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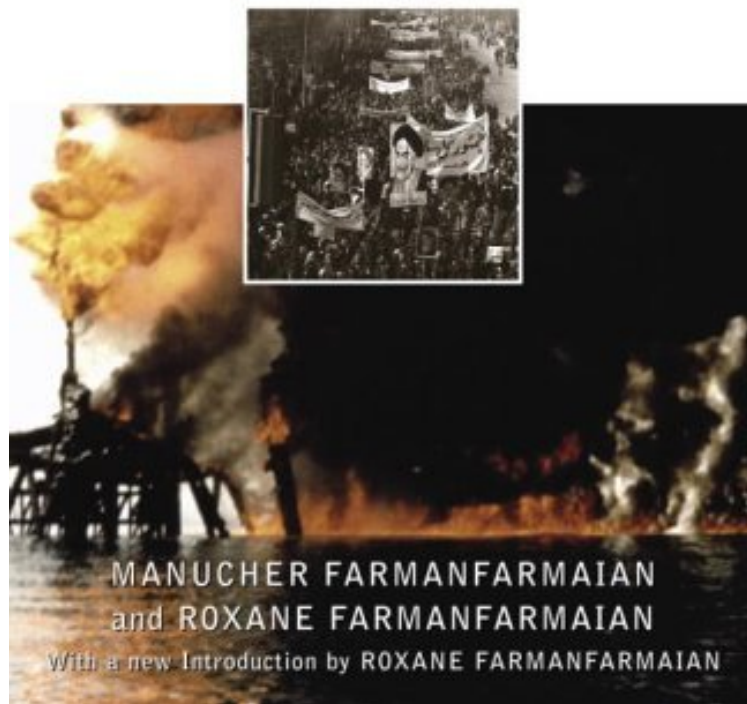
Blood Oil: A Prince's Memoir of Iran, from the Shah to the Ayatollah

Manucher Farmanfarmaian, Roxane Farmanfarmaian
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"For anyone who wants to . . . gain insight into the great cultural and political richness of Iran, past, present and future, this book is a marvelous introduction."—*Los Angeles Times*

Blood & Oil

A PRINCE'S MEMOIR OF IRAN,
FROM THE SHAH TO THE AYATOLLAH



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Manucher Farmanfarmaian, Roxane Farmanfarmaian : Blood Oil: A Prince's Memoir of Iran, from the Shah to the Ayatollah before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blood Oil: A Prince's Memoir of Iran, from the Shah to the Ayatollah:

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. engaging account of IranBy Luis MansillaI came to this book interested more in the history of AIOC (Anglo-Iranian Petroleum Company). After reading these long worthy pages, I

cannot but to praise the author for his engaging account of the Twentieth century history of Iran, although is just one view of the events, one side of the history. This book provide a rich insight of the culture, religion and life of Persia, but also, the rol of Britain, United States and France in some of the important moments of Iran. This book is an excellent source in order to know more about the creation of OPEC, Venezuela's oil policy, Mossadeq overthrown and the description of the Ayatollah Khomeini bloody revolution. After reading these pages you realize how difficult is to rule in Iran since there are lots of conflict of interest and self interest, corruption and a powerful clergy, at least in those years. In my opinion, and despite it may sound as cliché, Iran must learn from its history and errors. I only wish the best for Iran, peace and prosperity for its people. It all depends on its goverment and the strategy they take to become part of this globalized world and to live in peace. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Blood Oil Was A Well Written Historic and Personal Memoir By Barbara J. Dineen I loved this book. A very believable easy to read family biography written by a member of the upper class in Iran. A wonderful history of the British Colonial Rule and the founding of British Petroleum and OPEC. Relates Irans dealings with the major British, American and Dutch Oil giants as told by one of the fonders of OPEC. It gives you a whole new perspective on the over-throw of the Shah by the Ayatollah and Irans mistrust of the West. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. which I recommend highly to be read by all who are amazed ... By Tara An exceptional book, which I recommend highly to be read by all who are amazed by the recent history of the Near East. Very well composed and written.

PEN/West Award Finalist "Told with energy, perception and great charm. . . For anyone who wants to . . . gain insight into the great cultural and political richness of Iran, past, present and future, this book is a marvelous introduction." --Fred Halliday, Los Angeles Times Iran was the first country in the Middle East to develop an oil industry, and oil has been central to its tumultuous twentieth-century history. A finalist for the PEN/West Award, Blood and Oil tells the epic inside story of the battle for Iranian oil. A prominent member of one of Iran's most powerful aristocratic families--so feared by Khomeini that the entire clan was blacklisted--Prince Manucher Farmanfarmaian was raised in a harem at the heart of Iran's imperial court. With wit and provocative detail, he describes the days when he served as the Shah's oil adviser and pioneered the partnership that resulted in OPEC. Beautifully written and epic in its scope, this scintillating memoir provides a fascinating history of modern Iran. Distinguished by its political acumen, historical sense, and vividness of description and anecdote. It is also notable for a wry sense of humour. . . . Amid the euphoria about the development of the oilfields of Central Asia and the Transcaucasus, [its] lesson should be kept in mind." --Anatol Lieven, Financial Times "A book of stunning beauty . . . One of the best accounts of the cultural and political life of modern Iran, it is exquisite and intimate, rendered with art-istry and detail." --Fouad Ajami From the Trade Paperback edition.

From the Inside Flap PEN/West Award Finalist " Told with energy, perception and great charm. . . . For anyone who wants to . . . gain insight into the great cultural and political richness of Iran, past, present and future, this book is a marvelous introduction." --Fred Halliday, Los Angeles Times Iran was the first country in the Middle East to develop an oil industry, and oil has been central to its tumultuous twentieth-century history. A finalist for the PEN/West Award, Blood and Oil tells the epic inside story of the battle for Iranian oil. A prominent member of one of Iran's most powerful aristocratic families--so feared by Khomeini that the entire clan was blacklisted--Prince Manucher Farmanfarmaian was raised in a harem at the heart of Iran's imperial court. With wit and provocative detail, he describes the days when he served as the Shah's oil adviser and pioneered the partnership that resulted in OPEC. Beautifully written and epic in its scope, this scintillating memoir provides a fascinating history of modern Iran. " Distinguished by its political acumen, historical sense, and vividness of description and anecdote. It is also notable for a wry sense of humour. . . . Amid the euphoria about the development of the oilfields of Central Asia and the Transcaucasus, [its] lesson should be kept in mind." --Anatol Lieven, Financial Times "A book of stunning beauty . . . One of the best accounts of the cultural and political life of modern Iran, it is exquisite and intimate, rendered with art-istry and detail." --Fouad Ajami From the Back Cover Born into Iran's most powerful aristocratic family - so feared by Khomeini that the entire clan was blacklisted - Prince Manucher was raised in a vast harem with his thirty-five brothers and sisters, one of whom married the head of Iran's communist party, while another, who was once foreign minister, lost his life to the upstart Shah's jealousy. Farmanfarmaian was the primary government negotiator with the British-owned Anglo-Iranian Oil Company until its convulsive nationalization by his cousin Mossedeq in 1951. Later, as a director of the National Iranian Oil Company, he pioneered - against the Shah's wishes - the partnership that resulted in OPEC. This is the first account by one of OPEC's original crafters of the politics and intrigue surrounding the international development of the oil industry. With the flair of a modern-day Arabian Nights, Blood and Oil brilliantly renders the tensions between the excesses of the ancien regime and Iran's increasingly reactionary religious

establishment. Prince Manucher's close relationships with everyone from the last Shah to the teary-eyed Mossadeq allow him to provide a fresh portrait of the Pahlavi reign and the revolution that brought it down. But the real revelation in these pages is his new perspective on British oil imperialism, and its brutal effect on twentieth-century history.

About the Author Prince Manucher Farmanfarmaian was born in Tehran in 1917, the thirteenth child in the vast harem of a Qajar patriarch. He studied petroleum engineering at Birmingham University in England before returning to Iran to become director general of petroleum, concessions, and mines after World War II. In 1958 he became director of sales for the National Iranian Oil Company. He also served on the board of the Consortium, the international oil conglomerate responsible for all of Iran's export sales. A key signatory of the 1959 Cairo agreement that resulted in OPEC, he was Iran's first ambassador to Venezuela. An avid collector of carpets, ancient Persian pottery, and travelogues by European adventurers to the Middle East, Manucher Farmanfarmaian was a frequent guest at the Shah's court. After the Iranian Revolution, he became a citizen of Venezuela, where he lectured frequently on oil affairs at the Central University. He died in 2003 in Caracas. He was the father of two sons, Alexander and Teymour, and one daughter, Roxane. Roxane Farmanfarmaian, an American-born journalist, is the former West Coast editor of *Publishers Weekly*. She is currently the editor of the *Cambridge of International Affairs*, and is a Donner Atlantic Studies Scholar at Cambridge University. A Princeton-educated journalist, she founded *The Iranian*, an independent news magazine in Iran, shortly before the revolution. She is the coauthor, with Manucher Farmanfarmaian, of *Blood Oil: A Prince's Memoir of Iran, from the Shah to the Ayatollah*.