



‘AMMĀRLŪ

‘AMMĀRLŪ, a Kurdish tribe of Gilān and Khorasan. Needing a barrier against the Uzbeks, Shah ‘Abbās (r. 996-1038/1588-1629) moved some 40,000 families of Za‘farānlū, Šādellū, Keyvānlū, Qarāčūrlū, and ‘Ammārlū Kurds from Kurdistan to the Ākāl Takka, beyond the Kopet-Dag. During the reign of Shah Solṭān-Ḥosayn (1105-35/1694-1722), these Kurds, worn out by the raids of frontier tribes, were driven into the mountains to the south, where they ousted the Gerāylīs, then in possession of Qūcān, Šīrvān, Bojnūrd, and Samalqān, and took over their pasture grounds (cf. C. E. Yate, *Khurasan and Sistan*, London, 1900, pp. 180-81). Today, the ‘Ammārlūs of Khorasan inhabit the Mārūsik plain, northwest of Nišāpūr. In 1929, they comprised some 500 families (cf. H. Field, *Contributions to the Anthropology of Iran*, Chicago, 1939, p. 250).

Many ‘Ammārlūs were also moved from Kurdistan to the Ṭārom region in Gilān. According to Rawlinson (“Notes on a Journey,” p. 63) and Fortescue (*Military Report*, p. 319) the forced migration took place during the reign of Nāder Shah (r. 1148-60/1736-47); according to Rabino (“Le Guîlān,” p. 261), it took place during the reign of Shah ‘Abbās I. In the 1760s there were two ‘Ammārlū governors of Tonokābon: Ebrāhīm Khan and Rostam Khan (cf. Rabino, *Māzandarān and Astarābād*, Cambridge, 1928, p. 154). When Rawlinson visited the ‘Ammārlūs of Ṭārom in 1838, many of them were still nomadic, spending the winters along the Sefīd-rūd and the summers on the nearby mountains (“Notes,” p. 63). By the time Fortescue visited them shortly after World War I they had all become sedentary; numbering 1,600 households, they were scattered in fifty villages between Manjīl and Pīr-e Kūh,



in the *dehestān* of ‘Ammārlū. Their clans were: Šāh Qūlānlū, Beyšānlū, Šāmkānlū, Bahādūllū, and Ūstājānlū (*Report*, p. 319).

Rawlinson claimed that the ‘Ammārlūs were “a division of the great Lúlú tribe” (“Notes,” p. 63), but there is no Kurdish tribe by that name. V. Minorsky suggests that Rawlinson might have referred to the Lōlō tribe, traces of which are still to be found in Upper Syria and in the vicinity of Tehran (“Ṭārom,” *EI*¹ IV, p. 678).

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