

## **Situation of Farmanfarma Family during Seyed Ziaeddin Tabatabai's Government**

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### **Abstract**

*Regarding the evolutions of contemporary history of Iran, always we face the name of Abdolhossein Mirza Farmanfarma and his elder sons and totally Farmanfarma family. Consequently, it encouraged us to study how this family empowered and what was their function during their life and the role of this family in Evolutions of Iran. Due to ever increasing power and political influence, Farmanfarma clan had special position among politicians and even Shah and Clerics, so that they had a unique authority for making major changes in Iran, to the extent that Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza (circa) 1859 the his elder son was nominated for leading the coup-d'état and being prime minister on behalf of British Government. But, due to political and international condition after the World War 1, and deep differences between the ambassadors of British Government, British military commander and the Secretary of state, finally Seyed Zia along with Reza Khan were selected for this purpose. Within the 100-day government of Seyed Zia, major events have happened causing deep differences between Farmanfarma family and British Government so that they were not supported by British Government any more. In this study it is tried to study that the events and relations between Seyed Zia with Farmanfarma Family and consequences.*

**Key Words:** Seyed Ziaeddin Tabatabai, Abdolhossein Mirza Farmanfarma, Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza, 1919 Contract.

### **1. Introduction**

Failure of 1919 Contract and inability of governments in approval and execution of it entailed a very important consequence, coup-d'état of March 1920. Seyed Ziaeddin Tabatabai was editor in chief of Raad Newspaper and chairman of Zargandeh Committee in Tehran along with Reza Khan Mir Panje (Brigadier General) were agents of this coup-d'état, although other ones like Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza trying to take part in this act. One of the main actions of newly established government was arresting of political figures and putting them into jail for being responsible in all disorders and problems of last 15 years in the country. Meanwhile, Farmanfarma family, that had especial political and economic power as well as having especial relation with British government, felt treat and its main members were arrested and put in jail. In this article, it is tried to study briefly the situation of this family simultaneous with the coup-d'état during Seyed Zia's government.

### **2. Problem Statement**

Due to ever increasing power and political and material influence among political figures, Shah and even clerics, Farmanfarma clan had a special force for creating major changes in Iran to a very broad extend in such a way that Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza oldolleh, the elder son of Farmanfarma, was negotiating with British Government to perform a coup-d'état and attaining the prime minister position. But due to international political condition after World War I and due to differences between British ambassador, its military envoy in Iran and British Secretary of State, the situation of Qajar clan declined considerably and Reza Shah with controlling Farmanfarma Family and its functions, tried to isolate and weakening them from political and material point of view.

### **3. Research Questions**

1. Had Farmanfarma been the major player in international and national policies and had foreign support for attaining his goals?
2. Had Farmanfarma personally political power or foreign supports were influential in decision making and performance of his plans?

### **4. Research Hypotheses**

1. Till the coup-d'etat of Seyed Zia and taking power from Farmanfarma family and also probability of Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza being prime minister, from British point of view this family was the closest friend and the most reliable family in Iran.
2. After arresting Abdolhossein Mirza and his son after the coup-d'etat, and being misbehaved and accused for several charges, in spite of the content of 1919 Contract expressing safety of Farmanfarma family from any charge but no kind of support was made by British Government. This matter caused that after Seyed Zia's fall, Farmanfarma family stopped supporting of British Government. Especially Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza, elder son of Abdolhossein Mirza, seriously showed his opposition to British Government.

### **5. Research Method**

In spite of Publication of different documents regarding Farmanfarma and his clan, there hasn't been any independent research or thesis in this regard. Although there are some documents on the personality of Abdol Hossein Mirza and his son Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza have been published.

1) The collection of Abdolhossein Mirza Farmanfarma, by Mansoureh Ettehadieh & Syroos Saadvandian, 2) The collection of correspondence, documents memories and works of Firooz Mirza Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza, by M. Ettehadieh & S. Saadvandian, 3) In this subject a very popular TV series under the name of "Hezar Dastan" base on the role of Abdol Hossein Mirza directed by late Ali Hatami was produced

### **6. History of the Research**

In spite of the publication of different documents about Farmanfarma and his family, there is not any student thesis or independent research about this subject. Some documents on the personality of Abdol Hossein Khan and his son Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza have been published:

1. The collection of documents about Abdol-hossein Mirza Farmanfarma by Mansooreh Ettehadieh and Syroos Sadvandian has been published.
2. The collection of correspondences, documents, memoirs and writings of Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza, by M. Ettehadieh & S. Sadvanvian.
3. In this regard, a TV serial with huge number of viewers named "Hezar Dastan" was produced and directed by late Ali Hatami in base on the role of Abdol Hossein Mirza.

### **7. Farmanfarma Family during the Government of Seyed Zia**

One of the most important impacts and consequences of the failure of 1919 Contract was formation of coup-d'état and taking of political power by Seyed Ziaeddin Tabatabai in March 1920. "This event was the beginning of completely new era, in its real meaning, in the history of Iran" (Katoozian 2003:123)<sup>1</sup>. The 100-day government of Seyed Zia founded several "first events" in the history of Iran and especially in Qajar time. He was the first prime minister who had no aristocratic title nor belonging to any high class family and even he had no relations with Qajar families. He had not any relation and membership in political parties and groups. Some historians believe that the importance of this coup-d'etat is main cause in overthrowing of Qajar dynasty (Ettehadieh 2004:481)<sup>2</sup>.

These changes in the political condition of the country and emergence of a completely new era in Iran's history can be understood from the contents of Reza Khan (head of Cossack brigade) and Seyed Zia's statements. These statements tried to declare the most important plans, objectives and causes of coup-d'état for establishment of new Iran. The most obvious parts of these statements, from our view point namely the role of Farmanfarma family in historical changes of Iran, were stressed and their concerns was toward the role of land owning aristocracy of Qajar as the main responsible body of many disorders and chaos in Iranian society.

Following this attitude of responsibility of Qajar aristocracy in country's problems, they were criticized aggressively and consequently many of them were arrested by Cossack forces.

Seyed Zia in his statement, after listing problems and catastrophes which imposed on the country within 15 years after the constitutional revolution, directly targeted Qajar aristocrats and pointed out that "Hundreds of aristocrats and nobles who were governed the country by inheritance, sucked the blood of people and country like leech and causing them to express their un-satisfaction through different ways. These aristocrats caused the increase of social and political decay to some extent that even the most patriot and believed people lost their hope and watched the country inside fire and ash and all kinds of corruption. This condition was extremely intolerable so that it should be concluded" ( Makki 1980:244-245)<sup>3</sup> . He asked them for accountability of these problems who steel put their hands on the wealth of the country for more plundering. But the life of these aristocrats is expired and they should compensate all the losses. In this historical day his majesty appointed me as prime minister for solving these problems." ( Makki 1980:244-245)<sup>4</sup>

In another statement issued by Reza Khan as commander of Cossack force, and it was also written by Seyed Zia, their opposition to land owners and aristocrats can be easily understood. In this statement these aristocrats and noble strata are also accused as the main factors in creating all disorders in every fields of the country.

"In the same time that we sacrificed ourselves against aggressive enemy we swore to those sacred and clean bloods that as early as possible we revenge these bloods to over throne these selfish criminals and get rid of them." (Mostofi 1964:222)<sup>5</sup> This statement was even more advance and harsher than Seyed Zia's one, especially calling political figures as a gang of thieves and criminals.

### ***8. Political Situation of Farmanfarma Clan Simultaneous with the Coup-d'etat***

During this period, Abdolhossein Mirza Farmanfarma had newly resigned from Fars Province Governor and resided in Tehran. This was his last governmental position. Perhaps, coup d'état caused this omission in such a way that late Yahya Dolatabadi in his talk with Farmanfarma in this period reminded him that the world is changing and a strong flood is coming to our country destroying any obstacle on its way and takes everything in this shaky condition. (Dolat Abadi 1983:212)<sup>6</sup> Although after his entering to Tehran and resignation of Moshir Oldolleh the prime minister, as it is mentioned by Bahar, Farmanfarma along with Mostofi and Moshiroldoleh were nominees for establishment of cabinet that one by one had refused it. ( Majd 2001:169)<sup>7</sup>

According to narration of Dolatabadi, Farmanfarma summoned his son Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza from Europe and trying to nominate him for head of cabinet. But he had minor advocates for this purpose among people as well as support of British government. ( Dolatabadi 1983:213)<sup>8</sup> Abdollah Mostofi also writes "After resignation of Moshiroldolle, only in half a day the name of Farmanfarma circulated among people, but this Prince had not any domestic respect." Because people hadn't forgotten Robat Karim event in which Russian army killed several angry gendarmes in his presence. In spite of strives of Farmanfarma's son namely Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza for reputation of his father and even presented in religious ceremonies and mourning, it was not effective especially in this time. ( Mostofi 1964:154)<sup>9</sup>

At this time, Farmanfarma was amongst the powerful and influential figures of the capital. He was among the first pioneer personalities who tried to block the entrance of cossack brigade to Tehran. Formerly, Moeenolmolk and Adibolsaltaneh, deputy prime minister, on behalf of the cabinet along with Colonel Hage were assigned to meet Seyed Zia and Reza Khan to change their mind from entering Tehran. But Reza Khan in response to Moinolmolk claimed that " It is only a vacation to return to our homes and visit our families in Tehran. Is it only His Majesty who can prohibit us from this important meeting with our close families?" (Samii 1980:872)<sup>10</sup> But after entering of some Cossacks to the capital from Gomrok Gate, Seyed Zia and Reza Khan settled in a temporary headquarters established in Cossacks' quarter and took the control of Tehran. Farmanfarma went there to meet them because he was a powerful figure at that time without any fear from anybody. Once Reza Khan was a sergeant in a military unit under his commandment. Seyed Zia claims that Reza Khan, after hearing that Farmanfarma is coming, became panicky. But Seyed Zia ordered to arrest Farmanfarma. ( Jamalzadeh 1981:part2 and 3)<sup>11</sup> Seyes Zia in his dialogue with Hossein Makki points out this event, "A Cossack came and informed us from coming of Farmanfarma that wants to meet Reza Khan. It is said that Reza Khan was inclined to entertain him but Seyed Zia didn't let. ( Makki 1980:224)<sup>12</sup>

Abbas Mirza Salar Lashkar was appointed as Minister of Public Services, Agriculture and Commerce in the government that established by Sepahdar Azam by suggestion of Norman, British Minister in 14 Safar 1339 A.H. The reason why Abbas Mirza entered the cabinet was that Sepahdar had reached to the conclusion that if one of the sons of Farmanfarma be in the cabinet, the possibility of conspiracy against the government will minimize. This cabinet, according to Bahar, was a transitional one and nobody believed in its sustainability. This cabinet renovated in a short time (Bahar 1984:51)<sup>13</sup> and Abbas Mirza was transferred to the Ministry of Justice and after 4 days Cossack forces headed for Tehran. Consequently, during the time the coup d'état took place, Abbas Mirza as Minister of Justice in the cabinet of Sepahdar Azam was arrested and put in the jail.

The older son of Farmanfarma, namely Firooz Mirza Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza, the Minister of Foreign affairs in Vossough ol Dolleh cabinet and one of the main factors in 1919 Contract, was considered by many researchers as main substitute of Sepahdar. In the report prepared by Mooray, American ambassador in Iran, it was stressed the role of Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza in future of Iran. "After the fall of Vossough ol Dolleh, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza was still staying in Europe. He returned to Tehran in Feb.1<sup>st</sup> 1921. Consequently it was expected that with the help of British embassy, he would be the substitute of Sepahdar Azam, then prime minister." (Majd 2001:169)<sup>1</sup> He was also considered as the only man potentially could take the power by coup d'état under certain circumstances. Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza was the only man who could do this job and if the contract executed, he would be prime minister soon or late.<sup>14</sup> But disclosure of bribery case, caused him a very bad situation especially from social rank point of view. Norman, British Authentic minister, who was completely aware of Tehran's contrition, new that Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza's reputation was badly damaged and it is not possible to nominate him seriously as prime minister. ( Ghani 2006:181)<sup>15</sup>

One day before departure of Ironside in 18<sup>th</sup> of February, Sepahdar renewed his cabinet. Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza beloved this as a prelude for his future position as prime minister and he was completely unaware of ongoing coup d'etat. So he suggested to Norman for postponement of the of the Contract 1919 by prime minister to be implemented by Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza himself as prime minister after dismissal of Sepahdar. "Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza suggests that response to the question of the prime minister be postponed on behalf of the government of His Majesty. He believed that with this act the cabinet can't survive and if the cabinet was dismissed he could personally manage all of the works. (Norman to Karzan 1921:208)<sup>16</sup>

### **9. Seyed Zia and Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza**

For achieving his goal to gain prime minister position, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza had many contacts and negotiations with British figures, Seyed Zia in Godfery Howard's home and had received some promises that if he could establish a cabinet, no objection would be on his way. (Jamalzadeh 1981:211)<sup>17</sup> For achieving his goals namely being Prime Minister, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza had many and continuous meetings with British figures. Moreover, he had meeting with Seyed Zia in the house of Godferry Howard and getting promise that Seyed Zia would not oppose him in case of being able to form and establish a cabinet. (Bahar 1984:64)<sup>18</sup>

Since Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza was a valid and influential body both domestically and internationally especially with British government, why he tried to negotiate with Seyed Zia who was a minor journalist that was the leader of coup-d'etat and what was the social ranking of Seyed Zia in political atmosphere of the country that attracted Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza who believed that he would be the next prime minister? Especially all efforts made by Bahar for creating intimate relations between Firooz, Teymourdash and Seyed Zia was useless because Firooz didn't want to accept an ordinary young man in Iran's political arena. (Dolatabadi 1983:115)<sup>19</sup>

Seyed Zia was head of Zargandeh Committee which had been the substitute of Ahan Committee in Esfahan. Ahan Committee had been founded in Esfahan by Colonel Haig aiming to integrate Anglophiles in this city and the management of works was allocated to Hossein Khan Motamwd Gilani. After dissolve of this committee in Esfahan, its branch in Tehran named Zargandeh was established under the leadership of Seyed Zia. According to Dolat Abadi, three main members of this committee were Hassan Vosough-oldolleh as head of Cabinet, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza as Minister of Justice and Seyed Zia. The main objective of this formation was dismissal of Russian officers from Cossack garrison, letting recruit British Officers, collecting sporadic Cossack units around Qazvin and finally control the cabinet and enforcing 1919 Contract. (Dolatabadi 1983:180)<sup>20</sup>

One of the most important works done by this committee, according to Dolatabadi, was "Appointment of Sepahdar as prime minister with approval of British Government." (Bahar 1984:64)<sup>21</sup> Some famous bodies in this committee were Seyed Mohammad Sadegh Tabatabai, Soleyman Mirza and Malek Olshoara Bahar came to the committee time to time.

Moreover, Seyed Zia was known as liaison officer to British Embassy and other political bodies in Tehran and some of British Embassy's staff was his close friends. Walter Smart, new secretary of eastern affairs of the embassy, Godfary Howard, that in his home Seyed Zia met Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza and Colonel Stox and Colonel Smise. These persons along with Norman, British Minister Plenipotentiary were formerly acquainted with Seyed Zia rather than Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza. (Bahar 1984:67)<sup>22</sup> This group had regular meeting with each other. (Ardalan 2004:155)<sup>23</sup>

Even once it was suggested that Seyed Zia and Seyed Mohammad Tabatabai take part in the cabinet of Sepahdar. Moreover, Sepahdar's government was highly depending on Seyed Zia as middleman (Dolatabadi 1983:181)<sup>24</sup> whereas Seyed Zia, as many other political figures, believed that this cabinet is temporary. In this regard Bahar had told that "None of them are not important bodies, we should something ourselves." (Bahar 1984:64)<sup>25</sup> Consequently, Seyed Zia and Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza were the most alternatives for leadership of the Coup-d'etat and compete with each other, but Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza had a major obstacle on his way.

Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza was aware of his unpopularity among people and public opinion, because Norman, had heard from Abbas Mirza Salar Lashlashgar that Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza preferred that Sepahsalar himself continue his work for 2 or 3 months making possible the opportunity for him to renovate his reputation among people as well as in the parliament. (Norman to Crozon 1923:23)<sup>26</sup> If sax was in Iran as British Minister it would be probable that Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza could establish the cabinet or even be the leader of the coup. But Norman and especially Ironside had not any positive attitude toward Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza. In a meeting between Ironside and Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza it is clear very well. (Sir. Edmond 1984:64-65)<sup>27</sup>

Generally, Norman British Minister along with other members of the embassy especially Godfery Howard and General Ironside and their notes of meeting with Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza in his first meeting, all their views are full of ridicule and criticism so having no positive views on him. Based on Karzan and Cox, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza had attractive personality, perhaps if Cox hadn't gone to Mesopotamia and had stayed in Tehran as British Ambassador the leadership of coup was inevitably allocated to Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza. But Norman had not any interest in the 1919 Contract and even its success. Hence he had no inclination toward Vosoughdoleh and Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza as its agent.

### **10. Farmanfarma Family in Prison**

The first considerable act at the first 5 days of Coup-d'etat namely February 22<sup>nd</sup> 1919 carried out seriously by Seyed Zia was arresting Qajar aristocrats and nobles as well as political figures. "Before coup-d'etat, Seyed Zia prepared a list of critics and handed it over Reza Khan. The people should be arrested and put in the jail was mentioned in the list. (Makki 1980:236)<sup>28</sup> Furthermore, in Bahar's report about the first day of coup it is mentioned that "from very beginning of the morning based on the command of the coup arrests were began one by one according to a regular plan. Police officers along with some Cossack forces were deployed in the streets. Each group was responsible for a certain house of detainees that entered there, arresting the person, searched his house and finally sealed it." (Bahar 1992:88)<sup>29</sup> Farmanfarma was among the first ones who was arrested along with his sons Abbas Mirza Salar Lash;a, Minister of Commerce and Social services in Sepahdar's cabinet and Firooz Mirza Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza, that had just recently returned from Europe with great expectations, all were arrested. (Bahar 1992:88-89)<sup>30</sup> Jafar Gholikhan Sardar Asad, who was the governor of Kerman Province, received a list of arrested people from Tehran which he has mentioned in hi memorial in which the name of Farmanfarma and his two sons could be observed." (Asaad 1998:232)<sup>31</sup> After all arresting Seyed Zia was granted an audience by Ahmad Shah and the verdict of being prime minister was signed by him at February 23<sup>rd</sup>. (Makki 1980:231)<sup>32</sup> Another verdict on behalf of the Shah was issued to provincial governors informing them about his decision and granting Seyed Zia new and full authorization for doing his duties. (Makki 1980:231)

In reality the cabinet of Seyed Zia was a revolutionary one. Except one, Rezagholy Khan Hedayat, other ministers hadn't any experience as minister and mostly belonged to hierarchical body of the country. Hence, the cabinet was managed by Seyed Zia himself. Coup was strongly supported by major landlords, merchants of Bazaar and even some intellectuals. Even no objection was expressed by people in other cities. Governors of two major provinces namely Ghavam in Khorasan and Mossadegh in Fars didn't accept this appointment. (Farrokh 1982:142)<sup>34</sup>

Seyed Zia in his statement completely described his programs and objectives for reform in the country. His first aim was "managing the country by its domestic income through which preventing any foreign loan." He believed that most of structural parts of the country had been established only for personal benefits of aristocrats without any use and rational justification. Thus he called the administer system a parasite life. Reform of judiciary system, land reform and distribution of governmental lands among farmers, establishment of schools, reform in the country's financial system, preparation of new public transportation system, and in "foreign policy system" cancellation of capitulation, cancellation of Iran-British contract dated August 1919, and evacuation of foreign forces from Iran. "Eviction of Iran from foreign forces is the best subject that strengthens our friendship with neighbor countries." (Makki 1980:246-249)<sup>35</sup>

Why Seyed Zia arrested and jailed most of political figures of the country? We may find some of the reasons in his first statement. He, in his first statement, accused political figures that caused decay and corruption in the country. (Makki 1980:244)<sup>36</sup> But Kaldol, the American Ambassador to Iran, in his report describes actions of Seyed Zia. He writes that "The first action of Seyed Zia was capture of political figures especially those who had gathered considerable wealth via their political position. Also he arrested those weaker bodies who made problems for the government. He claims that the main reason of these captures was securing the budget for public use. Many of these people had gathered a huge amount of wealth during their service in governmental positions, so the new government for protecting itself decided to confiscate some quantity of their wealth. (Report of Caldol and Appendices 1921:168)<sup>37</sup> Among those who were arrested and were claimed for some amount of money, were Farmanfarma and his sons, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza and Abbas Mirza, totally were claimed 4 million Thomans (Report of Caldol and Appendices 1921:169)<sup>38</sup> to be paid within 5 days, otherwise they would be trialed and executed. Moreover, Seyed Zia accused Farmanfarma and his sons for cheating, theft, beating and even murder. Thus if they trialed, they would be executed. (Ghani 2006:226)<sup>39</sup>

Wife of Farmanfarma went to British Embassy to free her husband and sons. Prince Farmanfarma who was very close to British Government and was at their service with high loyalty and was one of the British Government's pillars in south of Iran, now was arrested with his sons and sent to Ghasr-e-Qajar castle. There were some rumors that if he did not pay the demanded money, he may loose his life. His wife after hearing these rumors, wanted to gain British support. So he went to British Embassy to attract Ambassador's attention for aid. But it was aborted because they didn't let her inside and Military Attaché of the Embassy politely asked her to go out." (Makki 1980:271)<sup>40</sup> Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza began the work himself through Norman and sent a letter to Karzan and reminded him all of his family services for British Government and all of the efforts made by his family to improve Iran-British relations. Moreover, he mentioned all medallions granted to his family by British Government.

In response, Karzan reminded Seyed Zia "If he misbehaves with Farmanfarma and his family, the government of Iran would lost British support." (Ghani 2006:226-227)<sup>41</sup> Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza's letter was effective.' Seyed Zia decided to execute all prisoners. British Government under the pretext of receiving royal medallions, prevented execution of Farmanfarma and his son. Prince Farmanfarma and his son had received G.C.M.G. medallion"(Majd 2001:170)<sup>42</sup>

In Fact at the second day of the 1919 Contract, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza received a considerable amount of money as bribe along with a safety letter." (Sheikh-ol-eslami 1985:222)<sup>43</sup> In 6<sup>th</sup> of March 1921 we received some news that Major Mehdigholikhhan for taking us to Tehran is coming to Hamedan. In reality from tonight I begin migration life and future events depend on Mighty God's will." (Ettahadieh 2003:66)<sup>44</sup> In the memos of Mohammad Vali Mirza in May 1921 it is mentioned that "After receiving the message of the prince to go to Baghdad, I hoped that they themselves would join us, I decided to move." (Ettahadieh 2003:69)<sup>45</sup> Mohammad Vali Mirza, before meeting with Cox received a telegram from Mohammad Hossein Mieza in which it was mentioned that "Seyed has escaped." (Ettahadieh 2003:77)<sup>46</sup>

Farmanfarma family remained in the jail during 3-month government of Seyed Zia. But it seemed that they did not receive appropriate behavior in jail. "It is heard that they even didn't take to bath, with long hairs. In general they had very bad times in jail without any kind of carpet and penetration of water from ceiling, their food was very simple namely bread and soup or Cossack's stew." (Ettehadieh 2003:90)<sup>47</sup>

Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza was a very brave and courageous man unlike his father who was conservative. Consequently, after releasing from prison along with arrested members of parliament issued a statement called "Description of Truth" and denounced Seyed Zia and called him "mercenary of strangers" who issued false statements and called his government as reformist, national, revolutionary and pro-farmers. He also accused Britain that the strangulation arising from the Coup-d'etat was pretended as public satisfaction from this mercenary stranger government for Europeans and their journals were full of lies." And after his fall, as he took over with the guide of strangers, he also fled at night under their support and help and reached to Baghdad." At the end of statement they told to Britain "We want protect our life under equity. We want to protect our freedom. We want to remove all strangers and don't let them to interfere in domestic affairs of the country. We want to live in our country. We don't threat other countries' interests. We want not to be stuffy and strangers do not recruit people for betrayal acts and development of it." (Saloor 1999:6049)<sup>48</sup> Through writing of this statement, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza directly and explicitly pointed out to the role of British Government in the Seyed Zia's Coup and also accused this country for negation of Iran's freedom and independence. By this statement, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza finished his family's long relations with British Government.

### **11. Findings**

Regarding the declining situation of Qajar tribe after the Constitutional Revolution and political competitions in Iran's arena, Farmanfarma family was one of the main political players in Iran. Studying the role of Farmanfarma family from political point of view and their position in pre-coup-d'état power and behavior of Seyed Zia with them and then Reza Khan's reaction till the end of 1939. It should be explained that, Abdol Hossein Mirza during the Worl War 1 was appointed as prime minister. When dominant inclination in Iran and majority of parliament was toward Germany and Ottoman Empire, he was pro-British. This caused parliament to impeach him. Resultantly, Farmanfarma was figured an anglophile and supporter of the interests of British Government. His family was amongst those very close to British Government. He even received the honor medallion of (gemg) on behalf of the British monarch. At first, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza, Farmanfarma's son was too close to British Government and their envoys in Iran. As the Minister of Foreign affairs in the cabinet of Vosough Oldowleh had vital role in conclusion of 1919 Contract.

Moreover, after the failure of the contract when the British Government was thinking about establishment of a powerful government in Iran, Firooz Mirza was the nominee of some part of British authorities for this purpose. With high confidence of being prime minister in Tehran, he got in his precious car, that afterwards confiscated by Reza Khan, toward the chaotic capital of Teran. But what was waiting for him in Tehran was jail. The coup-d'état of 1919 had been accomplished and "powerful Government" had been established. But the political leader of the coup-d'état was a young journalist name Seyed Ziaeddin Tabatabai. He was an extreme evolutionist who arrested many old politicians including Farmanfarma and his sons and put them in the jail. Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza never forgot this assault and after the fall of Seyed Zia's cabinet and getting out of the jail, adopted a highly anti-British approach. He got closer to late Modares and followed anti-imperialism manner in the 4<sup>th</sup> parliament.

### **12. Conclusion**

Failure of the Contract 1919, was the most important reason in formation of the Coup-d'etat of 22<sup>nd</sup> Of 1919. Karzan, the British Minister of State, Insistently followed the approval and execution of 1919 Contract after inauguration of parliament. But Norman, substitute of Cox and designer of the Contract, who came to Iran for meeting General Ironside who was in Iran for evacuation of North Force, accompanying together and the coup was formed with the leadership of Seyed Zia, the head of Zargandeh Committee and Reza Khan Mirpange (Brigardier) who was appointed as Cossack Brigade Commander. Seyed Zia was formerly known as a journalist and hard defendant of British Government in political atmosphere of the country with less active political affairs. Another person who was seriously following the position of prime minister and did everything to attain it was Firooz Mirza Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza the Foreign Minister of Vosougholdolleh Cabinet and one of the conclusers of 1919 Contract. But he couldn't succeed in competition with Seyed Zia.

The first and the most important act of Seyed Zia after the Coup was arresting and jailing political figures and members of parliament. Also, Qajar aristocrats and landlords, who had deeply rooted in administration of the country, were also arrested and put in jail. The family of Farmanfarma was one of these families that had deeply rooted in political and economical power of the country and were known as Anglophiles. They also were arrested and put in jail.

But the Coup hardly damaged the relations of this pro-British family. They stayed in prison during the government of Seyed Zia and their prestige and social rank. After the coup, Prince Nosrat Dowleh Firouz Mirza issued a statement that aggravated the situation. In this statement he strongly criticized British Government causing cut of the relations of his family with Britain. Moreover, the Coup cause Farmanfarma to go out of the country's political affairs.

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