

The Relation between Tradition and Modernity in the Thought and Practical Behavior of Imam Khomeini

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Imam Khomeini, Thomas Spragens, modernism, political thought, crisis theory, time and space, Pahlavi regime

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Abstract

The current research is an attempt to study the relation between tradition and modernity in the thought and practical behavior of Imam Khomeini. Focusing on the theories of Thomas Spragens specifically his crisis theory the researcher tries to answer the main question of the research that how did Imam Khomeini observe and analyze tradition and modernity, and the relation between the two in contemporary history of Iran. The advent of modernity and the problems brought about through its development during Pahlavi dynasty are also discussed in the research. The study however comes into conclusion by explaining the three trends formed as national-historical responses to the phenomenon of modernity, and elucidation of Imam Khomeini's stances in this regard. It is interesting that the Imam as a religious scholar and thinker represented a new interpretation of national-Islamic values based on the changes in time and space and tried to reconcile tradition with modernity.