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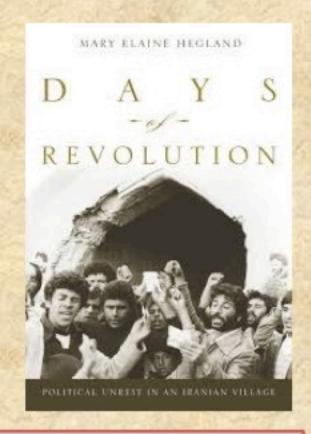


Prof. Mary Elaine Hegland

Political Islam: Engagement and Disengagement in an Iranian Community

Monday February 15, 2016 6-7:30 p.m. CE-105

During the 1979 Iranian Revolution, Aliabad people were drawn toward political Islam because of their desire for justice and the promise of the Shia Muslim authorities for social justice. Hegland's lecture will address how, by 2014, people of Aliabad were disengaging from the political Islam of the Islamic Republic, and some even from Shia Islam, because of their disapproval of how government officials have misused Islam to further their own political power and enforce their own beliefs.





Mary Elaine Hegland is professor of anthropology at Santa Clara University. She was the only American scholar in Iran conducting field research during the Islamic Revolution, and one of very few to have access to the country in the 35 years since. Her book, Days of Revolution: Political Unrest in an Iranian Village (Stanford University Press, 2014) was awarded the gold medal in world history by the Independent Publishers. She is now working on a book about Shia Muslim rituals of mourning and political, social, and religious change in Iran.