

THE PEOPLE OF PERSIA

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649669226

The People of Persia by John Kitto

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JOHN KITTO

**THE PEOPLE
OF PERSIA**

THE
PEOPLE OF PERSIA.

THE
PEOPLE OF PERSIA.

BY JOHN KITTO, D.D., F.S.A.

LONDON:
THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY;
Instituted 1709.

1857.

203. d. 96.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CHAPTER I.	
PERSIA	7
CHAPTER II.	
DWELLINGS AND DOMESTIC HABITS	16
CHAPTER III.	
HABITS OF LIFE	34
CHAPTER IV.	
PERSIAN CHARACTER	45
CHAPTER V.	
RELIGION	57

CHAPTER VI.

	PAGE
FESTIVALS AND OBSERVANCES	135

CHAPTER VII.

SOOPFEISM.—ARTS AND SCIENCES	179
--	-----

THE
PEOPLE OF PERSIA.

CHAPTER I.

PERSIA.

CONSIDERABLE information concerning Persia and its inhabitants, has been transmitted to modern times by the ancient classical historians, and by some of the sacred writers. We are thus enabled to perceive that the modern Persians retain the characteristics of their ancestors, to an extent unequalled probably by any other Asiatic nation that has remained in the same land in which their progenitors lived, and come down unbroken from so early a period. This is not the case, however, with the territorial limits of the country. These have varied with the ebbing and flowing tide of every dynasty, and almost of every reign.

“The limits of this kingdom in its most prosperous period,” says sir John Malcolm, “may, however, be easily described; the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean to the south; the Indus and the Oxus to the east and north-east; the Caspian Sea and Mount Caucasus to the north; and the river Euphrates to the west. Vast territories on either side must now, however, be struck off from this large outline, in looking for the present and actual boundaries of Persia. It does, indeed, still reach to the Caspian Sea on the north, and to the Persian Gulf on the south. But the wild regions of Beloochistan shut it far off from the Indian Ocean and the lower part of the Indus; Afghanistan places it at a still further remove from the higher portions of that river; the domains of the Usbegs and Turcomans interpose a broad and formidable barrier between the Persians and the Oxus; Russia has pressed them down from the Caucasus, and from Georgia and Armenia, as far as the river Aras, and even below that river many leagues before it reaches the Caspian Sea; and, on the west, so far from compassing Mesopotamia to the river Euphrates, Persia is restricted by its Turkish neighbours to a natural mountain