

Reading the text and analyzing the content of the endowment letter of Haj Mohammad Rafi Theological School in Tabas

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Abstract

Waqf, a long-standing and living Islamic tradition, has been prevalent in Islamic lands, especially in Iran, since yesterday with various motives. The history of endowment in Iran, The Islamic period dates back to the first centuries AH and is often dedicated to the endowment of real estate for both religious and educational institutions, mosque and school. In the second half of the 12th lunar century, Haj Mohammad Rafi, the son of Ali Naqi Diheshki, founded a school in the city of Tabas and dedicated it to the teaching of religious science. The purpose of the present article is to read the endowment letter and review the content and access to the various information contained in it, and to achieve this purpose, it uses a descriptive-analytical method. Examining the endowment letter shows the school's firm belief in Shiite teachings and provides the reader with first-hand and useful information about Tabas during the endowment, how the school is run, the trustee, and the conditions for using the endowment. According to the endowment letter, the tutelage of this school has been entrusted to the founder and after him, the eldest son and then the male children of his generation. If the male children also die, the Friday Imam of Tabas will be in charge of the endowment. Among the useful historical information of the text of the endowment letter at the time of the formation of the endowment, we can name some of the elders of Tabas, especially Khajeh Mohammad Ali Diheshki, brother of the endowment and Mullah Mohammad Mehdi, son of Haji Mohammad Saleh, the Friday Imam of Tabas. Also information about water system in this city is pointed out.

Keywords: endowment, endowment letter, Tabas, Haj Mohammad Rafi school

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