



BĀYBŪRTLŪ

BĀYBŪRTLŪ (also Bāybūrdlū), a Turkic tribe of northwestern Iran whose only vestiges seem to be the names of a few historical personalities. Its name implies that it came from Bāybūrt, or Bāybord, 100 miles northwest of Erzurum, in eastern Anatolia. It was one of the tribes which formed the mainstay of the early Safavids (G. Le Strange, ed, and tr., *Don Juan of Persia*, London, 1926, pp. 45-46). A leader of this tribe, Qarāja Elyās Bāybūrtlū, was one of Shah Esmā'īl I Ṣafawī's field commanders at the battle of Šarūr near Naḳčevān (beginning of 907/mid-1501), in which Esmā'īl decisively defeated the Āq Qoyunlū Alvand Mīrzā, the ruler of Azarbaijan (British Museum MS, Or. 3248, fol. 69b, apud G. Sarwar, *History of Shāh Isma'īl Ṣafawī*, Aligarh, 1939, p. 38). The tribe also produced two eminent personalities during the reign of Shah 'Abbās I: 1. Šāhverdī Bīg Bāybordlū, who was very close (*yasāvole-šoḥbat*) to the Shah (Eskandar Beg, II, pp. 853, 871, tr. Savory, pp. 1084-85); 2. Morād Khan Sultan Bāybūrdlū, who was an amir and governor of Arasbār (ibid., p. 1086, tr. Savory, p. 1312).

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