

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would not have been able to complete my fieldwork in Iran without the help and trust of my family, friends, and colleagues, and it is impossible to name the many people there whom I encountered over the past ten years. But above all I would like to thank my family in Iran, who took me in and accepted me as an insider and graciously excused the mistakes I made as an outsider. I would especially like to thank Amir, Nazanin, Kati, Rosa, Ali, Reza, Sheedeh, Mansur, Naser, Ferry, Mahin, Erika, Fakri, Mahmoud, and Zari Varzi for patiently and diligently helping me to become proficient in Persian, for speaking honestly about life in Iran, and for accepting me despite the twenty years that I was out of the country. Also in Iran, for their invaluable help with my research I would like to thank Golnush, Peygha, Mahssa, Pouya, Mehrad, and Aideen for including me in their group of friends; Mehdi in Shiraz; Ahura Farokhmanesh, Nader and Suri Davoodi, Amir Nikpey, Fatima Jahanshahi, Siamak Namazi, Reza Shahrani, Golam Reza, Mahsa Shekarloo, Violet Pakzad, Sohrab Mahdavi, Ahmad Kiarostami, Persheng Sadegh-Vaziri, Kaveh Ehsani, Sima Mir-Hosseini, Ursala Pakzad, Mrs. Jahanshahi, Ibrahim Hatamikia, Kamal Tabrizi, Parviz Kalantari, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, Samira Makhmalbaf, Seifollah Samadian, and Mr. Mohammad Avini and his colleagues at Rivayat-e Fath, the Farabi Film Center (Mr. Atti-

baei, Mr. Safiri, and Mr. Esfandiari), Khaneh Cinema, the National Film Archives, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Islamic Propagation Ministry in Shiraz, the Foundation for Youth Studies in Tehran, the Museum of Martyrdom in Tehran, the Tehran University Centre for Islamic Unity, the Museum of Anthropology in Tehran, *Zanan* magazine, *Tus* newspaper, Ms. Agaii at Chanel Four, Seda Seema, the publications editors of Rivayat-e Fath Books, the Federation of Iranian Mountain Climbers, all my teachers at Deh Kodah Institute, and the late Mr. Asgharzadeh and Kaveh Golestan.

My friends and mentors who have supported me throughout my work include Harvey Stark, Katrina Karkazis, Diane (Pata) Kelly, Kristen Claire McCrory, Pamela Alice King, Julia Zajkowski, Nancy Um, Nilufar Nuri, Haideh Salehi-Esfahani, Amy Taylor, Kamran Rastegar, Jennifer Larson, Leide Porcu, Farah Haniffa, Michael Glünz, Audrey Short, Arang Keshavarzian, Lisa Anne Mitchell, Jonathon Bach, Yukiko Koga, Tak Watanabe, Akari Maruyama, Paige West, Thea Hunter, John L. Jackson Jr., Tara Sussman, Gouthum Gajula, Dard Neuman, Sima Rizvi, Godfrey Cheshire, Robin Lauzon, Amy Kraunz, Setrak Manoukian, Amitab Dubey, Narges Erami, Persis Karim, Ziba Mir-Hosseini, Richard Tapper, Samuel Roberts, Milan Milinkovic, Marilyn Young, Alan Hunter, Santos Vales, Harriet Wheeler, Mary and Patrick Killough, Cynthia Nelson, Eva Koch, Abdul Aziz Said, Kevin Moore, Mikkel Borch-Jacobsen, Mehdi Korrami, Walter Andrews, Richard Pena, Melissa Hibbard, Peter Chelkowski, Wendy Meryam Shaw, Faraz Sanaii, Rachel Moore, Karen Vonnegut, Tina Chen, Molly Nolan, Robert Vitalls, Manjeh Sanaii, Suzie Baxter, Jam Paydavousi, Parviz Paydavousi, Mina Gorgi, Collette Caffrey, Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, Homa Katouzian and Ron Nettler for their support in the UK; my committee members and mentors, Michael Taussig, Marilyn Ivy, Brinkley Messick, Ervand Abrahamian, and Walter Armbrust; Joyce Monges for all her support at Columbia; my colleagues at the University of California, Irvine; and Eric Hooglund who convinced my parents that it was safe for me to return to Iran alone; and finally to Ken Wisoker, Courtney Berger, Justin Faerber, Katie Courtland, and Naomi

Linzer, and my anonymous reviewers at Duke University Press for all their hard work, thank you.

I would like to thank the Fulbright Commission for funding my research and for having the foresight as the first U.S. organization to make the important step toward cultural and scientific exchanges with Iran. I also thank the Department of Anthropology at Columbia University, the Markle Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, the Iran Heritage Foundation, the University of London School of Oriental and African Studies, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the Center for International and Advanced Studies at New York University, and the Middle East Centre at St. Antony's College at Oxford University.

In loving memory of those who have passed away in the time that I have been on this journey: Keyvan Varzi, Eva Klein, Ferry Varzi.

Finally, none of this would have been possible without the love and support of my mother, Charlotte Varzi, who was a true pioneer when she set out from Michigan to teach chemistry in Iran as a Fulbright scholar in 1967; of my father, Massoud Varzi, who always encouraged me to write and who provided me with a story; and of my brother and sister, Jehan Gir Fuller Varzi and Kimyia Fatima Varzi, who have been venturing with me all along. And for my partner on this journey, Kasra Paydavousi, whose creativity, support, love, and guidance are invaluable.

