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Nota di contenuto	Introduction: an overview of politics and society -- ; 1. Ethnic anatomy and politics of non-Muslim minorities. The Armenians. The Assyrians and Chaldeans. Missionary activities. The Jews. The Zoroastrians. The Bahais. Comparative dynamics -- ; 2. The Assembly of Experts: debut in the year of destiny. Interactions between the non-Muslim and Muslim deputies -- ; 3. Policy sphere of recognized religious minorities. Religion. Education. Communal Life. The first and the second Majlis: 1980-88. Two distinguishing features -- ; 4. Distinctions and designations as policy output. The severity of treatment of the Jews. The persecution of Bahais. The troubled path of nonethnic Christian groups. Particularities as the end product.

Limitations and the legal domain -- ; 5. Prevalent responses of recognized religious minorities. Similar responses. Responses unique to each group. The meaning of the response. Conclusion: the perils of marginality.

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Sommario/riassunto

Eliz Sanasarian's book explores the political and ideological relationship between non-Muslim religious minorities in Iran and the state during the formative years of the Islamic Republic to the present day. Her analysis is based on a detailed examination of the history and experiences of the Armenians, Assyrians, Chaldeans, Jews, Zoroastrians, Bahais and Iranian Christians, and describes how these communities have responded to state policies regarding minorities. Many of her findings are constructed out of personal interviews with members of these communities. While the book is essentially an empirical study, it also highlights more general questions associated with exclusion and marginalization and the role of the state in defining these boundaries. This is an important and original book which will make a significant contribution to the literature on minorities and to the workings of the Islamic Republic.

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