



JABBĀRA

JABBĀRA, a group of Shi'ite Arabs in Fārs province who, together with the Šaybāni, form the Arab tribe of the Ḳamsa tribal confederation (q.v.). In all likelihood, these Arabs came to southern Persia by way of the Fertile Crescent, for there is a tribe by the name of Jabbāra in western Iraq (Oppenheim, p. 119), as well as a clan of the Šaybāni of Fārs by the name of Takriti. Both the Jabbāra and the Šaybāni could be descendants of a tribe of Syrian Arabs which the Buyid ruler 'Azod-al-Dawla (r. 949-83; q.v) transplanted to Fārs (Le Strange, *Lands*, p. 321).

The following list of the Jabbāra clans given by Ḥasan Fasā'i (1821-98) in his *Fārs-nāma-ye Nāšeri* (q.v.) shows that the group has absorbed many Lor and Turkic elements: Āl-e Sa'di, Abu'l-Ḥosayni, Abu'l-Ġani, Abu'l-Moḥammadi, Arboz, Borbor Čarboniča, Boz Sorḳi Čarboniča, Pir-e Eslāmi, Bahluli, Tāti, Torbor, Jāberi, Jaheki, Jelowdāri Čarboniča, Ḥannā'i, Darāzi, Sādāt-e Ḥosayni, Šāhiseven, Ša'bāni (who might be related to the Āl Bu Ša'bān of northern Syria), Širi, Šafari, 'Azizi, 'Isā'i, Qarā'i, Qaraḡani, Qanbari, Lon (*Lor* in lith. ed., 2 vols., Tehran, 1895), Čarboniča, Lavārdān, Faridi (Mazidi in lith. ed., 1895), and Naqd 'Ali (Fasā'i, ed. Rastgār, pp. 1579-80). Referring to the Ḳamsa Arabs in general, Ḥasan Fasā'i points out that, as a result of their ethnic diversity, their language "has undergone so many changes both in form and in pronunciation that it is no longer Arabic, nor is it ordinary Persian, Turkish or Lori" (*ibid.*, p. 1578).

The Ḳamsa Arabs suffered great hardship during the reign of Rezā Shah Pahlavi (r. 1925-41). When Oliver Garrod visited Fārs province in 1945, he



observed that “many sections are in a miserable plight, having been reduced to a state of beggary and petty robbery,” and he concluded that “they suffered, perhaps more than any other tribe in Fārs, from the oppression and enforced settlement of the past ten years, the misery of many sections having been accentuated by the somewhat arid and barren nature of their lands compared with those of the Qashqai” (p. 44). Because of a lack of cohesion and effective leadership, the Jabbāra have remained among the poorest nomads of Fārs province. According to a list of the tribes of Fārs sent to me by the Persian court minister in 1958, the Jabbāra numbered some 2,490 families. During the winter, they occupy a large swath of land southeast of Shiraz, from Sarvestān to Forg. During the summer, their grazing lands stretch all the way from Deh Bid, on the Shiraz-Isfahan road, to Bešna, 78 kilometers northeast of Neyriz.

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