



LAŠANI

LAŠANI, a Turkicized Kurdish tribe in Fārs. The Lašani accompanied Karim Khan Zand to the province in the mid-18th century. In summer 1754, they fought heroically against the forces of Āzād Khan the Afghān on the Marvdašt plain, north of Shiraz, and, in November of that year, the Lašani leader, Hādi Khan, made it possible for Karim Khan to seize the citadel at Shiraz (Moḥammad Kalāntar-e Fārs, pp. 48-52; Fasā'i, I, pp. 209-10).

After the fall of the Zand dynasty at the end of the 18th century, the Lašani were absorbed by the Qashqā'i (Qašqā'i) tribal confederacy. But in 1874 they once more became an independent tribe (Field, p. 223). Already in the 1890s, many of them had become sedentary, dwelling in the districts of Kafrak and Marvdašt, north of Shiraz, while others still lived in tents in the district of Ābāda-ye Ṭašk, on the north shore of Lake Neyriz (Fasā'i, II, p. 332). In 1918, the Lašani of Kafrak and Marvdašt numbered some 500 families and comprised the following *tiras* (clans): Bānūsar, Bāzwand, Kaḷilwand, Šāhwand and Tutāki; the Lašani of Ābāda-ye Ṭašk numbered some 1,000 families and were divided into two sections, Iriwand (comprising the 'Abd-Allāhwand, Eliāswand, Kezerwand, Morādwand, Najm-al-Dinwand and Yazdānwand clans), and Bahmanwand (comprising the Owlād-e Šeiḵ 'Ali and Owlād-e Amir Āqā clans, and, later, the Molḥaq, Tolamāki and Kuškāki clans as well; Field, p. 223).

The Lašani of Ābāda-ye Ṭašk were highly enterprising robbers, raiding as far as the Yazd and Kermān regions (Demorgny, p. 131). The Lašani are Shi'ites and speak a Western Ghuz Turkic dialect which they call *Turki*.



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