



## KHARG ISLAND

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**KHARG ISLAND** (Pers. *Ḳārag*, shortened to *Ḳārg*, contemporary Pers. *Ḳārk*, Ar. *Ḳārak*), an island and a district of Bušehr Province in the Persian Gulf. It is referred to as *Ḳārag* and *Ḳārak* in medieval Persian and Arabic sources (*Ḥodud al-‘ālam*, p. 20; Ebn Ḥawqal, p. 47; Eṣṭakri, p. 107; Ebn al-Balkī, p. 150; Yāqut, II, p. 387; *Nozhat al-qolub*, ed. Le Strange, pp. 137, 171, 234, Dabirsiāqi, p. 106). It appears as “Khārrack” in East India Company records and as *Khārag* (and *Khārgu*) in the India Government’s gazetteer of the Persian Gulf (Lorimer, pp. 1019, 1022; *Handbuch des Persischen Golfs*, 5th ed., Hamburg, Deutsches Hydrographisches Institut, 1976, p. 194). Apparently, the first usage of the shortened Persian form, “*Ḳārg*” occurred in the late 19th century in *Fārs-nāma-ye nāšeri* of Fasā’i (ed. Rastgār, II, p. 1586).

This entry is divided into the following three sub-articles:

- i. *Geography*.
- ii. *History and archaeology*.
- iii. *Developments since the 1950s*.