



Let Us Water the Flowers: The Memoir of a Political Prisoner in Iran

Jafar Yaghoobi

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This book is must reading for Americans trying to understand the complexities of Iranian politics and the nature of the current regime, many of whose leaders were involved in the systematic execution of political prisoners in the 1980s. According to Amnesty International, the cumulative death toll of this mass purging of political enemies, which continued to early 1989, ranges from 4,500 to 10,000.

The author experienced the terrible ordeal of being a political prisoner in Iran between 1984 and 1989. Against all odds, he survived the wave of state-sponsored killings. This is his personal memoir of the events of that terrible time combined with testimonials of other prisoners who shared their experiences with the author.

He describes the courage, resistance, sacrifice, camaraderie, and solidarity of prisoners who did not give up hope. Many refused to give in to the unrelenting pressures of the prison authorities despite brutal interrogation, torture, and fear for their lives. But he also recounts the stories of other prisoners who broke down under pressure and collaborated in torturing, abusing, and controlling their fellow prisoners.

To date this is the most detailed report in English of the Iranian prison system in the 1980s and the fate of the regime's opponents.



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