

# Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	7
Notes on Translations, Transliterations and Footnotes	9
Introduction	11
<b>Chapter 1. The Clergy's Role in Politics</b>	17
Iran's Socio-Political Situation under the Qajar Dynasty (1785-1925)	18
Clergy-State Relations during the Qajar Period	21
The Role of the Clergy during the Constitutional Revolution (1905-1911)	23
The Clerical Response to Constitutionalism	24
The Rise of Reza Shah and the Curtailment of the Clergy's Role	27
The Clergy's Response to Reza Shah's Modernisation Policies	28
The Clergy under Mohammad Reza Shah	30
Rise of Ayatollah Khomeini	31
<b>Chapter 2. Ayatollah Khomeini's Inner World: Mysticism and Poetry</b>	39
Ayatollah Khomeini's Mysticism	39
Studies of Ayatollah Khomeini's Mysticism	40
The Role of Mysticism in Ayatollah Khomeini's Life	41
Western Studies on Ayatollah Khomeini's Poetical Work	49
The Role of Poets and Poetry in Persian Society	50
Ayatollah Khomeini's Poetry	53
<b>Chapter 3. Ayatollah Khomeini, the Topical Poet and his Quatrains (<i>robâ'is</i>)</b>	55
<i>Robâ'is</i> in Historical Perspective	56
Structure of the Persian <i>Robâ'î</i>	57
<i>Robâ'is</i> by Ayatollah Khomeini	57
Biographical Elements: A Dialogue with Ayatollah Khomeini's	
Daughter-in-Law	57
Mystical Love	62
The Iran-Iraq War	64
Martyrdom and Shiism	70
The Mystic Mansur Hallâj	73
The Ka'ba, the Holy House of God Despised	77
Conclusion	80

<b>Chapter 4. Ayatollah Khomeini as an Antinomian Poet: Lyrical Poems (ghazals)</b>	83
Structure of the <i>Ghazal</i>	83
Themes and Motifs in the <i>Ghazal</i>	84
The <i>Ghazal</i> in Historical Perspective	86
Ayatollah Khomeini's Poetry Inspired by Hâfez	89
Ayatollah Khomeini's Imitation of the <i>Ghazal</i>	93
Antinomian Elements in Ayatollah Khomeini's <i>Ghazals</i>	101
Censure of the House of God in Mecca in Ayatollah Khomeini's <i>Ghazals</i>	103
Conclusion	106
<b>Chapter 5. Ayatollah Khomeini, the Shiite Philosopher and his Panegyric Poems (qasides)</b>	109
The <i>Qaside</i> in Historical Perspective	110
Ayatollah Khomeini's <i>Qasides</i>	111
The Concept of the Mohammadan Light	112
Veiling and Mystical Unveiling	118
Mohammad al-Mahdi, The twelfth Shiite Imam	120
Rejection of the Monarchy	124
Mahdi's Representative on Earth: A Predecessor to <i>Velâyat-e Faqih</i>	127
Spiritual Perfection and Leadership	128
Anti-British Tendencies in Ayatollah Khomeini's <i>Qasides</i>	130
The Shiite Interpretation of Oppression	135
Islamic Governance	137
Conclusion	146
<b>Chapter 6. Reception of Ayatollah Khomeini's Poetry in Iran and Abroad</b>	149
Responses of Followers to Ayatollah Khomeini's Poetry	152
Responses to Ayatollah Khomeini's Poetry in the Diaspora	158
Conclusion	190
<b>General Conclusion</b>	195
<b>Notes</b>	199
<b>Bibliography</b>	233
<b>Index</b>	245