

[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:] Payk-e Iran

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Relationship of Mr. Ebtehaj, the Executive Director of the National Planning Organization, with the Clergy

Since the trip made by Mr. Ebtehaj, the executive director of the National Planning Organization, coincided with the height of the campaign against Baha'is, rumours began in certain circles that it was possible that his trip had been planned as such for a particular reason, and that the open opposition of a few clergymen to the placement of Ebtehaj as the head of the above-mentioned organization, which is one of the most important economic pillars of the country, was related to this trip.

It must be noted that Mr. Ebtehaj's trip was intended for negotiation with the authorities of the World Bank, and the recent events of last week have raised a greater possibility of change of the executive director of the National Planning Organization, to the extent that, in order to prove their points, those with information have been throwing out names of possible replacements.