Iranian Intellectuals before Constitutional Revolution and the Concept of Freedom

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Since the acquaintance of Iranians with the West during Qajar period, Freedom has been used as a conventional concept with a specific meaning and definition which was different from what had been in the past. In this meaning, Qajar intellectuals especially those from Naser al-din Shah’ era had justly distribution in importing and adjusting this concept with the Islamic- Iranian culture. This research tries to analyze the concept of Freedom in the works of Western intellectuals, while studies the way in which this concept had been transferred to Iran, its definition and the efforts of Iranian intellectuals for adjusting this concept with the culture of Iranian society, and reveals that the emergence of proselytism thought and concepts such as the concept of Freedom during constitutional era. This article shows that the concept of Freedom in constitutional era had remarkable background in Iran and Islam and Iranian intellectuals tried to present a definition correspond with Iranian society through familiar capacities and belongings. Therefore, Freedom in Western intellectual point of view have specific background and concept in Iranian- Islamic culture and has the capacity of practicality in its various kinds such as freedom of Speech, belief and writing. Hence it emergence has not been instantaneous.

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