



OĶOWWAT

OĶOWWAT (Brotherhood), the name of four newspapers and one magazine published in Tabriz, Rašt, Shiraz, Kermānšāh, and Baghdad in the early 1900s.

1-In Tabriz, the first issue of *OĶowwat* newspaper was appeared on the 2 Dū'l-ḥejja, 1324/17 January 1907, and would continue to be issued three times a week. No reference is made, in the masthead, to the editors, writers, or publishers. It should be noted that, *OĶowwat*, contrary to Moḥammad 'Ali Tarbiat's assertion (E.G. Browne, row 35), is not among the three anti-constitutionalist newspapers published in Tabriz by Mirza Aḥmad Baširat, the headmaster of Baširat school, and contains several fatvās from the pro-constitutionalist clergies of Najaf (see [CONSTITUTIONAL REVOLUTION](#) vi).

OĶowwat, measuring 22×35.5 cm, was lithographed in four pages of two columns by an unidentified printer. The annual subscription was 35 qerān in Tabriz. The library of etude iraniennes of Sorbonne University (Universite Paris III), houses the only existing copy of *OĶowwat*.

Bibliography:

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Ḥosayn Omid, *Ketāb-e tāriḳ-e farhang-e Āzarbāyjān*, Tabriz, 1954, vol. II, pp. 40-41.



Moḥammad Ṣadr Hāṣemi, *Tāriq-e jarāyed va majallāt-e Iran*, Isfahan, 1948-53, column 54.

Ṣamad Sardāriniā, *Tāriq-e ruz-nāmahā va majallahā-ye Āzarbāyjān*, Tehran, 1981, p. 104.

Moḥammad ‘Ali Tarbiat, *Dānešmandān-e Āzarbāyjān*, 1975, p. 407.

2-The weekly, *OĶowwat-e Širāz* was published from Rabi‘ I, 1326 to the end of Jomādā I of 1326/15 May through June or July of 1908 in Shiraz, and at least five issues were printed. It was affiliated with the Anjoman-e oĶowwat-e Širāz (see [ANJOMAN-e OĶOWWAT](#)) and for this reason the publication has been referred to as “Anjoman-e oĶowwat ” (Browne, column 67).

OĶowwat-e Širāz was a religious and moralistic paper affiliated with the Ne‘mat-Allāhi Order. It was edited by ‘Abd-al-Karim Ma‘ruf-‘Ali, and contained reform-minded news and articles. Measuring 21x 34 cm, it was lithographed in the Eslāmiya printing house in four pages of two columns without illustrations. The annual subscription fee was 15 qerān in Shiraz and 17 qerān in the rest of Iran. The Fars Central Library of Shiraz houses the complete series of the paper.

Bibliography:

Ḥasan Emdād, *Širāz dar goḏaštā va hāl*, Shiraz, 1960, p. 84.

Moḥammad Ṣadr Hāṣemi, *Tāriq-e jarāyed va majallāt-e Iran*, Isfahan, 1948-53, columns 58, and 715.

3- The weekly *OĶowwat* of Rašt was disseminated from 8 Šab‘ān 1328 to 24 Jomādā I 1325/15 August 1910 through the 22 June 1911. Numbers 2 through 11 of the journal were named *OĶowwat -e ‘Āli*. It was published by Hādi Mawlavi and Ḥasan Mo‘yyad, the cofounders of *OĶowwat -e ‘Āli* school in Rašt. Hādi Mawlavi was a significant leader in Ṣafi-‘Ališāhi Order.

OĶowwat, although published by a Sufi order, was a reformist and nationalistic journal. It published news and poetry, and as Browne has noted, it was noteworthy from a literary perspective (Browne, column 36). Measuring



22×36 cm, it was printed in the Sa'ādat and 'Orvat-al-votqā printing houses in 4 pages of two columns, without images. The cost of a one-year subscription in Rašt was 10 qerāns. The revenues, as appeared in the masthead of the first issue, were allocated to needy school children. A complete collection of this *OĶowwat* is held by Cambridge University, while the central library of Tehran University and the Mo'assesa-ye moṭāle'āt-e tāriĳ-e mo'ašer both have scattered issues.

Bibliography:

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Ebrāhim Fakrā'i, *Gilān dar jonbaš-e mašruṭiyat* Tehran, 1974, p. 319.

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Moḥammad Šadr Hāšemi, *Tāriĳ-e jarāyed va majallāt-e Iran*, Isfahan, 1984, column 55.

Jahāngir Sartippur, *Nāmhā va nāmdārḥā ye Gilān*, Rašt, 1991, pp. 603-04.

Ursula Sims-Williams, *Union Catalogue of Persian Serials and Newspapers in British Libraries*, London, 1985, no. 615.

Mortezā Solṭāni, *Fehrest-e ruz-nāmahā-ye Fārsi dar majmu'a-ye ketābĳāna-ye markazi va markaz-e asnād-e dānešġāh-e Tehran*, Tehran 1975, column 38.

4-The monthly magazine, *OĶowwat* was published by the Šafi-'Alīšāh order of Sufis in Kermānšāh from Ķordād 1307 to Ordibehešt 1308/June 1928 through April 1929. A total of 12 issues went to press. The licensee and managing editor was Hajj 'Abd-Allāh Mostašār-'Ali (Ne'mati), who was also responsible for publishing *Kowkab-e ġarb* after *OĶowwat*'s final issue. In some of the issues 'Abd-al-Ḥosayn Elhāmi is identified as the managing editor. The



magazine was devoted to subjects of spiritual interest, and poetry. The first issue of the magazine contains a biography and specimens of the poetry of Mirza 'Ali Khan Zahir-al-dawla, the successor to Mirza Moḥammad-Ḥasan Eṣfahāni, Ṣafi-'Ališāh, the founder of Ṣafi-'Ališāhi Sufi order. Over the course of its publication, two images of Mirza 'Ali Khan Zahir-al-dawla, appeared in the magazine.

Measuring 15.5×23 cm, the magazine was published by Sa'adat printing house and ran 24 to 42 pages of one column. The cost of subscription was 24 qerān in Kermānšāh. The collection of *Oḳowwat* magazines can be found in Āstān-e Qods library, Rašt National Library, Fārs Central Library, and at Princeton University.

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Moḥammad Ṣadr Hāšemi, *Tāriḳ-e jarāyed va majallāt-e Iran*, Isfahan, 1984, column 57.

Morteżā Solṭāni, *Fehrest-e majallahā-ye Fārsi az ebtedā tā sāl-e 1320*, Tehran, 1977, column, 13.

Leylā Sudbakš, *Fehrest-e našriyāt-e advāri dar ketābkāna-ye markazi-e Fārs*, Shiraz 1999.

5-The weekly newspaper, *Oḳowwat*, was printed in Baghdad, in both Persian and Arabic from 22 Rabī' I to 4 Ša'bān 1328/April 3 through August 11, 1910, a total of 18 issues. Moḥammad Taqī Yazdi received the license from the Ottoman authorities. Upon the objection of the Iranian authorities in Baghdad (*Oḳowwat*, tr. from *Al-Ḥaqiqa*, Baghdad, no. 3, and quoted in *Majles*, 3/42, 21 Du'l-qa'da 1372), however, Yazdi transferred the license to an Ottoman subject

by the name of ‘Abd-al-Ḥosayn Al-Āḍari and took on the role of managing editor. Thus, in certain Arabic sources, Al-Āḍari is the only name that appears in the newspaper (Ṭarāzi, II, p. 76), while Iranian resources only cite Moḥammad Taqi Yazdi.

Oḳowwat was a political newspaper and advocated the solidarity of Iranians and Arabs, as well as the followers of Shi‘ite and Sunni Islam (“Maṭbu‘āt-e jadida,” *Majles*, 3/11, 4 Jomādā I 1328). Measuring 21×28, it was printed in 4 to 8 pages of 2 columns without illustrations by an unidentified printing house. The annual subscription fee in Baghdad was 30 piastres and in Iran, 20 qerān. Scattered issues of *Oḳowwat* are held in the Maktabat-al majma‘-al‘elmi-al‘Arāqi in Baghdad, and the library of Cambridge University in England.

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