Foundation for Iranian Studies Program of Oral History

Pari Saberi

INTERVIEW WITH PARI SABERI
LOS ANGELES, CA., APRIL 19, 1985
INTERVIEWED BY MAHNAZ AFKHAMI

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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 Mahnaz Afkhami with Pari Saberi in Los Angeles in April 19, 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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ملاحظات ؛

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Pari Saberi was born in Kerman, Iran to a well-known and cultured family. While she grew up in a traditional environment, from an early age she developed a consciousness with regard to the rights of women and their freedom of social action. Ms. Saberi completed her highschool education in Iran, where she was witness to activities by the Tudeh Party among the students. She then continued her studies in France, where she became interested in theater, cinema and writing. Upon the completion of her studies in these fields, Ms. Saberi returned to Iran, and pursued a career in theater. She produced and directed a number of well-received plays with the National Theatrical Oraganization before forming her own theatrical group. In the late 1960s, Ms. Saberi also became involved with theater and cinema related artistic activities at Tehran University, and soon became the director of the University's theater and cinema projects, a job which continued with until the advent of the Revolution of 1978-79.

Ms. Saberi's recollections shed much light on the progress of the arts in Iran. In addition, Ms. Saberi's interview has much to say about the changes in the status of Iranian women, the literati and intellectual classes in modern Iran, and the student activities in Tehran University.

CONTENTS OF INTERVIEW OF PARI SABERI

SUBJECT	PAGE
Family background, and memories of her childhood	1-12
Interviewee's highschool education in Iran and recollections of the influence of the Tudeh Party among highschool students	12-18
Interviewee's education in France and her interest in cinema and theater; interviewee's introduction to the norms of Western literature and writing	18-26
Interviewee's marriage and return to Iran; her career at the Ministry of Culture and Arts	26-30
Interviewee's engagement with direction of theater productions in Iran	30-32
Interviewee's management of the theatrical and artistic activities of Tehran University; the reaction of students to the interviewee's efforts	32-38 s
A description of the plays which the interviewee directed or produced in Iran; concerning the artistic quality of various productions for the stage in Iran, and their relation to issues of internal security	38-41
Interviewee's views on Forugh Farrokhzad	41-49
Concerning the progress of artistic activities in Iran	49-52
Understanding the first revolutionary impulses in Iranian society; the characteristics of dissident student movements	52-57
Concerning the Shiraz Art Festival and its programs	57-60
Interviewee's departure from Iran; her opinion of Iranians	60-65

SABERI, PARI

Name	Page
Alikhani, ^C Ali-Naqi,	27,28,32-35,56
Culture and Arts, Ministry of,	30-31,33,41,42
Dadashpur, Farrokh,	28
Davarpanah,	28
Diba, Farideh,	51
Entezami, ^C Ezzatollah,	27,41
Fannizadeh, Parviz,	44
Farmanfarmaiyan, Soraya,	14
Farrokhzad, Forugh,	43-49
Golestan, Ebrahim,	44,47
Ionesco, Eugene,	53-55
Jazani, Monir,	51
Kashfiya,	27
Khoshnevis,	28
Majidi, Monir,	28
Majidi, ^C Abdol-Majid,	27,28
Mehran, Monir,	51
Mossadeq, Mohammad,	27,28
Nahavandi, Hushang,	27,40
National Radio and Television	
Organization,	41,42
Pahlavi, Princess Ashraf,	4
Pahlavi, Queen Farah,	40
Pahlavi, Reza Shah,	4,6
Pahlbod, Mehrdad,	26,30,31
Pan Iranist Party,	28
Rashidi, Davud,	54
Sarokhani,	54
Sartre, Jean Paul,	31
SAVAK,	31,41,61
Sayyad, Parviz,	41
Shadman, Ziyaoddin,	27
Shiraz Art Festival,	41-42,57-60
Shirinlu,	25-29
Tehran University,	32-42
Third Force Party,	27,28
Tudeh Party,	14-17,27-28
Vakili, Monir,	28