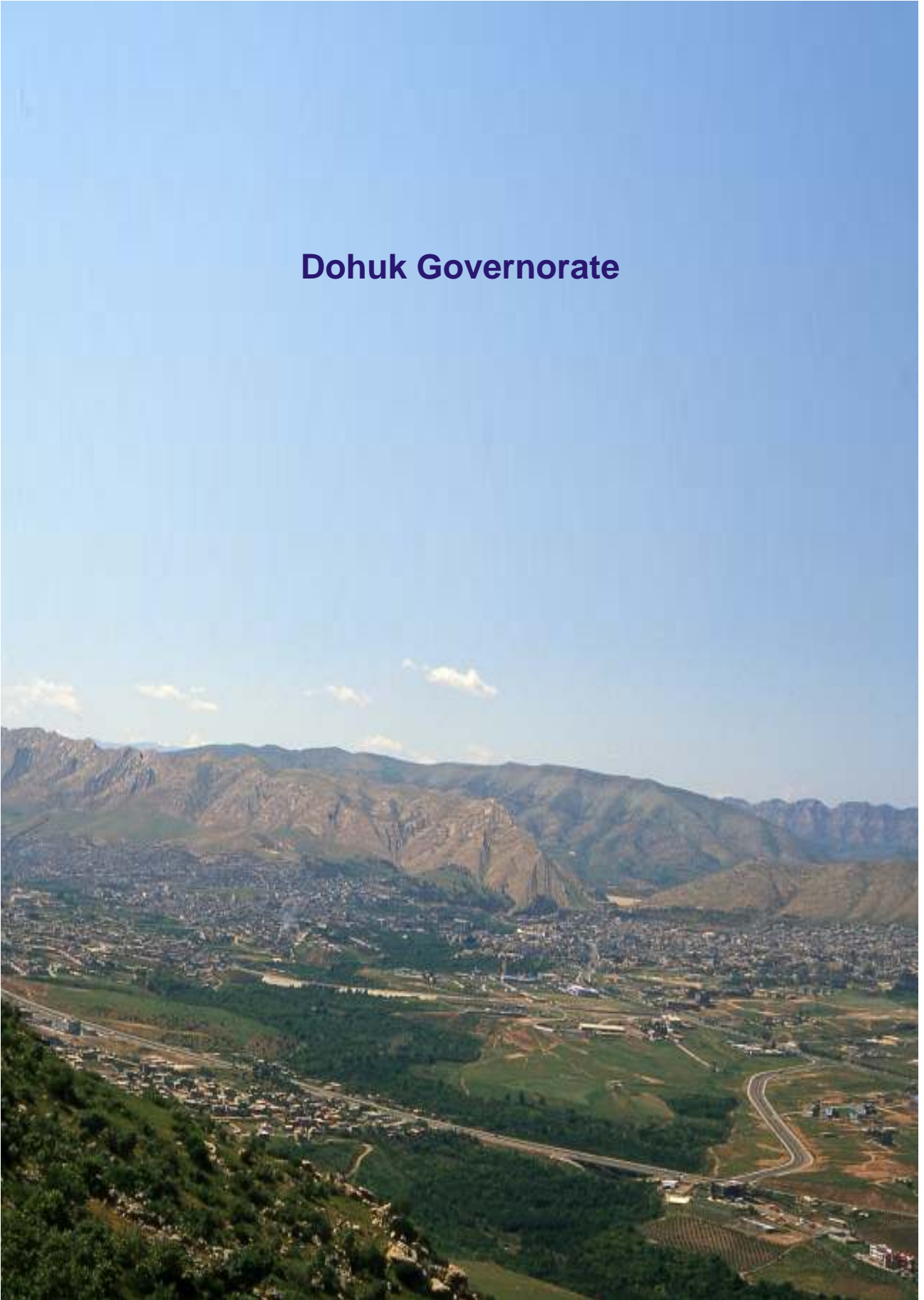


**Dohuk Governorate**

# Dohuk Governorate





## Dohuk Governorate

Dohuk Governorate lies between (42,20-44,10) longitudinal parallels to the east, between the mountain chains (Bekher-Shndokha) bounding Turkey and Syria from the north and west. It is 430-450 m above the sea level, making it a strategic gate connecting Iraqi Kurdistan with the outside world. Moreover, the city is of an economic and commercial value to the Region. The history of the city dates back to centuries BC. In the Assyrian period, it had a special merit being a commercial, agricultural and military crossing point; therefore the Assyrians occupied it and made it a tax-levy centre for the Assyrian State. (Chwarstoon & Shndookha) cave mirrors the then status quo, where valuable materials were discovered, like gold, silver, copper and iron. Several archaeological citadels were found, including (Za'faraniya)

Castle, 5 km off Zakhu, (Sabati) Castle, northeast of (Batoofa) village, and (Admishn) Castle on Mount (Bekher).

Religiously, the city includes several creeds (Islam, Christianity and Yezidism). Further, there were many renowned personalities who lived in the city, like (Ahmad Jizeeri, Ahmad Khani, Faqi Tayran, Shamsuddeen Quttb Shekh Jaleel, Nooruddeen Breefkani, Ibn Haji Sndi, Ssaadiq Baha'uddeen...)

Dohuk governorate is a distinctive touristic centre where remarkable and unique tourist sites are found. Following the Spring 1991 Uprising and parliamentary elections, the Regional Government paid a lot of attention to Dohuk governorate, commercially and touristically. Scores of tourist sites were established, boosting tourism in the region and encouraging the private sector to create a variety of

## Zhiyan Tourist Hotel

7 stories, Constructed as per Modern Touristic Standards, Conference Hall, Cinema, 2 Restaurants, Cafeteria, Casino, Reception Lounge, Parking Garage , Swimming Pool), First-rated Hotel in the Area, Excellent Tourist Services.





## **S u l a v Touris Hotel**

Tel: Administration  
(7221534)-Switchboard  
(7221955-7221956-7225003)  
Tel: Int'l (0032484457004)  
6 Stories, Conference Hall.



## **L o c a l Folklore Dances**



## Duhok Traditional Museum.



Situated in the city center and is considered to be a folklore and heritage Museum.





## **The Grand M o s q u e**

Located amidst Dohuk Bazar, one of the oldest mosques of Dohuk.



## **Saint Ith Ilaha C h u r c h**

Situated on a hill west of Dohuk, the oldest church in the area, dates back to the sixth century A.D. Next to it lies a graveyard with an oldness of thousand years.



**Zakhu District** 40 Km northwest of Dohuk city, on the Turkish border, making like a gate connecting Kurdistan Region with Turkey and the outside world. It is a significant trading centre besides the strategic touristic relevance. It has several hotels, restaurants, and other tourist sites. Archaeologically, the district is famed for its extant bridge (Dalal Bridge).





## **Sepan Tourist Hotel**



Zakhu / Ibraheem Al-khaleel  
Junction / Tel: (7340081-  
7340080) Tel-Int'l  
(0090535940811)

2 Stories, 20 Rooms,  
Conference Hall, Reception  
Lounge, Conference Hall,  
Cinema, Restaurants,  
Casino, Summer Theatre as  
Occasional Gatherings Hall,  
Constructed as per Modern  
Touristic Standards; Said  
Nicest Hotel in the Area.





## Mazi Supermarket

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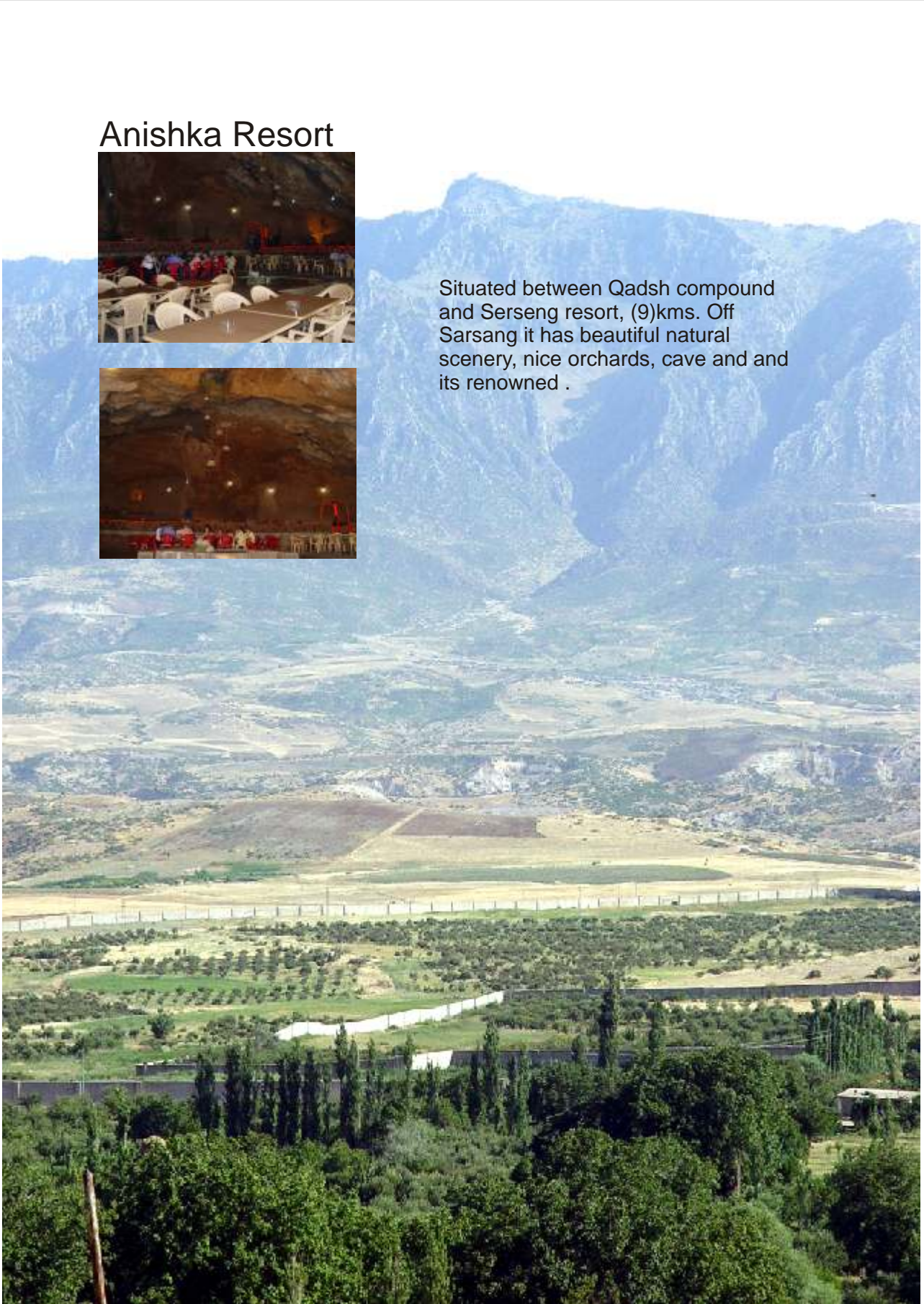
Situated on Dohuk-Zakho road, the most eminent supermarket in Dohuk, all kinds of essential materials and stuff are available providing a cafeteria, resturant and the Amusement Park.



## Anishka Resort

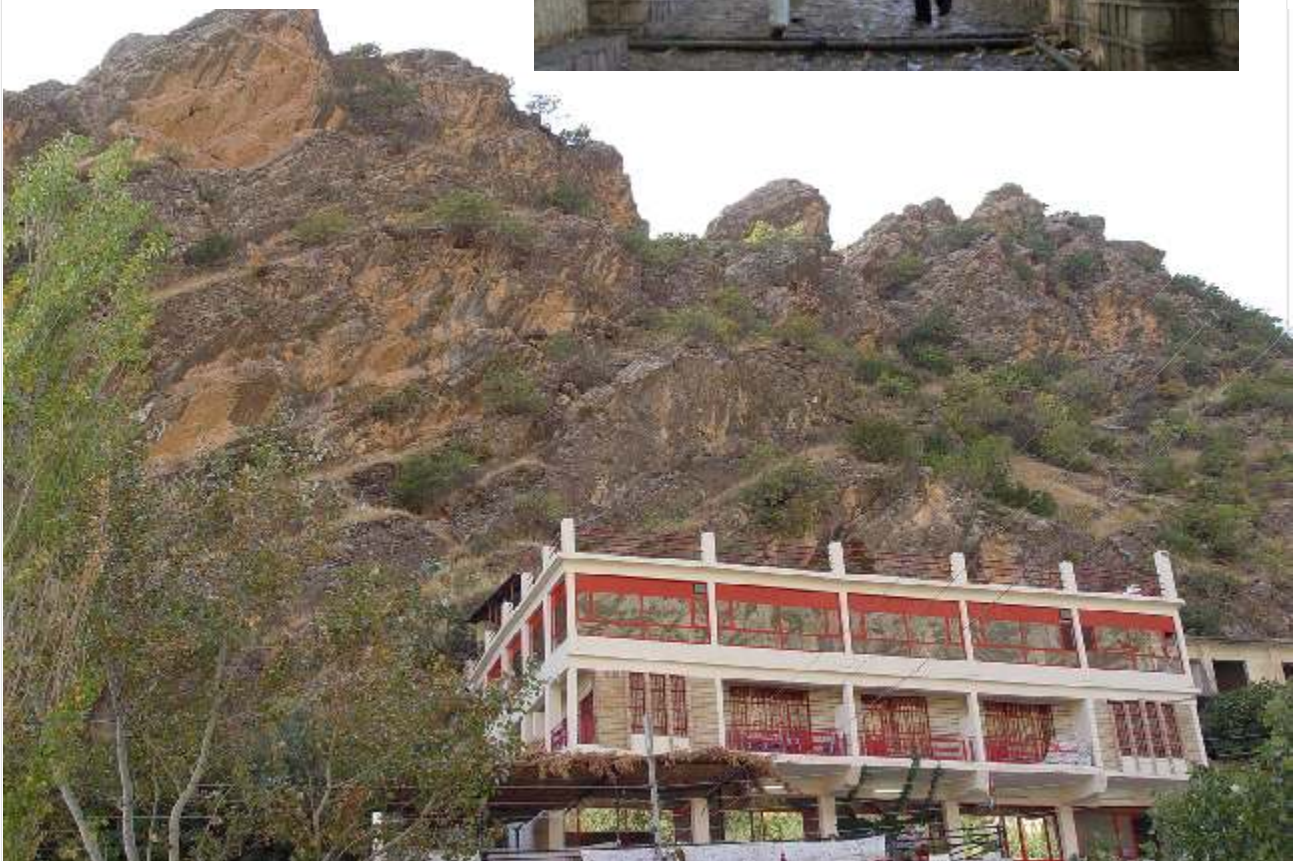


Situated between Qadsh compound and Serseng resort, (9)kms. Off Sarsang it has beautiful natural scenery, nice orchards, cave and and its renowned .



## Sulav Resort

5 Km off Amedi town. Water flows profusely from a cataract down the mountain at 1150 m above sea level. Thus, the resort fame flows from that steep waterfall. There are also resting places, restaurants, besides other entertaining spots, visited by tourists in all seasons.



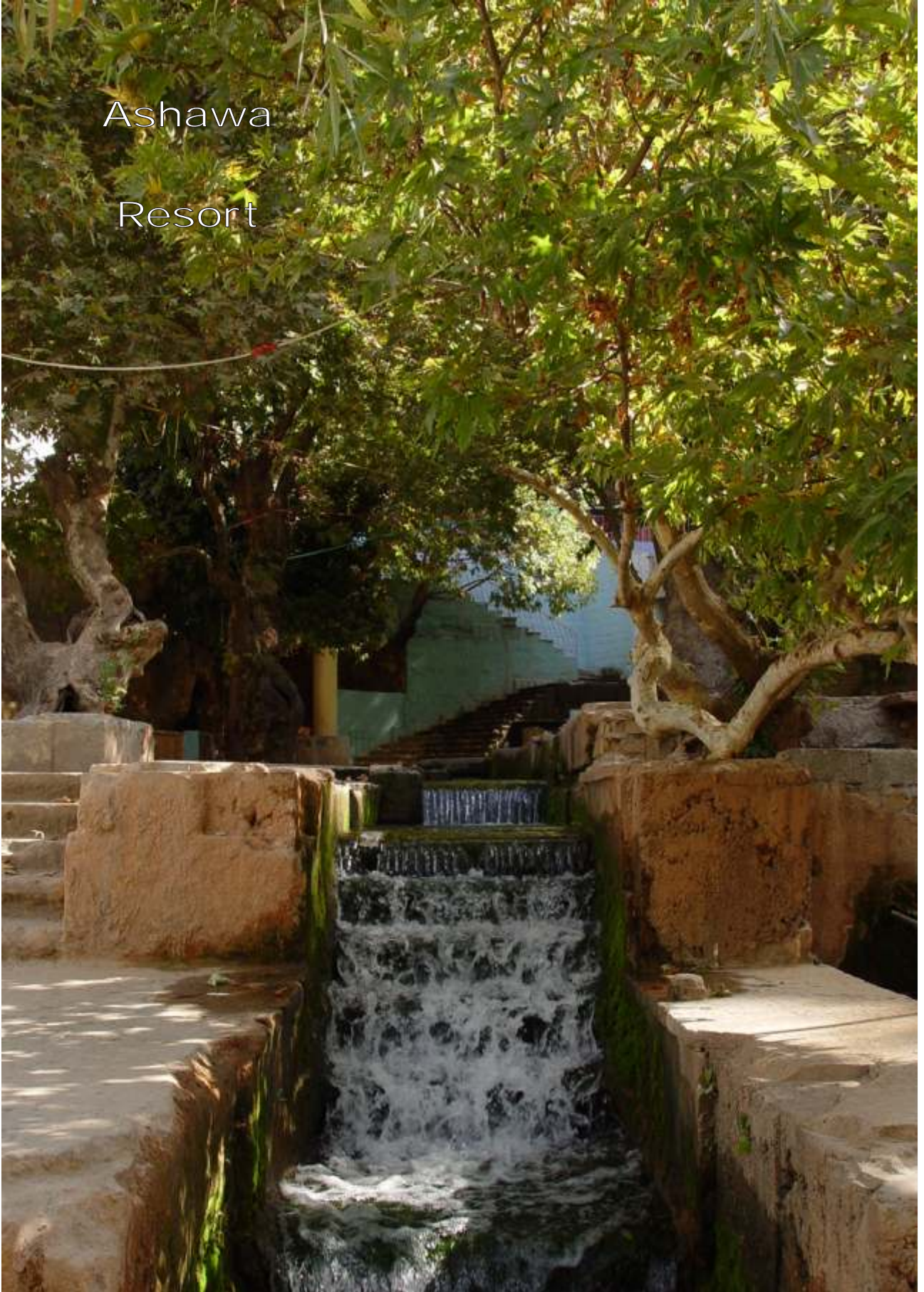


## Sarsang Resort

63 km northeast of Dohuk city within (Gara) Mountain chain, opposite to (Mateen) Mountain; with maximum temperature 22 degrees centigrade in summer & 10 degrees below freezing in winter. It is 1046 m above sea level, with heavy snowing, making it one of the nicest winter resorts in the region.



Ashawa  
Resort





## Ashawa

### Resort

Between Swaratooka & Sarsank perched on Mount (Gara-Ashawa), 8 km off Sarsang Resort, with maximum temperature 30 degrees centigrade in summer. The huge and tall trees, covering a wide range, cool its atmosphere and make natural grapevine resting arbours, which look marvellous. There are restaurants and a casino visited by tourists in early spring.





## **Swaratooka Resort**

39 km east of Dohuk city,  
22 km off Zaweeta; with  
maximum temperature in  
summer 30 degrees  
centigrade and minimum  
15 below freezing in  
winter. It is 1507 above  
sea level, covered by  
wide range of fruit trees.  
It has several tourist sites  
visited by tourists in  
spring.



## Zaweeta Resort

16 Km east of Dohuk city. This resort is particularly beautiful for its magnificent natural sceneries & fruitful trees; with temperature not exceeding 35 degrees Celsius in summer and 10 degrees below freezing in winter. It is about 1507 m above sea level, covered by a broad range of fruit trees. It includes several tourist sites.



## **Amedi (Amadiyah) Town**

90 Km northeast of Dohuk; about 1400 m above sea level; surrounded by heights, so looking like a fortress.

Archaeologically, the town's history goes back to Assyrian Period and in certain point of time it was the metropolis of Bahdinan Principality.



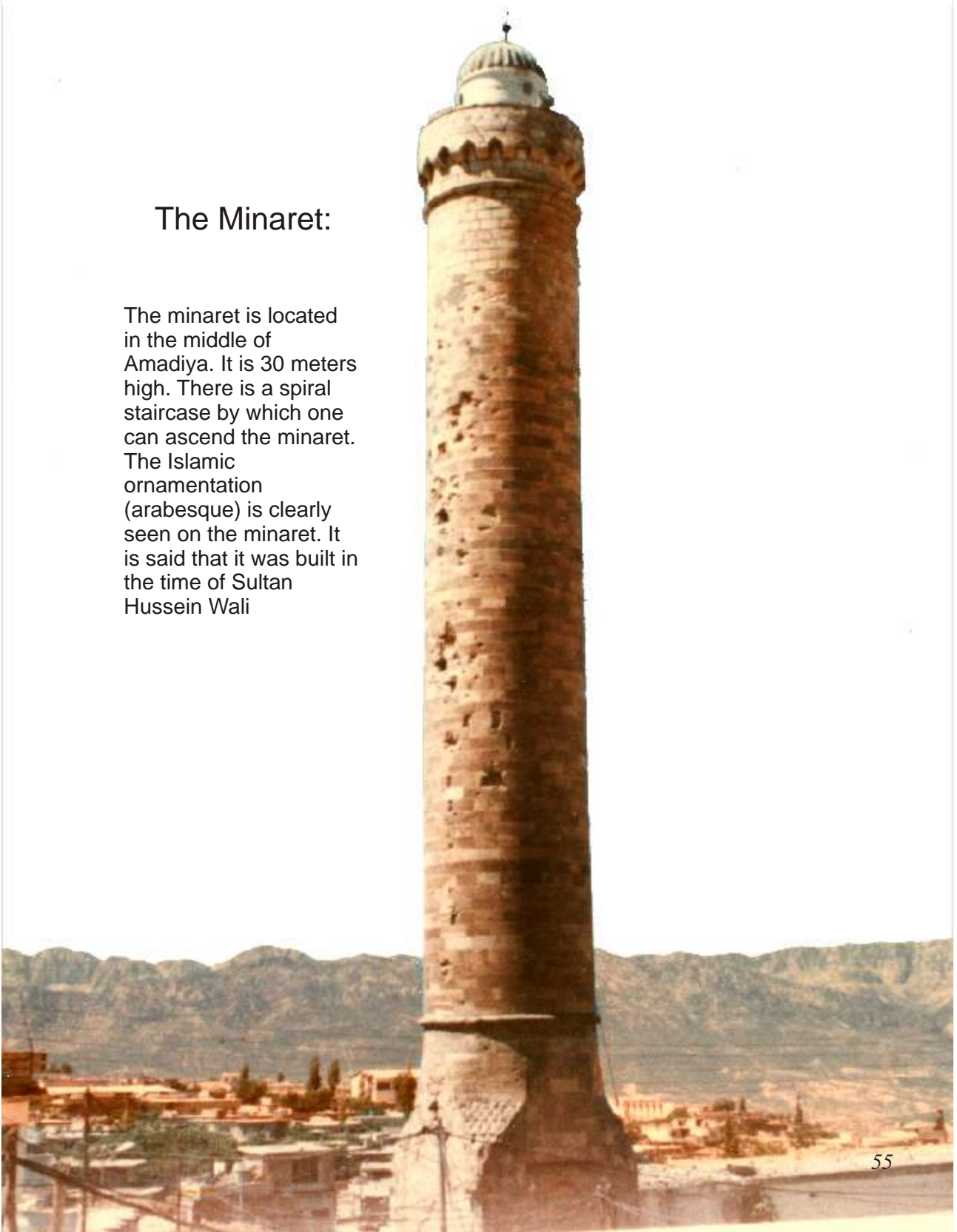
## **Relics at Amedi Citadel The eastern Gate (Bab Zebar)**

This gate is located in the eastern side of the City of Amadiya. Its width was 4 meters, built by Imaduddin Al-Zanki. There on the left side of the gate is the phrase: This gate was renovated by Sultan Othman Beg.



## The Minaret:

The minaret is located in the middle of Amadiya. It is 30 meters high. There is a spiral staircase by which one can ascend the minaret. The Islamic ornamentation (arabesque) is clearly seen on the minaret. It is said that it was built in the time of Sultan Hussein Wali



## Lalish Temple



It is situated 14 km off Ain Sifne township, Shekhaan District centre. According to the Yezidi Mythology, Lalish is the most ancient place on the globe ever discovered. However, Lalish appellation means the Divine Highness. The temple contains symbols that date back to ancient eras; over ages it had sustained military campaigns, aiming at destroying it and annihilating the Yezidis. The temple has been renovated and reconstructed with its parts & sections. Under the Regional Government, the Yezidis have been practicing their rituals amidst a brotherly ambience. The Temple attracts Yezidis from all over the world to perform their cults twice a year.

A. Wednesday Feast, on the second day of August yearly.

B. Gathering Feast, on 6-13 October yearly.





## Charsten Sculpture “The Four Pillars”

THIS monument is located to the right side of Dohuk col on the foot of the White Mountain, (750 meter) high above the sea level. It has a circular, arch-shaped rocky aperture; its diameter is about 15 meters. It was supported by four pillars, (the diameter of each pillar was 1.5 meter). The cave is located in an old habitat, which goes back to the Furthian Era. What proves this belief is the broken potteries existent on its roof. The monument is fenced. There are signs of stone bases which indicate the existence of resident buildings and graves. There are a number of mortars engraved on the rocks very carefully so that they can serve as fire torches. In addition, there is a number of small caverns. Inside the cave there is a quadrate stone bench (each side is 4.5 meter; it is 1 meter high). On this bench sacrifices had been submitted. The cave's entrance (corridor) is 8.5 meters long. Also there is a sculptured belt about (30 cm deep) much like a stream. It was possibly used as a (watercourse). On the right side of the cave aperture there are symbols denoting to the five gods excavated on the rock, possibly belonging to the Gods of Sun, Moon, Ishtar, Mitrwa and Zrwan.

## **HILAMTA CAVE SCULPTURES**

These are situated on the foot of the Black Mountain (Shindokha), opposite to Kafarki Village to the west of Dohuk.

These monuments are composed of 4 sculptures. Their history goes back to the reign of the Assyrian King "Sanhareeb" (704-681 BC). The purpose behind them was to perpetuate the military victory gained by the said king in the region.

## **Tal Malthaya Sculptures (Gre Mal Tayee)**

This is a big hill located to the west of Duhok Governorate, near Malta Village about 7 km from Duhok. It is on the high way joining Duhok with Mosul & Zakho. Potteries from the Assyrian Reign are scattered on the surface of the hill. It is believed to be the original Assyrian City of (Maltayee), meaning corridor or entrance. Due to its strategic location, it was used as a military fortress in Sarjonian Era to protect the Assyrian Empire.



## KHANS SCULPTURES

Khans sculptures are considered to be among the most wonderful & impressive ancient Assyrian monuments in Badinan Region. Some were carved on the tops of mountains at very lofty peaks, executed by great & marvelous sculptors. To reach these lofty tops, ropes had been used. These sculptures were regarded as a natural museum, including most famous antiquities of the area. They were carved very carefully and skillfully. These relics showed that the sculptors possessed very great talents. They successfully mixed their monuments with the captivating nature around



them, for which Khans is well known. Later it was changed into a resort where the Assyrian kings attended for enjoyment. King Sanhareeb had often visited this place and passed a wonderful time looking at the fascinating natural sceneries. He often escaped from the heat of Nineveh City to seek comfort and peace there. The ancient writings mentioned that among Sanhareeb's works was a water regulator (491 BC), where clear water was flowing from the Komil River to Nineveh, the Capital by means of a canal built with stone for the distance of (80 km). (Komil is one of Khazar's tributaries). On the right bank of the river, there are sculptures that represent King Sanhareeb, standing in front of the Assyrian Gods. In addition there are cuneiform writings in which Sanhareeb praised his project to bring water to Nineveh, other achievements as well as his destroying the city of Babylon. A visitor to the place will see a stone statue, fallen into the water on which pictures of winged oxen are observed. Near this statue the canal springs. There are gates to organize the flow of water. Most of these sculptures have been distorted; some of them were changed into cells by monks in the later ages. In addition to the relics of Jirwana, Duhok Relics Office has registered 54 locations in Mazoori District related to Al-Shekhan township, all indicating that the region was very old in age. Among them is the fire of Zaradasht in Basifri and Beri Cave.