the minds of many Iranians as an almost-divine figure, as the people who followed him considered his words as divine. The political scene in those times ranged across ideologies, but it was mostly Islamist-leaning, followed by Marxist-Leninist ((The Iranian Revolution of February 1979, n.d.).

[https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-revolution-anniversary-timeline-idUSKCN1Q017W]

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Thus, it we are to consider Iran as a nation-state in the cyber-warfare front, it would be logical to consider when thinking of the likely motivations of Iran's offensive cyber program to also carry on the torch of the religious foundation of Islamic Iran(Personal opinion).

>Katulis, B., Sariolghalam, M., Authors, V., & Rogenhofer, J. M. (2023, September 26). \_The Iranian Revolution of February 1979\_. Middle East Institute. https://www.mei.edu/publications/iranian-revolution-february-1979

The Islamic Revolution of 1979 brought with it four major events that shaped the present political reality in the Middle East, and the Persian Gulf region more specifically. The event that invited further American presence in the Middle East region was the American Hostage Crisis of 1979, where 52 Americans were taken hostage by revolutionaries for 444 days in the American Embassy. The American public then saw the Iranian revolutionaries with great disdain, similar to how the Israeli public sees Hamas now due to their recent attack on Yom Kippur. The second event was Iraq's attempted invasion of Iran in 1980. Saddam Hussein wanted to extinguish the revolutionary fire, as it could potentially mean the revolution spreading beyond Iran's borders. What he feared became reality, as Hezbollah and Hamas exist today as proxies of Iran. Saddam Hussein received the support of the leaders of the Persian gulf countries, as they saw a monarch being deposed by revolution, and considered the Shia population that live within their respective borders. Saddam's war against Iran achieved results that he did not want : the Iranian people flocking to Khomeini, and the advancement of Iran's revolutionary pogrom outside of its borders.

The invasion of Kuwait was the next event that came as a consequence ; an 8-year war is financially draining on a country's economy. The first Gulf War of 1991 invited a technologically-superior opponent to Saddam Hussein, and the United States of America came along with the coalition forces to liberate Kuwait. After the liberation of Kuwait, American forces stayed in Kuwait, and other bases in the Persian Gulf. This is understandable as being a potential threat to Iran, who had a very real demonstration to the US' technologically-superior army. This point, in my opinion, invited a deeper interest in advancing Iran's computing program. The challenge of the American sanctions placed a hurdle in Iran's computing path, as the economy was severely challenged.

> - https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2014/2/11/iran-1979-the-islamic-revolution-that-shook-the-world

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> Parvaz, D. (2014, February 11). \_Iran Revolution\_. Features | Al Jazeera. https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2014/2/11/iran-1979-the-islamic-revolution-that-shook-the-world

## Post-Islamic Revolution

The Iraq-Iran War (1980-1988) : Effects of the war on Iran's finances + Research the birth of Iran's cyber program and technological situation involving PCs at that time.

Add a sentence about How warfare was fought before and after the cyber revolution (Iraq-Iran war fought with Soviet weaponry + artillary + tanks, Chemical Weapons etc...)

> [!todo]

> Research the effect of the Iraq-Iran war on the prevalence of computing technology in Iran.

>

1990 - Saddam enters Kuwait due to financial reasons

## Pre-Genesis Point for the Cyber Program

#### 1990s- Cover the birth of Iran's cyber security program.

The Iranian security forces begun honing their skills in offensive cyber attacks during the events of the Green Revolution in 2009, which necessitated extensive surveillance and to control the flow of information in Iran's cyberspace.

> Lewis, J. A. (n.d.). \_Iran and Cyber Power\_. CSIS. https://www.csis.org/analysis/iran-and-cyber-power

## Pro-Iran Groups

1. Phosphorous

2. Apt 32 , APT 42

3. Early Feb. 2022 installed XRIG crypto mining software

> [!tldr]

> 1. Research Phosphorous

> 2. Research APT 32

> 3. Research APT 42

> 4. Research the "Early Feb. 2022 installed XRIG crypto mining software"

> [!tip]

> This following website is invaluable source of information pertaining to the mentioned groups :

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>https://attack.mitre.org/

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>\_Mitre ATT&CK®\_. MITRE ATT&CK®. (n.d.).

#### Funding

1. They mine crypto, petroleum , natural gas

> [!todo]

> Research statistics pertaining to crypto mining in Iran.

> Research statistics pertaining to petroleum and natural gas production.

###### Drug Use in Iran : Women vs Men

###### Social Realities of Women's lives in Iran vs Men :

> [!todo]

> 1. Research drug use statistics between men and women in Iran

> 2. Research evidence of cyber surveillance pertaining to drug use