



About Tabriz

The earliest civilization signs in the city belongs to an Iron Age grave yard of 1st millennium B.C. which were unearthed in late 1990s in northern side of Blue Mosque.[27] The city also inscribed as old as 714 B.C. on as Tarui or Tauris, on the Assyrian King Sargon II's epigraph in 714 BC.[28]

Egyptologist David Rohl suggested that the legendary Garden of Eden was near Tabriz. Archaeologist Eric H. Cline commented on Rohl's views, writing that "his suggestions have not caught on with the scholarly establishment. His argument is not helped by the fact that it depends upon speculations regarding the transmission of place-names for both the various rivers and nearby related areas from antiquity to the present. In the end, while Rohl's suggestion is not out of the question, it seems no more probable than any other hypothesis, and less likely than those suggested by Speiser, Zarins, and Sauer." [29]

Since the earliest documented history of Tabriz, it has been chosen as the capital for several rulers commencing from Atropates era and his dynasty. It is likely the city has been destroyed multiple times either by natural disasters or by the invading armies. The earliest elements of the present Tabriz are claimed to be built either at the time of the early Sassanids in the 3rd or 4th century AD, or later in the 7th century.[30] The city used to be called T'awrēš in Middle Persian.

Tabriz is one of the largest cities and historical capitals of Iran and the capital of East Azerbaijan Province. The City of Tabriz has an area of 324 km² (125 sq mi) and is situated at an altitude of 1,350 meters. Tabriz is located in a valley to the north of the long ridge of the volcanic cone of Sahand, south of Eynali Mountain. The valley opens out into a plain that slopes gently down to the northern end of Lake Urmia. The city is considered a summer resort because of temperate summers.

The estimated population of the city is around 1,600,000 based on the results of Iranian Census Bureau. Its people speak Azeri Turkish. Tabriz International Airport, Train, and Bus Services facilitate travels for both domestic and international destinations. There are several historical monuments retaining their colorful past and architecture. Some of them are: Blue Mosque, Ali Shah Ark (mosque), Jameh Mosque, Historical Bazaar, the House of Constitution, the Tomb of Kamals, Aji Chai Bridge, Azerbaijan Museum, El-Goli, Municipality Building, and the Building of Sahand Architecture School.

Tabriz also gets the name of "The city of the first ones" in Iran. It has pioneered establishment of the first printing house (with Islamic writing), the first school and the first kindergarten, the first school for the blind and the deaf; the compilation and publication of the first book for children; the development of Nastaliq handwriting method; the publication of the first newspaper and the establishment of the first university in Iran.