



## MINĀB

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**MINĀB**, city and sub-province in the province of Hormozgān.

The first mention of the toponym Mināb appears to be in Moḥammad-Ja‘far Ḥosayni K̄ormuji’s 19th century *Āṭār-e ja‘fari*, under “Bandar-e ‘Abbās and its dependencies” (Ḥosayni K̄ormuji, p. 160). Mināb receives its name from Qal‘a-ye Minā (Minā castle), referred to in connection with the seven castles in the [Hormuz](#) region near Mināb, conquered in 1397 by Tamerlane’s son Sultan Moḥammad (Yazdi, I, p. 578; see also Ḥakim, pp. 820-21). References to Qal‘a-ye Minā appear also in later sources, while around 1873-88, Moḥammad-Ebrāhim Kāzeruni speaks of Minā district (*boluk*), Minā’s villages (*qorā’*), and Minā’s port (*bandar*; Kāzeruni, p. 125). Mināb belonged historically to the province of Kerman (see [KERMAN i. GEOGRAPHY](#)).

The town of Mināb is situated about 25 km off the northern shore of the Sea of [Oman](#), at lat 27.15° N, long 57.08° E, and 16 meters above sea level. The district of Mināb is located on the tip of the arch parallel to the Strait of Hormuz, and is bounded on the northeast by the sub-province of Manujān in the province of [Kermān](#), on the north by Rudān sub-province, on the west by [Bandar-e ‘Abbās](#) sub-province, and on the east by [Jāsk](#) sub-province. Its altitude rises from sea level at the coast to 1,500 meters in the highlands. North and northeastern parts of Mināb are mountainous, and central and western parts form a plain with an area of about 120 km<sup>2</sup>. The Godār Anjir, Tepe Safid, and Kāku chains form the mountainous heights of Mināb. The river Mināb, 240 km long, rises in the Sarvestān heights, flows across the city of Mināb, and discharges into the Sea of [Oman](#). There are five minor seasonal rivers flowing in the sub-province



as well. The city of Mināb has a warm, humid climate, with average temperatures ranging from 6° C in winter to 48° C in summer; the average annual rainfall is 253 mm (Sāzmān-e barnāma, p. 9; Sāzmān-e joḡrāfiā'i, p. 15). Flora consists of *ḥarrā* trees (probably *Avicennia marina* or mangrove) covering an area of some 20 km<sup>2</sup>, *gaz* (tamarisk), *gavan* (tragacanth), almonds (see *bādām*), and *tāḡ* (saxaul). Small quantities of chromate, sulfuric acid, magnesium, and iron-ore have been identified but not yet extracted (Afšār-Sistāni, p. 286; Sāzmān-e joḡrāfiā'i, pp. 6-7, 23-25, 32).

Mināb's economy is based on agriculture, fishing, and handicrafts. The sub-province ranks first in the quantity of date palms in Iran. Its other agricultural produce are mangoes, bananas, lemons, wheat, and barely. Its handicrafts consist of gold embroidery, mat weaving, pottery, and various kinds of traditional mattresses. Food and lemon juice production are among the few modern industries in Mināb (ʿAbd-Allāhi, pp. 34-35; Sāzmān-e joḡrāfiā'i, pp. 31-32, 44; Afšār-Sistāni, p. 287). The climatic conditions of Mināb are such that summer produce arrives between 40 to 50 days earlier than the national average (Afšār-Sistāni, p. 286), which is a remarkable economic advantage for Mināb.

The population the city of Mināb was 55,214 and that of Mināb sub-province was 256,557 in 2006. The sub-province is divided into three districts: Mināb, *Biābān*, and Senderk. Its main ports are Tiāb, Kuhestānak, Sirik, Kolāhi, and Kergān, each opening onto a small bay, locally called *kavar* (Afšār-Sistāni, p. 268; cf. the estuaries called *kor*, *kowr* or *kawr* in Khuzestan, on which see [KARUN i. GEOGRAPHY](#)). Majority of the population is Shi'i, coexisting with a Sunni minority (Sāzmān-e joḡrāfiā'i, p. 30).

The native dialect of Mināb is closely related to the vernaculars spoken to its north in Manujān, Kahnuj, Rudbār, and Jiroft, which are, along with Mināb, districts historically belonging to the *garmsir* (warm lowlands) of Kerman province. These varieties form a dialect continuum that has been designated as the Garmsiri language type (see [KERMAN xvi. LANGUAGES](#)) commensurate with their climatic arrangement.

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