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When it comes to business, there are plenty of countries that practically have a pedigree. Churning out one success story after another, countries like America, China, Germany and India all certainly have their fair share of Fortune 500 nationals, and with the likes of Hamid Akhavan, Mehrdad Hakimian and Salar Kamangar, Iran is surely among those countries that are on this short yet prestigious list.

With a history that dates back to ancient times when the country still went by its old name Persia, native Iranians are steeped in culture and are traditionally known to be a hard working, disciplined and well-educated people. Valuing the merits of education, and understanding the importance of retaining cultural heritage and commemorating its rich history, Iranians have a strong sense of tradition merged with the necessities of modern times. It is no wonder that Iranians all over the world have found their own niches of success. It was in the 1930â€™s that Iranians first began to settle in the States â€“ a handful of people who moved from a land whose history goes as far back as ancient times when it used to be known as Persia, one of the earliest recorded civilizations on earth.

But it wasnâ€™t until the 1980â€™s that the real influx of Iranians began to make their way across contine to make their marks in the Western hemisphere. Whole families, who eventually produced successful businessmen like Mehrdad Hakimian, award-winning journalists like Amanpour and grand-slam titlists like Andre Agassi, had uprooted themselves from the motherland and gave this new generation of American-born Iranians a shot at American success. As a minority in the U.S., Iranian-Americans like businessman Mehrdad Hakimian, MIT physicist Mehran Kardar and Apple VP Sina Tamaddon are no exception. Their cultural heritage and tradition of seeking excellence in education translates to their chosen field and make them some of the most formidable names in their respective areas of expertise.

In the beginning, Iranians in America were but a handful, but at the onset of the 1970â€™s, a Persian revolution in the motherland coupled with a booming American market, allowed many Iranians to either migrate to the U.S. or stay after a period of study in some of its most prestigious universities. It is here that the likes of Mehrdad Hakimian, Camran Nezhat, Hamid Jafarkhani, Ehsan Yarshater and Abbas Milani developed their innate talent and became a part of a well-educated pool of professionals that would later take on some of the most important posts in business and the sciences. The rest, as they say, is history. Be it in the areas of physical sciences, space exploration, executive positions in Fortune 500 companies, artistic endeavors, and even business ownership like Glass Pro owner Mehrdad Hakimian of Mill Valley, Iranian-Americans have surely made their mark in a competitive American market and there certainly is no question when it comes to their future achievements.All eyes are on this group of elite Iranian gentlemen, whose culture, heritage and modern skills have equipped them to take on roles.

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