Questions for Thought and Discussion

- How can we interpret Iran?
- Is Iran best understood as a civilization?
- What role do myth and history play in the development of the idea of Iran?
- How is the identity of modern Iran shaped by its historical inheritance?
- Assess the impact of religion on the identity of Iran.
- Can Iranian identity be understood in ethnic terms?
- What difference, if any, is there between Iran and Persia?
- Is Persia part of the Western imagination?
- To what extent was the Islamic conquest a watershed in Iranian history and identity?
- Assess the influence of the Mongol conquest and its aftermath.
- How has political instability affected social behavior?
- Evaluate the myth of the saviour on Iranian politics
- Did the rise of the West necessitate the decline of Iran?
- How did modern Iranian nationalists reimage the idea of Iran
- Is the West part of the Iranian imagination?

Other books by the author

*The Politics of Nationalism in Modern Iran* (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2012)


Further Reading


M. Axworthy, *Empire of the Mind: a history from Zoroaster to the present day* (London, Penguin, 2008)

