**Table 1: Timeline of Key Events, ca. 1860s–1940**

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| **1862–75: First wave of luster tilework thefts: Natanz, Qom, Varamin** | |
| 1863 | -February: E‘tezad al-Saltaneh visits Varamin |
| ca. 1860–70 | -museums in Sèvres and London dispatch agents to research ceramics and acquire tiles  -1867: publication of Julien de Rochechouart’s *Souvenirs d’un voyage en Perse* |
| 1875 | -South Kensington Museum (now Victoria & Albert Museum) receives a large set of luster tiles from the Emamzadeh Yahya |
| 1876 | -apparent Qajar edict banning Christians from entering religious sites  **-December: E‘temad al-Saltaneh visits Varamin**  -state of the Emamzadeh Yahya as observed by E‘temad al-Saltaneh: *marqad* (tomb or grave) in the center of the tomb, luster mihrab in situ, some dado tiles off the wall,  *motevalli* (caretaker) present |
| **1880–1900: Second wave of luster tilework thefts: Damghan, Kashan, Qom, Varamin** | |
| 1880 | -March: Musée National de Céramique, Sèvres, receives its first Emamzadeh Yahya tiles |
| 1881 | **-June: Jane Dieulafoy visits Varamin**  -state of the Emamzadeh Yahya at the time of Dieulafoy’s visit: entrance portal standing but vault collapsed, conical tower intact, luster mihrab in situ, mullah and guards present, apparent edict of 1876 in place (see above) |
| 1883 | -January: publication of Dieulafoy’s first *Le tour* article, including Varamin |
| 1885–86 | -Jane and Marcel Dieulafoy excavate at Susa over two seasons |
| 1887 | -publication of Dieulafoy’s travelogue *La Perse* |
| 1888 | -inauguration of the Musée duLouvre’s Department of Oriental Antiquities, including the Susa galleries |
| 1889 | -Nasir al-Din Shah’s third tour of Europe, including Paris |
| ca. 1880s | -Antoin Sevruguin photographs the luster cabinet in a Tehran home |
| ca. 1890s | -underglaze tiles dateable to the late Qajar period are installed on the dado of the tomb of Emamzadeh Yahya to mask the empty walls of the stolen luster tiles |
| 1893 | -sale of the Frédéric Spitzer collection in Paris combining Iranian and Spanish luster |
| 1900 | -Emamzadeh Yahya’s mihrab in Paris, said by Hagop Kevorkian to have been brought there by Mirza Hasan Ashtiani Mostowfi al-Mamalek for the Exposition Universelle  -July–August: Mozaffar al-Din Shah in Paris for the Exposition Universelle; signing of the third Franco-Persian archaeological convention |
| ca. 1900–1930 | -major renovation of the Emamzadeh Yahya; the original entrance portal and conical tower are completely lost |
| 1906–11 | -Constitutional Revolution of Iran |
| 1909 | -case launched by the Qajar government to investigate the thefts of manuscripts from the Golestan Palace Library |
| 1910 | -publication of Friedrich Sarre’s *Denkmäler persischer Baukunst*, including a general view of the Emamzadeh Yahya and its mihrab on display in Paris, which he attributes to the shrine |
| 1911 | -publication of Henry d’Allemagne’s *Du Khorassan au Pays des Backhtiaris*, including a section titled “Histoire du mihrab de Véramine” |
| 1912 | -February: Henri Viollet visits Varamin and photographs the congregational mosque  -October: Kevorkian travels to Iran to negotiate the purchase of the Emamzadeh Yahya’s mihrab, still stored in Paris |
| 1913 | -May 1913: *Exhibition of Persian art & curios,* London, inclusive of the luster mihrab from Kashan’s Masjed-e Maydan  -25 August 25: Kevorkian writes to Charles Freer offering the Emamzadeh Yahya’s mihrab for sale |
| 1914 | -Emamzadeh Yahya’s mihrab is displayed in *Exhibition of Muhammedan-Persian Art, Exhibition of the Kevorkian Collection*, New York |
| 1920s | -1921: coup d’etat; foundation of the Society for National Heritage  -1925: rise of the Pahlavi dynasty  -1927: end of the French archaeological monopoly  -1928: André Godard arrives in Iran to serve as Director of the Persian Antiquities Service and head of the National Museum in Tehran |
| 1930s | *Iran:*  -3 November 1930: approval of the Antiquities Law  -1930–32: registration of Varamin’s congregational mosque, tomb tower of ‘Alaoddin, and Emamzadeh Yahya as national heritage  -1934–37: construction and inauguration of the National Museum in Tehran  *International:*  -1931: the Emamzadeh Yahya’s mihrab is displayed in the *International Exhibition of Persian Art*, London -1938: publication of Arthur Upham Pope and Phyllis Ackerman, eds., *A Survey of Persian Art from Prehistoric Times to the Present*, including the Emamzadeh Yahya’s mihrab - Godard and Donald Wilber photograph the renovated Emamzadeh Yahya |
| 1940 | -April–May: the Emamzadeh Yahya’s mihrab is displayed in *Six Thousand Years of Persian Art,* New York  -June: Mary Crane negotiates with Kevorkian for Doris Duke’s purchase of the Emamzadeh Yahya’s mihrab  -28 December: Kevorkian writes to Duke celebrating the sale of the mihrab |