

[PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

[Translator's notes appear in square brackets]

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

“Do not follow (your) base desires, lest you deviate”

Special Court for Article 49 of the Constitution, Mazandaran Branch

Court Order

Court Order Number: 9809971512800084

Date of Issuance: 13 Aban 1398 [4 November 2019]

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Judiciary of Mazandaran Province

Case reference: 9809981512800075, Special Court for Article 49 of the Constitution

Mazandaran Branch, final order number 9809971512800084

Report: 1- Residents of the Village of Ivel; 2- *Sitád-i-Ijrá'íy-i-Farmán-i-Imám*<sup>1</sup>, Mazandaran Division [address]

Subject: Review of the remaining possessions of [the members of] the perverse sect of Baha'ism in the Village of Ivel, Sari

Court Decision

As to the decision concerning the remaining possessions of [the members of] the perverse sect of Baha'ism in the Village of Ivel, in Sari, and the appeal of the local residents in the village, as well as the *Sitád-i-Ijrá'íy-i-Farmán-i-Imám*, pertaining to the issuance of a decision against the legality of the ownership of the Bahá'ís in the Village of Ivel—including many parcels of farmland, totalling approximately 10 acres, and many smaller pieces of land with erected buildings, totalling approximately 5,000 m<sup>2</sup>—the investigation carried out by the court indicates that prior to the victory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the perverse sect of Baha'ism moved to the area through the influence and support of the government of the time, and took up residence in the region with intent to spread its perverse belief and ideology, and while occupying fertile lands in the area, registered the lands in their names, and for the purpose of establishing their power and spreading their perverse ideology, invited the person of Hoveida to visit the region. For this reason, the person of Hoveida,

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<sup>1</sup> [*Sitád-i-Ijrá'íy-i-Farmán-i-Imám*: The Execution of Iman Khomeini's Order, known as EIKO]

the prime minister at the time, who himself was a Bahá'í and one of the leaders of the sect, visited the area along with the other leaders of this sect, and while endorsing the governance and influence of the Bahá'ís in the area, engaged in creating fear and terror in Muslims through threats, intimidation and harassment. After the glorious victory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Bahá'ís of the Village of Ivel dispersed around the province and now live under the supervision of the government and control of the security forces.

After the passage of three decades from the victory of the Islamic Republic, in light of the pressures on the Islamic Republic from the arrogant governments of the United States and other hostile states, and by taking advantage of the existing atmosphere, some of the remaining families of this perverse sect returned to the village and the area and built structures for their own pleasures and economic advantages, and to establish assemblies to promote their perverse ideology—at which point the local residents appealed to the government authorities and expressed their objection and disgust at the presence of this perverse sect. For this reason, the director of the Presidential Office at the time visited the area and appeared among the martyr-raising residents of Ivel—who had suffered for years under trying circumstances and the atmosphere of suffocation under the authority of this sect—and issued an instruction to resolve the problems of the local residents. However, owing to the pressures from various hostile states in the international field, nothing in particular has been done with respect to final resolutions about these lands.

According to the investigations and reports from the locals and the governor's office, and the record of this perverse sect, they came to the area, with financial support from the head of Baha'ism in the centre, with intent to spread their perverse ideology in the village and in the area, through their influence in the court of [the Shah] and with the support of the occupying Zionist regime, to occupy lands which had historically belonged to Muslims, and to use the financial income from the lands to spread the perverse ideology. Following the reaction of the local residents and the commencement of the judicial procedure, the members of this group, through communication with opposition groups and networks outside the country, made efforts to reflect the news of the case in an attempt to weaken the regime and the people. The connection and collaboration of the [Bahá'í] group at the time of *tághút* with the outlawed SAVAK and the prime minister at the time (the annihilated Hoveida) and other such leaders [is made clear] in a [piece of] correspondence dated 20 Khordad 1342 [10 June 1963] with General Parviz Khosravani, then chief commander of the Central Gendarmerie, who labelled the God-loving Muslim residents in the area rabble rousers and louts, and publically pledged his allegiance to guard and protect the Bahá'í figures and history, and throughout his presence in the region persecuted and harassed the local residents.

To prevent the formation of clusters of propaganda for the perverse ideology, the sacred regime of the Islamic Republic, based on the principle of Islamic mercy, obtained an undertaking from [the Bahá'í] leaders, and permitted their stay and livelihood in cities in the Mazandaran Province, where they are now dispersed, and by disallowing their presence in the area and through supervision over their behaviour and actions they are controlled against the possibility of any action against the regime.

After three decades from the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the said individuals, under the pretext of tolerant living for the purpose of making a livelihood and checking the land and following up, have again attempted to return to the area, and their presence in the area has caused the uprising and strengthening of this perverse group, as all of the residents in the region are Muslims of the Twelver Ja'fari school. By the establishment of this group in the area and by fortifying the roots of this perverse group, with the support of agnostic groups, they try to claim ownership over lands in the area by procuring documents in which, for the most part, the parameters of the land are unclear.

This is how they attempt to establish and spread their perverse ideology in the area. Furthermore, according to the esteemed points of imitation, the perverse sect of Baha'ism is confirmed as heretical and *nijásat*<sup>2</sup>; there is no legitimacy in their ownership, and it is incumbent upon the fervent believers to confront the deception and corruption of this perverse sect and prevent the deviation and attraction of others towards them, and any contact with them has been declared *ḥarám*<sup>3</sup>.

As such, pursuant to the *fatwa* from the esteemed points of imitation and the order of the Imam, dated 19 Esfand 1359 [10 March 1981], as well as the procedural act concerning matters in regard to Article 49 of the Constitution, and given that certain individuals associated with this perverse faith among their leaders are now outside the country collaborating with the opposition groups against the regime, the court rules that there is no legal merit in leaving the remaining properties in the possession of the perverse sect of Baha'ism in the Village of Ivel, Chahar Dangeh Division, and issues a court order in that effect. Considering the decades of the presence of this perverse sect in the area for the purpose of spreading Baha'ism, the lands that are subject to this court order will be endowed upon the *Sitád-i-Ijrá'iy-i-Farmán-i-Imám*, Mazandaran Division, so that by the sale of the land to people with meagre properties in the Village of Ivel, a cultural centre may be established for the propagation of *Mahdavíyyat*<sup>4</sup> and the remaining funds from the sale of these lands could be used for cultural matters and the expansion, development and flourishing of the village.

This court order, with respect to those who are abroad and were not present in court, is issued *in absentia* and can be appealed for review within 20 days in this court. With respect to others who were present, this court order can be appealed within 20 days in the Special Court of Appeal in the Province of Tehran for Article 49 of the Constitution.

Seyed Morteza Mousavi

Chief Judicial Advisor and Head of Special Court for Article 49 of the Constitution in Mazandaran Province

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<sup>2</sup> [*Najis*: Unclean]

<sup>3</sup> [*Harám*: Forbidden by the Sharia law]

<sup>4</sup> [*Mahdavíyyat*: Coming of the Mahdí]