By the time of his death in 2009, the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri was lauded as the spiritual leader of the Green movement in Iran. Since the 1960s, when he supported Ayatollah Khomeini's opposition to the Shah, Montazeri's life reflected the crucial political shifts within Iran. In her talk, Sussan Siavoshi presents the historical context and its influence on Montazeri's political and intellectual positions. In the process she explains the paradoxes of the life of a man who moved from being a major architect of the Islamic Republic and a one time designated successor to the Supreme Leader, to an outspoken critic of the very same political system.

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