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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 VI. Of the Reign of Soorage; and the Dynasty of that Name.

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Afrasiab * having invaded the kingdom of Iran, Firose Ra ungratefully seiz'd the same opportunity to wrest the countries of Punjaab † and Jallender from that prince, notwithstanding the generous assistance of Persia to his father, in recovering the kingdoms of the Decan. Some ancient authors relate, that till the reign of Keikubad, the territories of Punjaab were annexed to those of Hindostan: But when the hero of the world, Rustum Dista ‡, gave grace to the throne of empire, he turned to the conquest of Punjaab; and Firose Ra unable to oppose his progress, withdrew his army to the mountains of Turhat. After Rustum had conquer'd Sind, Moultan and Punjaab, he advanced towards Turhat; and Firose Ra, in great terror, fled from thence to the mountains of Jarcund and Gundwarah; nor did he ever after see happiness, but gave up his soul to death. He is said to have reign'd one hundred and thirty-seven years, but this period must be understood, to include all the Kings who ruled under that name and title.

Seizes upon
Punjaab.

Deposed by
Rustum Dista.

Dynasty of the
Firose Ra
ends.

SECTION VI.

Of the Reign of Soorage; and the Dynasty of that Name.

WHEN the news of the death of Firose Ra reach'd the ears of Rustum, that hero, on account of his character and ingratitude to Minuchere, was not desirous that his son should succeed to his honours; he therefore placed a chief of the Hindoos, whose name

Before Christ
1072.
Soorage ascends the throne.

* King of Turan or Great Tartary. He was one of the greatest conquerors of the East.

† The countries lying near the five heads of the Indus.

‡ Rustum Dista was King of Seistan, and for his great exploits he was reckoned the Hercules of the East.

was



was Soorage, upon the throne, and he himself returned to Iran.
A powerful prince, Soorage became a powerful prince, and from the sea of Bengal, to that of Malabar, placed his viceroys and governors, and turned his mind to erect magnificent edifices, and to improve agriculture.

In the reign of Soorage, a Brahmin from the mountains of Jarcund appear'd, who was skill'd in the arts of enchantment, and who, insinuating himself into the favour of the King, instructed him in the practices of idolatry. It is said, that Hind continued, in imitation of his father, to worship the true God, and that his descendants followed his example; till in the time of Marage, a person came from Iran, and introduced the worship of the sun, moon and stars, and their proper symbol the element of fire: But the Brahmin, in the days of Soorage, having introduced the worship of Idols, in a manner obliterated all traces of the old religion; for then, every great family molded their silver and gold into images of their fore fathers, and setting them up as objects of worship, among their vassals, there arose in the land, Gods without number.

Soorage builds Kinnoge. Soorage built the city of Kinnoge, which he adorn'd with the temples of his Gods, and was intent upon the practice of idolatry. This city, being pleasantly situated on the banks of the Ganges, he constituted his capital; and it is said that the extent of the walls of Kinnoge was, at that time, fifty crores.

Duration of the dynasty of the Soorages. The dynasty of the Soorages lasted two hundred and eighty-six years, during which time, they sent annual presents, by way of tribute, to the Kings of Iran.

SECTION

