

Houshang Agah Kermani Observatory (HAKO)



Jabalieh dome, an ancient stone made dome from 2000 years ago in Kerman.
Maybe it was an old observatory, and a MSc thesis studied it.



Kerman University(S.B.U.K.)

Kerman city overview

- Population 750,000 people
- Altitude from the sea level 1700 m
- The mean annual weather temperature 15.7 C
(winter to min -15 C and summer to max + 40 C)
- Many clear sky days in the year (more than 300)
- Latitude +30 deg N
- Longitude 56 deg E









Kerman University Overview

- Area about 5,000 hectares (half of the city)!
- Educational and research area 23 hectares
- Students 14,000
- Faculties 11
- Scientific members 650



Faculty of Physics

- Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics



Some of Astronomical Courses

Astronomy. (B.Sc. course)

Astrophysics. (B.Sc. course)

Astronomical Optics. (B.Sc. course)

Optical Design. (B.Sc. course)

Advanced Astrophysics. (M.Sc. course)

Astroparticle Physics (Ph.D. course)

Map of the highlands of the Kerman province

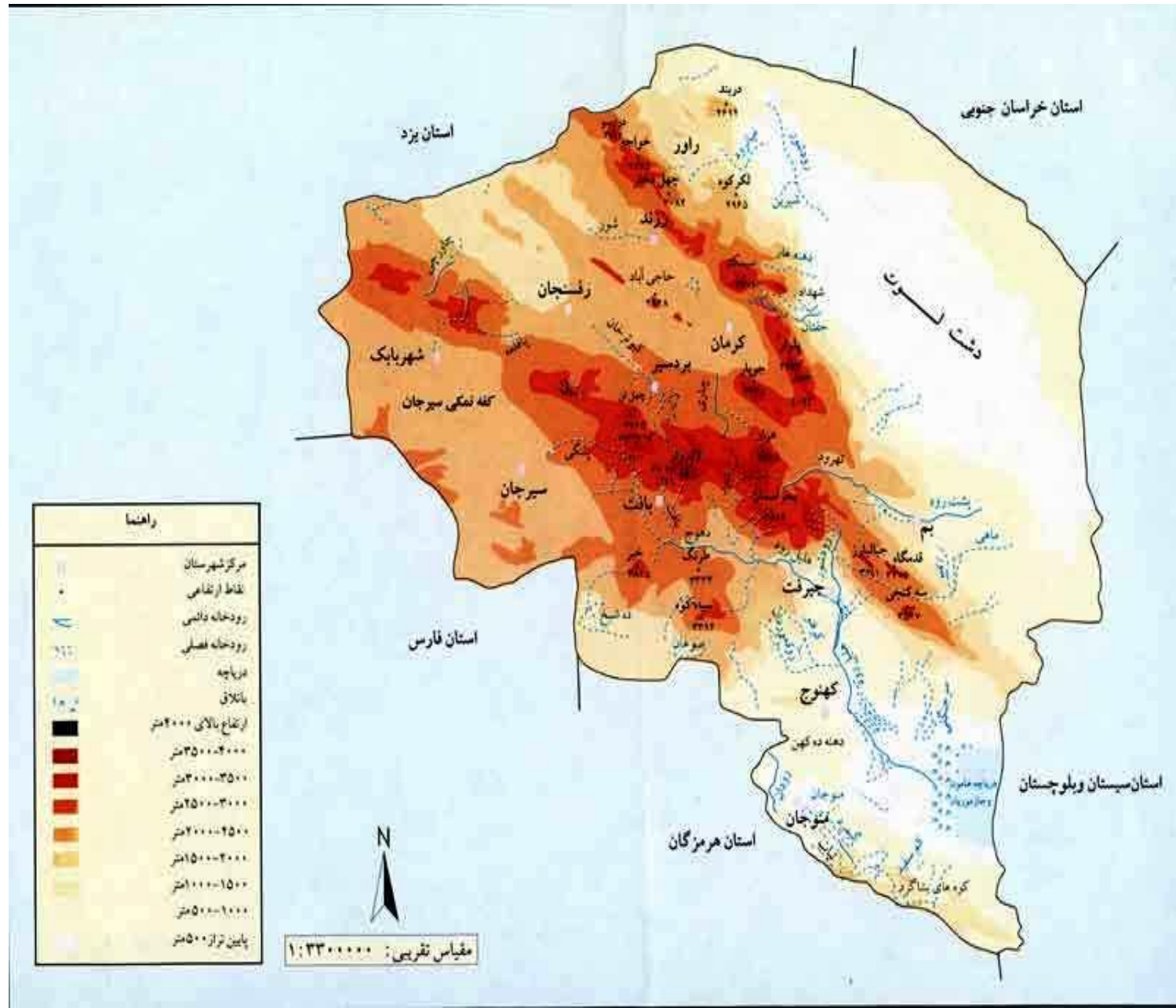




Image from google map









Astronomical Seeing

- During Sep 2017 we measured the seeing of these sites for about 6 consecutive nights that amounted between 0.7-1.5".



The darkness of the sky

- The sky was very dark for all sites, above 20 mag



Our aim

- We hope to order a 1-m class telescope (maybe 1.2 to 1.5m) and a suitable CCD imaging camera and spectrograph. It is depended on future mission of the observatory. Actually, I hope to obtain the best configuration between telescope, CCD, spectrograph and the other related instruments.(By your helps)

1.4 m Astelco telescope



Astronomical instrument manufacturers

- Main telescope: ??
- Small telescopes: ??
- Dome: ??
- Enclosures (building): ??
- CCD cameras: ??
- Longslit spectrographs: ??
- Computers, TCS, ICS, OS: ??

The best science missions?

- Exo-planets ?
- Asteroids ?
- Gravitational lensing ?
- ...waves ??!!
- Can you suggest others ??

How to operate?

- Classic visiting observing mode?
- Remotely controlled?
- Robotic?

Network Observatories

- Belonging to a network observatory??
- Such as LCO (Las Cumbres Observatory)



Others?

- SARA - The Southeastern Association for Research in Astronomy (JKT, Chile, USA)
- SMARTS - Small and Moderate Aperture Research Telescope System (Cerro Tololo, Chile)

Funding

Mr. Houshang Agah has donated all of his properties to the University left by testament to build a department of astronomy with a big observatory. He died last year in Iran.

The mean amount of his properties is around 4 million Euros.



- Of course, we are trying to achieve other financial government supports.
- The Government gave the land and road.

Our requests from ING

- We wish to become a collaborator of ING and we honor to cooperate with you, of course, after the signature of any agreement between ING and Kerman university.
- We hope you support us scientifically and also to do some common projects and papers.
- Also, we hope to transfer our colleagues and M.Sc. or Ph.D. students to ING for short and long term training stages.

As the representative of our university, I am inviting one ING astronomer to Iran to visit our province, university, facilities and proposed observatory sites.

- I really appreciate from all of you for the time which you spend and attend to my seminar.
- We hope to have a good observatory in the future and also a good cooperation with ING.
- Spatial thanks to Marc, Chris and Ovidiu!

Thanks



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