Foundation for Iranian Studies Program of Oral History

MR. DARIUSH HOMAYOUN

INTERVIEW WITH DARIUSH HOMAYOUN

WASHINGTON, D.C., SEPTEMBER 1982

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PREFACE

This manuscript is the product of a series of tape-recorded interviews conducted for the Oral History Program of Foundation for Iranian Studies by Behruz Nikzat with Daryush Homayun in Washington, D.C., in September, 1982.

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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اینجانب متن و نوار مصاحبه های انجام شده در ارتباط با برنامه "تاریخ شفا هی ایران" را به بنیاد مطالعات ایران هدیه میکنم تا در اجرای برنامه های آموزشی و تحقیقاتی بنیاد به هر نحو ی که مصلحت میدانند از آن استفاده نمایند.

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لوضوع نوار

DARIUSH HOMAYOUN

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Dariush Homayoun was born in Tehran in 1928 in a religiously oriented family. He received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Tehran University and started his political activities in 1942. His main profession as a journalist led him to establish the respected morning paper of Ayandegan, where he served as the Editor-in-Chief and Executive Director for ten years. He was instrumental in creation of a union for writers and journalists. With the creation of Rastakhiz (Resurrection) Party, he played an important role in the Executive Committee as the Deputy General Secretary of the Party. In 1977 he joined the cabinet as the Minister of Information and Tourism.

Mr. Homayoun also worked at the Franklin Institute as their Representative in Asia. In that position he set the precedent for a systematic procedure in publishing text-books.

Mr. Homayoun's recollections are most valuable in terms of information they supply regarding the status and the role of news media in the Iranian society, and the relationship between the government and the media. His memoirs shed light on the circumstances of the publication of the controversial article about Khomeini, which is known to have caused the first series of public protests which led to the massive demonstration of 1978.

Furthermore, his analysis of the party system and decision-making at the cabinet level brings to life the political developments in the pre-revolutionary Iran.

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