

<u>Monarch</u>	<u>Reign Begins</u>	<u>Reign Ends</u>	<u>Reign (years)</u>	<u>How Deposed?</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Agha Mohammad Khan Qajar	March 1794	17 June 1797	3	Assassinated	Founder of the Qajar dynasty. Agha Mohammad defeated the Zand regime and eliminated the remnants of the Afsharid Imperium, bringing a measure of stability unknown in decades. Agha Mohammad reunited and secured Iran , effectively founding the modern state and creating a polity that resisted outright colonialism.
Fathali Shah Qajar	17 June 1797	23 October 1834	37	Natural death	Lost the Caucasus to the Russians in two disastrous wars , signing the humiliating Treaties of Gulistan (1813) and Turkmenchay (1828). Banned from having a fleet in the Caspian. Increased Iran's contacts with Europe: sending students, drawing on expertise to reform the military, introduced the printing press. Established relations with the British.
Muhammad Shah Qajar (born: Muhammad Mirza)	23 October 1834	5 September 1848	14	Natural death	Came under the influence of Russia , made efforts to capture Herat from Britain. Issued a <i>firman</i> right before his death banning the maritime slave trade after long British pressure, which he at first resisted on ground the Qur'an permitted slavery and to ban it would hinder efforts at Islamic proselytism.
Nasseredin Shah Qajar	5 September 1848	1 May 1896	48	Assassinated	The most able of the Qajar monarchs, a modernizer, the first Shah to visit Europe. Tried to play off the Russian-British rivalry, but ended up losing large parts of his sovereignty; the weakness of the Persian government and its inability to collect revenue left it open to bribery and foreign influence. Britain effectively took control of economic affairs—though did lose a tobacco concession in 1891 after the whole country boycotted the product at the instruction of the <i>marja</i> , Grand Ayatollah Mirza Shirazi—and Russia physically took Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Nasseredin was struck down by a follower of Jamaluddin al-Afghani. The third-longest reign in Iranian history.
Mozafaredin Shah Qajar	1 May 1896	3 January 1907	9	Natural death	Notoriously corrupt, signed many of the Concessions, was forced to adopt the 1906 Constitution days before he died, opening the way for a <i>Majlis</i> (Parliament).
Muhammad Ali Shah Qajar	3 January 1907	16 July 1909	2	Exile	Ruled backed by Russia, tried to rescind the Constitution; attacked the Majlis and arrested its deputies. Forced out by the constitutional forces. Tried to return with Russian support but was defeated. Died in Italy.
Ahmad Shah Qajar	16 July 1909	15 December 1925	16	Exile	Placed in office at age-11 after his father was deposed, Ahmad had virtually no control, not even of his own ministers. Britain and Russia split the country into spheres of influence; this got more extreme with the occupation during the First World War and its aftermath, when the British staged their intervention against the Bolsheviks from Iranian territory and the Red Army pressed into Iran in response. Died in France.
Reza Khan Pahlavi	15 December 1925	16 September 1941	16	Exile	Reza Khan had taken de facto control in a coup, via his Persian Cossack Brigade, in February 1921. Reza Khan considered forming a republic, like his great hero Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, but ultimately accepted the designation of Shah, liquidating the Qajar dynasty . Compelled to abdicate by Britain and the Soviets. Died in South Africa.
Muhammad Reza Pahlavi	16 September 1941	11 February 1979	37	Exile	The Shah left Iran on 16. Jan. 1979 rather than shed blood in the face of an Islamist revolt. Khomeini then orchestrated his long-planned armed coup against the Imperial Government. A plebiscite abolished the monarchy in December 1979. Died in Egypt.