

## Hasan Esmailzadeh

Born: 1896 in Sanandaj

Murdered on 6 June 1980 in Sanandaj

Hasan Esmailzadeh with his wife and 9 children were living in Saghez when in 1941 during a local upheaval, he lost his home to fire and his belongings to looters and local residents. Subsequently, he was forced to migrate to Sanandaj. He was running a successful barber shop in the Sanandaj Bazar. On various occasions he became the target of persecutions, owing to the incitement of the religious leaders in that city. Between 1946 and 1955, he was elected several times to the local spiritual assembly<sup>1</sup> of the Baha'is of Sanandaj.

On 6 June 1980, while the city of Sanandaj was in the middle of a difficult political uprising and was sieged by the forces loyal to the government of the time, he became the target of bullets fired from the spire of the Sharif-Abad mosque, while crossing the street. He was 84 when he was killed. One of the local people buried his body under a wall at that time. When the upheaval was over, the authorities, along with a few of his Muslim relatives, exhumed the body and laid it to rest at a local cemetery without a Baha'i ceremony and without informing his family and friends of this measure. His wife passed away 50 days after his death.

*(This brief biographical note is based on the best available information. If you find any inaccuracies, or any important facts omitted, please email us through the Contact page.)*

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<sup>1</sup> **Local Spiritual Assembly:** a nine-member administrative body elected annually by the Baha'is of a particular area, tasked with overseeing the affairs of the Baha'i community of that area.