



## ANGAJĪ, ḤĀJJ MĪRZĀ ABŪ'L-ḤASAN

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**ANGAJĪ, ḤĀJJ MĪRZĀ ABŪ'L-ḤASAN** (1282-1357/1865-1939), a leading *mojtahed* of Tabrīz, politically active during both the Constitutional Revolution and the reign of Reżā Shah. He was born into a family of religious scholars; his father, Ḥājj Mīrzā Moḥammad Āqā Shaikh-al-šarī'a, was one of the most influential '*olamā*' of Tabrīz. After preliminary studies of *feqh* and *oṣūl* under Ḥājj Mīr Fattāḥ Sarābī and Mīrzā Maḥmūd Oṣūlī in his native city, Angajī left for Najaf in 1304/1887. He completed his studies there in four years of intensive work and gained certificates of *ej̄tehād* from Mīrzā Ḥabīballāh Raštī, Fāzel Īravānī, and 'Allāma Māmaqānī. In 1308/1891, he returned to Tabrīz where, known as *balā mojtahed*, he soon established a reputation not only as a teacher of the religious sciences but also as an effective preacher, firm and unyielding in his denunciation of whatever he perceived as an affront to Islam. Initially prominent among the Tabrīz '*olamā*' supporting the constitutional movement, he later came to regard it as dangerous to Islam and therefore agitated for the return to Iran of Moḥammad-'Alī Shah; on 6 Moḥarram 1330/28 December 1911, he led anti-constitutional demonstrations in Tabrīz. Almost twenty years later, together with Mīrzā Āqā Ṣādeq Tabrīzī, he played a leading role in the events that led to the 1347/1928-29 Tabrīz uprising against the Pahlavi regime. After its suppression, Angajī was banished first to Qom and then to Mašhad; about a year later he was permitted to return to Tabrīz, where he died on 18 Du'l-qa'da 1357/9 January 1939. He was widely mourned, particularly in Azarbaijan. He wrote a number of books, including one on matters of dress



(*Īzāḥat al-eltebās 'an ḥokm al-maškūk men al-lebās*) and two commentaries on treatises by Shaikh Mortazā Anṣārī. Three of his six sons became religious scholars after him, and among his celebrated pupils were Shaikh Moḥammad Kīābānī, leader of the Azarbaijani revolt of 1338/1920, and Moḥammad-'Alī Modarres, author of the biographical dictionary, *Rayḥanāt al-adab*.

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