

# Thesis Title: Joint efforts by Shahpour Bakhtiar and the United States to contain and suppress the Islamic Revolution

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## Abstract

One of the most sensitive and important historical juncture of Iran's Islamic revolution is the period when Shapur Bakhtiar was the prime minister. Although that period as far as time is concerned was very short its incidents and happenings were very important and decisive. This thesis is written based on value consensus theory of Chalmers Johnson. In that period the role played by the government, the army, the revolution's leadership and groups that opposed the regime and also foreign countries and particularly the U.S. is very important. Each one of such compliers has had a considerable influence on the course of the revolution.

According to Johnson's theory the Iranian society until the year 1356 AH was in balance. But after that year because of the entrance of domestic and foreign resources the change regarding the society's value system becomes imbalanced. The ruining of the society's balance led to the regime's suppression so that it could control the situations and that led to the destruction of the rule's legitimacy.

At that time the role played by the elites is very important; their tolerance of the opponents and implementation of reforms can be a political solution for the crisis. But since the elites refused to compromise the crisis increased. The Shah announced that it plans to form a national coalition government and to appoint Shahpur Bakhtiar. That really showed that the rule was implacable. The appointment of Bakhtiar who was a moderate figure was supported by the American government officials made an effort and help form a moderate government in Iran so that their vital interests could be protected.

But the existence of the revolution's ideology led by Imam Khomeini led to the acceptance of all opponent groups of his leadership ultimately and he was recognized as the main leader of the revolution.

According to Johnson the above factors were the necessary conditions for the forming of the revolution but for its victory there is a need for sufficient conditions too and he calls them precipitation ones. The incompetence of the army in harnessing the revolution and the reaction of the military forces and the announcement by the army that it was neutral and ultimately the entrance of Imam to Iran are the precipitation factors of this thesis.

**Key words:** *Imam Khomeini, History of revolution, Shah regime, Shahpur Bakhtiar, military forces*