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Issuance procedures of the Iranian passport in Iran and abroad

Introduction

The following note describes the issuance procedures of the Iranian passport both within Iran and at Iranian representations abroad.

The information in this note is collected from online databases and open sources but primarily through meetings with relevant authorities in Iran.

The Iranian passport

According to ICAO, three versions of the Iranian passport have been produced since 1993.¹

The two latest versions, the 2002 version B, and the 2014 version C will not be thoroughly described in this note, though some distinctive differences will be pointed out in the following:

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Danish National ID Centre

Adelgade 13 DK-1304 Copenhagen K Denmark

Phone +45 61 98 39 00 Email nidc@nidc.dk Website www.nidc.dk

¹ https://www.icao.int/Meetings/icaotrip-Iran-2016/Documents/Presentations/D3%20S8%20SHOAIBI.PDF

The 2002 version/version B (picture from Edison TD)



The 2014 version/version C (picture from PRADO)



In both versions are the personalisation and the picture printed in inkjet. For both versions, passports issued to adults (over 18 years) are valid for 5 years. Besides the differences in appearance (including different reactions to black light/UV light), version C has no security threat. Version B has 40 pages, whereas version C has 32 pages.

Issuance in Iran

The passport is issued by the Immigration and Passport Police in Iran.

To get the passport issued, citizens above 18 years of age must present the birth registration, the *Shenasnameh*, and their national ID card, the *Melli Card*.

In addition, children below 18 years and unmarried women above 18 years must obtain the permission of the father or closest male relative. Married women must present the husband's permission in order to have a passport issued.

There are three exceptions in which the wife does not need the approval of the husband to have a passport issued and travel:

- If the woman's right to travel without the company of her husband is stipulated in the marriage contract as a condition for the marriage, she can obtain a passport and use it to travel without the approval of the husband.
- 2. If the husband is stationed abroad.
- 3. If the husband is non-Iranian the wife can apply for a passport without the approval of the husband.²

Passports issued in Iran will have "IMMIGRATION AND PASSPORT POLICE" written as place of issue.

Issuance at Iranian representations abroad Iranian representations abroad can handle first-time issuance, re-issuance and renewal of passports.

In case the applicant is abroad and has lost his or hers passport and applies for a new at the Iranian embassy of that country, the applicant is required to bring a police report, the birth registration (shenasnameh) and the identity card (melli card). 3

In countries with a big Iranian diaspora, the Iranian embassies can personalize the passports on site, whereas the smaller embassies will receive the passports from Iran with the personalization done in Iran. Passports issued abroad will have the city of the embassy written as place of issue. ⁴

² Iranian government source, September 2018.

³ Iranian government source, September 2018.

⁴ Iranian government source, September 2018.

Sources

ICAO presentation, 2016:

(https://www.icao.int/Meetings/icaotrip-Iran-2016/Documents/Presentations/D3%20S8%20SHOAIBI.PDF), accessed 19 October 2018.

The Public Register of Authentic travel and identity Documents Online (PRADO): (https://www.consilium.europa.eu/prado/en/prado-start-page.html), accessed 22 October 2018.

Edison TD:

(http://edisontd.net/), accessed 22 October 2018.

Meeting with Iranian government source, Tehran September 2018.