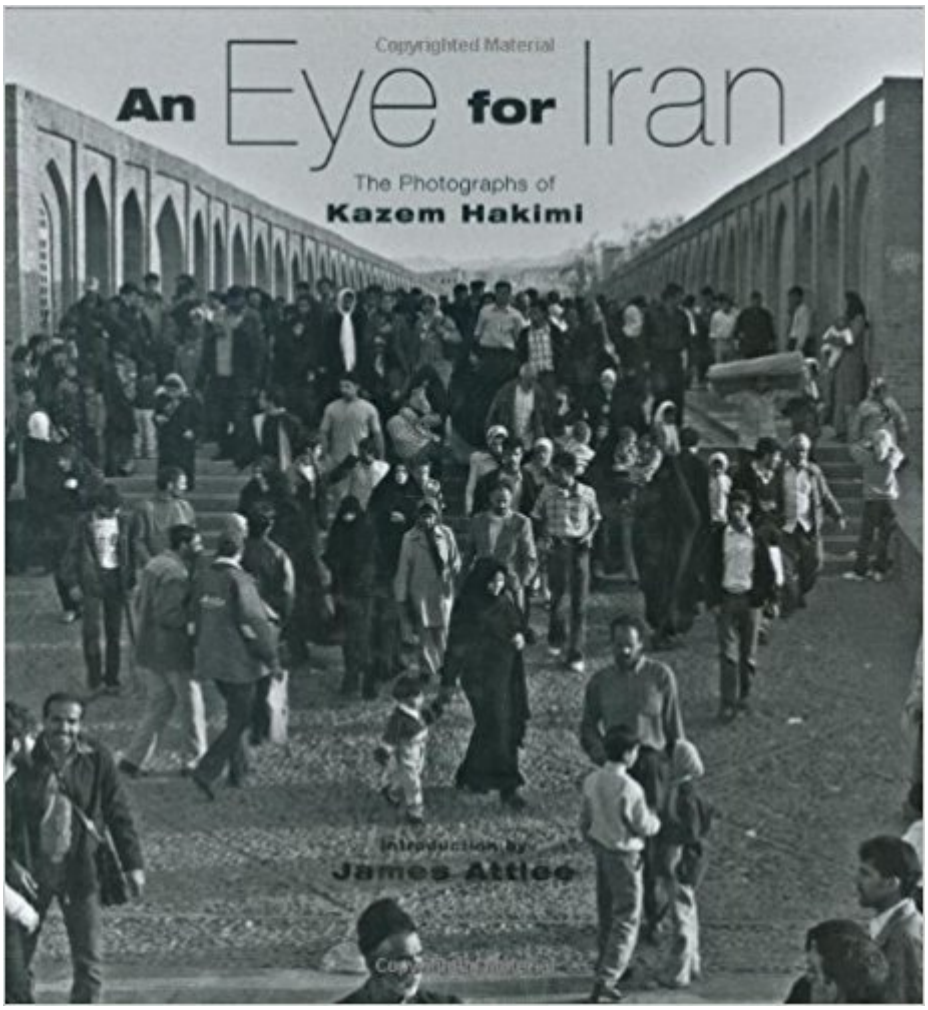
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An Eye For Iran



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Synopsis

Through his use of conventional black-and-white film and a belief that a good photograph is the result of constantly watching to predict the perfect moment, Kazem HakimiÃ¢â ¬â„¢s work harks straight back to the photojournalism of Cartier-Bresson and those early Magnum photographers who were able to capture moments that superficially contained nothing, but which when printed onto photographic paper became iconic images. With the United States and Iran once again squaring up to each other in the Persian Gulf and the actions of firebrand president Ahmadinejad never far from the news, An Eye for Iran provides a welcome opportunity to view images that show the human side of a nation we are being led to distrust. Here and there someone spies the lens as the shutter opens, but the drift of Iranian society is caught in the postures of the everyday: human faces in the streets, relaxing in the parks, the glimpse of designer clothes under a chador, pride in a motorcycle, a young couple enjoying a game of chessÃ¢â ¬Â¦ Throughout, Hakimi shows how well he understands the techniques of traditional photojournalism: he remains both present but still invisible to the people in the scenes his lens has captured. The result is a captivating book that will appeal to all those wishing to gain an insight into life in this unique and fascinating country.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Iranian-born and London-based photographer Hakimi presents this collection of 60 photographs taken - using conventional black and white film - during his 2004 travels to the Iranian cities of Isfahan, Shiraz, and Mashad. Rooted in the objectivity of the photojournalist’s method, the photographs depict what one summary calls "the drift of Iranian society" from a ground-level

perspective that, as Richard Atlee acknowledges in his foreword, seeks to supplant the discussion in the West of a dangerous Iran with a more human narrative.An Eye for Iran is a perceptive picture book created by photographer Kazem Hakimi, born in Shiraz but living in the UK since 1974. In 2004 he visited Isfahan, Shiraz and Mashad and photographed the people of his native country. He has a keen eye for the unusual, like the woman enclosed in a burqa standing by her motorcycle. Such contrast! His black-and-white candids stirred many exciting memories of my recent trip to Iran. Enjoy HakimiÃ¢â ¬â„¢s wonderful images and you will find yourself on an Iran Air flight to the land of the ancient Persian Empire.

Photographer KAZEM HAKIMI was born in Shiraz in Iran, but moved to the UK in 1974. Having trained initially as a civil engineer, he then studied photography in London. This book An Eye for Iran is based on a visit he made in 2004 to the cities of Isfahan, Shiraz and Mashad. Within, he has caught the immediacy of movements from an Iranian way of life that may soon be lost.

My mom lived in Iran from the 1960s until 1981, much of that time spent in a small Iranian village or in an urban environment but with simple, traditional people. She told me until I got her this book she thought those people and those times were dead, but now she saw that not all Iranians are as terribly modern as the people in Tehran. She said this book really touched her heart and that made me happy, as it was a Christmas gift to her.

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