



ESMĀ'ĪL ZĀDA, ḤOSAYN KHAN

ESMĀ'ĪL ZĀDA, ḤOSAYN KHAN, teacher and master player of the *kamānča* (d. 1320 Š./1941). Ḥosayn Khan was the son of Esmā'īl Khan, also a master of the *kamānča*; he learned the instrument from his uncle, Qolī Khan. Esmā'īlzāda began as a member of a group of entertainers in Tehran but later abandoned the profession to participate in the concerts of the Anjoman-e Oḳowwat (q.v.), a mystical society founded during the Constitutional era by Ṣafā-Alī Ḥahīr-al-Dawla, that included prominent reformist officials, instrumentalists, singers, and mystics. Ḥahīr-al-Dawla, leader of the Sufis of the Ṣafā'ī order, recommended his admittance into the society. Members occasionally held ceremonial garden parties or concerts in Tehran, at first at Ḥahīr-al-Dawla's house and later in gardens in the Tehran suburbs; they sometimes lasted twenty-four hours. An ensemble of twenty musicians, led by Ġolam-Ḥosayn Darvīš Khan (q.v.), participated in these concerts. Esmā'īlzāda took part in the concerts as soloist and accompanied famous poet and singer 'Āref Qazvīnī (q.v.).

Isma'īlzada played and taught the violin in addition to the *kamānča*. Many of his students became prominent. Some twenty gramophone disks of his performance are kept in the collection of Golšan Ebrāhīmī in Tehran.



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