



JANDAQ

JANDAQ, a town and rural district (*dehestān*) in the K̄or and Biābānak district (*baḵš*) of Nā'in sub-province in the province of Isfahan (q.v.).

The rural district. The rural district of Jandaq is located south of Dašt-e Kavir (q.v.) and in the northern part of the K̄or and Biābānak district. It is comprised of eleven villages and the town of Jandaq (Markaz-e āmār-e Irān, 1997, p. 6). The mountains of the rural district are part of the lone peaks of central Iran including, among others, Rašid Kuh (highest elevation 2,075 m), Zāluband (highest elevation 1,843 m), and Kalāta (highest elevation 1,726 m; Ja'fari, I). A number of springs and natural wells are located at the foot of these mountains (Ja'fari, I, p. 466). The seasonal Čāhgir River also passes through the rural district (*Farhang-e joḡrāfiā'i*, LI, p. 3), which is also home to numerous stretches of sands (*rigzār*) and temporary farms (Ḥekmat Yaḡmā'i, 1991, pp. 291, 293). The rural district is also home to a variety of flora, including *gaz* trees, *tāḡ*, *ānḡuza*, *qodduma*, *bālangu*, *esparza*, *āvišan*, *par-e siāvaš*, and *kākšir*, and fauna, such as foxes, jackals, mountain goats, *quč*, deer, rabbits, and pheasants (*Farhang-e joḡrāfiā'i*, LI, pp. 2-10, LXI, pp. 5, 18).

Water for the rural district is obtained from subterranean channels (*qanāt*), deep and semi-deep wells, natural wells, and springs, while farming, gardening, herding, and rug weaving in the style of Nā'in comprise the major economic activities (*Farhang-e joḡrāfiā'i*, LI, p. 2). The main agricultural products include wheat, barley, cotton, *senjed*, and sunflower seeds as well as pomegranates, apricots, figs, grapes, almonds, pistachios, apples, berries, dates, alfalfa (*yonja*), and vegetables (*tarabār*; *Farhang-e joḡrāfiā'i*, LI, pp. 2-3,



7).

According to the 1996 national census, the population of Jandaq's villages comprised of 297 households (or about 1,500-1,600 persons; Markaz-e āmār-e Irān, 1997, p. 6). Its inhabitants are Persian speaking Shi'ite Muslims (*Farhang-e joḡrāfiā'i*, LI, p. 2).

The town. At an elevation of 980 m, the town of Jandaq is located in the northwestern part of the district, approximately 110 km northwest of K̄or. With a desert climate, it is located on the southern edge of Dašt-e Kavir, approximately 8 km east of Piškūh and 9 km southwest of Godār-e Jandaq. According to the Synoptic Station of K̄or and Biābānak, the town's highest temperature has been recorded at 46.6 degrees Celsius in the summer month of Mordād (July-August) and its lowest temperature has been recorded at 6.6 degree Celsius in the winter month of Esfand (February-March; Sāzmān-e hawā-šenāsi-e kešvar, 1996-97). The average annual precipitation is 45.3 mm (Sāzmān-e hawāšenāsi-e kešvar, p. 190). During rainfall, the Vāza dam, located 6 km south of the town, works to increase the level of water in the subterranean channels (*Farhang-e joḡrāfiā'i*, LI, p. 2; Goli Zavāra, p. 32). Jandaq is also home to lead and copper mines (*Asnād-e ma'āden-e Irān*, pp. 89-90).

In Mehr 1374 Š./October 1995, Jandaq was officially recognized as a town, and, according to the 1996 national census, its population was 4,068 (Markaz-e āmār-e Irān, 1997, p. 74).

The monuments of Jandaq include Jandaq Castle (or Fortress of Ardbil), which seems to date back to the Sasanian period, and which is known as the prison of Anuširvān. (Ḥekmat-Yaḡmā'i, 1974, pp. 16-19; Idem, 1991, pp. 73-80; Ḥaḡiqat, p. 351).

Jandaq was a part of Yazd until the reign of Faḥ-ʿAli Shah Qājār (r. 1797-1834, q.v.), but during the last decade of his reign it was subsumed under the province of Kumes/Qumes (approximately equivalent to the province of Semnān; *ibid.*; Honar Yaḡmā'i, p. 117; Ḥakim-al-Mamālek, p. 48).

Today, despite modern renovations, the town has a traditional look and structure (for a detailed survey of Jandaq, see M. Bādanj).



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