Group of Experts on . Geographical names

WORKING PAPER No.55

Twelfth Session Seneva, 29 September - 7 October 1986

30 September 1986

<u>Agenda Item 5</u>

Report on activities in Iran

Presented by Col.

Rassol Sarbazy

IN THE NAME OF GOD

TWELVTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES GENEVA 29TH.SEPTEMBER TO 7TH.OCTOBER 1986

REPORT SUBMITTED

Ву

THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN.

1; INTRODUCTION

1.1 The present report is a brief review of the activities undertaken and progress made in Iran since the Eleventh Session of the UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names, held in Geneva in October 1984.It should be noted that as reported to the aforementioned Session two years ago, Iran is still engaged in the impoeed war with its western neighbour, a war that has necessarilly absorbed followed, although within inevitable limitations caused by the War conditions.

2 ;NATIONAL STANDARDISATION

- 2.1 As indicated in the previous report,all functions of the National Geographical Names Authority have been entrusted to the Army, Geographical Office.This office has successfully carried out its work in this connection. During the period under review,the Army Geographical Office has added no less than 8,051 new place name cards to its collection with the result that now there are 36,242 place name cards ready for gradual utilization in the National Gazetteer.
- 3 ;FIELD COLLECTION OF INFORMATION
 - 3.1 There has been no change in the scheme for standardization and verification of geographical names, introduced some years ago. The standard village identification questionnaires have been carefully filled by trained personnel and the work has gone on satisfactorily.

3.2 In addition to village identification questionnaires, the 1;250,000 map sheets have been regularly utilized in the field with the result that upto date 112 sheets or 82% out of a total coverage of 138 sheets have been completely dealt with.

4; NATIONAL GAZETTEER

4.1 The main objective of the activities undertaken under 2.above is to gather information for the National Gazetteer or the Geographical Dictionary of Iran as it is better known.When completed, the series will cover altogether 138 volumes of different sizes corresponding to the same number of the 1:250,000 map sheets that gives complete coverage of Iran.Up to now 61 volumes or roughly 45%,of the entirs series have been published. (See atached map)

5; CHANGES IN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

5.1 The process of changing geographical names, an inevitable result the Great Islamic Revolution, referred to in the previous report under item 4.1. has been going on with a slower speed. Consequently the total amount of changes is not as great as in the previous report. All changes introduced since our 1984 report are seen on the attached sheets.

6; REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

6.1 Because of war conditions prevailing in Iran and also due to local disturbances in Afghanistan, it has been practically impossible to convene regional meeting but certain correspondence has been exchanged on technical matters.

7; COMPOSITION OF FARSI DIVISION

7.1 At its Eighth Session, the Group of Experts revised the grouping of the Farsi Division and accepted the new title" Asia South -West Division" comprising Afghanistan, Iran, Israel and Turkey (see section 7g.of the Report of the 8th.Session).

- 7.2 It appears that there was no objection when the revision in question was made by the 8th. Session but at the Fourth UN Conference for the Standardization of Geographical Names held in Geneva in August 1982, Iranian representative has strongly protested to Israel being in the same division and he has clearly given his reasons for this protest(see Report of the lVth.Conference,Vol.1., chapter 11,page 7).
- 7.3 During the Tenth Session of the Group of Experts, many members raised objections about the revised composition of Divisions after t lenghly discussions it was decided that appropriate decision on this issue be deferred to the Eleventh Session (see item 22 of the report of the session under"Other Business").
- 7.4 The question was brought up by the representative of Iran at the llth.Session of the Group of Experts held in Geneva back in 1984. Unfortunately no decision was reached and the matter was again deferred to the present session.
- 7.5 The present session should therefore note that the government of Iran strongly objects to the composition of the Division as resolved at the 8th.Session of the Group of Experts and requests exclusion, from this Division, of Israel, that has nothing linguisticall or geographically in common with the remaining members of the Division.

3

The names of townships, districts and villages which have been changed since 1984.

Now Name	PROVINCES	شهر ستــا ن	Old Name
QESHM	قشـــــم	ĀBĀN	۱۔ آ بــا ن
ZARQĀN	زرقـان	ZARGAN	۲۔ زرگا ن
FĀRESĀN	فارسـا ن	MĪZDAJ	۳۔ میزدچ
	CITIES	بخسش	
OSHTORĪNĀN	ا شتـرينـا ن	OSHTAD	۱ ـــ ا شتــــا د
MEHDI SHAHR	مهدی شهـر	SANGSAR	۲۔ سنگسر
NOWFL LOWSHATOW	نوفل لوشا تــو	KAHAK	۳۔ کہےک
KHOMEYNI SHAHR	خمینےی شہر	HOMÄYÜNSHAHR	۴۔ هما يونشهـر
HOVEYZEH	هو يـــــز ه	HOWZGÂN	۵۔ هوزگا ن
	VILLAGES	روستــا	
KHĀVARĀN	خا ورا ن	KHANKOHDAN	۱۔ خا نکہدا ن
NOWFL LOWSHATOW	نوفل لوشا تو	КАНАК	۲_ کیہک
SAFA DASHT	صفا دشت	GANDÃB	۳_ گنـدا ب
زارعیی	اپیستگاه راهآهن	خسروشا ه	۱_ ایستگاه راهآهن
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دریاچه وزریسوار		-ر	۲۔ دریا چه آریا مھ
DARYACHEH-YE ZARIVAR		DARYACHEH-YE ARYA MEHR	

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