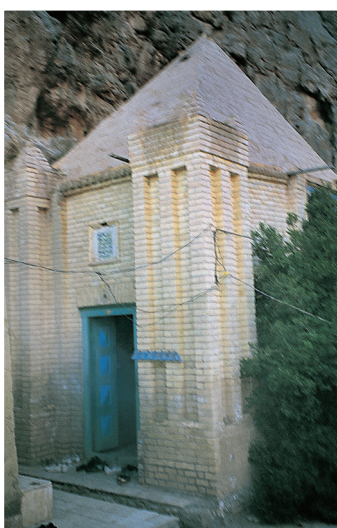
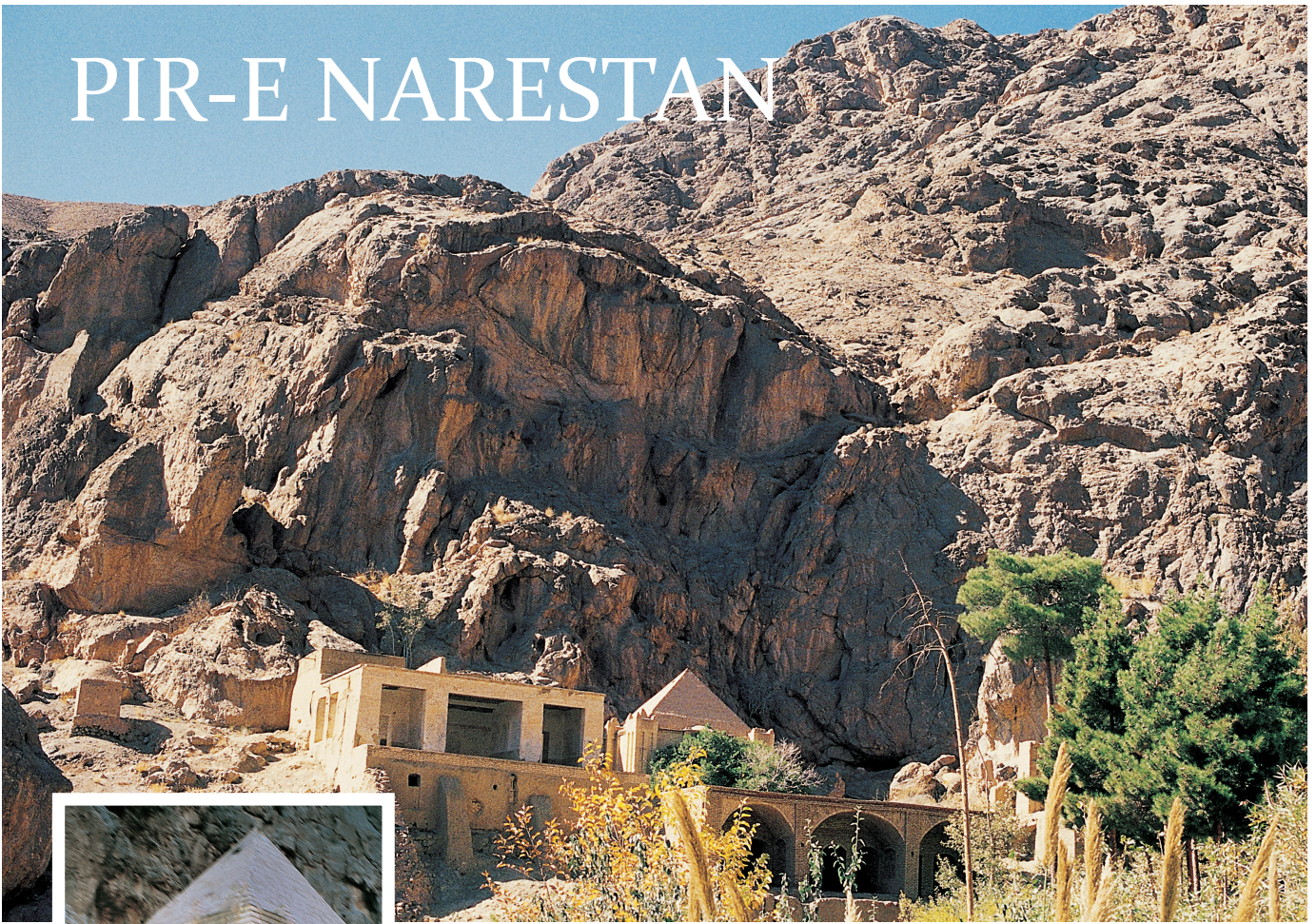


PIR-E NARESTAN



Located in the Kharuna mountains 40 miles northeast of Yazd in the eastern mountains, the Narestan shrine honours Prince Ardashir the son of King Yazdegird III, who fled into the mountains to escape being captured. He was chased into the surrounding mountain crop leaving him exposed with no place to hide in the barren desert area he prayed to Ahura Mazda asking to be saved, and just as the Arab soldiers prepared to capture him he vanished, leaving his pursuers baffled by his disappearance. Some years later a hunter for long chasing a fine antlered stag, suddenly encountered a handsome man instead of the stag. The man revealed himself as Prince Ardashir and commanded the hunter to build a shrine to honour him and to maintain a sacred fire. This secluded shrine offers spiritual refuge to those troubled by life. The shrine is a sanctuary for many who seek peace and Yazdi Zoroastrians visit the shrine during its annual pilgrimage in the month of June.