



## KABIR-KUH

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KABIR-KUH, one of the long ranges of the Zagros mountains, lying between Iran's two western provinces of Loristan and *Ilām*. Covering an area of 9,500 km<sup>2</sup>, Kabir-kuh stretches 175 km in length and between 45-80 km in width (Ja'fari, III, p. 978). Like all of Iran's southwestern mountains, Kabir-kuh extends from northwest to southeast, with its western slopes decreasing in altitude as it stretches westwards to the Mesopotamian lowlands (Petrov, p. 157). The Kabir-kuh range consists of a large number of mountains, including Siāh-kuh, Dinār-kuh, Samand, Anārān, Sar-meydān, Kamar-sefid, and Bivara. Its highest peak is 2,790 m, 18 km to the west of the village Arkwāz (Ja'fari, I, p. 422; III, p. 978). Kabir-kuh, which runs parallel to the right bank of the Saymara river, which becomes Karḳe when joined with the Kaškān river some distance before reaching the province of Khuzestan, divides the mountainous region in western Iran into two regions generally referred to as Piš-kuh and Pošt-kuh, the latter virtually coinciding with *Ilām* (Ja'fari, III, p. 254). The Saymara river runs along Kabir-kuh from Sirvān to Qal'a Rezā. The mountain is the source of numerous rivers, none of which reaches the Tigris in Iraq, including the Čangula, Ābfarāvard, Gurāb, Talkāb, Tāšmurt, Ābhaliva, Ābdānān, Doyrej, and many others.

The sandstone and limestone formations of the Kabir-kuh include occurrences of marble and deposits of minerals such as coal and copper. There are a number of caves in Kabir-kuh, the most notable of them being the 'Amāra cave (Ma'refat, p. 231). A large number of villages and towns are located along the slopes of Kabir-kuh, the most important of them being: Sar-kuh, Pir



Moḥammad, Timā, ‘Aliābād, Čamkabud, Gurān, Kušk, Bahrām-kāni and Ganja, all situated on the eastern and northeastern slopes. The annual precipitation rate is 500-800 mm in the northern heights of Kabir-kuh, to the east of the city of Marivān; about 300 mm in central parts; and 200-300 mm in southern parts. The mean annual temperature ranges from 10 to 15° in the northern areas, and between 15 and 25° in the central and southern parts (Keyhān, I, p. 75; Ja‘fari, I, p. 422, 424; II, p. 391; III, p. 978; for a map of part of the region, see [ILAM i. GEOGRAPHY](#); for that of Kabir-kuh, see Ja‘fari, I, p. 422).

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