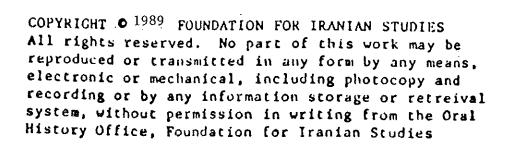
Foundation for Iranian Studies Program of Oral History

JALAL MATINI

INTERVIEWEE: JALAL MATINI

INTERVIEWER: SEYYED VALI REZA NASR

WASHINGTON, D.C. SEPTEMBER 8 and DECEMBER 30, 1987



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 Seyyed Vali Reza Nasr with Jalal Matini in Washington, D.C. in September 8 and December 30, 1987.

Reasers 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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اینجانب متن ونوارمصاحبه های انجام شده در ارتباط بابرنامه " تاریخ شفاهی ایران " رابه بنیاد مطالعات ایران هدیه میکنیم تا دراجرای برنامه های آموزشی وتحقیقاتی بنیاد مورداستفاده قرار گیسیرد.

ملاحظات:

معاحبه شونده بهر کنینالغیر معاحبه کننده بهر کنینالغیر ۱۸۸۷ تاریخ

موضوع نوار :

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Dr. Jalal Matini was born in Tehran in 1927 to a prominent literary family. He completed his early education in Tehran, and received his Doctorate in Literature from Tehran University in 1957. Following the completion of his studies Dr. Matini joined the Faculty of Letters at the Ferdowsi University in Mashhad. Dr. Matini served as a member of the faculty of that university, the Dean of the Faculty of Letters, and Chancellor of Ferdowsi University until 1979 when he left Iran. Following the Revolution of 1978-79 Dr. Matini has taught in the United States, and served as the Editor of the Journal, Iran Nameh.

Dr. Matini's memoirs are highly instructive with view to the history of higher education in Iran, as well as the academic life of Firdowsi University. His recollections are also interesting with view to his renditions of events and eprsonages, especially CAli Sharicati whom he came to know well in Mashhad.

CONTENTS OF INTERVIEW OF JALAL MATINI

<u>SUBJECT</u> PAGE

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Family background; memories of Abadan Tachnical School and its method of recruitment of students during the 1950-53 period; Matini's career at Ferdowsi University; concerning resignation of high-office holders in Iran; difficulties confronting the running of a university in Iran.

Beginnings of Matini's interest in literature; memories 5-10 of political activism in highschools and universities in 1940s and 1950s; problems over raisning university tuitions; historical importance of Tudeh Party; influence of Tudeh Party on Iranian political culture.

Recollections of Tehran University; aspects of higher 10-17 education in Iran; establishment and history of Tehran University; concerning Reza Shah's sending of students abroad; planning for higher education under Reza Shah; concerning autonomy of universities; the cultural influence of the West in Iranian Universities; changes in the structure of Iranian universities; generational changes and the dominant culture in Iranian universities; influence of U.S. on Iranian universities.

Autonomy of Tehran University after 1953, growing disturb-18-25 ances in universities after 1953; creation of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education; creation of Board of Governors for Iranian universities; changes in the procedure and structure of Iranian universities; rejuvination of Iranian universities in the 1970s; concerning university entrance examinations.

Concerning ^CAli Shari^Cati; concerning the various 26-38 governorships of Khorasan; cultural relations between Ferdowsi University and the neighboring countries; relations between Ferdowsi University and the religious circle in Mashhad.

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