

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 VI. The Reign of Shahab ul Dowla Jemmal ul Muluck Sultan
Musaoood ben Sultan Mamood Ghiznavi

urn:nbn:de:gbv:45:1-2463

Sultan Musafood directed his march to Balich, where he ordered Amir Hassnic to be executed, for having deserted him before, and fled to the King of Myser *. There was also, it is said, a private pique, which hastened the death of Hassnic, for he was in publick heard to say, that if ever Musafood should be King, he would suffer himself to be hanged. Amir Ali Cheshawind had his head struck off for his ingratitude to his prince; and Eusoph ben Subuctagi, the other conspirator, and the Sultan's uncle, was imprisoned for life. The eyes of the unfortunate Mahummud were put out, and he himself confined: So that the Sultanit of Mahummud scarcely lasted five months. But, as we shall hereafter see, he was, after nine years imprisonment, blessed with one more bright ray of fortune.

A. D. 1028.
Higer. 419.
Musafood succeeds.

The conspirators punished.

SECTION VI.

The Reign of Shahab ul dowla Jemmal ul Muluck Sultan

MUSAFOD ben Sultan Mamood Ghiznavi.

SULTAN Masood was a man of a lofty spirit, and was honoured with the appellation of Rustum the second. His arrow could pierce the strongest mail, and sink into the body of an elephant, and his iron mace was so ponderous, that no man of his time could raise it with one hand. He was withal, of an obitinate and fierce disposition, contemptuous of all authority, and disdaining all obedience. This circumstance, in his youth, engaged him in many quarrels, and greatly disoblighd his father; who, for that reason, fixed his affections upon his brother Amir Mahummud, who was of a more mild and tractable disposition.

Sultan Musafood's great strength.

His fierce disposition.

* Egypt.



A. D. 1028.
Higer. 419.
Anecdote
concerning
Musaood.

Chaja Abu Niser Muscati relates, that, when the name of Amir Mahummud was inserted before that of Musaood, in the Chutba, and read in public for the first time, that he himself followed Amir Musaood to the door of the mosque, and told him, that what he had heard, gave him the utmost concern, for that his own, as well as the hearts of most of the Omrahs, burnt with affection for him. Amir Musaood replied with a smile, Give yourselves no concern about it; the world is for the longest sword.

One of the King's spies, hearing this conversation, immediately gave information of it to the Sultan. Mamood immediately calling Abu Niser, asked him what had passed between him and Amir Musaood. Abu Niser thinking that truth would be his best defence, related the particulars. Upon which the King said, that he had always a high opinion of the superior abilities of Musaood, who, he foresaw, would one day be King; but that Amir Mahummud had gained his heart, by filial duty, and implicit obedience.

Musaood re-
leases several
prisoners of
state.

Sultan Musaood, upon his accession, released Ahummud ben Hassen Mumundi, who, by the orders of the Sultan Mamood, had been imprisoned in the fort of Callinger, and again made him Vizier. He called Amir Ahummud ben Mealtagi, the treasurer, to a strict account, and after having obliged him to refund a great sum, for malpractices in his office, appointed him general of all his forces in Hindostan, and ordered him to proceed to Lahore. He, at the same time, released Mujeid ul Dowla Willami, who had also been imprisoned in one of the forts of Hindostan, and called him to his court.

Higer. 422.
Invades Kutch
and Macke-
ran,

Sultan Musaood, in the year 422, having left Balich, came to Ghizni, and sent an army to Kutch and Mackeran, and the coin of both provinces was struck in his name. The prince of those countries died about that time, and left two sons, Abul Afakir, and Isah—Isah,



—Isah, the younger brother, taking possession of the government, A. D. 1031. Higer. 422. Abul Afakir had recourse for aid, to regain his inheritance, to Sultan Musafood, to whom the fugitive prince promised an annual tribute, and to hold his dominions, when recovered, of him. Musafood agreeing to this proposal, sent a great army with Abul Afakir, with orders to his general, if possible, to reconcile the difference between the brothers, and to divide the country equally between them; but if this could not be done, to put the whole into the possession of Abul Afakir. which are reduced.

When Abul Afakir arrived upon the frontiers, with this powerful army, so obstinate was his brother, and so much devoted to his own ruin, that he would not be brought to listen to any accommodation; and though he was deserted by many of his friends, who joined his brother, he determined to decide the affair with his sword. He accordingly fought with great bravery, till he obtained that death he seemed so eagerly to pursue. The provinces fell into the hands of Abul Afakir, who paid tribute and allegiance to the empire.

The Sultan, in the same year, bestowed the viceroyship of Rai, of Mash made governor of Rai in Persia. Hammedan, and of all the regions of the hills, upon Mash, a man who, though he had raised himself from the lowest office in the camp, displayed uncommon abilities, in reducing those provinces to obedience. After the departure of Sultan Musafood, the countries which we have just mentioned, revolted in part, but Mash not only reduced them to their former dependence, but chastised Ali ul Dowla, governor of Chorassan, who had been tampering with the rebels.

Sultan Musafood, after having settled affairs at Ghizni, intended to march to Ispahan and Rai. But when he arrived at Herat, the people of Sirchus and Badawird complained to him of the ravages of the Siljoki Turkumans. The King, moved by the injuries done to his subjects,



A.D. 1031.
Higer. 422.

subjects, was incensed very much against the enemy, and therefore immediately ordered Abduse ben Abdul Azize, with a great force, to chastise them. This general, however, was received by the Turkumans, with so much bravery, that he could gain no advantages over them; and the King, for what reason is not known, returned to Ghizni.

Higer. 423.
War with
Ali Tiggi.

Bochara re-
duced.

Ali Tiggi
overthrown
by Altafash.

In the year 423, Musafod dispatched Altafash Hajib from Charizm, with a great army, to oppose Ali Tiggi, who had invaded and conquered Samarcand and Bochara. Altafash marched to Maverulnere, where fifteen thousand horse were ordered to join him from Ghizni. After this junction was effected, he crossed the river Amavia, in the face of the enemy, and continued his rout to Bochara, which he reduced, and then proceeded to Sumarcand. Ali Tiggi marched out of the city, and took possession of a strong post, having the river on one side, and a high mountain on the other. When the fire of contention arose *, a party of Ali Tiggi's horse, having turned the mountain, attacked the army of Altafash in the rear. A great slaughter commenced, and the Ghiznian commander was wounded, in a part of the body in which he had formerly received a wound, in taking one of the forts of Hindostan. He however concealed his blood from his army, and charged the enemy with such vigour, in his front and rear, that, after an obstinate and bloody conflict, they were at length put to flight.

who dies of
his wounds.

When the battle was over, Altafash called a council of his principal officers, and shewing his wound, told them his end was approaching, and that they must now manage affairs in the best manner they could, intimating at the same time, that he thought they could do nothing better, than conclude a peace with the enemy. This motion being approved, a messenger was dispatched to them,

* That is, when the battle began,

that



that very night, with propofals, which were eagerly accepted. The conditions were, that Ali Tiggi ſhould keep poſſeſſion of Samarcand, and that Bochara ſhould remain to Muſaood. The two armies, immediately after this pacification, departed, the one for Samarcand, and the other for Chorraſſan. The brave Altaſaſh died the ſecond day after, but his death was concealed from the army, and the chiefs conducted the troops to Charizm: And when theſe accounts came to Sultan Muſaood, he conferred the government upon Haro the ſon of Altaſaſh.

Ahmed ben Haſſen Mumundi dying this year, Muſaood appointed Abu Niſer Ahmid to ſucceed him as vizier. In the 424th of the Higera, Sultan Muſaood reſolved upon an expedition into Hindoſtan. Taking the rout of Caſhmire, he inveſted the fort of Surfutti, which commanded the paſſes. The garrifon being intimidated, ſent meſſengers to the King, promiſing valuable preſents, and an annual tribute if he ſhould deſiſt from his enterprize. The Sultan began to liſten to the propoſals, when his ears were ſtunned with a grievous complaint from ſome Muſſulmen captives, who were then detained in the place. He immediately broke up the conference, and began to beſiege the fort, ordering the ditch to be filled up with Sugar-canes, from the adjacent plantations. This being done, he ordered ſealing ladders to be applied to the walls, which, after a bloody conteſt, were mounted, and the garrifon, without diſtinction of age or ſex, barbarouſly put to the ſword, excepting a few women and children, who were protected by the ſoldiers for ſlaves. The King commanded, that what part of the ſpoil was ſaved from pillage, ſhould be given to the Muſſulmen, who had been ſlaves in Surfutti, and who had formerly loſt their effects.

This year was remarkable for a great drought and famine, in many parts of the world. The famine was ſucceeded by a calamitous

VOL. I.

P

tous



A. D. 1032.
Higer. 424. tous pestilence, which swept many thousands from the face of the earth; for in less than one month, forty thousand died in Ispahan, alone. Nor did it rage with less violence in Hindostan, where whole countries were entirely depopulated.

Disturbances
in Tiberistan,
are quelled. Sultan Musafood in the mean time was obliged to march back to quell some disturbances in Tiberistan. The inhabitants of Amalifar opposed him in his progress, but they were dispersed by the imperial troops, with little opposition, and Abu Callingar, Prince of Tiberistan, sent an ambassador, and subjected himself and his country to the King. He, at the same time, gave his son Bhamin, and his nephew Shirvi, as hostages, for his future good behaviour.

War with the
Turkumans,
who demand
a subsidy, Sultan Musafood turned from thence his face towards Ghizni; and when he arrived at Neshapoor, the people of that place again complained of the incursions of the Turkumans of Siljoki, and Musafood immediately dispatched Buftadi, and Hussein ben Ali, with a great force to chastise them. When the Ghiznian army reached the village of Seindenfauk, a messenger came from the Turkumans with a letter, to the following purpose. "That they were the King's servants, and not at all desirous to disturb any body but his enemies, if they should be enabled, by an annual subsidy, to live at home without plunder, or led out to war, that they might exert their skill in what they reckoned their only profession."

and are de-
feated by
Buftadi, The answer of Buftadi was very haughty. "There is no peace, says he, between us, but the sword, unless you will give over your depredations, and submit yourselves implicitly to the laws and authority of the King." After the Turkumans had heard this message from their ambassador, they advanced and made a violent assault upon the camp of Buftadi; but as they were conducted more by rage than conduct, they were repulsed and obliged to turn their backs upon



upon the honours of the field. Buftadi purfuing them with great expedition, took all their baggage, and their wives and children.

A. D. 1032.
Hig. 424.

But when Buftadi was returning from the purfuit, while yet many of his troops were difperfed, and intent upon the plunder, the Turkumans iflued out from between two hills; and, rendered desperate by their former lofs, made a dreadful flaugter among the troops of Buftadi, who could not be regularly brought up to the charge. The Ghiznians continued to fight and retreat, for two days and nights, but Hufsein ben Ali could not be perfuaded to quit the field, fo that after the moft of his men were killed, he himfelf fell a prifoner into the hands of the enemy. Buftadi fled, and carried advice of his own defeat, to Sultan Mufaoood, at Nefhapoor.

whom, in another battle, they overthrew.

The Sultan was obliged for that time to refrain his refentment, upon account of fome difturbances in Hindoftan. He marched back to Ghizni, in the year 426; and thence fent an army under Ban, an Indian chief, againft Ahmud Neal Tiggi, who had rebelled in his government. But, when the two armies met, Ban was defeated with great flaugter. Mufaoood being informed of this difafter, fent Touluck, another Hindoo chief, who coming to battle with Ahmud Neal Tiggi, gave him a total overthrow. He fled in great hafte towards Munfura, Tatta, and Sind. Touluck purfued him fo clofe, that many thoufands of the runaways fell into his hands; whom he treated in the moft inhuman manner, cutting off their nofes and ears. When Tiggi reached the banks of the Sind, he found himfelf, if poffible, in greater diftreff than before; for collecting all the boats, which the preffure of the enemy would permit, he endeavoured to crofs the river. But the foldiers, afraid of being abandoned, hurried into the boats with fuch violence, and in fuch numbers, that moft of them were either overfet or funk. A fudden ftorm, and an inundation of the river, added to the confufion of the

Difturbances in Hindoftan.

The rebels defeated.

Their great diftreffs.



A. D. 1034.
Higer. 426.

vanquished; so that very few of them escaped. The body of their chief was soon after found by the enemy, and his head sent to Ghizni.

A new palace
built at Ghiz-
ni.

A new palace being finished in the year 427, at Ghizni, a golden throne, studded with jewels, was erected in a magnificent hall, and a crown of gold, weighing seventy maunds†, darting lustre from its precious stones, suspended by a golden chain over it, by way of canopy, under which the King sat in state, and gave public audience. He in the same year conferred the ensigns and drums of royalty, upon his son Amir Modood, and sent him to the government of Balich, whilst he himself marched with an army to Hindostan, to reduce the strong city of Haffi.

Musafood in-
vades Hin-
dostan.

Takes Haffi.

Sunput eva-
cuated.

This city was the capital of Sewalic, and was, by the Hindoos, reckoned impregnable, for they were taught to believe, by some of their prophets, that it should never fall into the hands of the Mussulmen. But the Hindoo prophets, like those of other nations, deceived their followers; for the King, in the space of six days, though with a very considerable loss on his side, scaled the place and took it. Musafood found immense treasures in Haffi; and having put it into the hands of a trusty servant, he marched towards the fort of Sunput. Deipal, the governor of Sunput, evacuated the place, and fled into the woods; but he had no time to carry off his treasure, which fell into the conqueror's hands. Musafood ordered all the temples to be laid in ruins, and all the idols to be broke down.

Musafood sur-
prises Deipal.

The Sultan then went in pursuit of Deipal, who began to shew himself in the field; but he was surprised by the King, and all his army

† The least maund in India is that of Surat, which weighs thirty-seven pound five ounces and seven drachms averdupoize; by which we may conjecture, that the value of this crown was immense.

taken



taken prisoners; while he himself escaped in the habit of a slave. <sup>A. D. 1035.
Higer. 427.</sup> Mufaoood marched from thence towards Raam, another Raja of those parts, who upon receiving intelligence of the King's intentions, sent immense presents of gold and elephants, excusing himself on account of his age, from personally attending upon Mufaoood. The Sultan received his presents and excuse, and with-held his hand from giving him any farther molestation; then leaving a trusty Omrah in Sinput *, he took possession of all the countries in his rear, intending to return to Ghizni. When he reached Lahore, he left there his son Mugdood, on whom he conferred the government and the drums and ensigns of state, with Eur his favourite, to be his counsellor in matters of importance.

In the year 428 Mufaoood again marched to Balich, to quell the <sup>Marches to
Balich.</sup> tumults raised by the Turkumans, who, upon hearing of the King's approach, evacuated that country. The inhabitants of that province addressed the Sultan and acquainted him, that Eur Tiggi, after his departure, had made divers incursions into their territories, and crossing the river, had lengthened his hands upon the lives and effects of his subjects. The King determined therefore to chastise him that winter, and in the beginning of the spring, to bring the other Turkomans of Siljoki to a better understanding. The Omrahs of his court, with one accord, advised him to march first against the Siljokis, because they had, for two years, gained an ascendancy over the inhabitants of Chorrassan, and were daily gaining strength. The Sultan, at that time, received also a letter from one of the nobles of that province, acquainting him that his enemies, who were once but Ants, were now become little Snakes, and if they were not soon destroyed, they might grow in a short time to Serpents.

* Forty miles from Delhi, on the road to Lahore.

But



A. D. 1036.

Fig. 4. 18.

The good for-

tune of Musa-

ood decline.

But the star of the King's fortune had now reached the house of adversity, and he would not by any means hearken to their advice. In hopes to conquer the country before him, he laid a bridge over the Gion, and crossing his army without opposition, took possession of the whole province of Maver ul nere. But during that winter, such a quantity of snow fell, that it was with the greatest difficulty he marched back his army towards Ghizni. In the mean time, Chukker Beg Daood Siljoki marched with an army against Balich, from whence Chaja Amud wrote to the King the particulars, begging, as he had not a sufficient force to oppose the enemy, that he would take some measures to reinforce him. Musafood upon this turned his army towards Balich.

Ghizni pil-
laged.

But Tiggi taking this advantage, marched quickly to Ghizni, where he plundered the King's stables, and after having greatly dishonoured the capital, he was repulsed. When the Sultan reached the confines of Balich, Daood retreated towards Murve, upon which the King, in conjunction with his son Modood, set out in pursuit of him to Gurgan. When the Turkumans heard of the motion of the Ghiznians towards Murve, they sent an ambassador, professing obedience and loyalty, if the King would bestow a track of country upon them, in which they might settle. Sultan Musafood consenting to this proposal, sent a messenger to their chief, whose name was Pugu, to come and settle the treaty, which accordingly he did, and the King, upon promise of their future good behaviour, alienated a large territory for their maintainance.

Their perfidy.

Musafood, after this treaty, turned with his army towards Herat; but such was the infidelity of those ravagers, that they attacked the rear of the King's army, carrying off part of his baggage, and slaying a number of his attendants. The Sultan, incensed at this behaviour, sent a detachment in pursuit of them, who took a small party



THE HISTORY OF HINDOSTAN.

III

party of them prisoners and brought them to his feet. He immediately ordered their heads to be cut off and sent to Pugu, who excused himself, saying, that for his part he was glad they had met with their deserts, for he had no knowledge of their proceedings.

A. D. 1038.
Higer. 430.

The Sultan continued his march to Herat, from Herat to Nesha-
poor, and from thence to Toos. At Toos he was attacked by another tribe of Turkumans, whom he defeated with great slaughter. In the mean time he received intelligence that the inhabitants of Badwird had given up their forts to the Turkumans. He marched immediately against them, retook the forts and cleared that country of the enemy. He then returned to Nesha-
poor, where he spent the winter, and in the spring of the year 430, he again returned to Badwird, which had been infested in his absence by Toghril Siljoki, who fled upon the Sultan's approach towards Tizin. Musafood, after this exploit, returned by the way of Sirchus, whose inhabitants had refused to pay their taxes: But upon some of their chiefs being put to death, they became more tractable; and upon their submission the King continued his march to Dindaka.

Musafood
takes the route
of Herat;

The Turkumans collecting their forces at Dindaka, surrounded the King's army, securing the passes upon every side: The Sultan, to bring them to an engagement, drew out his army in order of battle, which the enemy by no means declined, advancing upon all quarters with barbarous shouts and great impetuosity. This uncommon method of charging discouraged the Sultan's troops; and whether thro' fear or perfidy, several of his generals in the beginning of the action, rode off with their whole squadrons and joined the enemy. The King, enraged at this treachery, and seeing his affairs in a desperate situation, addressed himself in a few words to his friends about him. He told them that their own safety, their long acquired honour, the glory of their King, and the security of their native coun-
try,

His army
surrounded by
the Turku-
mans;

Is deserted by
a great part of
his army.

Musafood en-
courages his
troops.



A. D. 1038. try, now depended upon one noble effort to revenge themselves upon
Higer. 430. their enemies, and those still greater enemies, who had so basely
deserted their cause.

His valour. Mufaood then turning his horse to where he beheld the torrent of
gleaming arms rolling on, plunged singly to oppose the stream, bear-
ing down all before him, and exhibiting such acts of gigantic force
and valour, as never King had before displayed. A few of his
friends, rouzed by his words and actions, and that innate honour
which inspires the brave, seconded their Lord so well, that whither-
ever he turned his fatal sword, the enemy were mowed down or
retreated before him. But now, when victory seemed to blow on
His army de- his standard, misfortune was active behind it; for when he looked
ferts him. round he beheld his whole army devouring the paths of
flight.

He opens a passage for himself thro' the enemy, The King, seeing himself thus shamefully deserted, and that no
hope from his single arm remained, turned his steed and
trampling down the enemy, opened to himself a clear passage with
his own sword. When he reached the river near Murve, he met
with a few of the fugitives, who now began to collect themselves
from all quarters. He took from thence the way of Ghor, and
proceeded to Ghizni. There he seized upon the generals who had
punishes the deserters. — so ingloriously deserted him. He ordered Ali Daia, Buftadi and Sab
Sinai, to be conveyed to Hindostan, and confined in a certain fort
for life.

He retreats to Hindostan, The Sultan finding himself, at this period, unable to withstand the
enemy, resolved to withdraw to Hindostan, till he could collect his
forces and make another effort to retrieve his affairs. He left his son
Modood and his Vizier Chaja Mahummud, with four thousand
horse, to defend Balich, and ordered his other son Amir Mugdood,
who



who had come from Lahore with two thousand horse to secure Moulton. In the mean time Erid Ear, another of his sons, was sent with a detachment to awe the mountain Afghans, near Ghizni, who were in arms. He then collected all his wealth from the different strong holds to Ghizni, and laying it upon camels bent his way to Lahore, sending for his brother Mahummud the blind from his confinement.

A. D. 1641.
Higer. 433.

When Musafood arrived upon the banks of the Gelum, the water of which, on account of its purity, is called the water of Paradise, the slaves, who were very numerous in his camp, entered into a confederacy with the camel keepers, and began to divide the treasure among them. The troops observing this, they were determined to partake of the spoil, so that in a moment nothing was to be seen but drawn swords, ravage, and confusion. Every one plundered his neighbour; some gained much wealth, while others more weak or unfortunate, were robbed of all upon which they had laid their hands, and stripped of their own besides. The army, for this tumult, fearing the resentment of the King, and not chusing to refund the plunder, hastened in a mob to Mahummud the blind, who had been before King, and, exalting him upon their shoulders, proclaimed him Emperor.

A tumult in
the camp.

Mahummud
proclaimed
King.

Musafood was, during this time, collecting what friends he could to suppress the mutiny; but no sooner was it known that his brother was proclaimed King, than the Sultan found himself intirely deserted. The mob pressing round him, he was obliged to give himself up into their hands, and he was carried before the new Sultan. Mahummud told him he had no design to take his life, and desired he might pitch upon some fort, whither he might retire with his family into confinement. Sultan Musafood, in this extremity, chose the fort of Kurri, but was even in distress for money to pay his few

Musafood de-
posed,



A. D. 1041.
Higer. 433.

menial attendants. This obliged him to send a person to his brother to request him for some. Sultan Mahummud accordingly ordered the pitiful sum of five hundred dirms to be sent him; upon which Musaood, when it was brought him, exclaimed after the following manner. "O wonderful cast of Providence! O cruel reverse of fate! Yesterday was I not a mighty prince; three thousand camels bending under my treasure? To-day I am forced to beg, and to receive but the mere mockery of my wants." With that he borrowed a thousand dirms from his servants, and bestowed it in a present upon his brother's messenger, who had brought the five hundred dirms, which he desired he might again carry back to his master.

and assassi-
nated.

Sultan Mahummud, upon his accession, advanced his son Ahmid to the government, reserving for himself only the name, though Ahmid was, by many, supposed to have a tincture of madness in his disposition. The first thing he did was, without consulting his father, in conjunction with Soliman ben Eusoph, and the son of Ali Cheshawind, to go to the castle of Kurri and assassinate Sultan Musaood, in the year 433. But some affirm, that he buried him alive in a well.

His character.

Manificent to
the learned.

The reign of Musaood was nine years and nine months. He was a prince of uncommon strength and bravery; affable, of easy access, and generous to prodigality; particularly to learned men, of whose company he was excessively fond, which drew many from all parts to his court.

Among the first of the learned in the court of Musaood, we must reckon Abu Keihan Charismi, a great philosopher and astrologer, who wrote one of the best treatises upon astronomy, called Canoon Musaoodi, for which he was presented with an elephant made of silver, the size of which we are not told. Casi Abu
Mahummud

