



Babak Rahimi



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Shi'i Islam; Medieval and (early) modern history, information communication technologies (ICTs), social media, public sphere, civil society, theories of modernity.

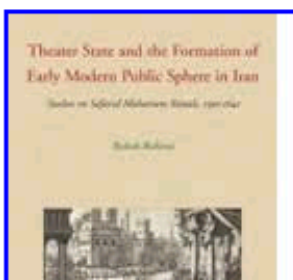
Babak Rahimi is Associate Professor of Communication, Culture and Religion at the Department of Literature, University of California, San Diego. He earned his PhD from the European University Institute, Florence, Italy, in October 2004. Rahimi has also studied at the University of Nottingham, where he obtained an M.A. in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (1997), and the London School of Economics and Political Science, where he was a Visiting Fellow at the Department of Anthropology, 2000-2001. Rahimi's research examines the relationship between culture, religion and politics. His book, *Theater-State and Formation of the Early Modern Public Sphere in Iran: Studies on Safavid Muharram Rituals, 1590-1641 C.E.* (Brill 2011), studies the relationship between ritual, public space and state power in early modern Iranian history. His work has appeared in *Thesis Eleven: Critical Theory and Historical Sociology*, *International Political Science Review*, *The Communication Review*, *the Journal of the International Society for Iranian Studies*. Rahimi has been an expert guest on various media programs like The News Hour with Jim Lehrer, BBC and CNN, in addition to NPR and On the Media. Also, he has been a visiting scholar at the Internet Institute, University of Oxford, Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies, Freie Universität Berlin, and the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania. Rahimi has also been the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Jean Monnet Fellowship at the European University Institute, and was a Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace, Washington DC, 2005-2006. His current research project is on the relationship between digital culture, politics and religion.

Books:

Theater State and the Formation of Early Modern Public Sphere in Iran: Studies on Safavid Muharram Rituals, 1590-1641 C.D., Brill, 2011.

Selected Chapters in Edited Volumes:

"Contentious Legacies of Ayatollah Khomeini," in ***Critical Introduction to Ayatollah***



Ruhollah Khomeini, Arshin Adib-Moghaddam, editor, University of Cambridge Press, forthcoming.

"The State of (digital) Exception: the case of Internet Censorship In Iran," in **State Power and Information Infrastructure**, Muzammil M. Hussain and Philip Howard, editors, Ashgate, forthcoming.

"Dissent, Internet and Post-Revolutionary Iran," in **International Handbook of Media and Mass Communication Theory**, Mark Fackler and Robert Fortner, editors, Blackwell Publishers, forthcoming.

"Politics of Informal Communication: Conspiracy Theories, Gossips and Rumors in (post) election 2009 Iran," **Conspiracy Theories, Rumors and Politics**. Greg Delziel, editor, Routledge, forthcoming.

"The Qajar Theater State: The *Takiy-eh Dawlat* of Tehran" in **Performing the Iranian State**, Anthem Press, Staci Scheiwiller, editor, 2013.

"Subaltern Modernity: Mediated Experience, Ritualization and Becoming Modern in the Arab-Iranian Community of Bushehr" in **Social Theory and Regional Studies in the Global Age**, Said Arjomand, editor, Global/Local Studies, SUNY Press, 2013.

"The Sacred in Fragments: Shi 'i Iran since the 1979 Revolution," in **Iran: From Theocracy to the Green Movement**, Negin Nabavi, editor, Palgrave, 2012.

"The Islamic Republic: The Politics of Change in Postrevolutionary Iran," in **Governance in the Middle East and North Africa**, Abbas Kadhim, editor, Routledge, 2012.

"Internet & Politics in Post-revolutionary Iran," in **Iran: Media, Culture and Society**, Hamid Semati, editor, Routledge, 2007.

Selected Articles:

"Facebook Iran. The Carnavalesque Politics of Online Social Networking," edited by Armando Salvatore, **Sociologica**, 5, 3: 2012.

"Authority and Democracy in Shi 'i Islamic Jurisprudence: Montazeri, Sistani and Democratic Usulism" **International Political Science Review**, 2012.

"Iran' s declining Influence in Iraq," **Washington Quarterly** 35: 1, Winter 2012, 25-40.

"The Agonistic Social Media: Cyberspace in the Formation of Dissent and Consolidation of State Power in Post-Election Iran," **The Communication Review** 14:158-178, 2011.

"The Rebound Theater State: The Politics of the Safavid Camel Sacrifice, 1598-1695 C.E." **Iranian Studies** 37 (3), 2004: 45-69.

"Between Chieftaincy and Knighthood: A Comparative Study of the Safavi and the Ottoman Origins." **Thesis Eleven: Critical Theory and Historical Sociology** 76, February 2004: 63-80.

