



Off-Site

Violence, State formation and memory politics: an off-site ethnography of post-revolution Iran

Our method

- Research on off-site inquiries on State violence: international comparisons, through workshops and publications
- A public portal dedicated to the 'counter-archives' of post-revolution Iran
- A network of experts and contributors all over the world
- Expertise and secure servers for the digital archiving and preservation of private funds

This project is based on your contributions.

How to join the project?

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To know more:

www.off-site.fr

In repressive regimes, the empirical study of political violence (its mechanisms, effects, origins and everyday experiences) is often impossible. The imposed gap in knowledge directly impacts the understanding of societies that are built on this history of violence. Then, how can violence be studied without access to the field? Based on the case of Iran, our project seeks an answer to this question in the age of global circulation and the Internet.

The project will gather a 'counter-archive' under the form of a digital portal that preserves, links, and makes accessible already existing primary-source materials related to the Iranian revolution and state formation in the years 1979-1989. It will bring together disseminated documents and private archives across the world, opening the way for further research.

Our objectives are to

- **inventory the existing sources and experiment methods for writing the (hi)stories of the revolution through a decade,**
- **foster participatory research methods and tools,**
- **become a safe repository for private/individual archives,**
- **grant to younger generations an access to a past they did not hear about.**

Liberation from the past cannot be attained by forgetting it, but by knowing how our lives have been shaped by it.

Off-Site draws together a team of international specialists in a broad range of fields (anthropology, film, Iranian studies, education, archival science, digital preservation). The project (2019-2023) is supported by the European Research Council (ERC), a research agency dedicated to the advancement of scientific knowledge across disciplines (research on cancer, neuroscience, linguistics, history, etc.). The project is hosted by the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS) in Paris. The partner institutions are public institutions of higher education.

Project Team

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