



KEYVĀNLU TRIBE

KEYVĀNLU, a Kurdish tribe of Khorasan. It was one of those Kurdish tribes that *Shah 'Abbās I* (r. 1588-1629) forced to migrate from western Persia around 1600 for the purpose of fighting off the incursions of the Uzbeks (Afšār-Sistāni, p. 998). The tribe settled around Qučān, Rādkān, and Čenārān, northwest of Mashad. Because the sub-province of Darra-gaz was under-populated, Allāhyār Khan Čāpašlu, its governor from 1854 to 1865, moved some 300 families of Keyvānlu there. 150 families were given pastures around Sarāb-e Šamsi-Ķān, and the fort of Zangalānlu was built for them; 50 families were given pastures between Čāpašlu and Moḥammadābād (Darra-gaz), and the fort of Qal'a-ye Aspatān was built for them; and 100 families were given pastures between Nowḳandān and Jašnābād, and the fort of Kāhu was built for them. Later, more Keyvānlu were moved to the vicinity of Nowḳandān, and the fort of Taku (also known as Takāb) was built for them (Mirniā, II, pp. 32-33). A British source informs us that already by 1929 most of the Keyvānlu had become sedentary, making a living from agriculture (*Military Report on Persia*, p. 52). According to the same source, the tribe numbered some 8,000 individuals at that time (Idem). Today, the Keyvānlu dwell in the vicinity of Zangalānlu, Aspatān, Nowḳandān, Čāpaslu, Jašnābād, and Kāhu, north and northwest of Mashad (Mirniā, I, p. 16). They comprise the following clans: Tuzānlu, Gavārešgānlu, and Miānlu (Afšār-Sistāni, p. 998). They are Shi'ites and speak Kurdish, as well as a smattering of Turkish and Persian (Mirniā, II, p. 33).



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Iraj Afšār-Sistāni, *Ilhā, čādornešinān wa ʔawāyef-e ‘ašāyeri-e Irān*, 2 vols., Tehran, 1987.

“British Intelligence and Policy on Persia, 1900-1949,” *Military Report on Persia*, vol. 1 (*Khurasan and Seistan*), Calcutta, 1930.

Sayyed ‘Ali Mirniā, *Ilāt wa ʔawāyef-e Darra-gaz*, 2 vols., Mashad, 1983.