

dissatisfied with Timur.

(5) During the six years period from 1370 to 1375, the Sulduz clan, the Jalayr clan, the Apardi clan in Shupurghan, the Qutlan group and part of the Yasawr clan revolted against Timur, but all the revolts were finally suppressed.

A Note on the Water Distribution from the
Zāyandeh-rūd in Esfahān

by Shoko OKAZAKI

The waters of the Zāyandeh-rūd in Esfahān had traditionally been distributed among some 500 villages of seven irrigation districts through 105 madis, or main irrigation channels. In the Safavid period, however, a Royal order was proclaimed to abolish the customary water distribution systems and replace them with new regulations. Under the Qājārs, the regulation was altered by certain powerful individuals.

The new regulation of the Safavids, known to be drawn up by Sheikh Bahā'i of Amilī, a distinguished scholar at the court of Shāh'Abbās, was intended to gain a monopoly over the river's summer irrigation water for the rice cultivation in four districts, in which the Crown lands were concentrated. Naturally, this caused the devastation of three other districts when their water supply was stopped.

Furthermore, under the Qājār, with the rapid development of the reclamation of lands, the Safavid's regulation was arbitrarily altered by such influential personages as the Crown Prince Zill al-Soltān, leading mojtaheds and large landlords at the ruinous, selfish sacrifice of the weak.

This paper aims to illustrate one of the characteristic features of the land holding system of Iran through examining how irrigation water had been controlled by men of power.