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# Persepolis Context Timeline

- Rise of Reza Khan (feb 21, 1921)
- Allied Occupation of Iran (Aug 25, 1941)
  - Oil Nationalization Crisis (1951-54)
- Anglo-American organized coup against Mosaddeq (1953)
  - White Revolution (1963)
- Western Sexual Revolution (1960s-80s)
  - Cinema Rex Fire (Aug 19th, 1978)
  - Black Friday (sep 8th, 1978)
- Arrival of Ayatollah Khomeini (feb 1st, 1979)
  - Pahlavi Dynasty (feb 11, 1979)
  - Islamic Revolution (feb 1979)
  - Closing of Universities (1979)
  - Imposition of Hijab (1979)
- Iranian Hostage Crisis (nov 4, 1979 - Jan 20, 1981)
  - Iran – Iraq War (sep 22, 1980 - Aug 20, 1988)
    - Iranian Key Martyrs (1980-88)
    - Iraq Bombs Tehran (feb 7, 1984)

## The Rise of Reza Khan (Feb 21, 1921)

### Summary

Until the start of World War 1, Russia has ruled Iran. But after the military was moved out of Iran to help fight in the war, Iran has “effectively” gain controlled again. After World War 1, Iran was offered financial and military aid in exchange for becoming a British colony. The British initially wanted to withdraw but due to pressure from others, they lent their support to an Iranian Officer. This person being Reza Khan, a person who helped in a rebellion led by Mirza Kuchak Khan. Reza Khan took control of military forces in Iran and later was prime minister under Ahmad Shah. He was also able to bring peace to a place that was at chaos for years.



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### Relation to Key Topic Area

- Imperialism

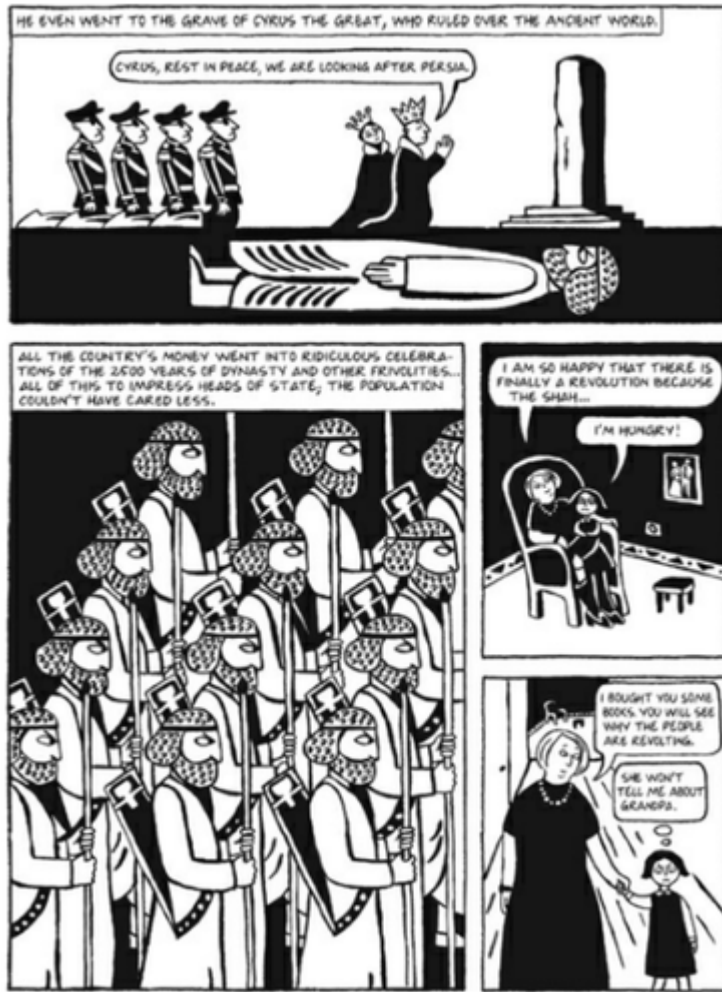
**Impact on Marjane Satrapi**

Marjane gets frustrated that her parents do not want to play monopoly with her as they are tired. She then tells them "i love the king, he was chosen by god". This is because of the teachings their school have put onto her. Her dad then explains what "really" happens. After learning about Reza Khan and information about her grandpa, she becomes silent and isolates herself from "god".

## Allied Occupation of Iran (Aug 25, 1941)

**Summary**

This invasion took place along Iran's borders with Iraq, Azerbaijan, and Turkmenistan. It started on 25th August and ended on 31st August when the Iranian government agreed to surrender. This happened two months after the invasion of the Soviet Union. The purpose of this invasion was to ensure the safety of the supply lines to the USSR, secure Iranian oil fields, limit German influence in Iran, and started advancing towards an oil field in either Baku or British India. After the invasion, Reza Shah was forced into exile by the British and was replaced by his son Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.





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## Relation to Key Topic Area

Imperialism

### Impact on Marjane Satrapi

This leads Marjane to be more curious about Iran and the revolution that was happening at the time. Although she says she is hungry her grandma gives her books to learn more about the whole culture/social issues that are at stake. She didn't understand the conversations that her parents were talking about so she tries to read more so she would understand.

## Oil Nationalisation Crisis (1951-54)

### Summary

The nationalisation of oil in Iran started from the parliament to seize control of the oil industry as they were run by private companies. A legislation was passed on March 15, 1951 and led to the nationalisation of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company. This started a democratic government and the pursuit of Iranian national sovereignty.



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## Relation to Key Topic Area

Communism/Capitalism to an extent

### Impacts on Marjane Satrapi

This panel builds on the chapter of Marjane's father explaining how they have got into the situation of demonstrating. After explanation of what happened from their knowledge this leads Marjane into having a long thought in the bathtub.

# Anglo-American Organized Coup against Mosaddeq (1953)

### Summary

The democratically elected Prime Minister at the time Mohammad Mossadegh was overthrown by the rule of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. This was supported by the United States and the United Kingdom. This started a monarchy in Iran.

## Relation to Key Topic Area

Anarchism to an extent

## White Revolution (1963)

### Summary

The white revolution was a series reform to the balancing of money in Iran. This redistributing of wealth to Iran lead to a very significant increase in economic growth, urbanization, and the deconstruction of Iran's feudal customs.

### Relation to Key Topic Area

Capitalism

## Western Sexual Revolution (1960-80s)

## Cinema Rex Fire (Aug 19, 1978)

## Black Friday (Sept 8, 1978)

**Arrival of Ayatollah Khomeini (Feb 1, 1979)**

**Pahlavi Dynasty (Feb 11, 1979)**

**Islamic Revolution (Feb 1979)**

**Closing of Universities (1979)**

# Imposition of Hijab (1979)

## Summary:

Hijab was subsequently made mandatory in government and public offices in 1980, and in 1983 it became mandatory for all women (including non-Muslims and non-citizens). According to one source, rules on wearing hijab are "tantamount" to the Islamic Republic's "raison d'etat".

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## 1. Relation to Key Topic Area

- communism
- Theocracy
- Secularism

## 1. How does this event impact Marjane Satrapi? (childhood, family, beliefs, values)

- She didn't understand why she had to wear it, it was forced from the environment and there was nothing she could do to change this rule. Therefore, she approaches this matter in a joking manner.

# Iranian Hostage Crisis (Nov 4, 1979 - Jan 20, 1981)

## Summary:

Iranian students seized the embassy and detained more than 50 Americans, ranging from the Chargé d'Affaires to the most junior members of the staff, as hostages. The Iranians held the American diplomat's hostage for 444 days.

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#### 1. Relation to Key Topic Area

- Communism
- Imperialism
- Theocracy

#### 1. How does this event impact Marjane Satrapi? (childhood, family, beliefs, values)

- The family was surprised by the event and Marjane wanted to go to the US but her dreams were crushed after finding out what happened.

## Iran-Iraq War (Sept 22, 1980 - Aug 20, 1988)

#### Summary:

Iran-Iraq War, (1980–88), was a prolonged military conflict between Iran and Iraq during the 1980s. Open warfare began on September 22, 1980, when Iraqi armed forces invaded western Iran along the countries' joint border, though Iraq claimed that the war had begun earlier that month, on September 4, when Iran shelled some border posts. Fighting was ended by a 1988 cease-fire, though the resumption of normal diplomatic relations and the withdrawal of troops did not take place until the signing of a formal peace agreement on August 16, 1990.

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#### 1. Relation to Key Topic Area

- Communism
- Theocracy
- Imperialism

#### 1. How does this event impact Marjane Satrapi? (childhood, family, beliefs, values)

- It was overall a troublesome experience for everyone in her family, she had to leave the country for her safety, and she worries for her family's since she is leaving them behind.

# Iranian Key Martyrs (1980-1988)

## Summary:

The concept of martyrdom is understood in the Western world as facing persecution and giving one's life for a set of beliefs, most often religious beliefs. The definition of martyrdom is expanded in Iran, where martyrs are greatly revered, including martyrs from the distant past as well as martyrs from the modern age. In Iran, Shia Islam is the majority religion, at 89% of the estimated 79 million inhabitants, and is a very important part of public and political life. The Shia concept of Martyrdom has been shaped by the deaths of the early martyrs of the Shia faith, Ali and Husayn ibn Ali, and Iranian society and government have further shaped the understanding of martyrdom in the modern age. The importance of Martyrdom in Shi'a Islam has brought about the existence of a type of "cult of martyrdom" in Iranian society.

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### 1. Relation to Key Topic Area

- Theocracy
- Communism
- Anarchism

### 1. How does this event impact Marjane Satrapi? (childhood, family, beliefs, values)

- She feels like she wants to fight for her country since she is a part of it.

## Iraq Bombs Tehran (Feb 7, 1984)

### Summary:

The War of the Cities was five series of air raids, missile attacks and artillery shellings on major cities and urban areas initiated by Saddam Hussein's Iraqi Air Force, with the aim of disrupting the morale of Iran during the Iran–Iraq War. The first phase of airstrikes was undertaken by the Iraqi Air Force, which normally was followed by retaliation by the Iranian Armed Forces.

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1. Relation to Key Topic Area

- Communism
- Theocracy
- Imperialism

1. How does this event impact Marjane Satrapi? (childhood, family, beliefs, values)

- It has implanted fear of living in their own home, since bombings were happening everywhere. It leads Marjane's parents to send her aboard to live in a safer country.