



BALADIYA

BALADIYA (Municipality), the name or part of the name of several municipal newspapers and journals published in Iran and Afghanistan ca. 1907-39. They include, in order of their dates of publication:

1. *Qāsem al-aḵbār-e baladyā*, a weekly, one-page Persian newspaper lithographed in Tehran and edited by Mīrzā Abu'l-Qāsem Khan Hamadānī, the licensee and editor of *Baladiya* (see below; Browne, *Press and Poetry*, pp. 124-25). The paper appears to have started late in Rabī' I, 1325 (early May, 1907); it contained cartoons and social criticism. For holdings see U. Sims-Williams, *Union Catalogue of Persian Serials and Newspapers in British Libraries*, London, 1985, p. 107; R. Mach and R. D. McChesney, *A List of Persian Serials in the Princeton University Library*, Princeton, 1971; M. Solṭānī, *Fehrest-e rūz-nāmahā-ye fārsī dar majmū'a-ye Ketāb-kāna-ye Markazī wa Markaz-e Asnād-e Dānešgāh-e Tehrān I*, Tehran, 1354 Š./1975, p. 122.

2. *Baladiya* (Tehran, 1907) appeared forty days before the passage of the Qānūn-e Baladiya (Municipality Act) of 20 Rabī' II 1325/2 June 1907. Its first licensees and editors were Mortazā Mūsawī Dezfūlī and Mīrzā Abu'l-Qāsem Hamadānī; the latter took full control after the seventh issue (Ṣadr Hāšemī, *Jarā'ed o majallāt II*, pp. 17-19). In addition to news about the municipality, *Baladiya* also contained articles on foreign affairs and, after the founding of the Anjoman-e Baladī (Municipal Council), carried the minutes of council meetings. The paper ranged from four to eight pages, 17 x 29.50 cm, and a subscription cost eighteen *qerāns* in Tehran, twenty-three elsewhere in Iran, and twelve French francs in Europe. For holdings see Browne, *Press and*



Poetry, p. 56; R. Mach and R. D. McChesney, *A List of Persian Serials in the Princeton University Library*, Princeton, 1971; U. Sims-Williams, *Union Catalogue of Persian Serials and Newspapers in British Libraries*, London, 1985, p. 20; M. Solṭānī, *Fehrest-e rūz-nāmahā-ye fārsī dar majmū'a-ye Ketāb-kāna-ye Markazī wa Markaz-e Asnād-e Dānešgāh-e Tehrān I*, Tehran, 1354 Š./ 1975, p. 29. Some issues of the newspaper are also kept in the Majles Library and the Bibliothèque Nationale.

3. *Šūrā-ye baladī*, a Persian newspaper lithographed in Tehran four times weekly in 1907 and edited by Mo'tamed-al-Eslām Raštī, who was also the publisher of *Yādgār-e enqelāb*, Tehran and Qazvīn, 1909. *Šūrā-ye baladī* was solely devoted to publishing the minutes of the Tehran municipal council. Eight issues were published from Jomādā II-Ša'bān, 1325/July-September, 1907; the yearly subscription rate was thirty-six *qerāns* in Tehran, forty-six elsewhere in Iran, and twenty-one francs abroad. Some issues of *Šūrā-ye baladī* are kept in the Tehran University and Majles libraries and in the Bibliothèque Nationale. For holdings see Browne, *The Press and Poetry*, p. 112; R. Mach and R. D. McChesney, *A List of Persian Serials in the Princeton University Library*, Princeton, 1971.

4. *Anjoman-e baladīya-ye Ešfahān* (Isfahan, 1907-08) began as *Faraj ba'd az šeddat* on 5 Šawwāl 1325/12 November 1907, but shortly underwent an identity change to reflect its semi-official status. It was established and edited by the celebrated Isfahani *wā'ez* Āqā Mīrzā Nūr-al-Dīn Majlesī and appeared three times monthly (Šadr Hāšemī, *Jarā'ed I*, pp. 293-97). The paper's four lithographed pages (21.5 x 34.5 cm) contained articles on social and municipal affairs written in an ornate prose style. A yearly subscription cost twelve *qerāns* in Isfahan, fifteen in other parts of Iran, and eight francs abroad (Browne, *Press and Poetry*, p. 47). Some issues of the newspaper are kept in the Majles Library, the libraries of the University of Isfahan, and the Isfahan office of Arts and Cultures; elsewhere some copies are preserved in the Cambridge University Library and Bibliothèque Nationale.

5. *Baladīya-ye Ešfahān* (Isfahan, 1908) was a biweekly successor to the previous entry that began 4 Du'l-ḥejja 1325/9 January 1908 and ceased in Moḥarram, 1326/March, 1908 (Browne, *Press*, p. 56). It was edited by Mīrzā 'Abbās Khan Čahārmaḥālī, who gained fame as a poet pen-named *Šeydā* (Šadr Hāšemī, *Jarā'ed II*, pp. 20-22); he also published *Majalla-ye farhangī-e Dāneškada-ye Ešfahān* in 1303 Š./1925. In addition to the municipal council minutes, *Baladīya-ye Ešfahān* devoted its four, 22 x 35 cm pages to articles on literature



and society. A yearly subscription was twenty-five *qerāns* in Isfahan, thirty elsewhere in Iran, and thirty-three abroad. For holdings see U. Sims-Williams, *Union Catalogue of Persian Serials and Newspapers in British Libraries*, London, 1985, p. 87. Issues of the journal are also kept in the University of Isfahan, Art and Culture, and Majles Libraries.

6. *Baladiya* (Tabrīz, 1909) was a biweekly newspaper lithographed in Tabrīz from 8 Moḥarram 1327/31 January 1909 under the editorship of Aḥmad Mīrzā (Browne, *Press*, p. 56; Ṣadr Hāšemī, *Jarā'ed* II, p. 20). Specimens of the paper held in the Ketāb-kāna-ye Tarbiyat in Tabrīz contain eight two-column pages, measuring 22 x 35 cm. An issue cost 200 *dīnārs* in Tabrīz and five *šāhīs* elsewhere.

7. *Balad al-amīn* (Mašhad, 1910) was published weekly from Moḥarram/January-February until 24 Jomādā II 1328/2 July 1910 and was edited by Mīrzā Moḥammad-Šādeq (Browne, *Press*, p. 55). It was lithographed on paper measuring 19 x 32 cm and cost ten *qerāns* in Mašhad and fifteen elsewhere in Iran (Ṣadr Hāšemī, *Jarā'ed* II, p. 17). For holdings see Sims-Williams, *Union Catalogue*, p. 19.

8. *Baladiya* (Rašt, 1919) was published towards the end of the year 1337 (summer, 1919) under the editorship of Nāder Mīrzā Ārāsta (Ṣadr Hāšemī, *Jarā'ed* II, p. 20).

9. *Baladiya* (Tehran, 1921-36) was at first a bimonthly and then a monthly journal published from 19 Jawzā 1300/9 June 1921 until Esfand, 1314 Š./February, 1936 when it was renamed *Šahrdārī*. The editorship of the journal was held consecutively by 'Abbās Kālīlī, Abu'l-Ḥasan Ma'daṇčī, Mahdī Māfī, Rezā Šahrzād, and Kāzem Šarīfī. The size varied from eighteen to one hundred pages measuring 21 x 27 cm initially and 16 x 22.5 cm after the journal's tenth year. *Baladiya* was illustrated and contained advertisements in Persian and French. It cost sixteen *šāhīs* initially and increased to fifty *qerāns* in its eleventh year (Ṣadr Hāšemī, *Jarā'ed* II, p. 20). Series of the newspaper are kept in major libraries in Iran.

10. *Baladiya* (Rašt, 1929) was published (apparently only once) in Esfand, 1307 Š./February, 1929 under the editorship of Amīr Eršād. It contained thirty-two two-column pages, measuring 21 x 28.5 cm. It is kept in the National Library of Rašt and the Central Library of Tehran University.



11. *Baladiya-ye Eşfahān* (Isfahan, 1930-31) was founded in Ābān, 1309 Š./October, 1930, by the noted pianist Colonel Ḥabīb-Allāh Khan Šahrdār, mayor of Isfahan, and was edited by the poet Moḥammad-‘Alī Mokrem (Šadr Hāšemī, *Jarā’ed* II, pp. 22-23), who was to become founder and publisher of several newspapers and magazines in Isfahan. The journal was illustrated and contained articles on the city and public health. Its twenty to twenty-four two-column pages measured 17 x 22 cm; a yearly subscription cost twelve *qerāns* in Isfahan, fifteen elsewhere in Iran, and twenty abroad.

12. *Baladiya-ye Herāt* (Herāt, 1933-39) began on 11 Ḥūt 1311 Š./2 March 1933 under the editorship of Mīrzā ‘Abd-Allāh Aḥrārī and was later edited by Šafar-‘Alī Amnī. It contained twenty-eight pages measuring 17 x 22 cm and contained articles on history, medicine, and public health; a yearly subscription cost six *afḡānīs* locally, seven elsewhere in Afghanistan, and seven shillings abroad.

See also [anjoman-e eşfahān](#).

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