



‘ABBĀS-QOLĪ MĪRZĀ QAJAR

‘ABBĀS-QOLĪ MĪRZĀ, son of Ebrāhīm Khan Ṣahīr-al-dawla and, through his mother (the princess Dawlatgeldī, titled Navvāb-e mota‘ālīa), a grandson of Faḥ-‘Alī Shah. When Ṣahīr-al-dawla, governor of Kermān since 1218/1803, went to Tehran in 1240/1824, he appointed ‘Abbās-qolī Mīrzā as his deputy in Kermān. The latter took precedence over governor’s own twenty-one sons, thanks to his high-born mother. Ṣahīr-al-dawla died in Tehran in 1240/1824 or 1241/1825; and ‘Abbās-qolī Mīrzā was made governor of Kermān, as was customary in the early Qajar period and also because of his close family ties with the shah. Persia had fared badly during the Second Russo-Turkish War (1826-28), so that the shah’s position within the country weakened, and unrest made itself felt throughout the provinces. A particularly prominent factor was the hostility felt toward the crown prince ‘Abbās Mīrzā (q.v.), who was held responsible for the disaster. The rebellion of ‘Abbās-qolī must be seen in this context; it was evidently inspired by Moḥammad-Qāsem Khan Dāmaḡānī, who had already been vizier of Kermān under Ṣahīr-al-dawla. The chronology of events is uncertain. Kanlar Khan, whom the shah commissioned to reestablish his authority in Kermān, was murdered in Bāḡīn on the governor’s orders while returning to Tehran (20 Jomādā II1243/8 January 1828). An army of 20,000 men advanced from Kermān to Yazd, where Moḥammad-Valī Mīrzā (son of Faḥ-‘Alī Shah) was governor. But it dispersed in Šemš (12 *farsaks* southeast of Yazd) after Mīrzā Ḥosayn Vazīr (grandfather of Aḥmad-‘Alī Khan Vazīrī, author of a history and geography of Kermān) had remonstrated with them. ‘Abbās-qolī Mīrzā sought refuge with Ḥosayn-‘Alī Mīrzā Farmānfarmā in Shiraz; finding no help there, he moved on to Māzandarān. Here he was



placed under arrest; but his life was spared, because he was a grandson of the shah and son-in-law of the prince Moḥammad-qolī Mīrzā Molkārā, governor of Māzandarān. In 1243/1828 Ḥasan-‘Alī Mīrzā Šojā‘-al-salṭana was made governor of Kermān, and in 1831 the crown prince ‘Abbās Mīrzā was sent there to restore order. ‘Abbās-qolī Mīrzā played no further role in political life. E‘temād-al-salṭana mentions in the *sālnāma* for 1298/1881 (supplement to *Tārīk montażem-e Nāšeri*, Tehran, 1298/1880-81, I, p. 3) a Šāh-morād Mīrzā, son of the “late” Ḥājī ‘Abbās-qolī Mīrzā; the latter could be the same governor of Kermān whom we described here.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The most important source for the governorship of ‘Abbās-qolī Mīrzā is Aḥmad-‘Alī Khan Vazīrī, *Tārīk-e Kermān (Sālārīya)*, ed. M. E. Bāstānī Pārīzī, 2nd ed., Tehran, 1352 Š./1973, pp. 593-98; in numerous footnotes the editor has collected information scattered throughout the most important chronicles of the early Qajar period.