



## ĀJŪDĀN-BĀŠĪ

**ĀJŪDĀN-BĀŠĪ**, a Persian term translating the French military title *adjutant-en-chef*; the first half of the term is borrowed from the French, while the rest is rendered by Tk. *bāšī*. In the military organization of the Qajar period, the *ājūdān-bāšī* was aide and deputy to the army commander (*amīr-e neẓām*). The term came into use after a modern army had been created in Iran in the early 19th century under the auspices of Prince ‘Abbās Mīrzā, a son of Faṭḥ-‘Alī Shah (r. 1212-50/1794-1834). It seems that the title was first held by Ḥosayn Khan Moqaddam Marāḡa’ī (q.v.) in the reign of Moḥammad Shah (1250-64/1834-48). Ḥosayn Khan commanded the army of Azarbaijan during Moḥammad Shah’s Herat campaign (Garmrūdī, *Ājūdān-bāšī*, pp. 10-11, citing *Rawżat al-ṣafā*). After him the rank was held by Ḥasan-‘Alī Khan Kō’ī and then Kalb-e Ḥosayn Khan. The former went on to become the assistant (*pīškār*) of the governor of Qazvīn and died in 1267/1860-61 (Kormūjī, *Ḥaqā’eq al-aḵbār*, p. 308). The latter was subsequently named chief officer in charge of the army of Azarbaijan in 1267/1850-51 (E’temād-al-salṭana, *Montaẓam* III, p. 207). He was succeeded by ‘Azīz Khan Mokrī. Following ‘Azīz Khan, ‘Alī-qolī Khan Afšār Mīrpanja was appointed *ājūdān-bāšī* of the armies in 1274/1857-58 (E’temād-al-salṭana, *Montaẓam* III, p. 233). After him, in 1296/1878-79, Allāhyār Khan Afšār was raised to this rank (*ibid.*, p. 356), which he held until his death in 1304/1886-87. The rank was then conferred on his son Ḥasan Khan (*idem*, *Kāṭerāt*, p. 1190; Bāmdād, *Rejāl* IV, p. 431), and subsequently, in 1319/1901-02, on the latter’s son, Yār-Moḥammad Khan. However, from 1297/1879-80, when the ministry of war and command of the army were given to Kāmran Mīrzā, and with the development of the Cossack brigade (already formed in 1295/1878), the rank of



*ājūdān-bāšī* gradually lost its importance. In addition to the rank of *ājūdān-bāšī* of all the army, an identical rank was created of the artillery section (*rasta-ye tūpḳāna*). In 1276/1859-60, a certain 'Alī-Akbar was so designated (E'temād-al-salṭana, *Montaẓam* III, pp. 266, 305). His son, Mīrzā Esmā'īl Khan (b. 1265/1848-49) succeeded to this rank in 1300/1882-83. He was executed on 13 Raġab 1328/1 August 1909 as a result of his opposition to the constitutionalist government (Bāmdād, *Reġāl* III, p. 122).

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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