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**Text B: Mohammad Mossadegh, speech to the UN, Oct. 15, 1951 (excerpt)**

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“My countrymen lack the bare necessities of existence. Their standard of living is probably one of the lowest in the world. Our greatest national asset is oil. This should be the source of work and food for the populations of Iran. Its exploitation should properly be our national industry, and the revenue from it should go to improve our conditions of life. As now organized, however the petroleum industry has contributed practically nothing to the well-being of the people or to the technical progress or industrial development of my country.”

**Notes:**