

The Eternal Treasure

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مؤسسة الهدى الثقافيه و الفنيه للنشر الدولى

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The Eternal Treasure

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Dear Sir/Madam

Numerous wars have been waged through the history of mankind some of which have been over food, land, oil or anything else. In late twentieth century, an 8-year war erupted between Iran and Iraq which was later labeled as the longest conventional war of the century. Yet, few people around the world are familiar with political and social features of this war and one may say Iranians have failed to spread the word too.

Information about the facts of this long war which had devastating consequences, can foster a better understanding of regional conditions of the Middle East and complicated relationships of contemporary world; moreover, it can prevent further repetition of such disasters.

This tiny publication is an effort to introduce printed literary, research or historic works on Iran-Iraq War to scholars and those interested in this era of twentieth century history. The goal is to form a network of those interested in this topic and benefit from advises and comments of thinkers and scholars to improve such works.

Needless to say, you are one of the people we are eager to send this magazine to and we assume you also know might like to receive this publication; so please feel free to introduce anyone who is interested to us.

Also you have exclusive rights to make copies, distribute and translate articles with only mentioning the complete name of publication and authors.

Looking forward to hearing from you in advance.

**Sincerely yours,
Editor in Chief**

Editorial

Legacy of Iran- Iraq war

The Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988) which is known as the longest conventional war of 20th century was a real disaster for both belligerent countries. However, it was unfortunately footnoted in the history of 20th century and for certain reasons, it is unknown to many people around the world.

Although the ceasefire agreement was signed in august 1988 and since then there has been friendly relationship between the two neighboring countries, but the war is still taking its toll!

Hidden casualties of war die in silence or struggle to survive with war related illnesses or disabilities, years after the end of war but such news about Iran are rarely heard by the world, why?

Did you know that Iran with more than 1 million chemical warfare survivors, has the largest number of the victims of chemical warfare since the First World War and tens of thousands of the survivors are still suffering from life lasting health problems?

Did you know that over 1000 tones of deadly nerve Agents were used against Iranians by Saddam's regime for the first time in the history?

Did you know that hundreds of thousands of landmines and explosive remnants of war along 1200 km of the Iran-Iraq border every

year kill or maim tens of Iranian civilians who live in the border towns or villages?

Raising public awareness about the disastrous consequences of wars and armed conflicts is an important step toward preventing the repeat of such disaster and thus promoting culture of peace in the world.

Books, photos, videos, media reports and other means of spreading lessons learned from the past wars, can play an important role in raising awareness among public.

“War victims” a collecting of photographs by veteran photographer “Mehdi Monem” is a window to the reality of Iran-Iraq war and its old scars.

It was published by the support of the International Committee of Red Cross ICRC in 2009 and is recommended to those who are interested in humanitarian consequences of wars.

Shahriar Khateri MD

The Resurrection of Life

“The Charter of Renewed Commitment to Art” by Seyyed Morteza Avini (1947 - 1993) after the end of the Iran-Iraq war highlights the fact that those who are against the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran will not stop, and this time are using cultural tools.

During the war, he had studied media outlets and had come to the conclusion that while revolutionary young people were defending the country against the invasions of Saddam’s army, a group of people who were indifferent to defending the country and its religious and revolutionary goals were injecting a set of beliefs in the society that was in stark contrast to Iranian values and the ideal goals expressed at the time of the Revolution in 1978.

Avini became editor-in-chief at the “Sureh” magazine in the art field of the Islamic Advertisement Association in 1989, and continued the cultural holy defense of the Islamic Revolution up to his martyrdom in 1993. In addition to making documentary movies of the Iran- Iraq war before that, he wrote a collection of literary articles then in which the major cultural issues of the time in the Iranian society were taken into account. This development was so timely and up to date that it left a lasting impression -even after Morteza Avini’s martyrdom.

“The Resurrection of Life” is a series of articles about

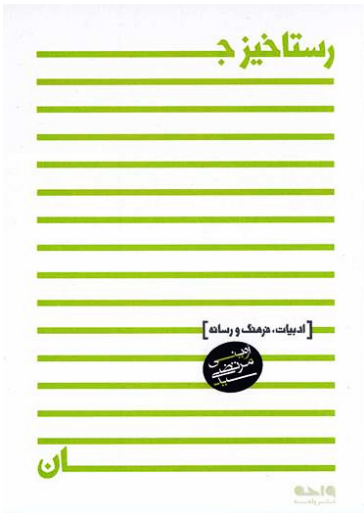
literature, culture and media which was published in “Sureh” magazine in 1989 to 1992. This book has been published 6 times by two publishers (Saqi and Veheh).

Free or Committed Literature, Novels and the Islamic Revolution, Freedom of Writing, Resurrection of the Body and Resurrection of Life, Language and Space, An Incomplete Note on Human Identity and Truth, Why are Intellectuals Accused?, Culture or the Culture of Development, Video vs. the Historical Resurrection of Man, Repetitions and Repetitions, The Explosion of Data, Will Theater Live On? And The Charter of Renewed

Commitment to Art are the titles of the 13 articles published in this book.

In one of the articles of “The Resurrection of Life” which was written in 1992, Avini comes to the conclusion that now “the meaning of ‘attack’ is not similar to the rush of the Westerners to the coasts of Africa for the purpose of enslaving blacks and having them work in American or European farms, or William Darcy’s visit to Iran (he was an Australian capitalist who bought the right to Iran’s oil for 60 years in 1901). The meaning of ‘attack’ expressly refers

to the reaction of the Western world to the Islamic Revolution, and the reason the word “culture” is added to it is that... at the end of the Iran- Iraq war and the West’s failure at realizing its goal, the pattern of war changed, and the Western world came to the conclusion that the only way to destroy the Islamic Revolution (which had gained credit in the world and was advancing more and more each day) was that termites attack from within, an attack against the very foundation of the Revolution’s culture and its elements.”



Neither of Water, Nor Earth

Ali Mo'azeni is an Iranian novelist born in 1958. Since 1991, he's been writing novels with about the Islamic Revolution and the Iran- Iraq war and his stories have won acclaim because of his great ability in weaving a good story.

“Neither of Water, Nor Earth” is one of his earlier novels about the Iran-Iraq war. This book has been published 10 times by Sureh Mehr Publication, and has been read for the audience of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran Radio in the days commemorating the Holy Defense.

The novel is about the notebook of a soldier who has asked the finder to deliver it at the address he has given. The finder of the notebook reads it first and the novel's reader reads it through him.



Saeed Moradi is the main character of “Neither of Water, Nor Earth”, and he writes about the first day he’s drafted to the army and the days that follow. His notes concern the story of a soldier who doesn’t easily ignore what happens around him and finds their influence inside himself and writes about it.

This introversion is sometimes more interesting than what happens outside, because the writer is faithful to the pattern of keeping a diary in a clear and explicit manner. On one end the turmoil of war is raging on and soldiers

are engrossed in their daily life in the battlefield and the main character insists on putting everything he sees and feels on the paper, even his homesickness and the desire to see his family. These pieces portray life at the sidelines of war so that the reader does not forget that during that time soldiers endured the hardships of war in order to defend their homeland.

In these notes, the author of “Neither of Water, Nor Earth” has included the daily and nightly schedules of an Iranian soldier. He’s made those scenes so realistic that

many readers who read the book in Iran could not believe that this book was a work of fiction about Iran-Iraq war; they have described their experience as reading a real diary that includes the true stories of a soldier’s life.

The main character of the novel doesn’t even stop writing when he’s face to face with the enemy, although his writing is irregular and in the end he writes, “One of their (Saddam’s Army soldiers) bullets tore into the flesh near my heart and I felt it burning its way through. If I hadn’t shouted ‘God is Great!’ I couldn’t...”





The Last Sunday

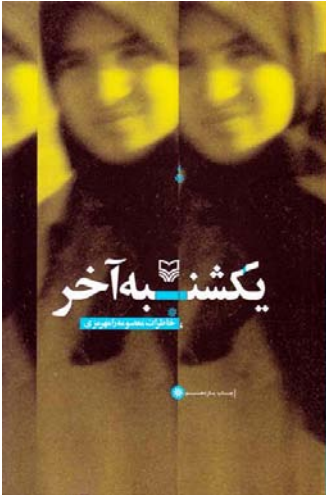
“The Last Sunday” is the title of a collection of memoirs written by Ma’soomeh Ramhormozi. This book has been printed twelve times in Iran by the Office of Literature and Art of Resistance at Sureh Mehr Publication.

Ms. Ramhormozi’s memoir begins with an account of her family and the introduction of the characters, and arrives at 1980, when the Iran-Iraq war begins. In the introduction, the social, political and cultural atmosphere of pre-war era is also taken into account.

The reader follows the narrator of “The Last Sunday” from the first day of the war in Abadan (one of Iran’s southern cities and Khorramshahr’s neighbor). Ramhormozi tells the story of a city that is spread in the shadow of war and the front lines, and the fact that the city’s residents still do not have any predictions of the future developments. However, this situation makes her realize that she has to take part in the

defense of her country, and leads her to the support of the soldiers involved in the fighting. Meanwhile, she quickly experiences various scenes of the war up close and personal, even the death of her brother, Ishmael.

The flames of war keep advancing and the narrator of “The Last Sunday” tries to make the situation more palpable for her readers. The narrator goes from supporting and providing food for the soldiers to helping the wounded at the hospital. The picture presented here of the war makes the readers more familiar with a group of Khuzestani women and girls whose destiny highlights different chapters of the history of Iran’s holy defense against Saddam’s army.



In a brief description of those women, Ramhormozi writes, “We were eight young girls... among them I, who was fifteen years old, was the youngest, and Parvin Behbehani and Parvin Ganjian, who were twenty-two years old, were the eldest. We were all caregivers, not nurses or doctors; caregivers who had become experts in medical treatment by gaining experience and skills during the war...”

The collection of memories in “The Last Sunday” has a happy ending; the liberation of Khorramshahr on May 24, 1982. Here’s another description by Ramhormozi: “The liberation of Khorramshahr was like a magic balm that healed my wounds. Ismail (my brother) had not gone and I could feel his presence. It was 20 months since the war had started, but I had become several years older. I was no longer the 14-year-old girl at the start of the war; I had gained a deeper understanding of myself as a result of my presence at the battlefield...”



Air Raid

against AI

Walid

April 3, 1981 is the reminder of a unique epic in the history of aerial warfare when Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force sent its bombardier in a consistent, precise and surprising operation to wipe out targets in Iraq distanced three times bigger than aircrafts' board.

H3 Operation is one of the biggest air raid operations in the world. It was targeted to collapse "Al Walid Airbase" of Saddam in a series called "H3" located in west of Iraq near Iraq's border with Jordan. The operation was carried out by Air Force pilots and finally resulted in destruction of 48 Iraqi aircrafts.

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Ahmad Mehrnia, one of the pilots of the Air Force during Iran-Iraq war is now an active researcher and writer of war whose book entitled "Air Raid against Al Walid" is memories of the pilots who were present in H3 operation.

The book is the modified version of the "Assault on H3" published by Army publication. Ahmad Mehrnia completed and compiled historical and documental errors based on available documents and journals as well as interviews with 30 pilots present

in H3 operation. Naser Kazemi, Ebrahim Pourdan, Manouchehr Toosi and Mohammad Hossein Nikookar are among the narrators of the book.

In one part of the "Air Raid against Al Walid" after mentioning the strategic importance of H3 region it is pointed out: "Fourteen highly armed F-4 jetfighters will take off from Hamedan Air Base (one of Air Force bases in western Iran).

Two fueling Boeing aircrafts will wait for them over Lake Urumia to refuel in this place and then to enter the

country's territory through northern part of Iraq in low altitude. They continue their way along Turkey's border to reach the border of Syria, Turkey and Iraq. After carrying the missions out, fighters will immediately come back toward tankers to refuel their tanks and return to the country from the same route."

The rest of the book is narrated from the pilots' viewpoints during the H3 operation: "a few minutes before sunrise, all preparations for the flight are ready and pilots are going to the equipment room to pick up flight hood and gravity suit and then go to the parking space of the aircrafts.... Nowrouz festival is near and some people are thinking about their families if there would be an accident? They are sure that their wives are awake from the moment they exited their homes and will count the seconds till they come back."

Naser Kazemi, one of the pilots present in H3 operation says: "when we reached the airbase, some people were busy with moving aircrafts and equipment. Waterless desert, sunny weather and low height made us to be alarmed in order not to be involved with aerial wandering and falling. We were surprised with the presence of numerous aircrafts, helicopters and equipment in Al Walid. A disaster occurred which Bathi forces could never have dreamed of! Their aircrafts could not even find an opportunity to shoot one gun or missile."

"Air Raid against Al Walid" was published by Sureh Mehr Publication.



Flight to Infinity

People who experienced war with their own eyes well understand that how much air force and pilots would be influential in progressing land-based war! The extent of lands involved in the imposed war caused no operation to perform without the presence of Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force (Islamic Republic of Iran Army or IRIA is a committed force left from Pahlavi era which was created in 1978 and includes army, air force and navy that beside Army of the Guardians of the Islamic Revolution is in charge of Iran's independence and land). Abbas Babaei, pilot and major general, was one of the professional pilots and commanders of air force who "Flight to Infinity" had been published about him.

The book illustrated his childhood to teenage years, his activities during the Iran's revolution in 1979, his education in America, his presence in the imposed war till his martyrdom in the framework of memoir about his family, friends, acquaintances and comrades.

In his youth, he participated in entrance exam of university and was accepted in medicine, since he was

interested in flying; he went to pilot department and later went to America to complete his education to pass his courses to be a fighter pilot.

"Akbar Sayyad Boorani", his classmate in America says in regard to playing volleyball between Iranian and American students in Air Base of "Race" located in north part of Texas: "Everyone was frustrated by their [Americans] futile sprawls and passes. Abbas told one of them: if you want to play volleyball, you must observe the regulations. One of them said: you the camel-rider want to teach us how to play volleyball?! In fact he humiliated Abbas, but he humbly answered: I am ready to play with you. I will be alone against as many members as you like to have. Thus, 10 players started to play against him. As a skillful player, he continuously collected scores one after the other. Students' noises during the play caught the attention of colonel Baxtor and he came into the game field. From colonel's looking it was clear that he had examined Abbas's skill, calmness and technique. A few days later colonel chose Abbas as the captain of volleyball team in Race base... I have heard several times that colonel called Abbas as his son."

The book illustrated Abbas Babaei's childhood to teenage years, his activities during the Iran's revolution in 1979, his education in America, his presence in the imposed war till his martyrdom in the framework of memoir about his family, friends, acquaintances and comrades.

He had been recruited in Dezful airbase with his degree of second lieutenant and after passing the course of F-14 aircraft became ready for flying and was transformed to Isfahan's air base (one of the most powerful air bases in Iran). In the second year of the imposed war (1981) he promoted to colonel degree and became responsible for the eight airbases of Isfahan and the following year he became the deputy commander of the Air Force.



Not only he could control F-14, he was known for his kindness even in the highest military degrees.

Ahmad Asnaashari, one of his soldiers in the Air Force stated in part of the book: "Isfahan air base is near the desert; thus, its nights are very cold. Soldiers asked for building a room for protecting themselves against coldness... Martyr Babaei talked a little with protester soldier, took his gun and asked him to sit in his car and take a rest, then said: I will guard for some minutes and will understand what they want, and then I will understand whether it is that much cold. He guarded there for 45 minutes without any clothes. The next tomorrow morning he ordered to build a small room for the ward."

Due to his competence and gallantry during the war Abbas Babaei promoted to brigadier in 1987 and in August 5 of the same year in his 37 was martyred in one abroad operation.

The "Flight to Infinity" which has been printed 18 times is considered as one of the bestselling books of Army publication (AJA publication).



The
Victims of
Iran-Iraq
War

“War wounds will become old, but never cured”. This sentence is the beginning of the introduction of the book entitled “The Victims of Iran-Iraq War” by Mehdi Monam. Monam was one of the war photographers in Iran whose camera has been focused on the realities of chemical victims as well as victims of unexploded mines during the imposed war. His purpose was to show that war is the bitterest human experience and on the other hand putting an end to war or achieving peace is the most beautiful manifestation of their behavior.

The introduction of the photo collection of “The Victims of Iran-Iraq War” reads: “I remember the last summer of 1980 well. Then, two significant events happened in my life. I was remembering the delightful happiness of our wedding in my mind when the sound of explosion disturbed the dreams of our first day of our married life and suddenly Iran-Iraq war started. These photos are the result of the unpleasant feelings I have from the nightmare of war. I tried wholeheartedly to transfer this feeling to all people around the world in order to think about peaceful life. I have no doubt that photographs are able to help people around the world to reach human understanding and living in peace, this is the miracle of photography which I believe in.”

“The Victims of Iran-Iraq War” is compiled into three chapters entitled “Landmine victims”, “Civilian Victims of Bombardments” and “Victims of Chemical Weapons” and includes 96 black and white photos of the victims of the imposed war.

The first and second part of the book are dedicated to photographs of women, men, children and youth who were wounded in explosion of mines left in western and

This book's purpose was to show that war is the bitterest human experience and on the other hand putting an end to war or achieving peace is the most beautiful manifestation of their behavior.



southwestern part of Iran involved in the war. Having 18 million mines, Iran is considered as one of the mine contaminated countries of the world. While a number of mine fields are marked, several people are still victims of these mines and lose their hands or feet. Chemical bombardment in southern and western cities also caused many deaths during the imposed war among which Sardasht chemical bombardment in 1987 is the most conspicuous one.

Description of each photo has been written in both Persian and English. The name of the subject plus his/her story of wound, date, place as well as the photographer's feeling in that moment added to the attractiveness of the photos.

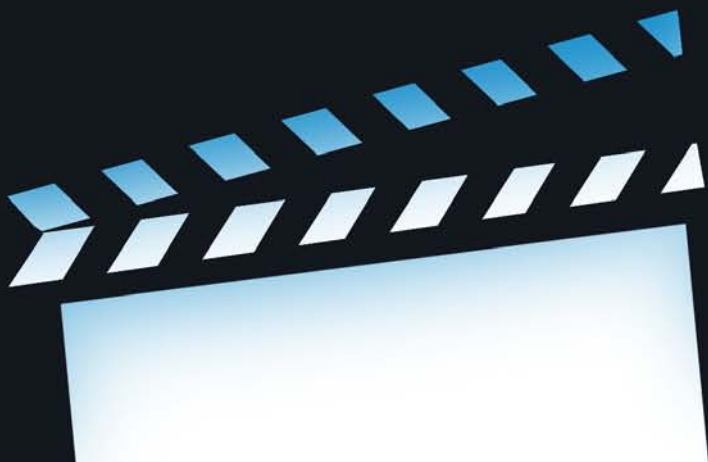
Mehdi Monam writes about his feelings toward Iranian victims of the war: "when the war ended I thought there will be no more explosion and no more missile falling on the houses, but the war had been started for some people. Pains of the chemical victims were ever increasing and the residents of the frontier villages whose farms were occupied by violent forces did not imagine that intangible soldiers called "mine" remained in their lands after Iraqi forces exited there. Considering the said contexts, I illustrated post war human damages." The book has been published in Iran's Photo publication with the financial support of international committee of the Red Cross.



Filmography of Captivity

Masoud Dehnamaki is one of active directors in regard to Iran-Iraq war genre whose film “Outcast 2” hit the box office by selling over 37.5 billion Rials and made a top record in history of Iranian cinema.

“Outcast 2” has a critical look to people’s change of attitude and ambitions after the war years. Before making the “outcast 2” Dehnamaki had compiled a book entitled “Filmography of Captivity” which was known as a reference book on the subject of captivity in Iranian and foreign films.





In this book he examined film and cinema as an influential and pervasive reference and also briefly introduced 40 Iranian and 100 foreign films whose subjects were directly and indirectly focused on war and captivity.

“Filmography of Captivity”

separate chapters in which at the beginning of the first one Iranian film on the subject of captivity is briefly examined and later on a list including titles and characteristics of films are followed as well.

In regard to each film a photo accompanied by the name of director, author, producer, casts and technical assistants which is followed by film synopsis and then a short criticism on its purposes and other related issues has been pointed out.

“The Forbidden Region”, “Epic”, “Prostrating on the Water”, “War Veteran” and “Great Escape” directed by Reza Jafari, Jamal Shoorjeh, Hamid Kheirollah, Asqar Nasiri and Naser Mohammad respectively are among these films.

The second chapter of the book is appropriated to foreign films and 100 compiled films of other countries were presented without any analysis, merely to give some information required by the audiences.

Like the previous chapter, here on each film we have synopsis and other information including the name of the director, casts and other influential people as well as technical cinematic features such as raw materials, filming systems, technical and dramatic frames.

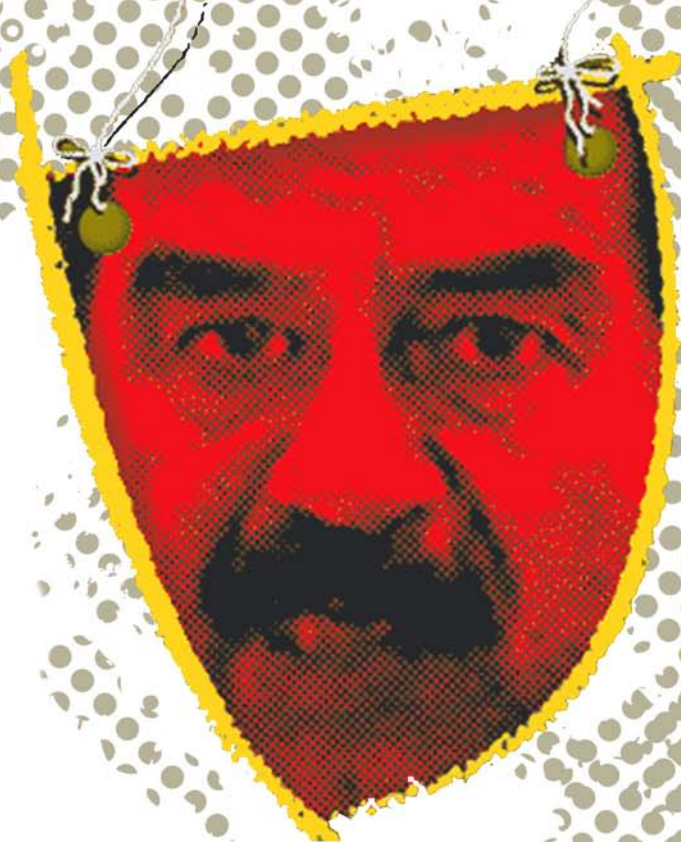


“L’ebreo errante” by Goffredo Alessandrini, “No one Can Escape” by André dubout, “No Time to Die” by Terence Young, “Quiet Please: Murder” by John Larkin and “Summer Soldiers” by Hiroshi Teshigahara are among foreign films.

By showing Iranian and foreign films in regard to captivity next to each other, Masoud Dehnamaki intended to compare thematic properties of the war of Iran-Iraq cinema and other wars’ cinema; he also intended to show that “spirituality” as the most significant characteristics on the resistance of Iranian captives is what distinguishes Iranian war films.

He added: “current, undeniable shortcomings in cinema - particularly in its intellectual and written fields -reminds those who love divine light and its terrestrial reflection of the necessity of making appropriate, reference infrastructures in cinema literature.”

“Filmography of Captivity” has been published by Toseye Qalam publication and was funded by artistic and cultural institute of martyr Avini.



Saddam's
29999W, 2
Lookalike
LOOKING

Perhaps “Mikhail Ramadan” was Iraq’s only unfortunate teacher. Because his face looked like Saddam Hussein’s, the President of Iraq, this similarity cost him dearly put him into a lot of trouble. “Akram Salim Alkilani”, Ramadan’s brother-in-law who was a member of the Baath Party in Iraq introduced Mikhail to Saddam in order to prove his worth to the party. Mikhail became Saddam’s double and visited some of the insecure places like Iran-Iraq war front and such in his place, witnessing the atrocities of Saddam and his family especially against Iraqi people. In 1997, after the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq, he fled to the U.S. with the help of Iraqi Kurds and the CIA and wrote and published his memoirs concerning that period in a two-volume book called “Saddam’s Lookalike”.

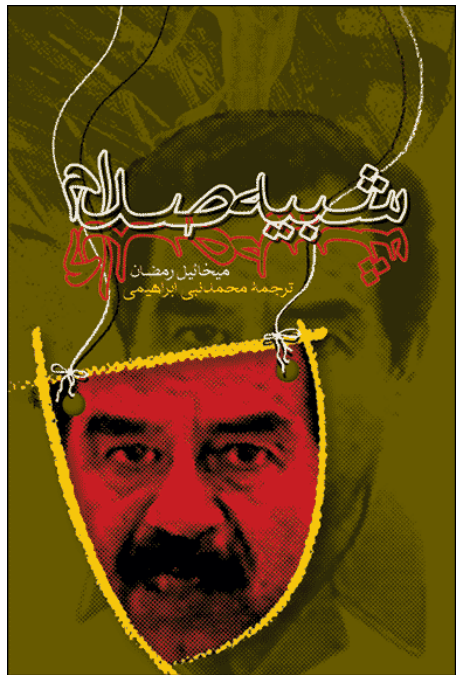
This book has been translated into Persian by “Mohammadnabi Ebrahimi”, and published by Sureh Mehr publication. “Saddam’s Lookalike” starts with the story of Mikhail Ramadan’s first encounter with Saddam Hussein under utmost security. Here is an extract of this part: “When I was summoned to meet Saddam, I did not think it would take so much time and effort and put me to so much trouble... Anyone who wants to meet Saddam has to go through several stages that include: physical inspection from head to toe, for the fear of carrying weapons or other types of dangerous tools, taking off all of their clothes and putting on other clothes instead, washing the body with water and Dettol!”

An operation is done on Ramadan’s nose, so that it may look as flat as Saddam’s nose, and he goes through several months of secret training in the Presidential palace to make all his the movements and behaviors similar to the President of Iraq. Mikhail’s first mission is meeting the prisoners of the Iran-Iraq war, and he pulls it off efficiently.

In another part of “Saddam’s Lookalike”, Mikhail

who often went to visit the Iran-Iraq war fronts in place of Saddam Hussein describes how his leg was injured on one of these occasions, saying: “After the defeat of the Iraqi forces in Bostan (one of the border cities in Western Iran) they retreated to the border city of Dasht Azadegan (Bostan is now part of Dsht Azadegan). There were a lot of corpses lying around. At the war front, I tried to keep my cool at the sight of many horrible things that I witnessed... in the morning of the second day, although we were at a safe distance from the front line trenches, I felt a very hot metal tearing into my left thigh. I looked down and saw blood oozing out of my military trousers. I figured I’d been shot. I fell to the ground. According to the information I received later, three Iranian soldiers had managed to hide behind a hill 200 meters away from me...”

In different parts of his memoirs, Saddam’s double presents the reader with new aspects of Saddam Hussein’s personality such as barbarity, brutality, cowardice, and how he even hired a double for Uday (one of Saddam Hussein’s sons): “Another horrible quality of Saddam was drinking blood, so much so that it had become a habit for him. Sometimes he ordered his guards to behead a child... I had changed so much that his horrible acts didn’t repel me. I had gotten used to such things.”





The Atlas of Continuous Conflicts



Atlases of war offer a pattern of every historical battle in the shortest time possible and the ups and downs of every war in the shortest amount possible. Operational plans, a summary of every operation, and a table of statistics of the two sides of the conflict are included in war Atlases.

Because the Iran-Iraq war was very extensive, it has resulted in many different atlases such as those of ground battles and aerial conflicts, every one of which has been published by a military publishing house in Iran. But “The Atlas of Continuous Conflicts: The Operations of the Iranian Army during the Eight Years of Holy Defense” is one of the greatest historical bestsellers concerning the Iran-Iraq war. This book has been written in both Persian and English.

This work of military research has been published more than seventeen times so far and is somehow a complementary to “The Compact Atlas of Ground Battles” of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards.

“The Atlas of Continuous Conflicts” has been compiled with the efforts of Colonel Mojtaba Jafari and under the surveillance of a group of military veterans, and all the operations that the Iranian Army participated in from September 1980 to August 1988 (the beginning of Iraq’s military invasion of Iran) to August 1988 (the acceptance of Resolution 598 and the announcement of cease-fire between Iran and Iraq) have

The Atlas of Continuous Conflicts has been compiled with the efforts of Colonel Mojtaba Jafari and under the surveillance of a group of military veterans, and all the operations that the Iranian Army participated in from September 1980 to August 1988 have been included.





been included.

The background of Iran-Iraq war is described at the beginning “The Atlas of Continuous Conflicts: The Operations of the Iranian Army during the Eight Years of Holy Defense” and then the operations performed in every year of the Iran-Iraq war are introduced in one chapter.

“The First Year, Thorough Invasion and the Stability of the Enemy”, “The Second Year, Pushing Back the Enemy”, “The Third Year, Entry into Iraq’s Territory”, “Fourth Year, Political Pressure for Imposing Peace”, “The Fifth Year, Urban Warfare and Limited Operation”, “The Sixth Year, Capturing Fav”, “The Seventh Year, Announcing the Resolution 598”, and “The Eighth Year, Accepting the Resolution 598 and the End of War” are the titles of this Atlas.

The introduction of the first chapter of “The Atlas of Continuous Conflicts” begins like this: “Some history books call the events of the first year of the war a failure and a defeat, and introduce them as the driving force behind a change of strategy and choosing a new tactic in the war. Surveying the operations conducted in the first year of the war shows that the measures that the naval, aerial and ground forces of Iran undertook are something close to a miracle. The start of Afandi operation (attacking the enemy) 23 days after Iraq’s invasion of Iran indicates the readiness of the army before the start of the war.”

“The Atlas of Continuous Conflicts” gives us a summary of the 105 offensive and defensive operations performed by the Iranian Army in the war zones in the western and southern parts of Iran, and pictures of the victims of the operations, the operation maps and the results are also included.

The activities of the Iranian Air Force called “Havaniruz” are examples of some of the innovative and interesting features of the Iranian Army. Havaniruz is the only military force of Iran who has no failed operations in its record. They were very skilled in flying all kinds of fighter helicopters and transport aircrafts, and they had an important role in all the operations performed during the 8-year-old Iran-Iraq war, and their support and strong presence is mentioned in “The Atlas of Continuous Conflicts”.

This popular historical book concerning the Iran-Iraq war has been published with the support of the Ground Army Veterans Support Organization, and by Sureh Sabz publication.

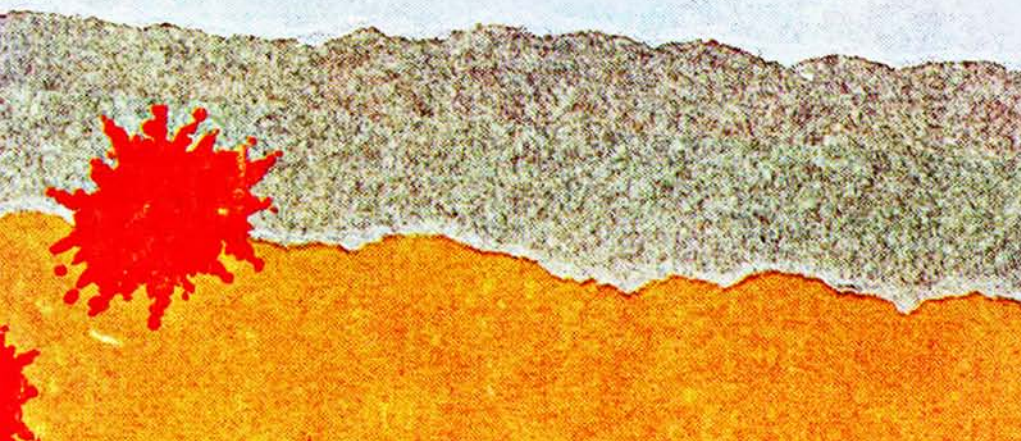
“The Atlas of Continuous Conflicts” gives us a summary of the 105 offensive and defensive operations performed by the Iranian Army in the war zones in the western and southern parts of Iran

The Best

Soil

the Best

Country



“Dust and Ash” is a collection of stories written by Firouz Zonouzi Jalali, an Iranian writer and it was published in 1990. This collection contains six short stories.

“Chocolate”, “Dust and Ash”, “Talvaseh”, “Damned Clock”, “The Fourth Meeting”, and “The Hunter and Storm” are the titles of the stories in Dust and Ash. Among the stories in this book “Dust and Ash” and “Telvaseh” (anxiety and worry) are about the war.

Zonouzi Jalali who is an experienced writer in Iran-Iraq war has presented the reader with people’s attitude and their worries and anxieties during the war.

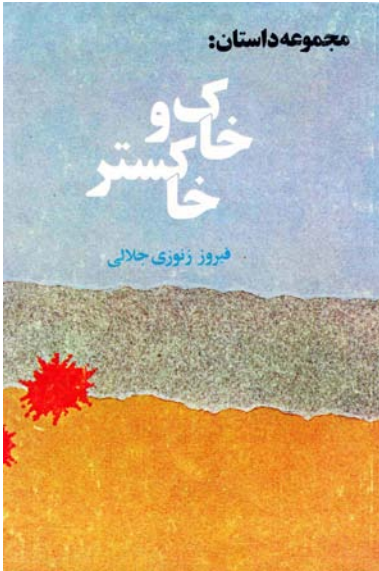
The first story which the book gets its title from consists of the letters exchanged between a woman’s brother who has left Iran because of the war and his so-called intellectual beliefs and has gone to London and his brother-in-law who has stayed in Iran and wants his family to stay in the country.

The letters that tell the story of this book consist of those written by Jamshid in which he constantly praises Europe and England and calls Iran a third world country with ignorant people; in these letters Jamshid tries to give a rosy picture of Europe in order to persuade his brother-in-law to leave the country and thus save his sister from Saddam’s missiles. On the other hand we have Naser Yeganeh’s patriotism; he’s an educated man, but he has accurate beliefs about freedom and civilization. This story also mentions the explosion of an Iranian commercial plane by an American warship.

At one point, the story goes like this: "You wrote

in your letter that you believe 'Mr. Saddam' will throw missiles at the heart of you Iran! What did you want to prove by the use of 'your Iran'? Your lack of identity or your English citizenship? What are you going to do with your lack of identity? If you are not Iranian (what a fortunate acquittance) Iran will be happy to let go of this scandalous addition to its population!"

The second story entitled 'Telvaseh' is about a man who lives apart from his mother. One day he wakes up after having a nightmare and the same day Tehran is attacked by missiles and he remembers his nightmare and hurries to an old neighborhood in Tehran in order to visit his old mother. On his way, he keeps thinking that his mother has been killed.



In this story we read: "The ground shakes hard. All the doors and windows shake, as if the building is hit by a gigantic hammer. Azizabadi suddenly rushes towards the window and looks at the half-asleep city:

Hey, Ziari, they threw another missile ... Damn it!

The he throws his cigarette butt out of the window.

What the hell does he want? Forced peace?!

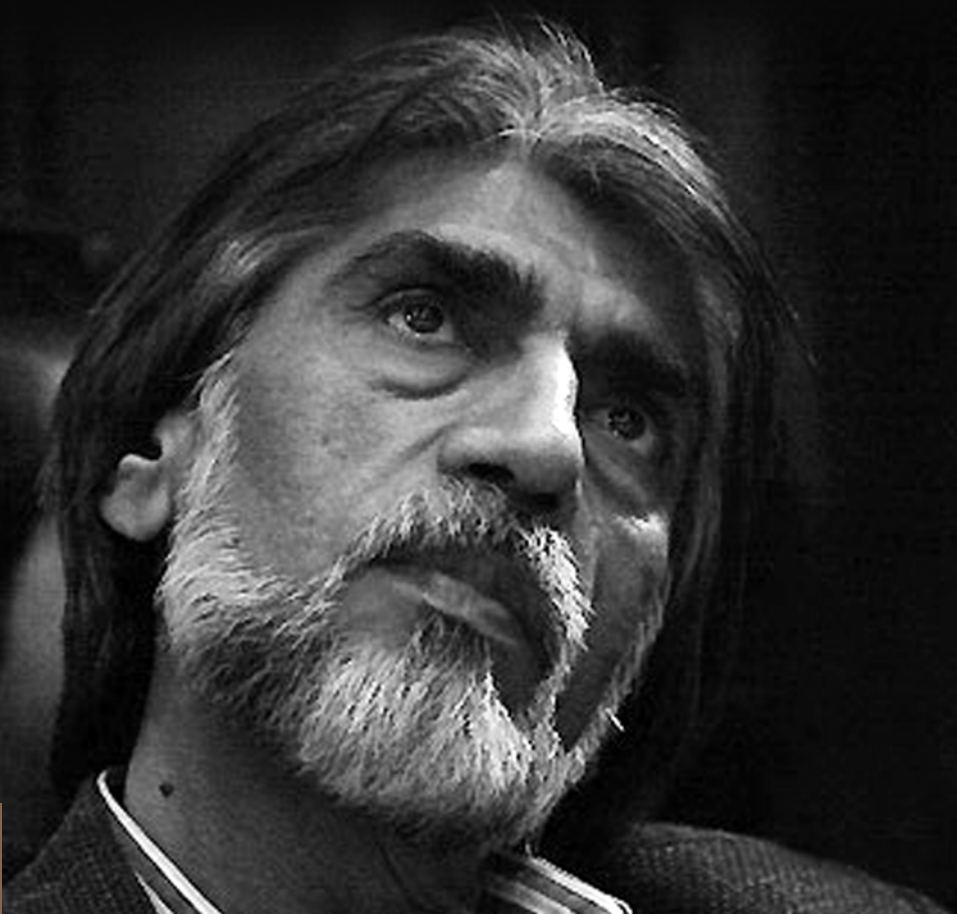
Ziari who is still thinking about his nightmare gets up and doesn't follow his pointing finger:

Say, where do you think it landed this time?

What difference does it make? Someone like us again..."

This book has been published in the early years after the end of the Iran-Iraq war by Sureh Mehr Publication.

A Poet in
the Alley of
Sunshine



Qeysar Aminpour is a famous Iranian poet whose first collection of poems titled “In the Alley of Sunshine” was published in 1984. Among the numerous works he left behind, there are many poems about the Iran- Iraq war.

Qeysar Aminpour was born on April 22, 1959 in Getvand in the province of Khuzestan (one of Iran’s southern cities). In 1978, he attended the University of Tehran to study veterinary science, but quit after a while. He went back to the university in 1984 to study Persian literature; Aminpour received his doctoral degree in 1997, and defended his thesis on “Tradition

and Modernity in Iran’s Contemporary Poetry” under the supervision of Dr. Shafi’i Kadkani.

In 1979, he was one of the poets who influenced the formation and continuous operation of artistic poetry till 1987.

His first collection of poems was published in 1984. His first collection called “In the Alley of Sunshine” is a collection of Robae (means quaternary and is one of the forms of Persian poetry) and Dobeity (also called

Fahlaviat, is another ancient form of Persian poetry), after which he published “Morning Breath” which includes some of his sonnets and white poems. All of Aminpour’s poems were lyrical, but he never dismissed poems that weren’t.

Qeysar Aminpour started teaching in Azzahra University in 1988, and in 1990 he became a teacher in the University of Tehran. In 1989, he was awarded the Nima Youshij poetry prize known as “Amin Crystal Bird”. Aminpour became a member of Persian Literature and Culture Academy in 2003.

“Shame”,
“Resolution”, “A
Martyr’s Will”,
“Incarnation”, “The
Way of a Leaf”, “The
Story of War”, “The
Victory of Blood”, and
“In View of Enmity”
are some of his
Robaees written on
the subject of war.

After an accident in 1999, Aminpour suffered from different illnesses and he had two operations on his heart and kidney.

He died on October 30, 2007.

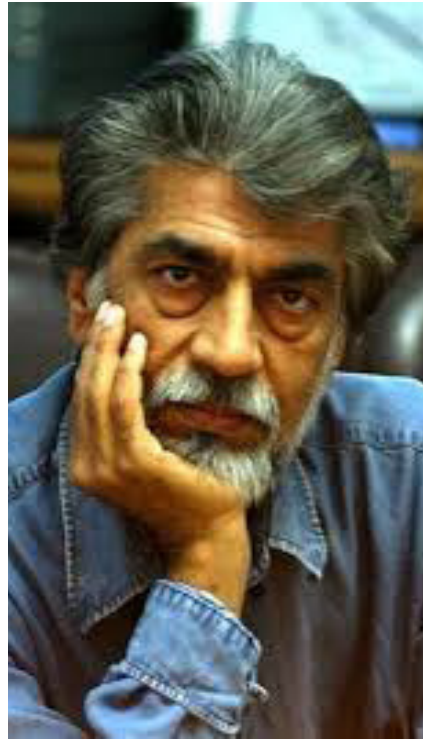
This poet has also been active in the field of literary prose and poetry for children and young adults, and has published many works in this field.

“In the Alley of Sunshine”, his first collection of poems is composed of eight chapters and includes several poems on the subject of war.

“Shame”, “Resolution”, “A Martyr’s Will”, “Incarnation”, “The Way of a Leaf”, “The Story of War”, “The Victory of Blood”, and “In View of Enmity” are some of his Robaees written on the subject of war.

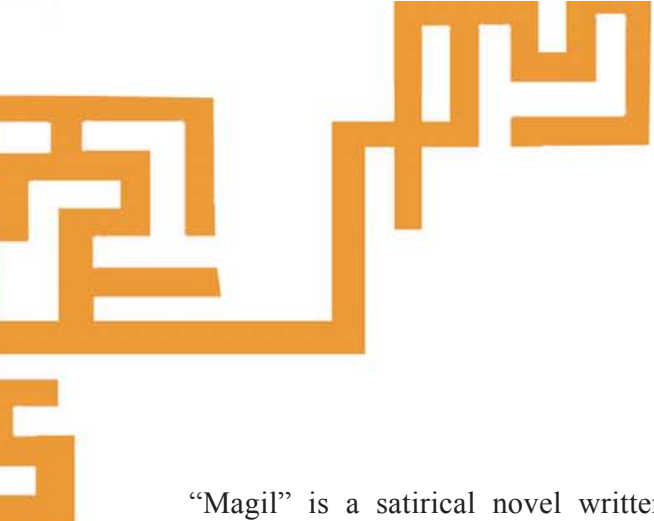
He also has a poem called “A Poem for War” which was published in a collection of poems titled “In Rotaries”; the poems included in this collection are a selection of several of Aminpour’s poetry notebooks.

Aminpour has written “A Poem for War” with the intention of condemning war and praising peace. This poem is about Dezful (Qeysar’s hometown in the province of Khuzestan) which was the town most targeted by Iraqi missiles during the war. Since this town suffered most of missile attacks during the eight-year-old war, the poet tries to use his poem in order to put a balm on the wounds of this defenseless city.



Magil





“Magil” is a satirical novel written by Mohsen Motlaq. This book is the story of a wounded soldier and a mule that has to carry the wounded soldier away from the front end.

“Magil” is the name of a mule that is taking the necessary weapons and supplies to the troops on the front end along with some other mules. This mule escapes an ambush by enemy forces, but his next mission is taking an injured soldier back to Aqaba. The soldier has lost his eye and ear in the war and is forced to trust Magil and follow him.

The incidents that happen to Magil and the wounded soldier make up the main body of the story that has streaks of humor. In this novel, Mohsen Motlaq has blended reality and fantasy with each other.

Instead of taking the wounded soldier back to safety, Magil that has been taken from Iraqi soldiers takes him to a Kurdish village in Iraq and they experience exciting adventures in this region.

The story of this book is full of emotional and tragic moments and the theme of a soldier’s injuries and the fact that he has to follow a mule is a bitter fact, but the author has kept the story’s balance by using ironic dialogue alongside the bitterness.

In this book we read, “Now supposing someone hears my voice and answers me, how am I supposed

“Magil” is a satirical novel written by Mohsen Motlaq. This book is the story of a wounded soldier and a mule that has to carry the wounded soldier away from the front end.



to hear his voice? My foot hits an obstacle and before I can get my bearing I fall to the ground. I turn back and touch the ground; it's a corpse. I've tripped over a corpse. How familiar it is. The way he's lying there and the stuff scattered around him. I keep walking. Another corpse with a smashed-in box of ammunition. It is hard to believe, but I have to admit we are back at where we started, at the valley where we were ambushed; now

we are back at where my comrades lie. I do not know how I feel, I'm about to explode with anger. It is all Magil's fault. I put my trust in him, he was supposed to take me somewhere else, but now we're back at where we started.

I turn to Magil. I pick up a wooden board. I'm so angry I can break all the boxes of ammunition over his head.

I wish I hadn't been so kind to you, I wish I hadn't given you all those chocolates. Poor Donkey, I should have let you freeze to death and die in the valley. How could you do this to me, you stupid Ass?! Goddamn you to hell, you should've been torn to pieces like your friends. A bullet tearing through your empty head is such a waste! So much hay and grass all wasted...

I raise the board with the intention of hitting Magil with it, but Magil is standing right behind me, and with the movement of my arm he starts to move. Because his reins are tied to a box of ammo, he turns in a circle and swirls his tail. He's so frightened and runs so fast that his hooves splash water and mud over my head and face. If I could see, I'd probably see remorse on his face.

Magil stops and I stroke his forehead. It is not his fault; it's my fault because I let him lead me on. A wise man doesn't put his wholehearted trust in a donkey, in a mulish mule, and a mulish and headstrong mule like Magil. What should I do now? I'm back where I started. "Do you know what we should do?" I ask Magil. But he is still busy ruminating. As always."

Magil was published in 2009 by Sureh Mehr Publication.

The story of this book is full of emotional and tragic moments and the theme of a soldier's injuries and the fact that he has to follow a mule is a bitter fact, but the author has kept the story's balance by using ironic dialogue alongside the bitterness.



Grand Ayatollah Ali Khamenei,
the Leader of Islamic Revolution:

**This eight-year war (Iraq-Iran war)
is indeed an eternal treasure.**