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- 1 The Khorasan, as an important strategic, economic and trade spot in the northeast of Iranian plateau, sometimes experienced the heavy invasions by nomadic groups such as Huns/ Xyon and Hephthalites who had been lived around the caravan or trade roads. Until the late Islamic periods the tradition of nomadic attacks to Khorasan were continued by the tribes of Oguz /Ghuz, Seljuk, Mongol, Uzbek and Turkmen. The present study provides new information on the fortification and defensive walls of different historical periods which were built over and around the gorges of the Kopet-Dāgh mountains in Aq-Darband, Mozdourān and Kalāt to prevent the invaders attacks. The author, proposes that a wall, with a total length of more than 11,000 kilometers, composed of physiographical features and architectural structures, stretched from Black Sea in the west of Asia to Yellow Sea in the east. "The Long Wall of Asia", as called

by the author, includes the defensive walls of Khorasan. Further data collection is required to determine the dating and the connections between the walls of Gorgān, Darband, Khorasan and The Great Wall of China, it is obvious that during the Parthian and Sasanian periods the Khorasan received much attention and probably most of the identified defensive installations in Khorasan region were built during Sasanian period to prevent the Central Asian tribes' invasions of the Northern Iran.

AUTHORS

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