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panied Reza Shah on his state visit to Turkey in 1924. In 1926 he became the Inspector General of Cavalry and Armored Force, and in 1939 was promoted to brigadier general. In the post – 1941 period, Arfa continued to assume various important military posts, gaining further promotion, and eventually becoming the chief of Staff in December 1944. According to his own account, pro – British forces in the country had urged the replacement of his predecessor General Razmara. (Arfa Under Five Shahs p. 330). He remained Chief of Staff until February 1946. Two months later he was arrested on the orders of the Prime Minister Ahmad Qavam accused of having provided arms for the opponents of the Democrats of Azerbaijan. Although released in November. 1946 his military career had practically come to an end.

Arfa's rivalry with Razmara constituted one of the main features of the politics of the army's command structure in the post – 1941 period. Arfa had a predilection for forming cliques and parties inside and outside the army: he was intensely anti – leftist, enjoyed close relations with the British – which he prudently tried to play down – and was

a keen royal nationalist. An assessment of him by the British Military Attache. Written on January 14th 1945. (FO 371). Eastern, Persian ۴۵۴۴۶ recognizes his ardent nationalistic sentiment and the fact that he was quick to see insults to Iran. Infringements of its independence. And interference by foreigners _ whether real or imagined while portraying him as a difficult man. Highly suspicious. And contemptuous of some of his colleagues and superiors. Arfa initially appeared to have some sympathy for the Mosaddeq _ led National Front. Which was inter alia staunchly opposed to Razmara His inclusion as Minister of Roads and Communications in the short _ lived cabinet of Hosayn Ala (۲۰ March ۲۸ April ۱۹۵۰) was regarded as a non _ provocative move vis _ a _ vis the National front His attitude to Mosaddeq's government. However was never favorable and he actively sided with Zahedi in the coup of August, ۱۹۵۳ In ۱۹۵۸ he was appointed ambassador to Turkey and in late ۱۹۶۱ to Pakistan. He returned to Iran in December. ۱۹۶۲ retiring to his long established dairy farm in Larak. A suburb of Tehran. He died in ۱۹۸۳ in Monte Carlo.

Bibliography H. Arfa Under Five Shahs London ۱۹۶۴
Report on Personalities in Persian ۱۹۴۰ PRO: FO 371
Eastern Persia ۲۴۵۸۲: FO 371 ۱۹۴۵. Eastern Persia ۴۵۴۴۶.

(F. AZIM)

ARG (or ARK), the inner fortress or citadel of walled city. The arg may also serve as the residence of a ruler and include other court and government offices. From Safavid through Qajar times, the arg of a provincial capital was generally the military headquarters and administrative center of the city and its dependencies. Though an arg is sometimes referred to as a qala the generic term for fortress the term should more strictly designate an isolated fort or one sited at a strategic point outside the town it defends. The arg always lay inside the city wall. Sometimes adjacent to it and functioning as part of the defenses; it is analogous to the Roman arx, from which the Persian word may have derived, as well as the Norman keep (donjon). Its etymology is obscure: the term appears in Middle Persian only in the compound argbed (q.v.) a military rank and, though evidently in use during the 9th century (see under Arge Zaranj below), does not occur frequently in New Persian before the early 11th or 12th century. It is used also by Persian writers of Central Asia and northern India to designate the fortress of a city (e. g., Bukhara, Delhi). The principal Iranian towns that have been noted for their arg are Bam. Kerman. Shiraz. Tabriz. Tehran. And Zaranj.

Bam. On the border between Kerman and Sistan provinces, Bam probably had a fortress long before Islamic times. In ۲۰۶ AH, during the Saffarid – Taherid wars it was used as a prison (L. Lockhart, Bam EF I. P. ۱۰۰۸). and is described by Ebn Hawqal and other travelers from the ۴th to ۱۰th century on as a large fortress in the middle of the town. Containing one of the city's three mosques, and reputedly impregnable (Le Strange. Lands pp. ۲۹۹. ۳۱۲). Today the fortress is still an impressive ruin of baked brick. Rising in terraces at the northern end of the walled town: from the battlements of its forty – foot – high walls the plan of the fortress (entrance ramps. Living quarters. Stables. Guardrooms) is clearly visible. In ۱۲۰۹ ۱۷۹۴ it was the scene of Aga Mohammad Khan Qajar capture of last Zand ruler. Lotf Ali Khan.

Kerman. The provincial capital (variously known as Bardasir. Govasir. And Kerman) has always been well fortified. Writing in Buyid times, Moqaddasi (Le Strange. Lands. Pp. ۳۰۳ – ۰۴. ۳۰۶) mentions a qala outside the walls a fortified gatehouse (hesn). And another qala within the city, overlooking the house. This latter fortress. The medieval arg. Can no longer be identified: the former two are probably to be seen in the ruins of the Qalaye Ardasir. On a hill southeast of the Present – day city, and

the smaller Qalaye Doktor. Between them lie the ruins of the old city. Which was destroyed by Aga mohammad Khan Qajar in ۱۲۰۹ ۱۷۹۴. The ۱۹ th _ century Qajar city. Rebuilt under Fath, Ali Shah. Had a new arg at the southwestern edge. It formed a slight salient with the wall (see P. Sykes. Ten Thousand. Mile in Persian. London. ۱۹۲۰, pp, ۱۸۸. ۱۹۸) and contained the barracks, arsenal, and teiegraph office. Although the governor continued to reside in the Qalaye Ardasir in to the pahlavi ear.

Shiraz. The arg built by the Karim Khan Zand who called himself by the title of Wakil (alraaya). That is, Deputy of the People, in about ۱۱۸۱ ۱۷۶۷ _ ۶۸ is the best preserved and the most typical of its age as a combination of fortress and luxury residence (see Arge Karim Khan and Plate VII).

Tabriz. This strategically important and much besieged city has had a citadel variously rebuilt and resited at least from early Safavid times. When the Ottoman Turks captured Tabriz in ۹۹۲/۱۵۸۵ they built



Arg-e Karim Khan. Shiraz (Photo J. R. Perry)

An arg in thirty _ six days: when shah Abbas recaptured the city eighteen years later this fortress was destroyed by the citizen: in ۱۰۲۰ ۱۶۱۱ they erected a new one on a different site in the Rabe Rasidi quarter (Eskandar Beg, pp. ۶۸۱ _ ۸۲ _ ۸۲۶: V. Minorsky. Tabriz EI IV p. ۵۸۲). In ۱۲۲۴/۱۸۰۹ the government Najar _ qoli Khan Donboli began. Or continued. The conversion of the mosque of Alisha (built by Oijaytus minister in the early V th ۱۴ th cent). Into a new arg. Abbas Mirza surrounded this one whit defensive ditche in ۱۲۴۱ ۱۸۲۵ _ ۲۶. And although the other fortifications of Tabriz were demolished in the reign of Naser _ ai _ din Shah. The citadel remained (Minorsky Tabriz pp. ۵۹۰. ۵۹۳). It consist basically of a rectangular bastion some ۱۲۰ feet high flanked by semicircular towers.

Tehran. Begun by Karim Khan Zand during his residence there in ۱۱۷۳ ۱۷۶۰. The arg of Tehran probably stood on the site of a residential complex dating from Safavid times. According to chroniclers. The Wakil rebuilt the town wall and added a strong fortress with towers and a moat. As well as a divan _ kana with a garden adjoining (Nami. Tarke guigosay ed S. Nafis. Tehran ۱۳۱۷ S. ۱۹۳۸. P. ۹۶: Mirza Abu Hasan Gaffari. Golsane morad. British Library MS Or ۳۵۹۲, fols ۶۵ _ ۶۶; Y. Doka: Tarikcaye saktmanha _ ye arge saltanatie Tehran. Tehran. ۱۳۴۹ S./۱۹۷۰, pp. ۸. ۱۸.۳۲). From ۱۲۰۰/۱۷۸۶ it was further expanded by Aga Mohammad Khan and Fath Ali Shah. And was described by a visitor in ۱۸۱۰ as the only building of any consequence in the capital (J. M. Kinneir A. Geographical Memori of the Persian Empire London. ۱۸۱۳, p. ۱۱۸). During the next fifty years this nucleus devel.

Oped into the Golestan palace precinct, which by ۱۸۴۲ took up roughly one quarter of the area of the city, measuring some ۶۰۰ yards east to west and ۱۲۰۰ yards north to south (Berezin's report, cited by Minorsky, in EI IV,p. ۷۱۸). At this time it abutted the northern face of the outer wall (just south of the Kiabane Sepah). In the ۱۸۷۰s Tehran's outer fortifications were razed and the city was remodeled: by the ۱۸۹۰s the arg, while remaining as the

palace and government administrative complex, was bisected by a new avenue and situated in the center of a city walled more for show than for defense. Its walls were finally demolished under Reza Shah (see E. Pakravan, *Tehrande jadid*. Geneva. ۱۹۷۱, especially city plans pp. ۱۲۹, ۱۳۲).

Zaranj. The ancient capital of Sistan had a fortress at least as early as the mid ۱st / ۵th century when it was taken by the Arab armies. Ebn Hawqal in the ۹th / ۱۰th century and several later writers record that the Saffarid Amr b Layt had strongly fortified the city and erected between its Karkuya (northern) and Nisak (eastern) gates a large building called the Ark, which he used as his treasury; this later became the seat of government and citadel (Le Strange *Lands* p. ۳۳۵; Yaqut, s.v ark C. Huart. *Zarandj* EI IV. P. ۱۲۱۸) and it is probable that the name of this famous building became generalized as the designation for all such fortress head quarters. The city was destroyed by Timur in ۷۸۵ ۱۳۸۳. And was subsequently replaced as the provincial capital by nearby Zabol (called Nosratabad in Qajar times). Which until recently had a more modern arg at the northwest corner of the wall (Huart. *Zarandj* Sykes. *Ten Thousands Mile*. Pp. ۳۷۵. ۳۸۲ _ ۸۳).

See also Arge Alisah Arge Karim Khan : and Arg bed.

Bibliography: Given in the text.

(J. R. PERRY)

ARGE ALISAH. The remains of the Masjede Alisah a colossal mosque built in Tabriz at the behest of Tajaldin Alisah jilani. The vizier of the Mongol Il _ khans Oljattu Kodabanda and his son. Abu Said Bahador khan. Today it is the most prominent historical monument in the city. It was completed before ۷۲۲ ۱۳۲۲ beside the gate of Oljaytu. Beyond the Narmian quarter. The main unit was oriented toward the qebla with either a single wide and wide and lofty ayvan or. More probably. Two ayvans one above the other. Framed by a minaret on either side. The construction material was entirely baked brick. Only the side and qebla walls have survived: the side walls average ۲۶ m high and ۱۰,۴ m thick: on the evidence of the ruins the mehrab chamber must have been approximately ۶۶ m high. While the vault spanned ۳۰,۱۵ m. exceeding the width of the largest medieval arches in Europe.

A contemporary account by Hamdallah Mostawfi (Nozhal al _ qolub ed M Dabirsiaqi. Tehran. ۱۳۳۶ S./۱۹۵۷. P.۸۷) describes a large congregational mosque with a courtyard measuring ۲۵۰ × ۲۵۰ gas (۱ gas = approx. ۱ m) and a hall (soffa) larger than the Ayvane Kesra at Madaen. Much

marble and many sorts of devices were used in it. But because of haste in its construction, it soon collapsed (i. e . soon after ۷۲۷/۱۳۲۶ _ ۲۷; the damage may also have been due to earthquake, water seepage, or shifting foundations).Some repairs must have been carried out in the nex few years, how ever, because the Golden Horde prince Jani Beg took part in a Friday prayer at this mosque after his invasion of Tabriz in ۷۵۷/۱۳۵۶.

The earlist description of the Masjede Alishah written in ۷۳۲/۱۳۳۲ by a young aide _ de _ camp in the Egyptian embassy to Abu Said's cour. Gives some idea of the mosque's original splendor (Badr _ al _ din Mahmud Ayni. Eqd al _ joman fi ahl al _ aman IV unpublished manuscripts in diverse collections: V. Tiesenhausen. Brief Notes and Information on the Mosque of Alishah in Tabriz [in Russian]. Zapiski vostochnogo oldeleniya imperialorskogo arkheologicheskogo obshchestvoI. ۱۸۸۶.p. ۱۱۶). There was an entrance courtyard measuring ۲۵۰ × ۲۰۰ dera (ca. ۲۸۵ × ۲۸۸ m) with a larg square pool in the center. The pool featured a central platform bearing an octagonal fountain flanked by stone lions with water pouring from their mouths. Inside the sanctuary ayvan (sabeatan). Two bronze pillars plated with silver and supported the pointed vault. And the area was illuminated

with various lamps (probably of silver and enameled
crystal) suspended on gold _ and silver _ plated chains.
Each of the latticed windows contained ۲۰۰ round panes
with ornamental gold and silver mountings (Survey of
Persian Art III. Pp. ۱۰۵۸ _ ۵۹; A. Karang. *Atare bastanie*
Adarbayian. Tehran. ۱۳۵۱. S. ۱۹۷۲. I. pp. ۲۴۰ _ ۶۱).

The Moroccan traveler Ebn Battuja. Who stopped at
Tabriz in ۷۲۷ ۱۳۲۶ _ ۲۷. Reported that the mosque was
surrounded by bazaars and that its entrance lay in the
bazaar of the ambeagris sellers. Its marble _ paved
courtyard contained trees of several varieties. Including
vines and jamines. And was divided in to two parts by a
canal (presumably the pool). To the west of the sabestan
was a madrasa and to the east. a zawla (hospice for
darveshes). The surrounding walls were faced with qasani
(i.e. kasi. Or glazed). The people of Tabriz gathered in
this mosque every day after the evening prayer for Koran
recitation (Ebn Battuta [Paris]. II. pp. ۱۲۹ _ ۳۱). By the
early ۱۰ th ۱۵ th century. The mosque was known as the
emarat (palace) of Alisah. An Italian merchant staying in
Azerbaijan at that time wrote that even though it was
situated in the middle of the city. It could be seen from all
the outskirts: the vault of the mehrab chamber was so
high that an arrow shot from the floor would not reach it.

His indication that the mehrab chamber was unfinished probably reflects its semiruined state at the time. He also describes a newly erected platform in the middle of the mosque pool. Set on six carved pillars of pure marble. It was connected to the bank by a bridge: floating in the pool was beautiful boat which Shah Esmail some times boarded for recreation with four or five of his courtries (C. Grey. Ed. And tr. A Narrative of Italian Travels in Persia in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries. London. 1873, pp. 167 _ 68).

By the late 11 th / 17 th century, the structure was largely in ruins. When Jean Chardin visited Tabriz in 1684/1683, only the area the mehrab and the sabestan. Facing the qebla, had been repaired. Chardin mentions a tall minaret which could be seen by travelers from Erevan to Tabriz long before they reached the city (Chardin. Voyages du Chevalier Chardin en Perse et autres lieux de l'Orient, Amsterdam, 1735, I, p. 225). John Ogilby, a traveler contemporary with Chardin. Refers to the monument as the Friday Mosque which indicates that it was still used for worship (J. Ogilby. Asia the First Part. London. 1673. P. 21: Survey of Persian Art III. p. 1059).

By the time Jane Paule Rachel Dieulafoy visited this historic building in 1811. It had been transformed in to a

barracks or citadel arg) for the Tabriz garrison. She describes it as a huge structure with lofty towers visible from far outside the city. Situated in the middle of a large. Open space. And together with an adjacent disused cannon foundry. Surrounded by a wide and deep, but partly filled in moat (La Pwrese la Chaldee. et la Susiame Paris 1887. P. 52).

This mosque was in fact one of the biggest buildings ever erected in Iran. And its combination of grandeur and artistic grace aroused the admiration of all who saw it. The minarets of the mosque of Qusun in Cairo. Which was completed in 730 1331. Only eight years after the Egyptian embass's visit to Tabriz. Were modeled on those of the Masjede Alishah. The Italian merchant who visited Tabriz in the 10th 15th century wrote that the excellence of its construction was beyond his powers of description. The 11th 17th century Turkish traveler Evliya Celebi remarks in his Sihat nama that the distance from the mehrab to the door of the mosque was so great that human vision could scarcely take it in (Evliya Efendi. Narrative of Travels in Europe. Asia and Africa in the Seventeenth Century. J. F. von Hammer _ Purgstall. London. 1800. II. P. 125). James Morier (J. Morier A Second Journey through Persia. Armenia. And Asia Minor to Constantinople. 1810 _ 16.

London. ۱۸۱۸. P. ۲۲۶) found its brick work as fine perhaps as any in the world. While Robert Ker Porter who was in Iran in ۱۲۳۲ _ ۲۵ ۱۸۱۸ _ ۲۰. Considered the tile work. With its turquoise aquamarine. And dark blue coloring and interlaced Arabic inscriptions. Equal to the works of the most accomplished artists of any age (R. Ker Porter. Travels in Georgia. Persia Armenia Ancient Babylonia ... London. ۱۸۱۲ _ ۲۲. p. ۲۲۲).

Although the use of this mosque as a barracks in the last century greatly accelerated its deterioration. It was registered as a national monument in the ۱۹۷۰s. and after preliminary studies. Repair work was begun . See also Alishah. Taj _ al _ din.

Bibliography: See also Survey of Persian Art. Pls. ۳۷۷ _ ۷۹. D. N. Wilber. The Architecture of Islamic Iran: The II Khanid Period. Princeton. N. J. ۱۹۵۵, pp. ۱۴۶ _ ۴۹.

(K. AFSAR)

ARGE KARIM KHAN, the citadel built