

Basforah Gov^t on some trivial pretext with many
 other lands in the vicinity and it was subsequently
 annexed, together with the lands of Haffar and
 Yammar, by Sulimán Pasha of Bagdad, as I have
 previously stated, to the Shaab Chief Sheikh
 Salimán - Turkey is thus able to show her
 practical exercise of supremacy over the lands
 of Mohamurah for a consecutive series of above
 250 years - But this is not all - so uncontest-
 -able were her rights, that the Shaab, long
 after they had become virtually independent
 of Basforah, continued to pay the rent or land
 tax instituted by Sulimán Pasha for the districts
 of Yammar, Haffar, & Mohamurah - Three hundred
 tons of Dates are indeed still yearly handed over
 to the officers of the Basforah Gov^t, as the share
 of produce of the two former farms, & it is only
 since the forcible occupation of the town of
 Mohamurah by the Persian troops, that the
 payment of the annual land tax of
 500 Karrosh (about 4000) for the ground upon
 which

⁴⁰ which the town is built has been discontinued
 — That Turkey is unable in the same conclusive
 way to prove the acknowledgement of her
 claim to the remainder of the territory stretching
 down along the Shal from Mohamerah to the
 sea, is owing merely to the lands in this quarter
 having been exempt from taxation agreeably to
 Sultan Selim's patent when the Loha evidently
 wrested them from the possession of the
 descendants of Sheikh Abdool Salim, the
 original grantee.

But altho the question of the political
 dependency of Mohamerah & the adjoining territory
 may be thus considered, as a mere matter of
 argument, to be proved almost to demonstration
 in favour of Turkey, the geographical appropri-
 ation of the lands is by no means so easily
 disposed of. —

Former Dependence
 of Mohamerah
 upon the Sultan
 of Persia

When Sultan Selim bestowed the grounds
 of Haffar & Mahomerah upon Sheikh

Ahmed el Refahie they were double strictly
 dependent upon Bassorah: for the Karoon
 river still flowed in the Saban bed & the
 Haffar canal upon which the lands were situ-
 ated was thus still a channel for the water of
 the Euphrates - When Sheikh Salman also
 obtained the lands from Suliman Pasha
 they were with the same condition for his dam
 across the Karoon had again checked the force
 of the western branch of the river & the Euphrates
 accordingly again de-embogued a part of its water
 by the Bamashir channel, irrigating Haffar
 & Mahamerah as it passed them; but since
 the last destruction of the dam of the Turrose
 & accordingly from a period long anterior to
 the foundation of the present town of Mohamerah
 it must be evident that according to the old
 basis of distribution, the lands being watered by
 the Karoon which has a second time appropriated
 to its own stream the bed of the Haffar, must
 belong

at present
 being taken
 with water
 to the sea
 & long ago
 called the
 ...

42
belong geographically to Persia.

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2661

I know not upon what ground Persia claims the left bank of the Shat-el-Arab unless indeed it be that the lands were at one time occupied by the Chitab whom she regards as her subjects. The right of Turkey politically and geographically to all the country which is dependent for its cultivation on the water of the Shat-el-Arab is I think unquestionable.

The frontier between the two empires ought to be defined, according to geographical precedent, by a line drawn lengthways through the Island of Abadan from the sea on its Southern side to its N. Western point.

And then from the angle on the right bank of the Haffar canal formed by the junction of that stream with the Shat-el-Arab midway between the two rivers to the desert from whence it would run up, along the old boundary.

parallel to the river, and at a distance of some
6 or 7 miles from its banks, passing between

2662
2662

two ruined land-marks, called the K. sh. h.
i. llym and Kooch h. i. P. s. p. o. r. a. n. & proceeding
on to the village of Howait upon the K. r. k. e. n. a.

two miles
about 2 miles
west of P. s. p. o. r. a. n.

Above this point the determination of the line,
if contested, would be attended with great
difficulty; for the whole of the country inhabited
at present by the Beni Lam is within the
Geographical limits of Khuzistan; while
on the other hand, at the time of Sultan
Mowad's treaty, Howeizah is said to have
paid tribute to Buissorah; but fortunately
these questions are not subjects of dispute.

The line which I have thus marked in
accordance with what appears to be strict
geographical propriety, has a due regard,
think to the claims both of Turkey & Persia -
Turkey indeed, on the ground of the dependency
upon

find to be
all the
and to

alleged

2663

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upon Bassorah of the Pashas of Suban claims
 the dry bed of the Eastern branch of the Karoon
 as her boundary in that direction, she desires
 to draw a line from the point of decision of
 that channel from the Karoon, where the ruins
 are still to be seen of Sheikh Salim's dam,
 directly across to the landmarks of Kooshke
 Ujum and Kooshke in Basrah - The
 entire tract, however, between the old Tiber river
 & the immediate vicinity of the banks of the
 Shat-el-Arab is a desert & hardly worth
 disputing - The only valuable possessions which
 she would lose in confining herself to the
 frontier which I have traced, would be the
 lands along both banks of the Bagdad canal,
 where the double town of Mohamurah is
 now situated; but to these lands she cannot
 advance any valid geographical claim,
 & for many years they have been practically
 lost to her -

2664

Translation of a letter from Mirza Mahomed
Ali, the Native Agent at Basra, dated the
8th June 1840.

Every thing is tranquil in this
neighbourhood. Sheikh Mahomed bin Khaleef
has returned from the Island of Amreeq, having
effected a reconciliation between the hostile par-
ties in that Tribe. Khorsheid Pasha has put
to death Bierghush, the Chief of the ul-e-Hamm
in revenge for the assassination of Mahomed
Ghadi, and buried him by the side of the latter.
The whole of the Pasha's Army is now on its
march, and at the present date has most likely
quitted Bahrah. The Pilgrims who have arrived
from the Red Sea report, that all the Agents of
Mahomed Ali had departed from Yemen, and
that the Troops of Ahmed Pasha, and Ibrahim
Pasha, having been embarked in Ships, have
left that country. It is not known in what di-
-rection they all proceed from Jeddah but it is re-
ported that both Mahomed Ali, and Ibrahim
Pasha, the Elder, have been seized by Stratagem,
and made prisoners by the Sultan's Agents.

The 20th of June
at Basra
Mahomed

57

* Sheikh Mahomed bin Khaleef
has informed me in confidence that he has re-
ceived letters from most of the principal Chiefs

2685

of the Bedouin Bedouins, intimating their desire
 to form an alliance with him, and to take a
 possession of Lahseh, and Kabeef on his account.
 Sheik Mahomed is desirous of acceding to this
 proposition without the consent of Sheik Ab-
 doollah ben Ahmed, but will take no steps
 without the permission of the British Government,
 because he fears its power on the sea. The capture
 of Lahseh, at this time if the Bedouins afford
 their assistance, can be easily effected, as the people
 dislike Umeyr Khaled - Mooshief the cousin of
 Burghush who was put to death by Chershid
 Pasha) has been sent from Lahseh to Ujeer, ac-
 -companied by an escort of 10 Horsemen. He is
 now in Bahrein and is the guest of Mahomed
 ben Khaleef.

True translation
 Signed / S. Hornell
 Resident

True copy
 Signed / S. Hornell
 Resident in the P. Gulf

Hornell
 P. Gulf