

## [PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

[Translator's notes appear in square brackets.]

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

[The excerpt below is from the section of the article that pertains to the Baha'i Faith]

[Newspaper:] Omid-e Iran

[Date:] 31 Ordibehesht 1334 [22 May 1955]

[Issue No.]: 50

Where Did the Fight Against the Baha'is End?

Government Actions and the Circular of the Ministry of Interior on the Dissolution of Baha'i Population

The intensity of the struggle against the Baha'i sect, which began at the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan, during the days of Ehya [special night vigil for prayer] of the holy month, decreased. On these days, the preachers and clerics, in order to avoid the convulsions and unrest according to the advice of the relevant authorities, did not make any new comments about fighting against the Baha'is.

After the conclusion of the holidays ... at the request of the government, a private session was convened, prior to the public session of the National Consultative Assembly. In this meeting, Mr. Amir Asadollah Alam, the minister of interior, informed the delegates of the measures taken by the government to combat the Baha'i sect and read to the delegates a circular issued to the governors and governors general in this regard.

According to this circular, based on the First Article of the Amendment to the Constitution, which states that, "The official religion of Iran is Islam and its true sect is the Twelver Jafari"; and also citing the concept of Article 27 of the Constitution, which prohibits the formation of the associations and gatherings that are instigators of religious and secular sedition and are anti-regime; it has dissolved the social centres that cause religious and secular sedition and are anti-security and anti-regime, and in the future any demonstrations or actions of such groups, which are prohibited by law, must be prevented.

According to this circular, the governors and the governors general have been instructed to strictly prevent the interference of irresponsible persons and officials in the affairs of the misleading sects, and whoever acts against the security of the country in the name of fighting against this sect will be severely punished.

In a private session of the parliament, some representatives asked, why the name of the Baha'i sect was not mentioned in the circular. But the minister of interior's explanation ended the discussions. And finally, at the suggestion of Dr. Shahkar, the article was added to the report that the representative of the government should read in public session [of the parliament]:

“The formation of the sects that, in the name of religion, have been disruptive, and since their existence is against the law, have adopted the title of Baha’ism to achieve their political aims, and are the cause of the disruption of order and security, and are contrary to the religion of Islam, will be prevented; according to the constitution, minorities with the official religions of Christianity, Zoroastrianism and Judaism will have full freedom within the law.”

The government’s report was read and approved by the representatives in a public session of the parliament, thus ending the Baha’i affair.