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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

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Section VII. The Reign of Sultan Moaz ul dien Byram Shaw ben Sultan Shumse ul dien Altumsh.

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SECTION VII.

The Reign of Sultan Moaz ul dien BYRAM SHAW ben
Sultan Shumse ul dien Altumsh.

WHEN the Empress Rizia was prisoner in the fort of Tiber-
hind, Byram Shaw, upon Monday the 27th of Ramfan, in
the year 637, by consent of the Omrahs, ascended the throne of
Delhi, and confirmed all the laws and customs then in force. Mal-
leek Achtiar ul dien ab Tiggi, in conjunction with the vizier, Nizam
ul Muluck, by degrees took the whole government of the Empire
upon himself, taking the sister of the Emperor to wife, and mounting
an elephant upon guard, at his gate, which was an honour peculiar
to royalty.

This circumstance raised disgust and jealousy in the Emperor's
mind. He therefore ordered two Turkish slaves to put on the ap-
pearance of drunkenness, and endeavour to assassinate Malleek and
the vizier. Accordingly upon a certain day, these two Turks,
when the King gave public audience, pressed among the crowd, and
began to be very troublesome. Tiggi, who stood first in the rank of
Omrahs, went to turn them out. They drew their daggers, and
plunged them into his breast, then, running to the vizier, they gave
him two wounds; but he escaped through the crowd. The slaves
were immediately seized, and thrown into chains, but in a few
days after they were pardoned.

The vizier kept his bed for some days, on account of his wounds,
but, as soon as he recovered, he appeared again at court, and offici-
ated in his employ. Buddur ul dien Sunkir Rumi, who was then

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master



A. D. 1239.
Higer. 637.
Scheme to
supercede the
vizier.

master of requests, formed a scheme to supercede him. He, for this purpose, placed himself at the head of a powerful faction at court, and collecting the Omrahs together, and, among the rest, the vizier, at the house of Sudder ul Muluck, the chief justice, he began to concert with them a plan to bring about a revolution in the Empire. Sudder ul Muluck was secretly averse to the measure, and fearing that what was nominally meant against the vizier, should actually turn upon his master, he sent to the Emperor, and informed him of the whole affair. Sudder's messenger brought back with him a faithful servant of the King, in the habit of a fool, who might overhear the conversation with the vizier. The vizier, though he actually entered into the measures of the meeting, excused himself from attendance at that time.

The conspi-
rators punish-
ed.

The story of Sudder being confirmed by the person whom the Emperor sent to overhear the Omrahs, a body of cavalry were immediately dispatched to seize them; but they having had previous intelligence, dispersed themselves before the horse arrived. The next day Malleck Budir ul dien Sunkur, who was one of the principal conspirators, was sent to be Suba of Budaoon, while Cafi Jellal ul dien Kashani was turned out of his office. In a few months after, Sunkur and Muza were assassinated at Budaoon by the Emperor's emissaries, while Cafi Shumse ul dien was trod under foot by elephants.

A sedition
among the
troops.

Lahore taken
by Zingis
Chan.

These proceedings raised fear and apprehension in the bosom of every body, which being improved by the faction, there was a general sedition among the troops. In the mean time news arrived that the Moguls of Chingez Chan had invested Lahore upon the 16th of Jemmad ul Achir, in the year 639: that Malleck Kerakush, the viceroy of that place, finding his troops mutinous, had been obliged



obliged to fly in the night, and was actually on his way to Delhi; A. D. 1241.
Higer. 639. and that Lahore was plundered by the enemy, and the miserable inhabitants carried away prisoners.

The King, upon this urgent occasion, called a general council of state, in which it was determined to send Nizam ul Muluck, vizier, and Malleck ul dien Hassan Ghorî, vakeel of the Empire, with other Omrahs, to oppose the Moguls at Lahore with an army. When the imperial army advanced as far as the river Bea, where the town of Sultanpore now stands, the vizier, who was privately an enemy to the Emperor, began to depreciate his government to the Omrahs, and to sow the seeds of sedition in their minds. But that he might compleatly effect his purpose, he wrote a private letter to the Emperor, accusing them of disaffection, and begging he would either take the field himself, or send other Omrahs and more forces, for that those now with the army could not be depended upon, and that therefore nothing could be done against the enemy. Treachery of
the vizier.

The Emperor, though he had been forewarned of the treachery of his vizier in the late conspiracy, yet the artful man had so well extricated himself, and gained such confidence, that Byram Shaw, who was not blessed with much discernment, gave entire credit to this accusation, and sent him an order, importing, that they deserved death; at the same time recommending to him to keep them quiet till he should find the means of bringing them to condign punishment. This was what the crafty vizier wanted. He immediately produced the King's order, which kindled the Omrahs at once into rage, while he misled them with respect to the accuser. He even pretended to be apprehensive for himself, and began to consult with them about the means of general security; and they all promised to support him. Attaches the
Omrahs to
his interest.

This

