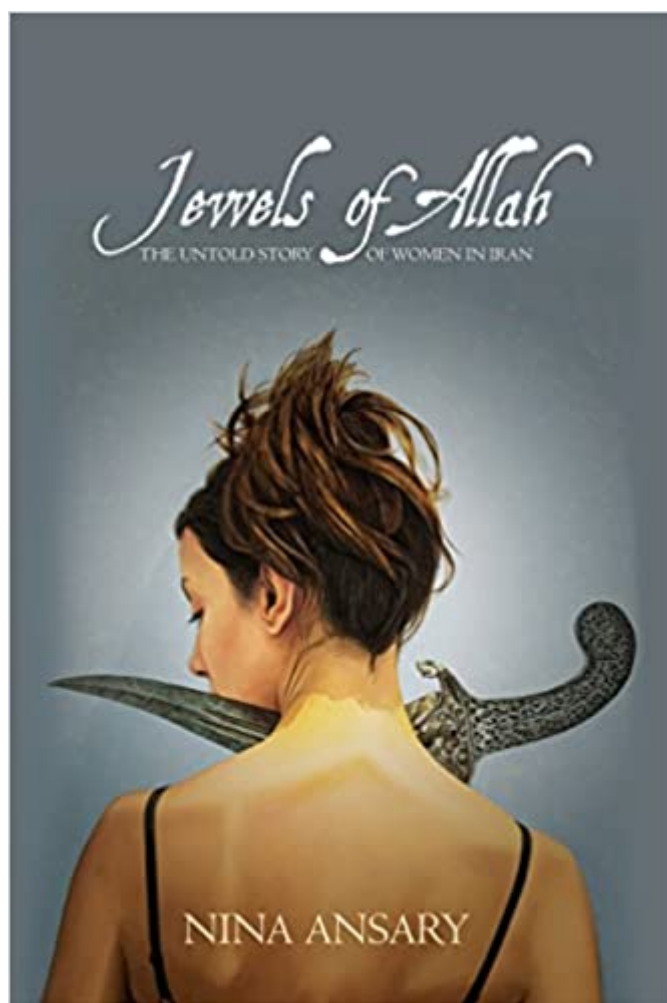


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Jewels Of Allah: The Untold Story Of Women In Iran



Synopsis

International Book Award in "Women's Issues" Eric Hoffer Award for "Best Culture Book" Eric Hoffer Award for "Best Book Cover" Eric Hoffer Award for "Best Debut Author" Indie Book Award for "Historical Nonfiction" Indie Book Award for "Women's Issues" ForeWord INDIEFAB Award for "Women's Studies" Best Book Award for "Women's Issues" The popular narrative about women's lives in Iran over the last forty years goes something like this: "During the Pahlavi Monarchy, women were on an upward trajectory. In a nation on the cusp of modernity, women actively participated. They were given the right to vote and free to be in public without veils. They wore miniskirts on university campuses. Then came the Islamic Revolution in 1979, with Ayatollah Khomeini at the helm. The burgeoning freedoms for women were extinguished. The veil was required and institutions were segregated by gender. The Islamic Republic had thus achieved its goal of resurrecting the image of the traditional Muslim woman." The problem with popular narratives is that, despite their convenient half-truths, the real story is more complicated, unexpected, and less tidy. Inspired by author Nina Ansary's scholarly journey, *Jewels of Allah* is a provocative roller coaster ride that shatters the stereotypical assumptions and the often misunderstood story of women in Iran today. Highlighting many courageous female leaders and advocates throughout Iran's history, the book illuminates the unanticipated consequences of the Islamic Revolution and the unexpected twists and turns leading to a full-blown feminist movement within a post-revolutionary patriarchal society. *Jewels of Allah* is dedicated to every individual oppressed by discriminatory ideology. 100% of all proceeds from the sale of the book will go to charitable organizations and institutions, with the primary recipient being the OMID Foundation, a 501(c)(3) registered organization that has been empowering disadvantaged young women in Iran for over 10 years. For more information on the OMID Foundation, please visit the omidfoundation.com.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“An incisive, intellectually robust look at the feminist movement in Iran | a riveting portrait of the Iranian woman: her strength, resilience, suffering and hope.” • “ Publishers Weekly

“An easy and enjoyable read, *Jewels of Allah* is a valuable primer for understanding the complicated and oft-misconstrued history of Iran’s women.” • “ Holly Dages, Middle East Affairs Analyst & Editor for Cairo News” “This subtle, intelligent book offers compelling insight into the role of women in Iran. [Ansary] brings to life women from Iran’s past, who have held powerful positions in the military, judicial situation and as businesswomen.” • “Katharine Quarmby, writer/journalist, BBC/The Guardian A well-documented and persuasively written examination of the change in Iranian women’s status under the country’s secular and religious governments...maintains an engaging tone that makes it easy for casual readers to follow the arguments. - Kirkus Reviews” “Knowing our history is knowing ourselves. Nina Ansary expertly reveals largely untold stories of the multifaceted women of Iran and their perseverance to overcome considerable obstacles.” - Alisa Miller, CEO, Public Radio International (PRI) I am a big fan of women speaking out, telling their stories, using their voices - and author Nina Ansary has used hers in an astonishing, important way. Her *Jewels of Allah* is brave, authentic and riveting. What a compelling example of why women NEED to tell their stories. Read this. -- Kathy Najimy, actress/activist This must be included within the Essential Reading lists of all schools- it is a vital historical account, a necessary and refreshed analysis particularly for our 21st Century culture of fear climate. - Marcella Karamat, Curator/ Freelance Writer, The Hollywood Reporter Nina Ansary’s book is a must-read for anyone hoping for a fuller understanding of the role of women and the women’s rights movement in Iran. It is a much needed antidote to Western misconceptions. - San Francisco Book Review” “The women of Iran have no greater champion than Nina Ansary, nor does anyone equal her in explaining the seemingly paradoxical expansion of women’s education since the Iranian Revolution.” -- Richard W. Bulliet, Professor of History, Columbia University Nina Ansary, with clear and precise language, laser-like focus and deep knowledge, lifts the veil of news media neglect and ignorance hiding the experiences of women and girls in Iran. Women’s eNews is

delighted she regularly shares her insights and inside knowledge with its readers. - Rita Henley Jensen, Editor in Chief Women's eNews, New York "This is essential reading on Iran, and feminism, human rights, and social movements. The book turns itself into a archive of all the relevant figures, publications, and eras related to the history of women in Iran, and as a researcher and writer, I know I will refer back to it in the future." - Mahsa Alimardani, internet researcher and Iran editor, Global Voices.com This is a remarkable book. Nina Ansary explodes some of the myths and prejudices held about Iranian women across the centuries. This volume is an invaluable addition to the existing literature on the subject and a must read for all those who are interested in understanding Islam and feminisms and in the celebration of differences and diversities within the feminist movements. - Baroness Afshar of Heslington, Professor, Academy of Social Sciences, University of York

Jewels of Allah: The Untold Story of Women in Iran is an important journey through time, amplifying the powerful voices behind the Iranian women's movement. Author Nina Ansary highlights the courageous women and their progressive steps forward throughout history. The book is an eye opener, from a misunderstood story to how women's empowerment really advanced. It's an enlightening and fearless journey that's important for women around the world to learn. - Deirdre Breackenridge, author, speaker and CEO, Pure Performance Communications "Nina Ansary takes a fresh look at the women's movement in modern Iran; a century-long struggle for equality in a historic civilization, and one of the most vibrant feminist movements in the Middle East." --Negar Mortazavi, Iranian American Journalist and Analyst

An elegant and enlightening experience *Jewels of Allah* contains critical talking points, facts, and research that will empower its readers to more effectively understand the winds of change that are contributing to the empowerment movement of Iranian women. --Yasamin Beitollahi, Digital Media Professional & Huffington Post Contributor "You can wrap them up in cloths not of their choosing but their powerful spirit still shines through. The Iranian women have always found a way to express themselves, make their presence felt and impact the society. This all comes through Dr. Ansary's book which expertly highlights the challenges and the opportunities facing Iranian women during the secular Pahlavi dynasty and during the various presidencies of the current theocracy." --Dr. Firouz Naderi, Director for Solar System Exploration at NASA's JPL

A highly intelligent presentation offering an informed view of the women's movement within Iran, *Jewels of Allah* challenges assumptions and offers cautious optimism.

• "IndieReader Review" The most accurate and appealing book that I have read about the women's rights movement in contemporary Iran." -- Mehrangiz Kar, Prominent Iranian attorney and celebrated women's rights activist

I am not a professional at anything. My opinion comes from my heart. I pray Dr. Ansary has many more books to write. I believe we need to have more of the kind of work she has done in Jewels of Allah. I had to take my time reading so as to take in every aspect of the women of Iran and the triumphs of their spirit. God Bless you Dr. Ansary. I pray your voice is heard for many years. Thank you also for the gift of my autographed book.

"Jewels of Allah" is an insightful, informative and well documented book by Dr. Nina Ansary, a historian and a highly respected expert in the Women's Movement in Iran. Dr. Ansary delves into the complicated nature and most often misunderstood hierarchy of Persian Women throughout Iran's long illustrious history. Her main focus of the book is pre and post Revolutionary Iran and how a thriving Women's Movement is flourishing under a restrictive regime. "Jewels of Allah" should be an eye opener for most Westerners and must be included as part of every High-school and College curriculum.

I am always in awe of Dr. Nasary and all her work. Highly recommend.

Excellent

Book is really great at explaining everything

I really enjoy reading this book

wonderful book. I enjoy it

I found her book compelling. She writes to educate those uninformed of the magnitude of problem in a society we judge yet know nothing about. I realize as a writer about the same subject I may be prejudiced. For those interesting in learning this is a good book.

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