

Foundation for Iranian Studies

Program of Oral History

MARYAM SHAMLU

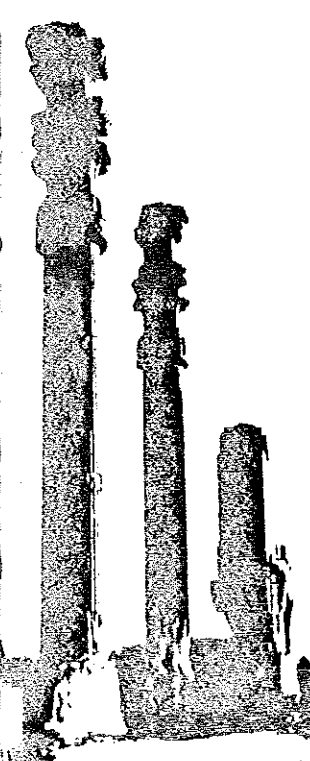
INTERVIEW WITH MARYAM SHAMLU

WASHINGTON, D.C., MAY 1983

INTERVIEWED BY MAHNAZ AFKHAMI

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تا در اجرای برنامه های آموزشی و تحقیقاتی بنیاد مورد استفاده قرار  
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تاریخ \_\_\_\_\_

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## PREFACE

This manuscript is the product of a series of tape-recorded interviews conducted for the Oral History of Iran Program of Foundation for Iranian Studies by Mahnaz Afkhami with Maryam Shamlu in Washington, D.C. in May, 1983.

Readers of this Oral History memoir should bear in mind that it is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, narrator and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. Foundation for Iranian Studies is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein.

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#### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Maryam Shamlu was born in Tehran to a relatively affluent family. She spent her adolescence in England and France, becoming a member of the growing class of young Iranians with a bi-cultural upbringing. She became involved in the French women's movement in the 1960s and witnessed the beginnings of organized feminist movement in that country.

On her return to Iran she started work at the National University of Iran as well as in Women's Organization of Iran. At both jobs she worked at gathering material for programs directed at consciousness raising among women. In addition she belonged to human rights activist organizations in the 1977-78 period. Her career as well as political activities provide rare glimpses into the metamorphosis of the Iranian society in general and the women's movement in particular from liberal tendencies toward religion based socio-political existence.



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