



DĪRAKVAND

DĪRAKVAND, Lor tribe belonging to the Bālā Garīva group and inhabiting a mountainous area between Kōrramābād and [Dezfūl](#) in the Pīš-Kūh region of Lorestān. According to Albert Houtum-Schindler (p. 86), the Dīrakvand comprised about 2,000 families in 1294/1877; Arnold Wilson (p. 26), reported about 3,000 families in 1330/1912 and Henry Field (p. 183) about 8,000-10,000 individuals in 1307 Š./1928. The absence of more recent data on the tribe suggests that it has lost its separate identity.

According to H.-L. Rabino, the Dīrakvand claimed to be of Qorayšī origin, and their leaders believed themselves to be descendants of Imam ‘Alī’s elder brother ‘Aqīl; the *atābegs* of Lorestān were supposedly from the Dīrakvand (Rabino, p. 23), but Vladimir Minorsky maintained that they were from the Jangrūī tribe (p. 828).

According to Wilson (p. 27), the Dīrakvand were “notorious for their predatory habits,” especially along the Dezfūl-Borūjerd road, an important trade route; they also robbed and pillaged one another, and blood feuds were “one of the chief pre-occupations of their chiefs.” Rabino (p. 23) reported that as a result of an attack on the camp of Tīmūr (771-807/1370-1405) part of the tribe was massacred. They were also allegedly punished on several occasions by Shah ‘Abbās I (996-1038/1588-1629). At the beginning of the 20th century they suffered further reverses. According to Wilson (p. 26), around 1318/1900 they were crushed by a force led by Ḥešmat-al-Dawla, governor of Lorestān, and Ḥosaynqolī Khan Feylī, governor of Pošt-e Kūh. Many of the Dīrakvand were taken prisoner, and several chiefs were deported to Kermānšāh. In 1320/1902,



after attacking the Baḳtīārī on the Kārūn river 30 km from Šūštar, the tribe was thoroughly defeated by Esfandīār Khan Baḳtīārī.

The Dīrakvand were divided into two branches: the Bahārvand (composed of thirteen clans or *tīras*) and the Qalāvand (composed of twelve clans; Field, p. 183).

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