



## ESTAHBĀN

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**ESTAHBĀN** (also Eṣṭahbānāt, or Eṣṭahbānān; colloquial Sābūnāt), town and district in Fārs, bordered in the north by the Baḳtagān lake, in the northeast and the east by Neyrīz/Nīrīz, in the south by Dārāb, in the southwest by Fasā, and in the west by Shiraz (qq.v.) The name was officially changed from Eṣṭahbānāt to Estahbān on 1 Ābān 1351 Š./22 October 1972). In 1991 the district had a population of 62,541, of which 49.2 percent lived in urban areas (Markaz-e āmār, p. 10). The Zagros mountain range runs through the district. Its lands are irrigated by wells, springs, *qanāts*, and seasonal rivers (Edāra-ye joḡrāfiā'ī, pp. 2-3). The main crops of its lands are wheat and barley (principally through dry-farming), sugar beet, and saffron (Razmārā, *Farhang* VII, pp. 11-12). Its main botanic wealth are oak, Jordan almond, and Persian turpentine, and on its mountain slopes gum tragacanth and asafetida plants grow. Its wild animal population includes bucks, rams, deer, and leopards. It has animal husbandry and carpet-weaving (Edāra-ye joḡrāfiā'ī, CIV, pp. 3-4). Its temperature ranges between -6 and 39 degrees Celsius in January and August respectively (Wezārat-e rāh wa tarābarī, 1363, p. 330). City ruins and an old fortress located in the village of Īj (q.v.) are Estahbān's historical monuments. Its monuments include Pīr-e Morād shrine, the congregation mosque, whose *meḥrāb* dates back to the 11th/17th century, several other mausoleums, and the ruins of Qal'a-ye doḳtar (Moṣṭafawī, pp. 89-90, 437, 498; Razmārā, *Farhang* VII, p. 17). Estahbān is mentioned by the author of Persian *Hodūd al-'ālam* (comp. 272/982-83; ed. Sotūda, p. 135; see also Eṣṭakrī, p. 108; Ebn Ḥawqal, tr. Kramers, pp. 268, 288; Moḡaddasī, pp. 26, 52, 423, 448; Ebn al-Balkī, pp. 131, 157; *Nozhat al-qolūb*, ed. Le Strange, p. 138). In 1002/1593-94 a



group of leaders of the Noqṭawīya movement were massacred there (Eskandar Beg, I, p. 476; Mīrḵvānd [Tehran], VIII, pp. 276). In 1208 Loṭf-‘Alī Khan Zand fought Qajar forces in this district and seized its fortresses without resistance (Mūsawī Ešfahānī, pp. 377-78). During Nāṣer-al-Dīn Shah’s reign Estahbān had 2,000 households, and its farm lands and orchards, irrigated by spring water, produced wheat, barley, cotton, poppy, (wild) orange, pomegranate, fig, and *sardsīr* (cold land) fruits (Fasā’ī, ed. Rastgār, I, p. 776; II, p. 1255). Estahbān’s population in 1291 Š./1912 was 17,000 (*Kayhān*, II, p. 242).

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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