

[PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

[Translator's notes appear in square brackets]

[Personal information has been **redacted**.]

[Emblem]

Ministry of the Interior

National Security [Office]

Date: 14/4/1325 [5 July 1946]

Number 5J/2468/35568

Enclosure:-----

Honourable Ashraf¹, the Prime Minister

Respectfully, following [letter] number 5J/2087/28175 – 17/5/1325 [8 August 1946], I would like to inform you of the following: the report received from Mashhad's Security Regiment, explains that (and based on the verbal command of the Governor General of Ninth province), in order to prevent the dispute between the Baha'is and the Muslims around Birjand, and to restore peace, on 9/4/1325 [30 June 1946], two truckloads of guards were dispatched from Mashhad to Birjand, under the supervision of two Captains, Major Jahanbin, Colonel of police [?] and Mr. Saba, who is an employee of the Ministry of Interior. Since the Mashhad Regiment had received a report that the Muslims of Rood-e Moajen and Hesar – suburbs of Torbat Heidariyeh, and Boshruyeh and suburb of Ferdous, were planning to cause a riot and disturbance, Colonel Zamani, the Commander of Mashhad Regiment himself, with Colonel Khadivi, left for Birjand to deliver the supplies to the Battalion. After collecting local information, they went to see Sheikh Hadi who is one of Birjand's influential and long-serving religious jurisprudent. They inquired as to what would happen if some people started a riot or disturbance under the name of either Muslim or Baha'i. The response was that anyone attempting to do so, would be acting against Islamic law and the Sharia of Mohammad. So the Commander of the Regiment sent the information to the religious leaders and prominent individuals of the regions who were planning to revolt and counselled them to keep the peace. Also, reports from the Commander of Zahedan Regiment, number 3789 – 29/4/1325 [20 July 1946], state that presently, total calm is established in the city, following the arrival of the gendarmes and the inspectors in Birjand. Regarding the surrounding villages, similar orders were issued, and Commander of the Birjand Battalion was dispatched to villages where Baha'is reside. Further disputes and disturbances are being prevented by commitments of the landowners and other prominent individuals. The incident at Sar-e Chah, where Baha'is had complained that they were attacked, plundered and injured, was

¹ [Ashraf means "The Most Noble", it is the title of Prime Minister Ahmad Ghavam; it was given to him by Iranian shah, Mohammad-Reza Pahlavi]

completely dismissed. [The report] writes that the Baha'is have complained out of their fear of such incidents. Three gendarmes, along with the Commander of the Battalion have been deployed temporarily at Sar-e Chah area.

Head of National Guards Organization, Brigadier General Shovar Toskif [signature]

Head of National Guards Operations Department, Brigadier General Moshiri [signature]

[Margin 1:] [stamp: arrival at the Prime Minister's Office; number:21818, date: 19/4/1325 [10 July 1946]]

[Margin 2:] Was reported. 19/4 [1325] [10 July 1946]

[Margin 3:] Returned, to be archived.