



'ABD-AL-REŽĀ KHAN EBRĀHĪMĪ

'ABD-AL-REŽĀ KHAN EBRĀHĪMĪ, ḤĀJJ, SARKĀR ĀQĀ, fifth head of the Kermānī branch of the Šaykī school of Shi'ism. Eldest son of the fourth head, Ḥājj Abu'l-Qāsem Khan, he was a great-grandson of the founder of the Kermān school, Ḥājj Moḥammad Karīm Khan. Born in Kermān on 7 Rabī' II 1340/8 December 1921, he studied there before spending a year at agricultural college in Tehran. On returning to Kermān, he engaged in theological and Arabic studies under his father and Aḥmad Bahmanyār, while himself teaching at the Ebrāhīmīya *madrasa*. Following his father's death on 19 Ramažān 1389/29 November 1969, he succeeded him as sole head of the school. He continued to control it from his headquarters at Salsabīl, while giving classes at the *madrasa* and preaching at the Ḥahīr-al-dawla mosque. Although family prestige gave 'Abd-al-Režā a respected position in the town, orthodox hostility towards the Šaykī community and towards him as its head persisted; following the Islamic revolution he was executed on charges that do not appear to have been made clear (28 December 1979).

Several of the works he wrote in keeping with Šaykī tradition have been published. Best known are *Darhā-ye Behešt* on *solūk* (1385/1965); *Ketāb-e sīāsāt-e modon* on government (1391/1971); *Nazarī be-qarn-e bīstom* in defense of Shaikhism and its relationship to the modern era (1391/1971); and *Noṣrat al-mo'menīn* on the authenticity of the "Prayer of Nodba" (1392/1972). His principal claim to fame, however, lies less in his own writings and more in the



success of his efforts to establish the Sa‘ādat Press devoted to the publication of the works of the *mašāyeḳ* of the school. Under his close management, the press undertook a highly ambitious publishing program which has produced all the major works of the Kermānī *shaikhs* and has commenced the publication in modern editions of the works of Shaikh Aḥmad al-Aḥsā’ī and Sayyed Kāzem Raštī. An ancillary program has created an important microfiche record of manuscript materials. ‘Abd-al-Režā’s initiative is also responsible for the wide distribution of these publications and microfiches to libraries and universities throughout the world.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Personal contact with ‘Abd-al-Režā Khan.

A. Amīrī Kamālābādī, *Šenasā’-e selsela-ye Šayḳīya*, n.p., 1353 Š./1974.

Works mentioned in text all published in Kermān.