

Subject: »Iran«: the situation of »monarchists«

Iran (27) 280
23/5 02

Regional Office: 1

From: Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board, Ottawa

The *Mideast Mirror* quotes a journalist posted in Teheran as stating, in reference to Iranian opposition movements, that the »monarchists« have been almost entirely "wiped out" in »Iran« (7 Feb. 2000).

According to two specialists in Iranian studies, the »monarchists« are no longer organized and active in »Iran« (29 Feb. 2000; 1 Mar. 2000). The specialists, who have met with »monarchists« in »Iran«, emphasize that the majority of them are now of advanced years. For a long time now, they have no longer posed a threat to the current regime, as can be seen from the fact that there have been no politically motivated arrests or prosecutions of »monarchists« over the past several years. In fact, the »monarchists« are no longer representative of current Iranian civil society. A number of individuals with monarchist political tendencies wanted to be candidates in the February 2000 elections, but the Guardian Council refused to authorize their candidacy. As long as they do not campaign publicly, the authorities do not bother them. The two specialists were unaware of any »monarchists« being arrested during the February 2000 elections.

No information about »monarchists« in »Iran« is provided in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1999*, published on 25 February 2000.

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please find below the list of additional sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

References

Mideast Mirror [London]. 7 February 2000. "Mujahideen's Pre-Election Attack in Tehran Won't Hurt Khatami." (NEXIS)

Specialist in Iranian studies at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales de Paris (ÉHESS), Paris, France. 1 March 2000. The source does research on opposition movements and has recently published an article on »Iran« in *MERIP Report*.

Specialist in Iranian studies at the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), Paris, France. 29 February 2000. The source is a sociologist of Iranian origin who is also a lecturer at Sorbonne-Nouvelle Paris-III and has often travelled to »Iran« for research purposes. Her articles on »Iran« have appeared in scholarly publications such as the *Revue française de sciences politiques*, the *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* and *Les Cahiers de l'Orient*, as well in *Le Monde Diplomatique*.

Additional Sources Consulted

British Society for Middle Eastern Studies Bulletin 1988-1998

Cahiers d'études sur la Méditerranée orientale et le monde turco-iranien 1990-1998

Contemporary Security Policy 1998-1999

Journal of Arab Affairs 1990-1999

Middle East International 1990-1999

Middle East Journal 1989-1999

Middle East Monitor 1993-1997

Middle Eastern Studies 1992-1999

Middle East Contemporary Survey 1996

Report on Eastern Europe 1990-1995

RFE/RL Research Report 1990-1995

Terrorism and Political Violence 1989-1999

United States Department of State. 25 February 2000. *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1999* .

<http://www.state.gov/www/global/human_rights/1999_hrp_report/iran.html>

Carleton University Databases: Public Administration Information System (PAIS), ABSEES, Political Science Abstract

Internet sites including:

Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies <<http://www.biu.ac.il/SOC/besa/books/>>

The International Policy Institute for Counter-Terrorism <<http://www.ict.org.il/>>

Search engines including:

Google

http://www.irb.gc.ca/cgi-bin/foliocgi.exe/refinfo_e/query=iran+an.../pageitems={body} 23-05-2002