

# **Landesbibliothek Oldenburg**

## **Digitalisierung von Drucken**

### **The History Of Hindostan; From The Earliest Account Of Time, To The Death Of Akbar; Translated From The Persian Of Mahummud Casim Ferishta Of Delhi**

Together With A Dissertation Concerning the Religion and Philosophy of the Brahmins ; With An Appendix, Containing the History of the Mogul Empire, from its Decline in the Reign of Mahummud Shaw, to the present Times ; In Two Volumes

**Ferishta, Mahummud Casim**

**London, 1768**

Section I. The reign of Humaioon, till his expulsion from Hindostan.

**urn:nbn:de:gbv:45:1-2452**

---

THE  
H I S T O R Y  
O F  
H I N D O S T A N.

---

P A R T V.  
The History of the Life of HUMAIOON,  
the Son of B A B E R.

---

S E C T I O N I.  
The reign of HUMAIOON, till his expulsion from  
H I N D O S T A N.

---

**N**ASIR ul Dien Mahummud HUMAIOON, immediately after the death of Baber, mounted the throne of his father, in Hindostan. He was a great astronomer, and took much delight in judicial astrology. He fitted up seven houses of entertainment, and named them after the seven planets. In each he gave public audience, according to the ruling planet of the day, ordering all the furniture, paintings, and also the dresses of those who waited upon him, to bear something that was an emblem of the tutelar star of the house. He even endeavored to suit the people, who came to pay their respects, to the supposed influence of the planet, which presided over the time of their attendance. In the house of the

A. D. 1530.  
Hig. 937.  
Mahummud  
Humaioon  
a great astro-  
nomer.





A. D. 1531. Moon met foreign ambassadors, travellers, and poets. Military men  
 Hig. 938. attended him in the house of Brisput \*, and judges, lawgivers, and secretaries, were received in that of the Recorder of Heaven †.

But the urgency of important affairs did not permit Humaioon to follow long these innocent whims. Such only suited the days of peace, when the mind might enjoy her harmless follies. He scarcely had ascended the throne, when his brother, Mirza Camiran, who was then in Cabul, formed a design of making himself master of Punjaab. To conceal his intentions, he gave out, that he was going to Hindostan, to congratulate Humaioon upon his accession. The king being, however, apprized of Camiran's views, by his behavior in those countries through which he passed, and being extremely unwilling to make war upon his brother, consented to let him govern Punjaab, Pishawir, Lemghan, Cabul, Candahar, and Biana. This effectually stopped the progress of Mirza Camiran.

Promotions. The king, in the mean time, conferred the government of Mewat upon Mirza Hindal, his brother, and appointed Mirza Askari to that of Simbol, the other provinces being left in the possession of the former subas.

Humaioon  
 besieges  
 Callinger.

Humaioon, in the year nine hundred and thirty eight, led an army against the strong fortrefs of Callinger, and invested the place. While the king carried on the siege, Mahmood, the son of Sultan Secunder Lodi, in conjunction with Bein Afgan, took possession of Jionpoor, and kindled the flames of war in the east. Humaioon, having received intelligence of these commotions, decamped from before Callinger, marched to Jionpoor, in a pitched battle overthrew the Afghans, and reinstated Juncid Birlas in his former government of that province.

\* The planet Mars.

† Mercury.





The sultan, after this signal victory, returned to Agra, and bestowed chelats upon above twelve thousand of his courtiers. He, in the mean time, dispatched a herald to Shere Chan, and demanded possession of the fortrefs of Chinâr\*, which being refused, the sultan marched his army that way. When Humaioon lay before Chinâr, he was informed, that Sultan Bahadur, of Guzerat, had turned towards him the points of his spears. This obliged him to patch up a kind of a peace with Shere Chan, and to return towards Agra. Cuttub Chan, the son of Shere Chan, whom the emperor had taken as an hostage, found means, on the way, to make his escape, and to return to his father at Chinâr.

A. D. 1531.  
Hig. 938.

Demands  
possession of  
Chinâr.

Mahummud Ziman Mirza, the grandson of Sultan Husein Mirza, aspired to the throne, and was supported in his pretensions by the omrahs of Chigittai. The plot was discovered, and the leader of the conspiracy pardoned: But Humaioon finding him, a second time, meditating treasonable practices, he ordered him to be confined in the fortrefs of Biana. Orders were given to put out the eyes of Mahummud Sultan and Nuherit Mirza, for being the principal abettors of the prince's ambitious designs; but the person to whom it was intrusted to inflict this punishment, saved the eyes of the former, while the latter found means to escape to Guzerat. Mahummud Sultan, by the aid of his sons Ali Mirza and Shaw Mirza, who formed a party, was carried away to Kinnoge, where he was joined by about six thousand Moguls, Afghans, and Rajaputs.

A conspiracy  
discovered.

Humaioon sent to Bahadur, the governor of Kinnoge, and commanded him to deliver up Mahummud, but he rejected the orders in an insolent manner, which obliged the emperor to march against him. Bahadur had, about this time, resolved to wrest the fort of

Rebellion at  
Kinnoge.

\* Chinâr is a very strong fortrefs in the province of Oud, within seven crores of Benaris; Both Shere Chan and Sultan Bahadur were governors under the former empire, and had, after the death of Ibrahim, assumed independence.

Chiter.





A. D. 1532. Chitor from Rana Bickermagit. Rana threw himself under the protection of Humaioon; but the emperor, for what reason is not known, having advanced as far as Gualier, encamped there for two months, and returned, without effecting any thing, to Agra. Rana Bickermagit, despairing of relief, sent a crown, and a considerable sum of money, to Bahadur, which induced him to raise the siege.

Sultan Bahadur

sends an army against Humaioon,

Sultan Bahadur, whose affairs were now in a very prosperous situation, by the reduction of Mendu, and other places, began to shew his contempt of Humaioon, by advancing the conspirator Mahumud to great honors. He also prompted Sultan Alla ul Dien, the son of the emperor Beloli Lodi, to attempt to possess himself of the throne of Delhi. He, for this purpose, made Tatar Chan, the son of Sultan Alla ul Dien, his general, and dispatched him, with forty thousand men, against Humaioon, with which he subdued Biana, and advanced to the environs of Agra.

which is totally defeated.

Bahadur marches against Chitor.

This pressing danger awaked the king from his lethargy. He immediately sent Mirza Hindal, with a force, to oppose Tatar Chan. When the armies approached one another, there was so great a desertion from Tatar's troops, that, in the space of ten days, ten thousand horse scarce remained to him. He however resolved, with these, to stand his ground, and give battle to the imperial army, but he was totally overthrown, lost the most of his troops, three hundred officers of distinction, and his own life. Mirza Hindal, after this victory, retook Biana, and all the other places which had before fallen into the hands of the enemy, and returned in triumph to Agra.

Sultan Bahadur, in the year nine hundred and forty, marched, a second time, towards Chitor; and, in the mean time, Humaioon ordered a fort to be built in Delhi, on the banks of the Jumna, which he called Dien Panna. He, soon after, marched towards Saringpoor,





Saringpoor, which then held of Bahadur, as sultan of Guzerat, and wrote to him a punning couplet, unworthy of the dignity and majesty of a king. Chitor, in the Persian language, signifies, *in what manner*; and upon this was founded the miserable witticism contained in the verses. The words were, "O thou plunderer of the city of Chitor! *in what manner* canst thou conquer the idolaters? For when thou wouldst wish to conquer Chitor; thou know'st not *in what manner* the king comes to conquer thee."

A. D. 1533.  
Hig. 940.  
Humaioon  
sends him a  
punning  
letter.

Bahadur answered Humaioon in his own strain, and in the following words: "I, who am the plunderer of Chitor, will conquer the idolaters by valor; and he who dares not succour Chitor, shall see *in what manner* he himself shall be conquered." The wit is wretched on both sides; but he who began the pun is most to blame.

Bahadur's  
answer.

Sultan Bahadur, after sending the above billet to Humaioon, called a council of war. It was the opinion of the majority, that as Humaioon had all his force with him, it were better to raise the siege, and march against him, and thus to take up the war by the roots. Others urged, that Humaioon was so rigid in his religious principles, that he would not disturb them in their war with idolaters; that therefore it was most adviseable to finish the siege, which was now far advanced, and afterwards to think of other matters.

Calls a council  
of war.

Bahadur himself favoured the latter opinion. The siege was accordingly continued; and Humaioon, piquing himself upon his religious principles, continued loitering at Saringpoor, till Sultan Bahadur had taken the fort. Bahadur, in the year nine hundred and forty one, marched with great expedition against Humaioon, who, hearing of his approach, marched forward to meet him. The two armies appeared in front of each other, near Munfoor. Sultan Bahadur, who had collected a great train of artillery, by advice of his engineer,

Takes Chitor  
and marches  
against the  
emperor.





A. D. 1534. engineer, Romi Chan, entrenched his army, and placed his cannon  
 Hig. 941. in redoubts, in his front. This prevented Humaioon from risking  
 Entrenches an attack, and both armies continued in sight of one another for the  
 his army. space of two months. Daily skirmishes were, in the mean time,  
 fought, with various success.

Humaioon cuts off his supplies. Humaioon, finding that he could not draw Bahadur out of his  
 trenches, employed all his attention to cut off his supplies. He or-  
 dered his horse, in successive bodies of five or six thousand, to scour  
 the rear of the enemy, by which means famine began soon to be  
 severely felt in their camp; men, horses, elephants, and camels, pe-  
 rishing daily in great numbers.

Cowardice and flight of Bahadur. Bahadur, instead of making one brave effort to relieve himself,  
 permitted base fear and despair to seize upon him; and, with only  
 five friends, left his camp in the night, and fled towards Mindu. This  
 was no sooner known, than the flight became general; the chiefs  
 dispersing themselves, with their adherents. Humaioon, in the  
 morning, ordered the pursuit to commence, which was continued,  
 as far as Mindu, with great slaughter of the unfortunate wretches,  
 who had neither the power to escape, nor the means to defend them-  
 selves. Bahadur threw himself into Mindu, and the place was  
 closely invested.

His army is routed, and he himself besieged in Mindu.

Mindu taken by surprise. In a few days, three hundred Moguls scaled the walls of Mindu,  
 in the night; and though the garrison consisted of many thousands,  
 such was their panic, that they all betook themselves to flight. Ba-  
 hadur escaped to Chapanier, which was then the capital of Guzerat,  
 while Sidder Chan, his Amir ul Omrah, who was dangerously  
 wounded, not able to proceed farther, shut himself up in the fort  
 of Sunkar, where, being besieged, he capitulated the second day,  
 and was, on account of his excellent character, received into great  
 favor. Sidder Chan, during the pursuit, saved Sultan Bahadur,  
 when

Bravery of Humaioon and Sidder Chan.





when almost taken by Humaioon, by throwing himself in between the kings, till his master had an opportunity of making his escape. But he himself was attacked with such violence by the king, in person, that, after receiving many wounds, he got off with great difficulty.

A. D. 1534.  
Hig. 941.

The king, three days after the taking of Mindu, renewed the pursuit after Sultan Bahadur, who, having taken all his treasure and jewels out of Mahummud Abad and Chapanier, fled towards Amudabad. The king, giving up the city of Chapanier to plunder, and committing the siege of the citadel, which still held out, to Dowlat Chaja Birlas, continued to pursue Bahadur. The unfortunate sultan, hearing of his approach, fled to Cambait, but Humaioon pursuing him thither, he retired to the island of Deo, Humaioon arriving in Cumbait, the very evening of the same day in which Bahadur forsook it.

Humaioon  
pursues Sul-  
tan Bahadur.

Humaioon remained a few days in this place, but hearing that the sultan's wealth was mostly in the citadel of Chapanier, he returned to carry on that siege. Achtiar Chan, who commanded in the place, defended it with great bravery. But though he had some years provision in the fort, he was covetous of more, and took in daily supplies from a certain part of the citadel, which was covered by a thick wood.

Returns to  
the siege of  
Chapanier.

The king, one day, reconnoitring the place, observed the proceedings of Achtiar Chan, with regard to the provisions. He immediately seized upon a party of country people who carried the supplies through the woods. He persuaded, or rather commanded them, to carry him, in disguise, to the place. They had admittance. The king made the necessary remarks, returned to his camp, and the same night ordered a parcel of iron spikes to be made.

His strata-  
gem.

VOL. II.

T

He





A. D. 1535.  
Hig. 942.  
By a gallant  
exploit,  
takes Cha-  
panier.

He himself, with three hundred select men, went to the place; while feigned attacks were made upon every other quarter of the fort. As the access to this part of the fortress was extremely difficult, the attention of the enemy was entirely drawn towards the different assaults. This furnished the king with an opportunity of fixing his iron spikes in the wall, by which means thirty-nine officers mounted, and the king himself made the fortieth. Before sun-rise his whole detachment was within the walls, when he displayed a signal which had been previously settled with his troops. They accordingly made a violent assault upon all sides, and Humaion, in the mean time, at the head of his detachment, cried out, Alla Akbar! \* and forcing his way, sword in hand, through the enemy, possessed himself of one of the gates: he immediately opened it; and admitted his troops, and all, except Achtiar Chan and his family, who were in an outwork, were put to the sword. The governor defended himself so bravely, that he obtained a capitulation.

Divides the  
spoils among  
his troops.

The great strength of this place, the numerous garrison, and the boldness of the attempt by which it fell, rendered this action of the king, equal, in the opinion of all mankind, to any thing of the like nature recorded in history. Here the treasure of Guzerat, which had been collected in the course of many years, was distributed among the troops. He gave to the officers and soldiers what wealth could be heaped upon their respective shields, proportioning the value of the things to their rank and merit. All the wealth of Room, Chitta, and Fring †, which had been there collected, to a vast amount, was delivered over to plunder.

Bahadur Sul-  
tan levies  
forces.

Sultan Bahadur having secured himself in Deo, sent Amad ul Muluck Chirkufs to Ahmedabad, to collect the revenues, and levy

\* That is, God is greatest.

† The Turkish Empire, China, and Europe.

troops.





troops. He found himself soon at the head of fifty thousand men, and was daily gaining strength and reputation. Humaioo having intelligence of the transactions of Bahadur, appointed Tirdi Beg to command the fort of Chapanier, and the adjacent countries, and marched in person with his army towards Ahmedabad. Amad ul Muluck drew out his army to oppose him, and falling in with the vanguard of the imperialists, commanded by Mirza Afhkari, he was defeated before the rest of the army could be brought up to the engagement. A. D. 1535.  
Hig. 942.  
His army  
overthrown.

The king, for this signal service, appointed Mirza Afhkari governor of the splendid city of Ahmedabad. He divided then the provinces of Guzerat among his omrahs, and marched against Burhanpoor. Burhan Nizam Shaw, Amad ul Muluck, and the other princes of the Decan, apprehensive of his designs to reduce Chan- Humaioo  
reduces all  
Guzerat. dez, wrote to him letters of submission and allegiance.

These letters had scarce arrived, when the news of the insurrection of Shere Chan came to the king. He, however, reduced all the countries about Burhanpoor, then marched round to Mindu. Amad ul Muluck, in the mean time, in conjunction with the omrahs of Guzerat, began again to acquire strength, and marched, with an army, towards Ahmedabad. The insur-  
rection under  
Shere Chan.

Humaioo, in the mean time, invested Chinar, and reduced it, after a siege of six months. Having then gained the passes, he entered Bengal. Shere Chan, in the mean time, carried away the treasure of the princes of Gour and Bengal, whom he had reduced, and fled to the mountains of Jarcund. The king continued his march to Gour, the capital of Bengal, took it, and commanded it to be called Ginnitabad \*. Having resided in that city for the space of three months, he was obliged, on account of the moist air of that

\* The paradisial city.





A. D. 1539.  
Hig. 946. country, by which the greatest part of his army fell sick, as well as by the rebellion of Mirza Hindal at Agra, to return.

The brothers  
disagree.

Mirza Hindal, the King's brother, was sent to suppress Mahumud Sultan Mirza, who, we have already observed, had escaped to Kinnoge. But instead of performing that service, he, as soon as he saw himself at the head of an army, began to aspire to the throne. He accordingly marched back to Agra, where he discovered his treasonable intentions, by putting some of the principal people, who rejected his authority, to death. He thus enforced obedience, and throwing away every disguise, ordered the chutba to be read in his own name, and, with all the ensigns of royalty, marched to Delhi, and besieged it.

The king, having heard of these proceedings, left Jehangire Beg and Ibrahim Beg to command in Bengal, and hastened towards Agra. When he was about half way, Mahummud Zeman Mirza, who had formerly joined Sultan Bahadur, returned from Sind, and, being promised a pardon, joined the king with a considerable party. In the mean time, Shere Chan, finding the king's army so much weakened by sickness and desertion, and his affairs further perplexed by the rebellion of Mirza Hindal, marched with his troops from Rotas, and came behind the king on the Joffa \*. Both armies lay three months inactive, at a time when the king ought to have run all hazards, being every day insulted, and more and more distressed by the enemy, who prevented his crossing the river.

Mirza Cami-  
ran mounts  
the throne in  
Agra.

To add still to Humaioon's misfortunes, his other brother, Mirza Camiran, instead of assisting him, ungenerously aspired to his throne, and marched, with ten thousand horse, from Lahore. When he arrived at Delhi, Mirza Hindal prevailed upon him, to join his forces with his own, after which they both continued the siege.

\* Perhaps the Sone, or Cariminassa,

Fuchir





Fuchir ul Dien Alli, who commanded in the city, acquainted Mirza Camiran, that he could never think of betraying his trust, and rather than be so ungrateful to his prince, he was determined to hold out to the last drop of his blood; but, that, if he would first possess himself of the capital of Agra, and entirely subdue his brother, he would then, and not till then, give up the city of Delhi. When Mirza Camiran and his brother found him so determined, and that the siege would cost them much blood and time, they set out together for Agra.

A. D. 1539.  
Hig. 946.

When they had reached the environs of that city, the jealousy, which the brothers naturally entertained of each other, the eyes of both being turned towards the throne, broke out into open war. Mirza Hindal, being deserted by many of his party, fled to Alwir, with five thousand horse, and three hundred elephants; and Mirza Camiran, entering Agra, assumed all the imperial ensigns.

Sultan Humaioon endeavored, by every possible argument with his brothers, to bring about a coalition of interests against Shere Chan, telling them, that their family quarrels would certainly, in the end, lose them that mighty empire, which had cost their father so much pains to conquer, and involve the family of Chigittai in one common ruin; that it was, therefore, adviseable to join against the common enemy, and afterwards divide the empire amongst themselves. These arguments had no weight with his brothers, who were so blinded by ambition, that they were determined rather to lose all, than be contented with a part. They vainly hoping that after Shere Chan had defeated Sultan Humaioon, they should be able to subdue Shere Chan; and each had the folly to suppose, that he should be able to exclude the other, and so reign alone.

Humaioon  
endeavors to  
bring over  
his brothers  
to his interest.

They reject  
his proposals.

At this juncture, Shere Chan sent Shech Chelili, a dervish of great reputation, to Sultan Humaioon, to treat about a peace, which

Humaioon  
makes peace  
with Shere  
Chan.





A. D. 1539. which the king accepted, with gladness, upon the following conditions: That Shere Chan should content himself with Bengal and Behar, which he was to hold in the king's name, paying a small acknowledgment.

Treachery  
of Shere  
Chan.

When the conditions were signed and ratified by mutual oaths, Humaioon, trusting too much to the faith of his enemy, permitted a free intercourse between both armies. This was what the perfidious Shere Chan aimed at by the peace. He accordingly, next morning, surprized the sultan's camp, before day-break, and totally defeated him. As the bridge of boats, which the sultan had been preparing, was not finished, there was no way of escape left, but by plunging into the river; all the boats being seized by a part of the enemy, who had turned the rear of the emperor's army. Humaioon, his nobles, and a great part of his army, were forced into the stream, where eight thousand Moguls, exclusive of Hindoos, were drowned, among whom was Mahummud Ziman Mirza. This terrible overthrow happened to Humaioon in the year nine hundred and forty six.

Humaioon  
totally over-  
thrown.

Escapes to  
Agra.

The king, by the assistance of a waterman, having with great difficulty swam across the river, with a few who had survived the slaughter of this dreadful day, fled to Agra. Mirza Camiran hearing of this defeat, hastened from Agra to Alwir, to consult with his brother, Mirza Hindal. Finding that now the Afghans were likely to prevail, they were ashamed of their behavior to their brother, and, when it was too late, thought proper to support him. In the mean time, all the Mogul omrahs who were dispersed in the provinces, seeing that the power of their nation had sustained such a violent shock, found it also necessary to unite their strength. They accordingly hastened from all quarters to Agra; Jehangire Beg, and Ibrahim Beg, having left Bengal, and even Mahummud Sultan Mirza,

He is joined  
by his brothers.





Mirza, who had<sup>d</sup> rebelled in Kinnoge, joined now in the general A. D. 1540.  
Hig. 947.  
cause against the Afghans.

The three brothers having met at Agra, held daily consultations; Quarrels be-  
tween the  
brothers.  
but Mirza Camiran, who was not earnest in reconciling their different interests, brought all their councils to nothing, and proposed to return to Lahore, to which resolution he was very much instigated by Chaja Callan Beg. Sultan Humaioon used every argument to prevent his departure; but the ambitious Camiran was determined to be every thing himself, or to give no assistance to his brother.

These impolitic disputes had lasted six months, when Mirza Camiran was seized with a false appetite, which he too much indulged, and consequently became afflicted with a lientery, which he imputed to poison given him by his brothers. He immediately set out for Mirza Cami-  
ran forsakes  
the king.  
Lahore, leaving a thousand horse with Secunder Sultan, under pretence of assisting his unfortunate brother. The inhabitants of Agra were greatly discouraged at Camiran's departure, so that many of them, fearing the issue of the war, accompanied him. Mirza Hyder, disgusted with this behavior, staid behind, and joined Humaioon, to whom he was of great service.

Shere Chan, who had remained quiet during these disputes, now Shere Chan  
advances to  
the Gang.  
advanced with an army to the banks of the Gang, and detaching his son Cuttub Chan over the river, possessed himself of the adjacent provinces.

Humaioon having received intelligence of these motions, ordered Cassim Haffein Sultan Usbeck, in conjunction with Eadgar Mirza and Secunder Sultan, against him, with a great army. They met the enemy near Calpie, where an obstinate engagement was fought, The imperial  
generals de-  
feat and slay  
CuttubChan.  
in which victory declaring for the Moguls, Cuttub Chan, with a  
great.





A. D. 1540.  
Hig. 947.

great part of his army, was cut off, and his head sent to Agra. The generals, at the same time, invited the king to come and have the honor of conquering Shere Chan in person.

Humaicon  
marches  
against Shere  
Chan.

Humaicon accordingly marched with a hundred thousand horse, and crossing the Gang, near Kinnoge, sat down for the space of a month before the army of Shere Chan, which consisted of little more than half his number. In the mean time, Mahummud Sultan Mirza, and his sons, who were remarkable for their treachery and ingratitude, fled to the enemy, with all their adherents, drawing many more after them, which again plunged the sultan into distress; for his army being dispirited, began to desert by thousands. To complete his misfortunes, the rainy season now commenced, and his camp was quite overflowed with water, insomuch that the tents seemed afloat. The king therefore resolved to move his camp to higher ground.

Is deserted  
by a great  
part of his  
army,

and over-  
thrown.

On the tenth of Mohirrim, nine hundred and forty seven, he put his army in motion. He was attacked by Shere Chan on his march, and defeated with great slaughter. Having unfortunately, as in the former action, the river then close to his rear, the flight turned that way, and some thousands, to avoid the swords of the enemy, chose a more ignominious death in the water. A few only escaped with the king over the river, with whom he fled to Agra; the rest submitted themselves to the conquerors, or dispersed by various routs.

Shere Chan  
advances to  
Agra.

Pursues the  
king,

Shere Chan, immediately after this victory, advanced towards Agra. The king was forced to retreat to Lahore, and on the first of Rubbi ul Awil, of that year, joined the greatest part of his Mogul omrahs, who had been dispersed since the action. Shere Chan still continuing the pursuit, to make the best use of his victory, crossed the river of Jullanpoor, upon which the sultan, upon the first





first of Rigib, passed the river of Lahore, and retreated towards Tatta A. D. 1541. Hig. 948.  
 and Bicker. Mirza Camiran, now sensible of his ungenerous and who takes the route of Tatta.  
 impolitic behavior, was himself obliged to fly towards Cabul, and  
 saw an empire wrested from his family, by the effects of that base  
 envy, which could not behold even a brother's greatness without pain.

Humaioon having crossed the Sind, on his way to Bicker, halted His embassy to the governor of Tatta.  
 at Lori, and sent an ambassador, with a horse and dress to Mirza  
 Shaw Hassein, governor of Tatta, to request his aid, that he might  
 be able to possess himself of Guzerat. Mirza Shaw Hassein seeming  
 to listen to his request, detained the king, by various artifices and ex-  
 cuses, for five months, by which means his small army, distressed for  
 want of pay, daily diminished in numbers. Mirza Hindal, his brother, His brother Hindal deserts the king.  
 in the mean time, left him, and went to Candahar, being invited thi-  
 ther, by Kirrachi Chan, governor of that province. Mirza Eadgar  
 Nasir proposed, at the same time, to quit Humaioon, but this unfor-  
 tunate king, took great pains to keep him firm to his interest, giving  
 him the government of Bicker. But he had no sooner taken posses-  
 sion of that place, than he began to strengthen himself, and to hatch  
 treason.

Humaioon, in the mean time, had, with his little army, laid siege Humaioon besieges Sewan.  
 to Sewan, for seven months, without effect, when Shaw Hassein, de-  
 sirous of getting the place into his own hands, advanced, with a great  
 force, from Tatta, and surrounding both the garrison and the besiegers,  
 prevented supplies from being carried to either. Humaioon's army His great distress.  
 were soon greatly distressed, as well as the garrison. The king,  
 driven to extremities, requested Mirza Eadgar to join him, with  
 what forces he had in Bicker; but this ungrateful man chose rather  
 to be prevailed upon to join Mirza Shaw Hassein, who promised him  
 his daughter, and to secure him in his government. He immediately  
 deserted the king's interest, at this dangerous crisis, and Humaioon  
 was obliged to retreat precipitately from before Sewan, towards Bicker. He flies towards Bicker.

VOL. II.

U

He





A. D. 1541. He could not even obtain, in that place, a few boats, from his own per-  
fig. 948. fidious subjects, to waft his small army over the river. After a search of some days, and wandering along the banks, he discovered some boats that had been sunk, raised them, and transported his troops to the other side.

Notwithstanding this accumulation of misfortunes, Humaioon had strength enough left to strike terror in Eadgar Nasir Mirza, who, to avoid his resentment, came and made his submission. The necessity of the times obtained his pardon; but, in return for Humaioon's clemency, he began to raise sedition among his troops, and privately to draw them over to his own interest. This treason being communicated to the king, the traitor, upon being taxed with it, appeared at the head of his troops, in open rebellion. But the principal officers of the rebellious faction refused to attack their king, so that an action was prevented, when both parties were formed in order of battle.

The king being in no condition, at that juncture, to contend with the rebel, thought it high time to provide for his own safety elsewhere. He therefore marched, by the way of Jasselmere, to Raja Maldeo, then the most potent Hindoo prince in Hindostan, having before received an invitation from him. But as he was passing through the territories of Jasselmere, the raja of that country sent a force to oppose him. The king defeated them, and passed on to the boundaries of Maldeo, where he halted, and sent a messenger to the raja.

But few keep faith with a king, when he is under the cloud of misfortunes. Maldeo, seeing he had nothing to fear from Humaioon, found in his own mind no principle to love him; he therefore resolved, if possible, to seize the king, and send him to Shere Shaw. One of Maldeo's servants, who had formerly lived under Humaioon, having intelligence of this design, immediately informed the king.

Humaioon





Humaioon mounted his horse, at midnight, and fled towards Amercot, which is about one hundred crores from Tatta. His horse, on the way, falling down dead with fatigue, he desired Tirdi Beg, who was well mounted, to let him have his; but so ungenerous was this man, and so low was royalty fallen, that he refused to comply with his request. The troops of the raja being close to his heels, he was necessitated to mount a camel, till one Nidim Koka, dismounting his own mother, gave the king her horse, and placing her on the camel, ran himself on foot by her side.

A. D. 1541.  
Hig. 948.  
He flies.

The country, through which they fled, being an entire sandy desert, the troops began to be in the utmost distress for water. Some ran mad, others fell down dead; nothing was heard but dreadful screams and lamentations. To add, if possible, to this calamity, news arrived of the enemy's near approach. Humaioon ordered all those who could fight to halt, and let the women and baggage move forward. The enemy not making their appearance, the king rode on in front, to see how it fared with his family.

His great  
distress.

Calamitous  
situation of  
his retinue.

Night, in the mean time, coming on, the rear lost their way, and in the morning were attacked by a party of the enemy. Shech Ali, with about twenty brave men, resolved to sell his life dear. Having repeated the creed of Martyrdom, he rushed upon the enemy, and the first arrow having reached the heart of the chief of the party, the rest were, by the valor of this handful, put to flight. The other Moguls joined in the pursuit, and took many of their camels and horses. They then continued their march, found the king sitting by a well, which he had fortunately found, and gave him an account of their adventure.

Gallant exploit of  
Shech Ali.

Marching forward, the next day, from this well, they were more distressed than before, there being no water for two days journey. On the fourth day of their retreat, they fell in with another well,

The king's  
dreadful situation for  
want of  
water.

U 2

which





A. D. 1542.  
Hig. 949.

which was so deep, that the only bucket they had, took a great deal of time in being wound up, and therefore a drum was beat to give notice to the caffilas when the bucket appeared, that they might repair by turns to drink. The people were so impatient for the water, that as soon as the first bucket appeared, ten or twelve of them threw themselves upon it, before it quite reached the brim of the well, by which means the rope broke, and the bucket was lost, and several fell headlong after it. When this fatal accident happened, the screams and lamentations of all became loud and dreadful. Some lolling out their tongues, rolled themselves, in agony, on the hot sand; while others, precipitating themselves into the well, met with an immediate, and consequently an easier death. What did not the unhappy king feel, when he saw this terrible situation of his few faithful friends!

The next day, though they reached water, was not less fatal than the former. The camels, who had not tasted water for several days, now drank so much, that the greatest part of them died. The people also, after drinking, complained of an oppression of the heart, and in about half an hour a great part of them expired.

Arrives, and  
is humanely  
received at  
Americot.

A few, with the king, after this unheard of distress, reached Americot. The raja being a humane man, took compassion on their misfortunes. He spared nothing that could alleviate their miseries, or express his fidelity to the king.

Akbar born.

Humaioon  
marches  
against Bick-  
er,

At Americot, upon Sunday the fifth of Rigib, in the year nine hundred and forty nine, the prince Ackbar was brought forth, by Hamida Banu Begum. The king, after returning thanks to God, left his family under the protection of Raja Rana, and, by the aid of that prince, marched against Bicker. But a mutiny arising among the troops, they dispersed, so that nothing could be effected. Some of the king's own omrahs deserted him, and the gallant Shech Ali, one of his principal





principal adherents, was killed in an action in which Humaioon was defeated. The king fled towards Kandahar, and was, on his way, joined by Byram Chan, from Guzerat. Mirza Camiran had, at that time, taken the fortress of Kandahar from his brother, Mirza Hindal; and Mirza Ashkari governed there by his appointment. Mirza Shaw Hassein wrote to Mirza Ashkari, that the king was in the utmost distress, and that if he would now favor him, so meritorious an action could not be forgot. Ashkari, instead of listening to this request, attacked the king when he approached, obliging him to leave behind him his son, and fly himself, with the Sultana Mariam Muckani, and only twenty-two horse, to Chorrassian. Mirza Ashkari expressed great sorrow at the king's escape, and plundering all his effects, carried the young prince Ackbar to Kandahar.

A. D. 1542.  
Fig. 949.  
is defeated,  
and flies to-  
wards Kan-  
dahar.

Is obliged to  
fly to Chor-  
rassian.

The king, by repeated trials, found that he could place no faith in his brothers. When he arrived upon the frontiers of Seistan, he was met by Ahmed Sultan Shamlu, who was there governor on the part of Shaw Tamasul ul Hussein, of Iran. He brought Humaioon to Seistan, and treated him with the greatest respect, presenting him with all the money he was worth, and furnishing the sultana with slaves. The king received just what supplied his occasions, and returned the rest. He from thence set out for Herat, and was, in that city, met by Sultan Mahummud, the king of Persia's eldest son. This prince forgot nothing of that generosity and politeness which so remarkably distinguished his character. He provided the unfortunate exile very effectually with all necessaries for his journey to court. In his progress towards the capital of Iran, all the governors of the provinces and great men paid him their compliments, and made magnificent entertainments for him. When he arrived at Kizvi, he dispatched Byram Chan to the Persian king, at Ispahan, and waited his answer. Let us now leave Humaioon, to give an account of the transactions in Hindostan, during his exile.

Is received  
kindly by the  
Persian go-  
vernors of  
Seistan,

and by the  
king of Per-  
sia's son.

## SECTION

