

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910463350603321
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Titolo	Iran under the ayatollahs [[electronic resource] /] / Dilip Hiro
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Abingdon [England] ; ; New York, : Routledge, 2011
ISBN	0-203-69545-3 1-135-04381-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (459 p.)
Collana	Routledge revivals
Disciplina	955.054
Soggetti	Electronic books. Iran History 1979-1997 Iran Politics and government 1979-1997 Iran Foreign relations 1979-1997 Iran History Pahlavi dynasty, 1925-1979
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"First published in 1985. Published with corrections and new postscript in 1987 by Routledge & Kegan Paul Ltd."--T.p. verso.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. Before the Islamic Revolution -- pt. 2. The Revolution -- pt. 3. Iran and the world.
Sommario/riassunto	First published in 1985, this is a comprehensive study of the Middle East's most strategic country, set against the background of the Islamic heritage of Iran and the rise and fall of the Pahlavi dynasty. Dilip Hiro describes the various phases through which the Islamic revolution has passed, gives an incisive account of the first Gulf War, and provides an historical survey of Iran's relations with the West, the Soviet bloc, and other countries of the region.