

Reviewing the Political Standpoints and Activities of Seyed Hossein Fatemi and their Impacts on Oil Nationalization Movement in Iran

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Abstract

Investigation of political standpoints and activities of Seyed Hossein Fatemi and their impacts on Oil Nationalization Movement in Iran occupies a very important status throughout the history of Iran. Seyed Hossein Fatemi was the first person who considered the idea of nationalization of the oil industry in Iran. Since this paper attempted to review the political standpoints and campaigns of Seyed Hossein Fatemi and their impacts on Oil Nationalization Movement in Iran, the era in which he lived was considered as one of the most important historical periods in Iranian contemporary history. Actually, this was an era in which the Iranian national campaigns, especially their efforts in the course of nationalization of oil industry, were mostly outstanding. This National Movement challenged the Shah and his entourage to rule in accordance with the Constitutionality. Additionally, this movement led the governments of Iran and Britain to fight over the South Oil Company. This latter issue led to the introduction of a new stage in the anticolonial activities in Iran. Regarding all these critical and complex stages, Seyed Hossein Fatemi, who was firstly the Vicar of Political-Parliamentary Affairs and was then appointed as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, played critical and fundamental roles in the fields of political and Press insofar as he could, with the help of Mossaddegh and his followers, accomplish one of the greatest achievements in the political history of Iran.

Keywords: Seyed Hossein Fatemi, Nationalization of Oil Industry, National Front, Bakhtar Newspaper and Bakhtar Daily, Mosaddegh, Vicar of Political-Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Introduction

This paper is analyzing and evaluating the role of Seyed Hossein Fatemi in political developments during the years of his political activities and his main role in the success of National Oil Movement from 1950 to 1953. The researcher attempts to start from the formation of Fatemi's ideational and political characters, particularly his first journalistic activities in Bakhtar Newspaper and also express his role in the development of Mosaddegh's

aims and the trend of Seventeenth Parliament elections. The other goal is to represent the Fatemi's presence as Vicar of Political-Parliamentary Affairs and his influence on the plan of Nationalization of the oil industry and enactment of that rule. The researcher attempts to proclaim this fact that Fatemi was the number one person from Mosaddegh's point of view and the second one in the eyes of political researchers to play role in the Oil Nationalization Movement. Accordingly, these facts have had significant influence in this process and these orientations and these matters indicate his important role in the success of those significant decisions in the nationalization of oil industry.

Seyed Hossein Fatemi was the first one who thought of the Nationalization of the oil industry and after that he could play a significant role in the success of this movement in the Parliament and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Nejati, 1996, p. 205).

Seyed Hossein Fatemi established the basis of Oil Nationalization Movement. He started this when he represented the movement against the Anglo-Persian Oil Company as a patriot anti-colonial character and continued throughout the period in which he paved the way for the success of the Oil Nationalization Movement. Often, when we talk about Oil Nationalization Movement, we can see the names of persons like Mosaddegh and Kashani and not the name of one who established the manifest of Oil Nationalization Movement. Accordingly, the researcher aims to express the main role of Seyed Hossein Fatemi in nationalization of oil industry along his political activities. We can account this period as the pinnacle and peak of his activities. Then, the researcher aims to pay a political analysis on the less known domain that has received little attention on the part of most researchers. The researcher also attempts to explain the matters and issues of that historical period and introduce the person who has had the most influence with regard to his activities and historical evidences. By far, the role of Seyed Hossein Fatemi and the importance of his political activities between 1950 to 1953 is the most unknown part and this study aims to pay more attention to his characters as well as his political activities. The researcher's purpose is to describe and explain the role of Fatemi in this critical period in Iran's history. The main question is as follow: how was the role of Seyed Hossein Fatemi throughout political developments and activities, particularly his influence on the Oil Nationalization Movement during the period of his positions in Vicar of Political-Parliamentary Affairs. We put our hypothesis on this basis that Seyed Hossein Fatemi has had an important role in success of the Oil Nationalization Movement. On the other hand, he faded out the presence of Shah and his entourage to make decisions about political affairs.

Childhood till the End of his Education

Seyed Hossein Fatemi was born in 1917 in Naien. His father, Seyed Ali Mohammad (Saif al-Ulama), was one of the religious characters of the city who was entitled as Saif al-Ulama by Mozaffaredin Shah of Qajar after the end of his theological education in Samarra and his return to Naien. Furthermore, he was appointed as the head of Nain's clergymen. Fatemi's family was one of the most influencing and famous clans of Naein and they were counted as of the most important landowners during the Constitutionality till the end of Qajar kingdom. They had a particular social position because their family had ties with some political and famous persons such as Mirza Hasan Khan Moshir-ol Doleh, Mirza Hasan Khan Motamen-ol Molk and Seyed Hassan Modarres. Saif al-Ulama was one of the supporters of Constitutionality Movement and his house was one of main bases of liberalists of this movement in Naien. Saif-al Ulama's friendship with liberal persons like Modarres and Moshir-ol Doleh had great influences on his activities (Shifteh, 2005, p.4).

Hossein was the youngest child in the family. He had 3 older brothers and one sister. Mesbah Saif Pur Fatemi was his oldest brother and he was employed in the Department of Finance. His second brother, Nasrollah Saif Pur Fatemi, was the executive and concessionaire of Bakhtar Newspaper, the mayor of Shiraz, and then the Najafabad's representative in the 14th period of legislative Parliament. He started to teach the history of Middle East in the Princeton university when he immigrated to America and he received the PhD degree from that university. Mohammad, the third brother in the family, was working in the Ministry of Culture and then entered to Ministry of Interiors and, at last, was retired when he was a governor. The oldest child of the family was his sister, Saltanat Fatemi, who had the most important role in the future events to support Hossein. Saif –al Ulama and his wife paid special attention to the education of their children (Fatemi, 1999, pp. 21-22).

When Hossein was 13 years old and his brother, Nasrollah, was teaching in Isfahan's College, he went to Isfahan. At first, he followed his education in Saremiah and Sa'di schools and then entered to College school. College was among those schools which were run by English missionaries. The initial cost and financial affairs of these schools were paid by English Missioners' Board. Fatemi's education in this school became an excuse for his opponents because they always exploited of this issue during all of his political activities and campaigns to propagate some issues and topics about that school (Nazem, 2010, p. 22).

Fatemi's Political Activities from a Political Journalist to the Formation of National Front

Hossein Fatemi started his activities via writing articles in Bakhtar Newspaper. It should be noted that its executive and concessionaire belonged to Nasrollah Saif Pur Fatemi. Having worked in Bakhtar Newspaper for two years, he returned back to Tehran in 1937 and visited Ahmad Maleki, who was the executive of Setareh Newspaper, to continue his activities. So, Fatemi began his journalistic work in Tehran as editor-in-chief of Setareh Newspaper. It should be acknowledged that this newspaper was one of the famous newspapers in those days. His extraordinary talent in writing and his innovations in journalism came in the center of attention in Tehran. These events occurred while he was only 20 years old. Ebrahim Safayi, author of "Fifty diaries from fifty years" book and who became familiar with Hossein Fatemi because of his activity in Setareh Newspaper, asserted that "he was a young man with fiery emotions and eye-catching writing" (Hakimi, 2002, pp. 28-29).

In 1938, censor officers from municipality summoned Hossein Fatemi because of his article which was named as "Ho! Pigeons " in Setareh Newspaper. He came back to Isfahan because his brother, Nasrollah Seyfipour Fatemi, became the mayor of Shiraz and adjured him to preside and manage the Bakhtar Newspaper independently. Fatemi wrote an article in "Bakhtar" Newspaper and attacked Parliament and the performance of Representatives. Accordingly, he was arrested and jailed in Isfahan. This was his first political and journalistic conflict with the government. However, he was released of prison along other political prisoners because his imprisonment was simultaneous with Iran's occupancy by Allies as well as overthrown of Reza Shah Pahlavi (Afrasiabi, 1997, pp. 84-85).

When Reza Shah was dethroned from the political scenes, the way became much more paved for more freedom. The publication of new newspapers and their relative freedom, compared to their freedom in Reza Shah's government, led to freer activities on the part of journalists. As such, newspapers and press community appeared as new problems for the Shah regime, which were intolerable for the government (Khamei, 2001, p. 99).

On November 12, 1941, Seyed Hossein Fatemi held a commemoration ceremony for Seyed Hassan Modarres in Noor Mosque, Isfahan. He firstly called Modarres as a "Martyr" and this

was his first obvious and considerable political action after September 1941. However, this activity was not hidden from the eyes of Isfahan Municipality's Intelligence Office (Hakimi, *Ibid*, p. 144). In the meantime, his most significant activity that led to his prisonment was Fatemi's defiance with the trilateral treaty among Iran, Russia and Britain concluded in the time of premiership of Mohammad Ali Forouqi and they determined a specific date for the exit of their engrossed army from Iran. However, public opinions were against this treaty because most of people considered it as a friendship treaty with offensive enemy that caused all those disasters. Most of the country's Press showed and expressed their disagreement with this treaty.

Meanwhile, Fatemi published an impetuous article against this treaty and called Foruqi as a foreign agent and the enemy of Iran. So, Forouqi directed the banning of Bakhtar Newspaper and its manager, Hossein Fatemi (Afrasiabi, *Ibid*, p.150).

After a while, Hossein Fatemi was released from the prison and decided to move Bakhtar Newspaper to Tehran in order to continue his sociopolitical activities with the help of his intimate friends. Bakhtar Newspaper was published from the 5 July 1942 and the title of its first editorial was "God, Iran, Freedom". This editorial had been written by Hossein Fatemi in the meantime of war crisis and the occupation of Iran in the time of Ali Soheili' first government. Hossein Fatemi's familiarity with Mohammad Masoud, the brave and adventurous manager of "Mard-e Emrooz" Newspaper coincided with the publication of Bakhtar Newspaper in Tehran in 1942. When the "Mard-e Emrooz" Newspaper was confiscated, Fatemi was the first one who supported Masoud. This support continued throughout subsequent challenges of Fatemi with the government. Mohammad Masoud's courage in choosing articles and revelation of corruptions of government, its entourage as well as the members of royal dynasty were followed by some other journalists, like Hossein Fatemi. Fatemi didn't cut his relationship with Masoud, even when he went to France for education and sent some article to Mohammad Masoud to be published in "Mard-e Emrooz" Newspaper. When Fatemi was preparing the grounds for Masoud's travel to France, he heard the news of his mysterious murder in February 1947. His death was so unbelievable and grievous for Fatemi that Fatemi decided to write a yearly article in the commemoration of his death to praise martyrdom and freedom and valued his name. Masoud's death increased the hatred of Fatemi toward royal dynasty. The considerable part of Hossein Fatemi's editorials in Bakhtar Newspaper was allocated to the criticism of first Pahlavi and, particularly Reza Shah himself (Nazem, *Ibid*, pp. 40-41).

Fatemi also had some opinions and viewpoints about consequences and backwashes of the dictatorship of Reza Shah. He was pointing to the grim and nasty characteristics of Reza Shah's kingdom and this point of view led to his disappointment about making reformations by his son, Mohammad Reza Shah. Fatemi believed and knew the Mohammad Reza as the sole responsible for all of the null and false promises that had lost all the opportunities after July 1942. This kind of precise and explicit criticism against Pahlavi made some dissatisfaction in Shah for many times. Shah knew those hard criticisms and Bakhtar's political attacks as an underlying for a coup (Agheli, pp. 104-107).

A Press association was formed in August 1942 to support the Press freedom and it was inclined to the Leftists. This association paved the way for the advent of "Liberation Front" in the July 1943 by a group of leftists and moderate publications. The formation of this front was a reaction to the attempts made by Shah to gain more power as well as opposition with newspapers confiscation by the government. Fatemi knew this activity as an essential community to fight against return to dictatorship. Fatemi's cooperation with Liberation Front

continued until the demand of Soviet to gain the concession of North Oil in 1944. However, it should be noted that Fatemi had some dissensions with Tudeh Party (Pour, *Ibid*, p. 185). When Kavtaradze, Soviet Foreign Minister, asked for the concession of *oil* deposits in the *north* of Iran from Mohammad Saed Maraqeyi's government in 1944, the discipleship of Tudeh members of Liberation Front to Soviet politics became public (Zabih, 1991, p. 93).

As a result, the discrepancies between the members of Liberation Front increased and then front collapsed. The official collapse of this Front occurred as the result of severe disagreements in the publication of a statement issued against the uncontrolled interferences of Britain in the southern areas of Iran and the Soviet in the northern regions of Iran. Tudeh members of this Front were against the second part of the statement that included the protest against Soviet activities in Iran. Subsequently, Bakhtar, Khorshid-e Iran, Mohit, Tajaddod, Daad, Sedaay-e Iran and Damavand newspapers abdicated from their membership in the Front and it collapse (Mahdavi, 2006, p. 172).

So, the fundamental discrepancy between Tudeh Party and other members of Liberation Front, particularly Seyed Hossein Fatemi, explicitly emerged and ended the short life of this Front. However, this latter event can be considered as a starting and turning point in the obvious hostility of Tudeh Party against Fatemi. After the collapse of Liberation Front, a group of newspaper executives formed a large organization called "Independence Front" and struggled against this concession. Some famous persons, including Hossein Fatemi, participated in the Front. Some newspapers like Bakhtar, Keshvar, Kooshesh, Mard-e Emrooz, Vazifeh and Ra'd-e had membership in the "Independence Front". Although this Front had been formed to battle against the Liberation Front, since some basic founders of this Front were formerly the members of Liberation Front, they didn't have significant differences in their procedures and advertising practices. Regarding the ebb of Northern Oil crisis and ineffective attempts of Soviet in this domain, the Independence Front lost its motive and became involved in struggles against government's successive newspapers confiscations. This matter was always one of the main motives of Press associations (Nazem, *Ibid*, pp. 50-51).

Hossein Fatemi, who was worried about Marxist activities of Tudeh Party, had some hopes to Seyed Ziauddin Tabatabai and trusted him. Seyed Zia had established the "National Will" Party via the support of Britain to battle against Tudeh Party. In such a situation, Fatemi became one of the companions of Seyed Zia, for a short period. However, there were appeared some obvious contradictions in Seyed Zia's schemes. On the one hand, Zia adjoined the court of Shah and, on the other hand, he revealed his avid face toward Britain. In this situation, Fatemi became one of the critics of Seyed Zia. So, the accompaniment of Fatemi and a considerable number of journalists didn't last longer with Zia (Fatemi, 2000, pp. 179-180).

Regarding the periods of premierships of Ali Sohayli and Ahmad Ghavam, Fatemi continued his political activities and standpoint against these cabinets. Ali Soheyli was the prime minister for two periods in the 1940s. In the period of his premierships, some of the newspapers were his critics because of his performance and the interference of court in the government affairs. Instead, they introduced Ahmad Ghavam (Ghavamosalaneh) as a mighty and powerful candidate for organizing the cabinet. This procedure led Sohayli to strongly oppose Press activities and confiscated some newspapers thereof. The cabinet of Soheyli collapsed because of the pressure from newspapers, particularly Bakhtar Newspaper, and since the Parliament was inclined to Ghavam, he introduced his cabinet to the Parliament (Pur, *Ibid*, p. 182).

During this period, some of the famous newspaper executives were supporting Ghavam and Hossein Fatemi was also among them. Although the bread crisis, resulted from shortage and high cost of bread, led to the people's riot (it should be noted that this crisis was due to Shah

and his court's instigation) and Ghavam resigned of the premiership, the role of Hossein Fatemi and the his appropriate notification about the main reasons for bread crisis was critical (Nazem, *Ibid*, p. 55).

In such situations and although Soheyli became the prime minister, the Press confronted Soheyli and pointed to the "14th Parliamentary Elections". Regarding the criticism of newspapers about Soheyli and their emphasis on the necessity of free elections, the considerable role of Hossein Fatemi in the opposition against Soheyli, which led to confiscation of Bakhtar Newspaper, is so outstanding. Fatemi believed in the principle of freedom of voting and opinion and free competition of political parties during the election process. He frequently pointed to this matter in his articles. Fatemi indicated that he was faithful to defend freedom in the periods of Soheyli and Ghavam (Shifteh, *Ibid*, p. 48).

After the end of his education in Paris and when he received his PhD degree, Hossein Fatemi came back to Iran in 1948. Fatemi's return to Iran paved the way for his active role in the political activities during 1948 and 1949. The most important action of Fatemi, after his return to Iran, was the publication of a new newspaper entitled "Bakhtar Daily". (Nazem, *Ibid*, pp. 74-75)

The publication of Bakhtar Daily coincided with the end of the 15th Parliament and the beginning of the 16th Parliamentary Elections. In this situation, Fatemi's journalistic activities focused on the disagreement with applying the government's opinion during the elections procedure. Fatemi's efforts against government's attempts to empower some previous representatives to the Parliament led to the confiscation of Bakhtar Daily Newspaper. However, the pressure of public opinion and cancellation of the curfew, this newspaper republished. When the results of 16th Parliamentary Elections were announced, Dr. Mossadegh and a group of political characters took refuge in the court to protest against obvious interference of the government in this domain. When this activity did not reach an obvious result, this group immediately gathered in Dr. Mosaddegh's house and decided to continue their political activities. In this session, the formation of National Front was proposed. Dr. Fatemi played the main role in the formation of the National Front as well as choosing and proposing its name. When the statutes and regulations of this Front were ratified, the official presence of the National Front was proclaimed in October 31, 1949. Hossein Fatemi had the main and basic role in organizing the national front and he was its real operator (Afrasiabi, *Ibid*, p. 132).

Fatemi's Role in the Period of his Political Deputy in the Approval of Nationalization of the Oil Industry Act in Mosaddegh's First Cabinet

Hossein Ala became the prime minister after the assassination of Razmara in March 16, 1950. In these days, Iran's oil industry was approved to be national via legislative assembly and then by senate. In such situations, the precipitous government of Hossein Ala couldn't last long and he resigned from premiership. Accordingly, the 15th Parliament expressed its desire for the premiership of Dr. Mosaddegh. Dr. Mosaddegh made the acceptance of ministry subject to the approval of 9-points Bill on the eviction of Parliament in the matter of oil industry. Since the Parliament approved this Bill in May 9, 1951, Dr. Mosaddegh accepted the premiership. The most significant matter in his acceptance was the oil issue. In this matter, he held a discussion with Parliament's representatives along with some of his friends, particularly Fatemi, in the day of announcing his premiership about the solution of the oil issue as well as eviction situations (Movahed, 2008, p. 100).

Dr. Mosaddegh introduced his cabinet to the Parliament on May 03, 1951 and, some days later, elected Hossein Fatemi as Vicar of Political-Parliamentary Affairs in May 08, 1951. Fatemi's position in Mosaddegh's cabinet was so controversial (Azimi, 1993, p. 55). Although, the familiarity between Mosaddegh and Fatemi had entered a new stage in the early years of 1940s and during the formation of National Front in 1949, the effective role of Fatemi in the procedure for Oil Nationalization Movement has caused Dr. Mosaddegh to lay more confidence of him. On the other hand, the presence of Fatemi in the accompaniment of Dr. Mosaddegh was accounted as the complementary element for the shortages of National Movement's leader. The proposal of Dr. Mosaddegh was faced with opposing reactions in the senate and legislative Parliaments. The main reasons for this issue were the content of his articles in Bakhtar Daily Newspaper. However, the representatives gave him a vote of confidence in both Parliaments. His editorials in Bakhtar Daily were a mission that he would continue anyway (Hakimi, *Ibid*, p. 121).

Working as the Vicar of Political-Parliamentary Affairs of Dr. Mosaddegh's government was a hard and heavy responsibility because the implementation of Nationalization of the oil industry Act was a challenging activity. Although Fatemi had an effective and outstanding role in the ratification of this Act, it was challenging the foreign policy as well as some other fundamental domain like economy and politics. Totally, Fatemi tried to continue diverse aspects of his duties as a deputy and assistance of prime minister and government spokesman to achieve national objectives and, particularly, implement the Nationalization of the oil industry Act. Fatemi's practical oppositions and critique writing to implement the mentioned Act as well as resistance against British pressures were very effective and impressive (Mahdavi, *Ibid*, pp. 76-89). In the Mosaddeq's first cabinet and in order to implement the Nationalization of the oil industry Act, the government decided to deport the English experts. After the announcement of the government's decision, Britain referred this issue to the Security Council of United Nations and it was put on the agenda of that council. On October 9, 1951, Dr. Mosaddegh traveled to USA as the head of Iranian delegation. Dr. Hossein Fatemi was also present in this delegation (Haj Gorbani, 1991, p. 73).

When Mosaddegh and his delegation returned to Iran, Fatemi held his last Press conference as a deputy of prime minister and declared that he is ready to participate in 17th Parliamentary Elections. He was thinking to congregation of some outstanding number of Dr. Mosaddegh's supporters in the Parliament in order to support Mosaddegh's policies in order to take an important step in solving the nationalization of oil issue. Tehran's elections started on January 21, 1952 and Hossein Fatemi could accede to the 17th Parliament. However, he was assassinated in February 12, 1952, the exact date of anniversary of the death of Mohammad Masood, and he was hospitalized for a while in Najmieh Hospital, Tehran. Fatemi's course of treatment lasted for a long time inside and outside of the country and he wasn't present until his tenure of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Mosaddegh's second cabinet in the legislative Parliament. In other words, it can be said that in spite of his success and the approval of the letter of credit, Fatemi had not any special activity in the period of several months of his representativeness in 17th Parliament (Nejati, 1996. p. 135).

The Political Activities of Hossein Fatemi as the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Second Cabinet of Mosaddegh

When Dr. Mosaddegh returned back from The Hague and could approve the Iran's legitimacy against the claims of the British government in the court of The Hague on July 1952, he again became the prime minister. However, Mosaddegh asked Shah to assign the powers of

Minister of War to the prime minister and Shah didn't accept this request. Accordingly, he resigned from his post and Shah assigned Ahmad Ghavam as the prime minister. However, Ghavam couldn't help many and people, with the leadership of Ayatollah Kashani, had an uprising on July 20, 1952 and this matter obligated Shah to reappoint Mosaddegh as the prime minister (Azimi, 1993, p. 178). On July 26, 1952, Dr. Mosaddegh presented the programs of the new government to the Parliament and he introduced the Council of Ministers.

The victory of the uprising on July 20, 1952 gave enough power as well as the Ministry of War to cut the court's budget, decrease the military budget and receive some special possessions and privileges from Parliament for 6 months to apply necessary rules for financial, election, legal and educational corrections. Since Mosaddegh was pursuing an active foreign policy, he put Hossein Fatemi as the head of Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Since this period was a turning point in the opposition and fighting of Mosaddegh government with Britain, Fatemi was familiar with the characteristics of this period and according to those matters, he accepted the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs (Katoozian, 2003, p. 146). This period was the peak of his brilliant career in political domains because some important and outstanding actions and rules were applied in this period, including cutting off Iran and Britain relationships, applying the negative balance principle in the foreign policy of Iran, accomplishment of basic modifications in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, particularly in terms of administrative and recruitment matters, and solving the problem of fishery and other disagreements with Soviet. These were examples of those issues that we can put emphasis on it (Nazem, Ibid, pp. 181-211). Fatemi was the forehead of National Front in the period of Mosaddegh's premiership. This outstanding opportunity was in the center of attention of inside and outside communities. This role became more obvious, more radical and more outstanding as the Minister of Foreign Affairs. This role was so pervasive that Fatemi became the theorist and designer of theoretical and operational plans of Mosaddegh government. This situation was based on a special foreign policy that did not have any alternative or excuse but to express the theories and performance. So, he developed his political purposes with more leisure and bravery.

The establishment of relationships with neighbors, Arabic and Islamic countries, which was along the negative balance policy of Mosaddegh, was one of the Fatemi's early attempts. Actually, since Fatemi was the Foreign Minister of Iran, he was a leading character in terms of critical period of establishment of relationship with the outside world. He was the government spokesman and the most effective character and the closest person to Mosaddegh. After the assassination, he always suffered from physical pains but he was always attempting to do positive activities. The peak and pinnacle of this bravery can be observed in the three days ended to the coup on August 18, 1953. His articles in these last days cut the relations between people and Shah and Shah was obliged to resort to coup in order to regain the power (Zaeem, 1998, p. 78).

From coup on 18th August to martyrdom of Dr. Fatemi

The coup on August 18, 1953 collapsed the government of Mosaddegh. The plan of this coup was prepared by Britain and USA in the late of 1952 and the authorities of these countries agreed upon this operation which was entitled "Ajax". These foreign elements had some cooperation in designing and operating this coup, including court and some of the military commander led by Lieutenant General Fazlullah Zahedi. Dr. Hossein Fatemi, the Foreign Minister of Iran, came back from his treatment travel to Europe on August 10, 1953. At the first hours of the morning of 15th August, an unsuccessful military coup was operated by

officers and imperial guard and its first step was Fatemi's arrestment. However, the coup failed and Dr. Fatemi was immediately released from the prison. From 15 to 18 August, Hossein Fatemi made some sever attacks on Shah and his court throughout his lectures and editorials in Bakhtar Daily Newspaper (Nejati, 1996, p. 138).

Fatemi also was thinking to necessitate the changing of the regime to republic because it could bring out independence and freedom of the country. When the coup happened on 18th August, Mosadeq was arrested and Fatemi was hidden. Fatemi's hide-out continued until March 7, 1954. However, his hide-out was discovered and he was arrested in March 7, 1954. He was trialed in a command court and they sentenced him to execution. His long lasting role in National Resistance Movement, particularly in the course of Nationalization of Oil Industry, is not hidden from anybody. A man who, quoting Mosaddegh, who "started the manifest of nationalization of National Movement".

Conclusion

As an experienced journalist who has gained many experiences in the Bakhtar and Bakhtar Daily newspapers, Fatemi could complement his political and formal aspects of his character. Meanwhile, he magnificently devoted this part of his selfless experience to Mosaddegh Cabinet and the objectives of the National Movement. He facilitated a lot of difficulties via Press activities and it was a suitable background and setting for his official and political activities. He was a pragmatic journalist who made use of Press (Bakhtar and Bakhtar Daily) in the ideational, political and practical domains. Fatemi was a close friend of Mosaddegh as well as a pragmatic scholar who could complement Mosaddegh's mildness with his adventuresome actions.

Seyed Hossein Fatemi could accomplish some important actions throughout his political activities and when he was Vicar of Political-Parliamentary Affairs as well as Minister of Foreign Affairs. His campaign for the ratification and implementation of the nationalization of oil industry can be considered as his most important political activity. An important feature of the Fatemi's era was that there were some popular and social movements accompanied by a group of elite political, social, religious to realize national rights in Iran.

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