

Field Notes

Informant. Seifullah Ilbegpur.

Heidar the Blind - his descendants are from the Tushmal and Khaderi section of the Zarraswands. - through Abdal Khan and Ali Saleh Khan.
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Told story of the taking of Qandahar These were 4000 Bakhtiari in Nadir's army. Seifullah said they wanted home so they stormed Qandahar. Nadir Shah gave Ali Kuh to the Shahmorwand section of the Osiwands.

Jafar Qoli Baidarwand killed Jafar Qoli Duraki. At that time the Baidarwand owned Andeka. Had to pay a lot of Khun Baha - "Blood Money" including land in Andeka.

Modern History

This member of a dispossessed section of the Khans family is typically scathing about the tribes.
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This is not a good time for the Bakhtiari. Qandali are very poor. The Osiwands are the bravest fighters of all the Bakhtiari. The Bakhtiari have been badly done by, by the Pahalvi dynast. The Bakhtiari have always defended the reigning Shahs including this dynasty. if they had wanted the Khans could have become Sahah at the time of the constitution.

Reza Shah stopped all the migrations altogether. When he left on 1941 the people destroyed their houses and took to the road again. They neither herd well nor cultivate efficiently. They are dogs.

Of all the 3000 housss in the Qandali only about 200 families have large herds. If they were made to stay it would be much better. Doab would be like paradise.

Khans and Kalantars

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The Khans were good for the tribes. Most of the land belonged to them and they gave it "moft" free to the tribes in return for "khedmat" service. The tribes has to pay taxes but they did not mind because they could graze their sheep. Sometimes did not have to give much.

In the time of the Khans there was litle or no theiving.. There was quick and complete justice. For example the Qandali had only three famous theives. If anything was stolen in Qandali territory you knew more or less who had done it. Now Seifullah says there are 30000 thieves.

He insists there is no such thing as a Kalantar. Thry no longer effectively exist-. They got their power from the Khans only and in fact were called Katkhoda. As a result no one listens to them. This is blatantly untrue, but interesting that a member of the khans family sees the Kalantars as exercising powere which in the past was exclusively the prorogative of the Khans.

Going to the Dadgah - the Persian law courts takes twenty years. The Khans were the only "dolat" - govt. in the mounatins and they kept good order. Now Kalantars do not have the power at all. Since Reza Shah left and the Khans overthrown there has been chaos.

Tribal thinking is no good. All the coming and going keeps them week. They do not know how to cultivate nor to build houses. For example his own son in law. They lent him the money to buiðed a house. He stayed one=year only and then neglected the house is now chaderneshin tent dweller

Qandali are idiots. The Char Bori are poorer but they are better herders. At least they are efficient at that.

When the Khans were still migrating they sent out people ahead to clear the road and make it as safe as possible.

The Bakhtiari are nomadic tribesmen - a pastoral people. They have lived and moved with their herds of sheep and goats in the Zagros mountains of south west Iran for many centuries.

The Zagros mountain ranges run in a N.W.-S.E. direction rising in for the entire length of western Iran, and are inhabited by a variety of tribal peoples of different ethnic origins and speaking different languages. The Bakhtiari are one such people. Their territory comprises approximately 25,000 square miles in the central region of the Zagros within between lats. 31N to 34N and 49E to 51E. longitude. This mountainous area lies between west of Isfahan and the plains of Khuzistan.

It is a region of wild and spectacular mountain ranges with intervening valleys

nomadic tribes

The Bakhtiari are a pastoral people, mountain nomads. They live and migrate with their herds of sheep and goats within the massive ranges of the Zagros chain of mountains which runs the entire length of western Iran. This chain of mountains are inhabited by a variety of nomadic tribal groups

The BABADI are but one of many groups of Bakhtiari-tribes who make up the people called the Bakhtiyari^{and} who live in the Zagros mountains of south west Iran.

The Bakhtiari are pastoral people herding sheep and goats between summer and winter pastures, in a territory which is consists of a series of mountain ranges

Outline of text.

The Bakhtiari are a pastoral nomadic people living and moving with their flocks of sheep and goats within the massive ranges of the Zagros mountains in south western Iran.

the bloody Bakhtiari are the biggest bloody bore in Iran
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