Women and the Islamic Republic

Based on extensive interviews and oral histories as well as archival sources, *Women and the Islamic Republic* challenges the dominant masculine theorizations of state-making in postrevolutionary Iran. Shirin Saeidi demonstrates that despite the Islamic Republic's nondemocratic structures, multiple forms of citizenship have developed in postrevolutionary Iran. This finding destabilizes the binary formulation of democratization and authoritarianism that has not only dominated investigations of Iran but also regime categorizations in political science more broadly. As non-elite Iranian women negotiate or engage with the state's gendered citizenry regime, the Islamic Republic is forced to remake, oftentimes haphazardly, its citizenry agenda. The book demonstrates how women remake their rights, responsibilities, and statuses during everyday life to condition the state-making process.

SHIRIN SAEIDI is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Arkansas. She has published articles in journals including International Journal of Middle East Studies, International Studies Review, and Millennium: Journal of International Studies. She is a member of the Editorial Board of the journal Citizenship Studies. Cambridge Middle East Studies

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Women and the Islamic Republic

How Gendered Citizenship Conditions the Iranian State

Shirin Saeidi

University of Arkansas





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Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009013000

DOI: 10.1017/9781009026574

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First published 2022 First paperback edition 2024

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data

Names: Saeidi, Shirin, 1980- author.

Title: Women and the Islamic republic : how gendered citizenship conditions the Iranian state / by Shirin Saeidi.

Description: Cambridge : Cambridge University Press, 2021. | Series: CMES Cambridge Middle East studies | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2021034733 (print) | LCCN 2021034734 (ebook) | ISBN 9781316515761 (hardback) | ISBN 9781009013000 (paperback) | ISBN 9781009026574 (epub)

Subjects: LCSH: Women–Iran–History–21st century. | Citizenship–Iran– History–21st century. | Iran–Politics and government–21st century.

Classification: LCC HQ1735.2 .S225 2021 (print) | LCC HQ1735.2 (ebook) | DDC 305.40955/0905–dc23

LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2021034733

LC ebook record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2021034734

ISBN 978-1-316-51576-1 Hardback ISBN 978-1-009-01300-0 Paperback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

With honor and gratitude for the people of Iran, especially

Katayoun Alaedin, Nur Sadat Mousavi, and Aslan Saeidi

by the witness and what is witnessed

wa shahidin wa mash-hud (Quran 85:3)

Contents

Acknowl	ledgments
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page ix

1	State Formation and Citizenship: An Investigation beyond a			
	Euroce	entric Gaze	1	
	1.1	Introduction	1	
	1.2	Postrevolutionary Conflicts: Numbers and Logistics	2	
	1.3	Intersections between Ambiguous Citizenry Structures and War in a		
		Hybrid Regime	9	
	1.4	Citizenship and State Formation: Toward a New Approach	17	
	1.5	Methodological Rationale: Pushing the Boundaries of		
		Political Science	21	
	1.6	Disrupting Categorical Boundaries: Positionality, Affect,		
		and Understanding	24	
	1.7	Subtle Interventions and Remaking Categories: Fieldwork on Iran's		
		1980–1988 History	27	
	1.8	Structure of the Book	34	
2	Reflect	ing on an Idealized Past: Memory and Women's Rights		
-		les in Postrevolutionary Iran	39	
	2.1	5	59	
	2.1	for Activism from 1980 to 1988	42	
	2.2	Iran's Hezbollah and Remembrance of Marzieh Hadidchi Dabbaq:	12	
	2.2	From Superwomen to Equal Women	53	
	2.3	Rejected Essays and New Possibilities for Equality between Men	55	
		and Women	61	
	2.4		66	
3	Revolu	tionary Citizens: The Confrontation of Power		
	and Sp	iritual Acts of Citizenship from 1980 to 1988	67	
	3.1	Introduction	67	
	3.2	Being Cared for in Your Neighborhood: Local Contingencies		
		and the Embodiment of Khomeini's Political Thought	70	
	3.3	Spiritual Acts of Citizenship and the Followers of Khomeini	80	
	3.4	Contextualizing a Rebellious Life: Critical Thought and Literature		
		for Women of the Left	88	
	3.5	Spiritual Acts of Citizenship and Women of the Left	95	
	3.6	Conclusion	105	

vii

4 The Body in Isolation: Morality and the Reconstruction of the Nation in Wartime 106 4.1 Introduction 106 4.2 The Islamic Republic of Iran at War: Nation-Building, Heteronormativity, and War Tactics 109 4.3 The Body and Polity Formation: Physically Contesting State and Societal Nation-Building Projects 110 4.4 Politics of Local Macculinities: Unmaking the Protector Identity of the Male Warrior 118 4.5 Politics of Local Fermininities: Nationhood, Gender, and Eroticism 122 4.6 Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family 125 4.7 Conclusion 136 5.1 Introduction 136 5.2 Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction 142 5.3 Redefining Statuses 146 5.4 Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I" 154 5.5 Conclusion 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions 165 6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse 168	vii	Co	ontents	
4.1 Introduction 106 4.2 The Islamic Republic of Iran at War: Nation-Building, Heteronormativity, and War Tactics 109 4.3 The Body and Polity Formation: Physically Contesting State and Societal Nation-Building Projects 110 4.4 Politics of Local Masculinities: Unmaking the Protector Identity of the Male Warrior 118 4.5 Politics of Local Femininities: Nationhood, Gender, and Eroticism 122 4.6 Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family 125 4.7 Conclusion 134 5 The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State 136 5.1 Introduction 142 5.3 Redefining Statuses 146 5.4 Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I" 154 5.5 Conclusion 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions 165 6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse 168 6.4 Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution 174 6.5	4			
4.2 The Islamic Republic of Iran at War: Nation-Building, Heteronormativity, and War Tactics 109 4.3 The Body and Polity Formation: Physically Contesting State and Societal Nation-Building Projects 110 4.4 Politics of Local Masculinities: Unmaking the Protector Identity of the Male Warrior 118 4.5 Politics of Local Femininities: Nationhood, Gender, and Eroticism 122 4.6 Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family 125 4.7 Conclusion 134 5 The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State 136 5.1 Introduction 142 5.3 Redefining Statuses 146 5.4 Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I" 154 5.5 Conclusion 161 6 Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran 163 6.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions 165 6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse 174 6.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences 177 6.6 Islamization of Wo				
Heteronormativity, and War Tactics1094.3The Body and Polity Formation: Physically Contesting State and Societal Nation-Building Projects1104.4Politics of Local Masculinities: Unmaking the Protector Identity of the Male Warrior1184.5Politics of Local Femininities: Nationhood, Gender, and Eroticism1224.6Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family1254.7Conclusion1345The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State1365.1Introduction1365.2Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction1425.3Redefining Statuses1465.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1776.6Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion1877Conclusion1878Jibiliography195				
and Societal Nation-Building Projects 110 4.4 Politics of Local Masculinities: Unmaking the Protector Identity of the Male Warrior 118 4.5 Politics of Local Femininities: Nationhood, Gender, and Eroticism 122 4.6 Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family 125 4.7 Conclusion 134 5 The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State 136 5.1 Introduction 136 5.2 Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction 142 5.3 Redefining Statuses 146 5.4 Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I" 154 5.5 Conclusion 161 6 Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions 165 6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse 168 6.4 Making It (I)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution 174 6.5 <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>109</td></t<>				109
4.4 Politics of Local Masculinities: Unmaking the Protector Identity of the Male Warrior 118 4.5 Politics of Local Femininities: Nationhood, Gender, and Eroticism 122 4.6 Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family 125 4.7 Conclusion 134 5 The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State 136 5.1 Introduction 136 5.2 Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction 142 5.3 Redefining Statuses 146 5.4 Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I" 154 5.5 Conclusion 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions 165 6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse 168 6.4 Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 174 6.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences 177 6.6 <td></td> <td>4.3</td> <td></td> <td></td>		4.3		
of the Male Warrior1184.5Politics of Local Femininities: Nationhood, Gender, and Eroticism1224.6Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family1254.7Conclusion1345The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State1365.1Introduction1365.2Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction1425.3Redefining Statuses1465.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters1897.1Summary of Chapters189			e ,	110
4.5 Politics of Local Femininities: Nationhood, Gender, and Eroticism 122 4.6 Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family 125 4.7 Conclusion 134 5 The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State 136 5.1 Introduction 136 5.2 Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction 142 5.3 Redefining Statuses 146 5.4 Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I" 154 5.5 Conclusion 161 6 Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions 165 6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse 168 6.4 Making It (II) Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution 174 6.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences 177 6.6 Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Moverment Post-2009 181		4.4		
and Eroticism1224.6Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family1254.7Conclusion1345The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State1365.1Introduction1365.2Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction1425.3Redefining Statuses1465.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters1898Bibliography195		4 -		118
4.6 Love at a Time of War: Reconstructing Women's Role in the Family 125 4.7 Conclusion 134 5 The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State 136 5.1 Introduction 136 5.2 Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction 142 5.3 Redefining Statuses 146 5.4 Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I" 154 5.5 Conclusion 161 6 Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions 165 6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse 168 6.4 Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution 174 6.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences 177 6.6 Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-2009 181 6.7 Conclusion 187 7 Conc		4.5		122
the Family1254.7Conclusion1345The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs and the Post-1988 State1365.1Introduction1365.2Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction1425.3Redefining Statuses1465.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters1897.1Summary of Chapters1897.1Summary of Chapters189		4.6		122
4.7 Conclusion 134 5 The Aftermath of War: Wives and Daughters of Martyrs 136 5.1 Introduction 136 5.2 Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: 136 1.3 Redefining Statuses 146 5.4 Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I" 5.5 Conclusion 161 6 Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions 165 6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's 168 6.4 Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 174 6.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences 177 6.6 Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-2009 8.7 Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning 187 7 Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning 189 7.1 Summary of Chapters 189 8bibliography 195		1.0	0	125
and the Post-1988 State1365.1Introduction1365.2Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction1425.3Redefining Statuses1465.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion:1877Conclusion:Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters1898Bibliography195		4.7	5	134
and the Post-1988 State1365.1Introduction1365.2Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction1425.3Redefining Statuses1465.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion:1877Conclusion:Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters1898Bibliography195	_			
5.1Introduction1365.2Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction1425.3Redefining Statuses1465.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion:1877Conclusion:Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters1898Bibliography195	5			
5.2 Temporal Tensions and Unpredictable Acts: Institutional Construction 142 5.3 Redefining Statuses 146 5.4 Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I" 154 5.5 Conclusion 161 6 Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran 163 6.1 Introduction 163 6.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions 165 6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse 168 6.4 Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution 174 6.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences 177 6.6 Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-2009 181 6.7 Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State 189 7.1 Summary of Chapters 189 8 Bibliography 195				
Institutional Construction1425.3Redefining Statuses1465.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195				136
5.3Redefining Statuses1465.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 		5.2		142
5.4Intersections of Times and Acts of Citizenship Today: "If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion:1877Conclusion:Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters189 <i>Bibliography</i> 195		53		
"If Shahid Was Chosen, Then So Was I"1545.5Conclusion1616Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195			0	110
5.5 Conclusion1616 Iran's Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1 Introduction1636.2 Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4 Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6 Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7 Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1 Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195				154
of Islamization Projects in Post-2009 Iran1636.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195		5.5	Conclusion	161
6.1Introduction1636.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters1898ibliography195	6	Iran's F	Hezbollah and Citizenship Politics: The Surprises	
6.2Post-2009 Renewal of Hezbollah's Cultural Institutions1656.3The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters1898ibliography195				163
6.3 The Contours of Citizenship in the Islamic Republic's Formal Discourse1686.4 Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6 Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7 Conclusion1877 Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1 Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195		6.1	Introduction	163
Formal Discourse1686.4Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters1898195		6.2		165
6.4 Making It (II)Legal: The Independent Citizen and the Post-1979 Iranian Constitution 174 6.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences 177 6.6 Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist 181 6.7 Conclusion 187 7 Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning 189 7.1 Summary of Chapters 189 8 189 195		6.3	1 1	
Iranian Constitution1746.5Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences1776.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195				168
6.5 Case Studies: Islamization of the Social Sciences 177 6.6 Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist 181 6.7 Conclusion 181 6.7 Conclusion 187 7 Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning 189 7.1 Summary of Chapters 189 Bibliography 195		6.4		174
6.6Islamization of Women's Rights and the Anti-feminist Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195		6.5		
Movement Post-20091816.7Conclusion1877Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State1897.1Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195				177
7 Conclusion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning of the State 189 7.1 Summary of Chapters 189 Bibliography 195		0.0	5	181
of the State1897.1 Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195		6.7	Conclusion	187
of the State1897.1 Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195	7	Conclu	sion: Gendered Citizenship and Conditioning	
7.1 Summary of Chapters189Bibliography195	•			189
Bibliography 195				
		Culling of Simplero		
		Bibliography		195
Index 216		Index		216

Acknowledgments

This project began as a doctoral dissertation at Cambridge University. My supervisor, Glen Rangwala, read many versions of the manuscript and offered insightful comments that empowered me to move freely toward my own intellectual ideals.

I have presented sections of this book in different venues, including the Centre for Global Cooperation Research in Duisburg, Germany, and the University of Oklahoma. I am grateful to all the participants who provided feedback during these presentations. Abbas Edalat, Vahid Jalili, Sevedeh Azam Hosseini, Najib Ghadbian, Pearl Dowe, Joel Gordon, Ted Swedenburg, Mohja Kahf, Rania Mahmoud, Fatemeh Delavari Parizi, Zahra Abbasi, Shohreh Pirani, Amirhossein Vafa, Omid Azadibougar, Salvador Santino Regilme, and K. Soraya Batmanghelichi were intellectual inspirations as I wrote this book with their erudite interventions, but they were also dear friends who nurtured and sustained me. Anne McNevin, Paola Rivetti, Manata Hashemi, Amirhossein Vafa, Mateo Mohammad Farzaneh, Nayereh Tohidi, and Gamze Cavdar all read portions of this manuscript and offered critical feedback. My colleagues in the Department of Political Science at the University of Arkansas have supported my research by creating a collegial environment, and I'm most grateful for their presence. I owe a special thank you to Paola Rivetti, who taught me so many things, but above all her loving friendship enabled me to write through a frightening time.

Many thanks to Engin Isin and Peter Nyers for their scholarship and support of junior scholars in the discipline. Shahla Talebi commented on this project in various stages and offered invaluable support during my ethnographic and archival research on the Iranian left. Interviewees in the United Kingdom, Germany, and Sweden opened their hearts to me by recounting leftist experiences in Iran before and after the 1979 revolution. I thank them for those unforgettable moments we shared; I continue to reflect upon them.

I refined my arguments and curbed my passion because of interactions with students and faculty members at the University of Tehran, and

ix

x Acknowledgments

I appreciate their patience and engagement with my research. It was at the University of Tehran where I developed my teaching skills shortly after completing my doctoral degree. My experiences as a visiting assistant professor in the political science department also transformed the connection I made between my research and teaching agenda. This book came into existence due to the support of many individuals in Iran and abroad that sacrificed their time to not only make me feel at home in Tehran but also facilitate my research. I am unsure how to express gratitude for such acts of generosity and selflessness. I can only hope that the analysis offered in this volume demonstrates my commitment to the pursuit of scholarship that can be read in multiple languages. It is my wish that as my interlocutors and those who supported the production of this book skim through the following pages, they can see how intensely I thought about our conversations long after we parted ways.

Aslan Saeidi and Katayoun Alaedin, my parents, dealt with a very unruly daughter. This book would have been impossible without your capacity to let go. You encouraged me to not only think about, but also search for, freedom. You are my first teachers and greatest inspirations. I am blessed to have Nur Sadat in my life. Your light has made me stronger, and I thank you.