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**Group of Experts on
Geographical Names**

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REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN

ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES,
GENEVA, 15-23 OCTOBER 1984

REPORT SUBMITTED

BY

THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN.

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The present report is an attempt to review briefly the progress made in Iran since the Third United Nations Conference on The Standardization of Geographical Names, Athens, Aug.-Sep. 1977. The period under review coincides with years of drastic changes in Iran, resulting from the Great Islamic Revolution which took place in February 1979. Since then, Iran has become an Islamic Republic, governed by a new constitution-ratified by public referendum in December 1979-under which all governmental activities and policies are heavily dominated by Islamic ideals and rules laid down in the holy Koran. In September 1979 Iran was attacked by its western neighbour, Iraq, and was forced into an imposed war that has been going on since then. Unfortunately in its early phases, this war hindered progress in many fields of scientific activities. It is hoped that the present session will bear in mind the prevalent conditions of the period under review when considering this report.

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION

2.1 The National Geographic Names Authority, as reported to the Third United Nations Conference in Athens, ceased to function after the Revolution.

However, it became the responsibility of the National Geographical Organization-now better known as the Army Geographical office-to continue activities of the above Authority. The latter office has resumed the work back in March 1983 with

satisfactory results. The number of place name cards prepared for inclusion in the Gazetteer of Iran now stands at 28291 as compared with 13995 when our last report was submitted. No change has been made in the sample of the village information sheet which was previously submitted to the Third Conference.

2.2 FIELD COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

A scheme for standardization of Geographical names and verification of names by comparison of written and pronounced names was introduced in Iran many years ago. This scheme was implemented through interpretation of areal photographs, supported by ground surveys and gathering of information by means of village identification questionnaires which are carefully filled in by well trained personnel.

2.3 Field work under the above scheme is carried out on the basis of individual 1.250,000 sheets of which a total of 138 cover the entire territory of Iran. At the time of preparing this report altogether 97 sheets or 70% have thus been treated and piles of village identical booklets are now being dealt with for the preparation of Gazetteer of Iran.

NATIONAL GAZETTEER

3.1 The ultimate objective of the scheme referred to under 2.2 above is to provide information for inclusion in the new Geographical dictionary or gazetteer of Iran which is due to be completed in no less than 138 volumes, each relating to a 1.250,000 sheet map of Iran. During the period under review, in spite of a number of setbacks, no less than 21 volumes have been printed and some 13 volumes are in the process of printing (see map).

CHANGES IN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

4.1 When the Great Islamic Revolution took place in Iran, the general public began replacing street names that bore the names of the previous regime by Islamic names. Soon after villages and even towns were renamed by the inhabitants. Consequently the Ministry

of Interior decided to bring such changes under strict control and laid down certain criteria for changing of Geographical names. In larger cities and small towns street names are changed frequently and old names are replaced by new ones that generally bear the name of war martyrs living in the vicinities. For changing town names, however other considerations are taken into account. Since Revolution approximately 85 provinces, towns and villages have been renamed of which a selected list of more important places are annexed to this report.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

5.1 Ever since the transliteration system introduced by Iran was adopted and the composition of Farsi Group determined in 1966, Iran took an active part in officially managing and coordinating all affairs relating to the geographical names in the specified group. Between 1966 and 1977 no less than three regional conferences were held in Tehran, in which representatives from Afghanistan and Pakistan participated and in which all parties concerned arrived at agreements in the use of transliteration and Romanization systems of their respective geographic names. However, there has been no activity as such during the period under review because of the imposed war conditions prevailing in Iran and local disturbances in Afghanistan.

COMPOSITION OF FARSI DIVISION

6.1 Ever since the First United Nations Conference on Geographical Names, Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and the Persian speaking republics of the USSR were logically grouped together to form the Farsi or the Asia, South West Division this Division worked very well when members were brought together on the occasion of regional meetings and many problems of common interest were settled with good understanding (it should be noted that Persian speaking Soviet republics never participated in the regional meetings and great success which was mainly due to common linguistic and geographical aspects of the group members).

- 6.2 When the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names held its eighth session, early in March 1979, Iran could not attend because of the reasons indicated in the introduction to this report (see 1.1 above).
- 6.3 In the course of its 8th.Session, the Group of Experts reviewed the divisional composition and accepted the following grouping.
- Asia South-West Division
- Afghanistan, Iran, Israel, Pakistan, Turkey (see section 78g of the Report of the 8th.session).
- 6.4 It appears that no objection was raised at the time when this grouping of divisions was accepted by the 8th.Session but in the course of the Fourth United Nations Conference for Standardization of Geographical Names held in Geneva, Aug.-Sep.1982, Iran formally protested against his country being part of the same group as Israel (see report of this conference, vol.1, chapter 11, page 7). Furthermore, at the time of the Tenth Session of the group of experts held in Geneva, September 1982, several members have objected strenuously to the composition of some of the divisions (see report of this session, section 22) and, it has been agreed, on both occasions, that the subject of the divisions should be fully explored by the Group of Experts at its Eleventh Session.
- 6.5 Therefore, the present Session should note that the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly objects to the above composition of Asia, South-West Division and requests exclusion, from this Division, of Israel that has nothing, linguistically or Geographically in common with the remaining members of the Division.

List of Geographic Names Officially Altered And Announced
By The Government Of Iran

PROVINCESNew Name

HASHTRŪD

TĀYBĀD

BANDAR-E ANZALĪ

DASHT-E ĀZĀDEGĀN

ORŪMĪYEH

DASHTĪ

ESLĀMĀBĀD

SALMĀS

QĀJEM SHAHR

BĀKHTARĀN

Old Name

ĀZARĀN

BĀKHARZ

BANDAR-E PAHLAVĪ

DASHT-E MĪSHĀN

REZĀ, IYEH

RŪDBĀR

SHĀHĀBĀD-E GHARB

SHĀHPŪR

SHAHREZĀ

KERMĀNSHĀH

CITIES

PŪLĀD SHAHR

KEYĀSHAHR

KHOSROW SHAHR

ĀREYĀ SHAHR

BANDAR-E FARAHNĀZ

KHOSROW SHĀH

CITIES

SAĀDAT SHAHR

SAĀDATĀBĀD

ĀZĀD SHAHR

SHĀH PASAND

SHAHRAK-E PĀNZDAH-E KHORDĀD

SHAHRAK-E BŪR BŪR

HĀDĪ SHAHR

ALAMDĀR-E GAR GAR

VILLAGES

QODS

ĪSRĀĪL

HOJJATĀBĀD

ŪZŪNĀKHĀR

TĪLEKŪ

ĪRĀN SHĀH

BĀGH SHĀD

BĀD SHĀH

BĀGH-E MEHDĪ

BĀGH-E SHĀH

ĀZADEGĀN

BARĀSHĀH

ESLĀMĀBĀD-E BĪDHEL

BĪDHEL

ESLĀMĀBĀD

POWKHLĪQAYEH

NANŪR

PAHLAVĪDEZH

TAKHTĪĀBĀD

TAKHT-E SHĀH

SEYYEDĀBĀD

TAL-E MŪSHKĀRĀN

CHESHMEH ALĪ

CHESHMEH SHĀH QOLĪ

KHĀNĪK

KHĀNĪK SHĀH

BAHĀRESTĀN

KHARĀB

HEMMATĀBĀD

KHERAK

KHORRAMDEH-E GHARBĪ

KHARAKĪ-YE BAR BAR

VILLAGES

KHORRAMDEH-E SHARQĪ	KHARAKĪ-YE KORD
HORR-E REYĀHĪ	KHALAF HEYDAR
QALĀEH DEZAK	DĀVAR PANĀH
DASHT-E SHĀD	DASHT-E SHĀH
ESLĀMĀBĀD	DEH SHEYKH
FAJRĀBĀD	ZARTOSHT
SARDĀR-E JANGAL	ZEYDEH BĀLĀ
ĀDLĀBĀD	SAG KOSHTEH
NŪRĀBĀD	SHĀSHĀGOL
SAĀIDĀBĀD	SHĀHĀBĀD
ESLĀMĀBĀD	SHĀHĀBĀD
BARĀFTĀB	SHĀHĀBĀD-E BAR ĀFTĀB
ŠĀDEQĀBĀD	SHĀHĀBĀD-E CHŪLAK
ESLĀMĀBĀD-E KORD	SHĀHĀBĀD-E KORD
ESLĀMĀBĀD	SHĀHĀBĀD-E PAKH
SHAHĪD SARGORD MAĀSŪMĪ	SHĀH ĀENĀYAT
GOL QALĀEH	SHĀH QALĀEH
QALANDAR	SHĀH QALANDAR
KAHRĪZ	SHĀH KAHRĪZ
JOWZĀR	SHĀH VALAD-E SOFLĀ
AHMADĀBĀD	SHĀH VALAD-E ĀOLYĀ

VILLAGES

QĀ'EMĀBĀD	SHĀH YŪRDĪ
KAMĀLĀBĀD	SHOGHĀLĀBĀD
SA'ĀDATĀBĀD	'ESHQĀBĀD
'ATRĀBĀD	'ANTARĀBĀD
ESLĀMĪYEH	FARĀSHĀH
QĀ'EM MAHALLEH	QĀR-E PŪREH MAHALLEH
SOHRAVARD	QAREH QŪSH
'ALĪĀBĀD	QAL'EH SHĀH ROKH
NAZARĀBĀD	QAL'EH SHĀH NAZAR
EMĀM KHOMEYNI	QEYOĀCH
KARAMLŪ	KARAM SHĀHLŪ
FATHĀBĀD	KOREH GĀV
KHEYRĀBĀD	KASBANĀN
MOSLEMĀBĀD	GĀR KHĀNEH
MODARRES	GORG TAPPEH
'ALĪĀBĀD	LĪSHTAR 'ARABHĀ
ESLĀMĀBĀD	MĀSHĀH
QĀ'EMĪYEH	MO'ATTALĀBĀD
'ALAMDĀR	MĪR 'ALAMSHĀH
NEZĀMĀBĀD	NEZĀMĀBĀD-E MĪR SHĀH
MOHAMMADI	NAQĪRLŪ

VILLAGES

SĀLEHĀBĀD
" "

NĪNĪ

TĀHERĀBĀD
"

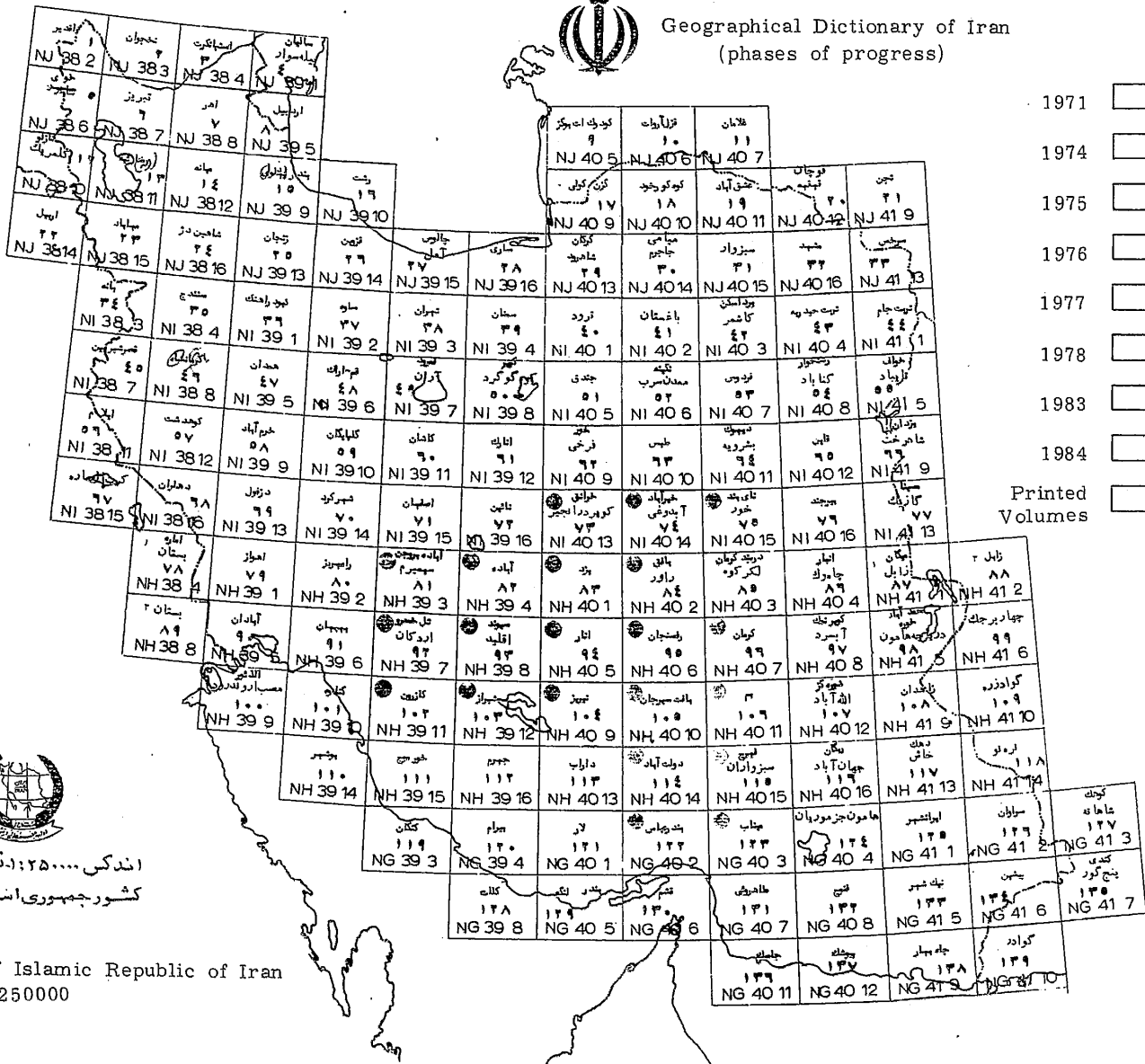
VASH

ĀSHŪRĪ

YAKŪBSHĀH



Geographical Dictionary of Iran
(phases of progress)



اندکس: ۲۵۰۰۰۰: نقشه های
کشور جمهوری اسلامی ایران

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maps of Islamic Republic of Iran
Scale 1:250000