

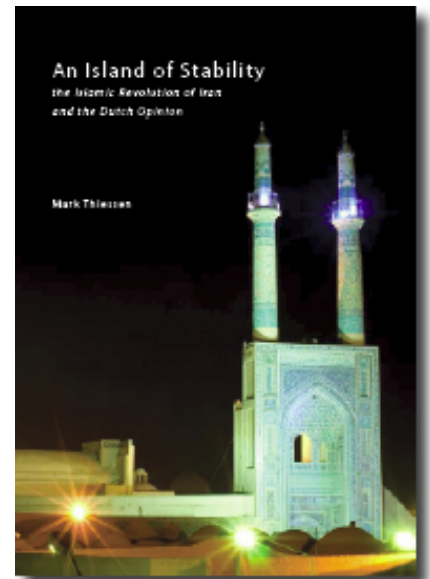
Historian Thiessen analyses the Islamic revolution in Iran

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In his book *An Island of Stability* historian Mark Thiessen aims to analyse the Islamic revolution of Iran. He explores the roots of the revolutions and the events in 1978 and 1979 that eventually led to the establishment of Khomeini's Islamic republic. *An Island of Stability* is published by Sidestone Press.

In 1979, the world was taken by surprise when the Iranian people revolted against their westernized ruling elite. The broadly supported revolutionary movement succeeded in toppling the Shah's regime, substituting it with the rule of the clergy. It was a breaking point in history and the defining moment for Islam in the twentieth century. The roots of the revolution were deeply entrenched in the recent history of Iran. In the West, however, almost no one knew what was happening. The rise of ayatollah Khomeini and the Islamic republic seemed to have come out of nowhere.

In this book, historian Mark Thiessen (1982) tries to answer the most important questions of the Islamic revolution. What happened, and where did it come from? He explores the background of the revolution and gives a detailed account of its course and analyzes the rise of Khomeini and his ideology. By studying the archives of the Dutch embassy in Tehran, Thiessen finally tries to reveal how the Dutch mission experienced and interpreted the revolution, at a time when the outcome was far from clear.



An Island of Stability: *The Islamic Revolution of Iran and the Dutch opinion*

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