

# Hassan Modarres

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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hassan\\_Modarres](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hassan_Modarres)

**Seyyed Hassan Modarres** (Persian: سید حسن مدرس c. 1870 – Sarabeh, December 1, 1937, Kashmar) was an Iranian Twelver Shi'a cleric and a notable supporter of the Iranian Constitutional Revolution. He was among the founding members, along with Abdolhossein Teymourtash, of the reformist party *Hezb-e Eslaah-talab*, which was formed during the fourth national Majlis of Iran. He has been called "brave and incorruptible" and "perhaps the most fervent mullah supporter of true constitutional government."<sup>[1]</sup>

## Biography<sup>[edit]</sup>

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The sources disagree on his birthplace. Some mention that he was born in [Ardestan](#) around 1870,<sup>[*citation needed*]</sup> while others mention that he was born in a village named Sarābe-Kachou (Persian: سرابمکچو) near Ardestan in the early 1870s, and that he moved to [Shahreza](#) when he was six.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Activities<sup>[edit]</sup>

Having studied [Islamic](#) sciences in [Isfahan](#) and [Najaf](#), Modarres became a religious teacher in an Isfahan's [madrasa](#). The name Modarres, which means "teacher", is because of his job there. In 1910, he was chosen by Najaf's cleric community and sent to [Tehran](#) to supervise the laws passed by the Majlis, to make sure they did not violate the rules of [sharia](#). Later, in 1914, he was elected as a Majlis representative of Tehran.<sup>[3]</sup>

In 1916, during [World War I](#), he migrated to [Iraq](#), [Syria](#), and [Turkey](#) together with a handful of other politicians, and served as the Minister of Justice in a cabinet formed in exile by Nezam os-Saltaneh. After returning to Iran, he was elected in the Majlis elections a few more times. Modarres fought against the presence of [British](#) forces in Persia, vigorously opposing the [proposed 1919 agreement](#) that would have transformed Iran into a British protectorate.<sup>[4]</sup>

In the early 1920s he also played a role in preventing [Reza Khan](#) (the prime minister at the time) from abolishing the monarchy (the [Qajar dynasty](#)) and declaring a republic, and less successfully opposed Reza Khan's deposing of the Qajar dynasty in 1925. Sayyed Modarres was openly critical of Reza Shah's rule and was placed under imprisonment in retaliation for his criticisms. A few years after a November 1926 assassination attempt against him, Modarres was expelled to [Khaf](#) and later to [Kashmar](#).<sup>[5]</sup>

[Ruhollah Khomeini](#), who later became the [Supreme Leader of Iran](#) after the [Iranian Revolution](#), was affected by him.<sup>[6]</sup>

## Death<sup>[edit]</sup>

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He was killed in prison in December 1937. His death is regarded as martyrdom and the martyrdom day (10th of [Azar](#)) is known in Iran as Majlis day (day of the [parliament](#)). According to [Tasnim](#) he was poisoned in prison and then suffocated while praying.<sup>[6]</sup>

## Reception<sup>[edit]</sup>

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Modarres is depicted on the [obverse](#) of the Iranian 100 [rials](#) banknote.<sup>[7]</sup>

## See also[[edit](#)]

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- [Tomb of Hassan Modarres](#)
- [Abol-Ghasem Kashani](#)
- [Mohammad Mosaddegh](#)

## References[[edit](#)]

- <sup>1</sup> ^ Mottahedeh, Roy, *The Mantle of the Prophet : Religion and Politics in Iran*, One World, Oxford, 1985, 2000, p.224
- <sup>2</sup> ^ "درس‌هایی که از "مدرس" باید آموخت". *isna*.
- <sup>3</sup> ^ Jump up to: <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> "زندگی نامه و تصاویر آیت الله مدرس". *irdc*.
- <sup>4</sup> ^ "درباره سیدحسن مدرس ندای حق‌طلبی و آزادی‌خواهی".
- <sup>5</sup> ^ "شهید مدرس در نگاه امام خمینی(س)". *imam-khomeini*.
- <sup>6</sup> ^ شهادت آیت‌الله "مدرس" به دستور "رضاخان" و روز مجلس شورای اسلامی/روز جهانی مبارزه با بیماری "ایدز". *Tasnimnews*. Retrieved 1 December 2013.
- <sup>7</sup> ^ "Banknotes & Coins – 100 Rials". *cbi.or*. Retrieved 24 March 2009.

## Sources[[edit](#)]

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  - [Modaress on irib.ir](#)
  - [Modarres on irib.ir](#)
- Modarres Dar Ā'in-e Che'hel Sāl Mobārezeh* (Modarres in the Reflection of Forty Years Struggle), [Khāne-ye Mellat](#) (Nation's Home)