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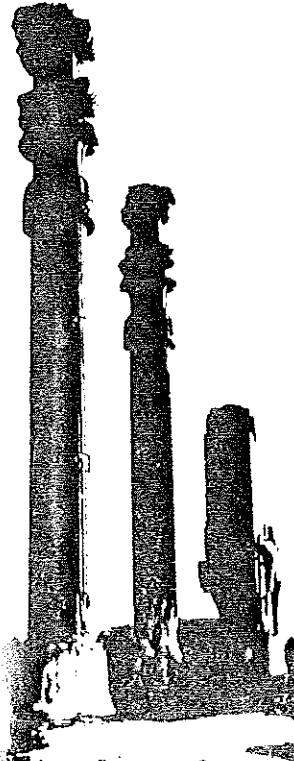
Program of Oral History

© ABDOL-KARIM LAHIJI

INTERVIEWEE: ^cABDOL-KARIM LAHIJI

INTERVIEWER: MARYAM SHAMLU

PARIS: 4 AND 26 JANUARY, 1985



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PREFACE

This manuscript is the product of a series of tape-recorded interviews conducted for the Oral History of Iran Project of Foundation for Iranian Studies by Maryam Shamlu with Abdol-Karim Lahiji in Paris, France in January 4 and 26, 1985.

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

^cAbdol-Karim Lahiji was born in Tehran in 1940. During his highschool years he became acquainted with the politics of the National Front and Premier Mossadeq. While at Tehran University , he joined student activists associated with the National Front. His activism earned him a number of jail terms and created impediments to his education. Upon receiving his doctorate from the Faculty of Law of Tehran University, Dr. Lahiji began his legal practice. In 1963, he was once again incarcerated along with the leadership of the National Front. Following his release from prison, Dr. Lahiji left the National Front, and concentrated his political activities on human rights issues, and the legal defence of political prisoners, a task which he continued until 1979. Dr. Lahiji's reminiscences shed much light on the dynamics of political change in Iran since 1953, the gradual radicalization of the National Front, and the political ideology and practice of the dissident groups throughout the 1960s and the 1970s.

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