Revolution @ 40

It is 40 years since the 1978-79 protests in Iran culminated in an "Islamic revolution" that overthrew the Pahlavi dynasty and brought in a theocratic regime.

FEB. 11, 1979: Rebel troops overwhelm royalists in street-fighting, bringing Ruhollah Khomeini to power.

Iranian women in Tehran, during a rally marking the 40th anniversary of the revolution. AP


1995: The U.S. government bans American companies from investing in Iran's oil and gas sector over Tehran's alleged support to terror groups and its nuclear programme.


2006-2010: UN ratifies four rounds of sanctions.

2012: Rial loses 80% of its value against the dollar due to sanctions, causing a financial crisis.

2015: Iran reaches a deal on limiting nuclear activity with the U.S., EU and 5 other countries.

Iran's crude oil production, which makes up for more than 70% of the country's exports, saw a major fall following the Islamic revolution of 1979. However, it has remained fairly steady ever since, falling only during the 2012-2016 peak of sanctions.

THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC HAS HAD TWO SUPREME LEADERS AND SEVEN PRESIDENTS

December 1979-June 1989: Ruhollah Khomeini

June 1989-present: Ali Khamenei

1980-81: Abolhassan Banisadr

1981: Mohammad Ali Rajai


1989-1997: Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani

1997-2005: Mohammad Khatami

2005-2013: Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

2013-present: Hassan Rouhani

Among all the nations suffering from oppression, few make an effort to launch a revolution; and among those nations that have risen and launched a revolution, few have been witnessed to have pursued it to the end... Our revolution is the greatest and most popular revolution of the contemporary era.

— AYATOLLAH ALI KHAMENEI, Supreme Leader

SOURCE: OPEC, REUTERS