Record Nr. UNINA9910787964803321 Autore Mirsepassi Ali Titolo Democracy in modern Iran [[electronic resource]]: Islam, culture, and political change / / Ali Mirsepassi New York,: New York University Press, c2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8147-6439-8 0-8147-5864-9 1-78402-484-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (236 p.) Disciplina 320.955 Soggetti Democracy - Iran Politics and culture - Iran Islam and politics - Iran Islam and secularism - Iran Islamic modernism - Iran Iran Politics and government Iran Intellectual life Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Preface --Introduction -- 1 The Origins of Secularism in Europe -- 2 Modern Visions of Secularism -- 3 A Critical Understanding of Modernity -- 4 Intellectuals and Democracy -- 5 Religious Intellectuals -- 6 Alireza Alavi-Tabar and Political Change -- 7 The Predicaments of Iranian Public Intellectuals -- 8 An Intellectual Crisis in Iran -- Conclusion --Notes -- Index -- About the Author Sommario/riassunto New perspectives on Iran's relationship to democracy Can Islamic societies embrace democracy? In Democracy in Modern Iran, Ali Mirsepassi maintains that it is possible, demonstrating that Islam is not inherently hostile to the idea of democracy. Rather, he provides new perspective on how such a political and social transformation could

take place, arguing that the key to understanding the integration of Islam and democracy lies in concrete social institutions rather than

pre-conceived ideas, the every day experiences rather than abstract theories. Mirsepassi, an Iranian native, provides a rare inside look into the country, offering a deep understanding of how Islamic countries like Iran and Iraq can and will embrace democracy. Democracy in Modern Iran challenges readers to think about Islam and democracy critically and in a far more nuanced way than is done in black-and-white dichotomies of Islam vs. Democracy, or Iran vs. the West. This essential volume contributes important insights to current discussions, creating a more complex conception of modernity in the Eastern world and, with it, Mirsepassi offers to a broad Western audience a more accurate, less clichéd vision of Iran's political reality.