

Suggestions for school age children for the exploration of Iran's history and culture, including legends, biographies and novels.

### **Elementary K-3**

*Ali and the Magic Stew* by Shulamith Oppenheim, a young boy makes a healing stew for his dying father.

*Count Your Way through Iran*, by James Haskins, learn about Iran through counting one to ten in Farsi.

*Iran*, by Robin Doak, introduces the geography, history, culture and people of Iran.

*Iran*, by Bob Italia, a photographic introduction to Iran.

*The Legend of the Persian Carpet*, by Tomie De Paola, tells how the first Persian carpet was created.

*The Persian Cinderella*, by Shirley Climo, a retelling of the traditional Persian tale of Settareh.

### **Elementary 3-6**

*Foods of Iran*, by Barbara Sheen, presents an introduction to the cooking traditions and customs of Iran.

*Iran, the Culture*, by Joanne Richter, covers religious holidays, traditional foods, and music.

*Iran, the Land*, by April Fast, presents a concise geography and discusses the people of the regions and ancient sites.

*Iran, the People*, by April Fast, covers the ancient civilizations, rulers, and revolutions of Iran.

*A Primary Source Guide to Iran*, by Leslie Kaplan, describes their government, economy, religion, the arts, and more.

### **Middle School 5-8**

*Anahita's Woven Riddle*, by Meghan Nuttall Sayres, a novel about a young girl who weaves a riddle into her wedding rug.

*The Ancient Persians*, by James Barter.

*Ayatollah Khomeini*, by Edward Willett, biography which examines his life and leadership skills.

*Beast*, by Donna Jo Napoli, a Persian version of the tale of "Beauty and the Beast".

*Dawn and Dusk*, by Alice Mead, a story of a young boy's family's flee from Iran during the war with Iraq.

*Iran*, by Cherese Cartlidge, covers the country from ancient times through modern problems and social changes.

*Iran*, by Vijeya Rajendra, covers the geography, history and culture of Iran.

*Iran: A Primary Source Cultural Guide*, by Lauren Spencer, covers geography, myths, arts, daily life, education, industry and government.

*Iran and the Islamic Revolution*, by John King, presents an overview of the causes and rise of the Islamic Republic.

### **High School / Young Adult**

*The Blindfolded Horse: Memories of a Persian Childhood*, by Shusha Guppy, a family history and childhood memories of Iran before 1979.

*Culture and Customs of Iran*, by Elton L. Daniel, an overview of the history and culture of Iran.

*Daughter of Persia: A Woman's Journey From Her Father's Harem Through the Islamic Revolution*, by Sattareh Farman-Farmaian, an autobiography of the founder of the Tehran School of Social Work and her flight from Iran.  
*Foreigner*, by Nahid Rachlin, a novel of a young girl's return to Iran to visit her father after living in America.

*Iran*, by Mikko Canini, historical background and a contemporary analysis of conflicts through Iran's history.

*The Little Black Fish and Other Modern Persian Stories*, by Samad Bihrang, five social and political short stories.

*Making Comics: Storytelling secrets of comics, manga, and graphic novels*, by Scott McCloud, explains the technical aspects of frame layouts, facial expressions, placement of words and symbolism.

*Persian Mirrors: the Elusive Face of Iran*, by Elaine Sciolino, discusses women's role in society.

*Persepolis 2*, by Marjane Satrapi, graphic novel that continues her life story as she moves from Iran to Vienna in 1984.

*The Rise of Islamic Fundamentalism*, by Philip Margulies, presents fifteen essays on its roots and places of power.