

General Information about the Marble Palace

The Marble palace was built by the order of Reza Shah, the first Pahlavi king, in 1925. And its construction takes more than a decade of hard work.

It's a two-story building, with a substructure of 2870 square meters, created by numerous contemporary Iranian artists.

On the first floor, you will find a selection of unique artifacts dated back to the 5000 B.C till Qajar Period. On the second floor, you'll definitely be astonished by the architectural beauty and remarkable traditional Iranian artworks, including inlay, tilework, marquetry, miniature, illumination and so on.

This palace was used as a living place and work place of the Pahlavi kings. As you may know, the Pahlavi dynasty is the last Iranian royal dynasty, ruling for almost 54 years between 1925 and 1979. And it just had two kings. They were father and son (known as Reza & Mohamadreza).

The most important political event occurred at the palace, was the assassination attempt, which took place in the morning, when the king was on the way to his office in 1965. On this day, a conscript soldier ran towards this king for shooting, but one of the king's officer watched and shot him 8 times. So the conscript turned to him & king managed to enter the palace. Although the valet locked the door behind the king, the soldier shot at the door. Anyway, two were killed, but the king escaped unharmed. Some years after this incident, the palace function was converted into the museum.

Two years after the Islamic revolution, the building was handed to various governmental offices. And again after 40 years, it changed to the museum and opened to the public as the Art Museum of Iran.