

Conversion of Sunni Iran to Shia Iran

Methods of converting from Sunni Iran to Shia Iran from 16th through 18th centuries (Safavid dynasty 1501-1736) and established Twelver Shiism as the official religion of their empire with the help of Roman Empire: Ismail consolidated his rule over the country and launched a thorough and, at times, BRUTAL Campaign to CONVERT the majority Sunni population to Twelver Shiism and thus transform the religious landscape of Iran. His methods of converting Iran (Safavid conversion of Iran to Shia Islam) included:

1> Forcefully Imposed Shiism as the state and mandatory religion for the whole nation. 2> Reintroduced the Sadr (Arabic, leader), an office responsible for supervising religious institutions and endowments. 3> Destroyed vast majority of Sunni mosques. 4> Enforced the ritual and compulsory cursing of the first three Sunni Caliphs (Abu Bakr, Umar, and Uthman) as usurpers, from all mosques, disbanded Sunni Tariqahs and seized their assets, used state patronage to develop Shia shrines, institutions and religious art and imported Shia scholars to replace Sunni scholars. 5> Killed Sunnis and destroyed and desecrated their graves and mosques. 6> Persecuted, imprisoned, exiled, and executed stubbornly resistant Sunnis. 7> In 1501, Ismail invited all the Shia living outside Iran to come to Iran and be assured of protection from the Sunni majority.

References: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Safavid_conversion_of_Iran_to_Shia_Islam

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