



An American Martyr in Persia: The Epic Life and Tragic Death of Howard Baskerville

Little known in America but venerated as a martyr in Iran, Howard Baskerville was a twenty-two-year-old Christian missionary who traveled to Persia (now Iran) in 1907 to teach English and preach the gospel. He arrived in the midst of a democratic revolution and joined in the fight against a tyrannical shah before being killed in a battle alongside his students. His martyrdom spurred on the revolutionaries who succeeded in removing the shah from power, signing a new constitution, and rebuilding parliament in Tehran. This lecture gives us a powerful parable about the universal ideals of democracy—and to what degree Americans are willing to support those ideals in a foreign land.

Reza Aslan is a renowned writer, commentator, professor, and scholar of religions. A recipient of the prestigious James Joyce award, Aslan is the author of three internationally best-selling books. His newest book, *An American Martyr in Persia: The Epic Life and Tragic Death of Howard Baskerville*, was nominated for the PEN/Jacqueline Beograd Weld Award for Biography.

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