



BANĪ ḤARDĀN

BANĪ ḤARDĀN, a Shi'ite Arab tribe of Howayza (Ḥawīza) district in Kūzestān. Small in number (they were estimated at 2,500 persons early in the century, and at 500 families, i.e., roughly the same number, in the 1930s), their range is comparatively extensive: north of Ahvāz, west of Ahvāz to Howayza, between the Kārūn and the Karḡa rivers, and inland from the left bank of the Āb-e Gargar. Their main centers are Kūt Nahr Hāšem, Dūb-e Ḥardān, and Čartāq. Formerly predominantly nomadic (Lorimer, II, p. 120, noted only 100 persons settled), they have progressively sedentarized, cultivating wheat and barley and raising sheep. They are organized into six sections.

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