



## KĀŠĀNI, 'ABD-AL-RAZZĀQ KHAN

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**KĀŠĀNI, 'ABD-AL-RAZZĀQ KHAN**, the fourth governor of [Kashan](#) for nearly a quarter of a century in the Zand period (1164-1209/1751-94). He was the son-in-law of Mirzā Mo'ezz-al-Din Ġaffārri, whom he succeeded (he was the third governor of Kashan After Nāder Shah founded the office of governor. One of his sisters was married to a Ġiāt-al-Din Moḥammad Šaybāni, a leader of the powerful Šaybāni clan of Kashan. During his tenure as governor, his nephew, Moḥammad-Ḥosayn Khan Šaybāni, was governor of Qom and Maḥallāt (Kalāntar Žarrābi, pp. 388-89, 394, 404).

In the Zand-Qajar conflict (on which, see [ZAND DYNASTY](#)), 'Abd-al-Razzāq Khan supported the Zand cause, but, according to Mirzā Moḥammad-Šādeq Nāmi (pp. 262-63), in 1198/1784, while the Qajars were preparing to attack Isfahan, 'Abd-al-Razzāq Khan, in a note to Ja'far Khan Zand, underestimated the strength of the enemy forces and failed to mention the three to four thousand tribal men who had joined the Qajar army. The Zands were defeated in Qom. Moḥammad-Ḥosayn Khan Šaybāni, governor of Qom and 'Abd-al-Razzāq Khan's nephew, reportedly signed a secret treaty with Āqā Moḥammad Khan Qajar (Musawi Nāmi, p. 389) and fought against his uncle's army. In Kashan, 'Abd-al-Razzāq Khan was defeated and heavily fined, and his two sons were taken hostages while Solaymān Khan, a cousin of Āqā Moḥammad Khan, remained in the province to ensure the speedy payment of the fine. 'Abd-al-Razzāq Khan, with the military support of Esmā'il Khan 'Arab-



e 'Āmeri, a neighboring chieftain, succeeded in expelling Solaymān Khan from Kashan. The latter reported to the Qajar leader, who retaliated by sentencing 'Abd-al-Razzāq Khan's two sons to death. Moḥammad-Ḥosayn Khan Šaybani intervened on his cousins' behalf by promising the Qajar Khan a ransom of 30,000 tomans; then he marched to Kashan, defeated 'Abd-al-Razzāq Khan, paid the Qajars off, and took over the governorship of Kashan. 'Abd-al-Razzāq Khan fled to Shiraz to the Zand court, but, following the final defeat of the Zands by 1205/1791, he acknowledged the Qajar sovereignty, and once more was appointed governor of Kashan in the reign of Faṭḥ-'Ali Shah.

'Abd-al-Razzāq Khan is credited with the repair of the main bazaar and the foundation of places of public service. A subterranean canal built by him during his tenure as the governor supplied a good part of the city with water coming from a spring in the southern suburb of the city (Kalāntar Żarrābi, pp. 94, 394). He is, however, blamed for the total destruction of a beautiful old garden in Niāsar, whose foundation was credited in popular belief to Alexander the Great. He took possession of the garden, cut down its very old trees for their wood, and removed the columns of white marble, all to be used in his own house in the city (Kalāntar Żarrābi, pp. 86-87).

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