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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 VI. The reign of Sultan Mahummud Shaw Ben Ferid Chan, Ben Chizer Chan.

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A. D. 1433. swords upon him, and basely assassinated him. Surûr ul Malleck
 Hig. 837. having previously settled matters with Sultan Mahummud, one of
 the grandsons of Chizer Chan, raised that prince to the throne.

His charac-
 ter.

Mubarick Shaw reigned thirteen years, three months, and six-
 teen days. He was esteemed a man of parts, just and benevolent,
 and, though no great warrior, had he lived in a virtuous age, there
 is no doubt but he possessed talents which might render him worthy
 of a throne.

SECTION VI.

The reign of Sultan MAHUMMUD SHAW BEN FERID CHAN
 BEN CHIZER CHAN.

Mahummud
 Shaw mounts
 the throne.

ACCORDING to the custom of the world, which cannot
 subsist without rule, the same day that Sultan Mubarick Shaw
 was sent to eternity, Mahummud Shaw was established upon the
 throne. The ungrateful assassin, Surûr ul Malleck, received the
 title of Chan Jehan, and seized upon the king's treasure, regalia,
 and other effects, discharging all the old omrahs from office, and
 appointing new ones, who might, in time, serve his ambitious
 views.

The omrahs
 disguise their
 discontent.

Kummal ul Malleck, and other omrahs, who were in the camp,
 having consulted among themselves, upon hearing of the king's
 death, resolved, rather than kindle a civil war in the country,
 to bear with the times, to pay allegiance to the new king, and to
 wait a more proper and more certain opportunity of taking revenge
 upon the conspirators. They came into the city and paid their com-
 pliments to Mahummud Shaw. The first preferments, which the
 vizier

vizier gave away to facilitate his future schemes, was to appoint the two Hindoo conspirators to the governments of Biana, Amrohi, Narnoul, and Coram; and Miran Sidder, with the title of Moain ul Malleck, was presented with a very considerable jagier. The son of Seid Salem was dignified with the title of Chan Azim Seid Chan, and the government of several countries were conferred upon him. But the omrahs, and dependants of Mubarick Shaw, were, by tricks and false accusations, killed, imprisoned, banished, robbed, or turned out of office.

A. D. 1433.
Hig. 837.
The vizier's
tyranny.

A slave of Surûr ul Malleck, whose name was Rana Shech, was sent collector of the revenues to Biana, but Eufoph Chan Lodi fought and slew him near that place. At the same time some of the omrahs of Mubarick Shaw and of Chizer Chan, who saw that there was a design on foot to deprive them of their jagiers, particularly Malleck Chimun, governor of Budaon, Malleck Alleh Daad Lodi, who commanded at Simbol, Meer Ali of Guzerat, and Amir Shech, the Turk, erected the spear of rebellion, upon which the vizier, deceived by the behaviour of Kummal ul Malleck, gave him the command of the army, and sent Chan Azim Sidarin, and his own son Eufoph, along with him, to suppress the rebels. But when they came to the village of Birren, Kummal ul Malleck intended to take revenge on Sidarin and Eufoph, for the murder of the king. He therefore acquainted Malleck Allah Daad Lodi of his resolutions, who, for that reason, made no motion towards them. This design being, however, discovered to the vizier, he sent Malleck Hofhiar, his own slave, with a great army, under pretence of succours, with private instructions, to prevent the effects of the plot. Kummal ul Malleck, however, had, at Ahare, joined his forces with Malleck Alla Daad Lodi, before the reinforcement, under the vizier's slave, arrived. Hofhiar, hearing of this junction, thought that there was no safety for him, and he, therefore, fled, with Eufoph and Sidarin, to Delhi. Kummal ul Malleck

The omrahs
rise in arms.

The vizier's
army revolts.



A. D. 1433. Malleck immediately sent to call the disaffected omrahs, who joined
 Hig. 837. him without delay, so that, upon the last of Ramzan, he moved,
 and march to Delhi. with a great army, towards Delhi.

The vizier
 besieged in
 the citadel.

The sultan
 plots against
 him.

The vizier shut himself up in the citadel of Seri, which he held out three months; but as the party of Kummal ul Malleck daily gained strength and reputation, he was driven to great distress. Sultan Mahumud Shaw, perceiving that his own affairs would be ruined, if he should adhere to the vizier, endeavoured to conciliate matters with the besiegers, and, at the same time, sought an opportunity of making his escape, or cutting off the vizier.

His counter-
 plot.

Is slain.

Punishment
 of the mur-
 derers of Mu-
 barick.

The vizier discovering this plot, designed to be beforehand with the sultan; accordingly, upon the eighth of Mohirrim, with the sons of Miran Sidder, and with some of his own adherents, he broke into the king's apartment. But Mahumud, having suspected him of such intentions, had privately a guard at hand, who, on a signal given, rushed upon the conspirators. They immediately betook themselves to flight; but the vizier was cut to pieces, as he was rushing out of the door, and thus met the fate which he designed for his lord. The sons of Miran Sidder, and the rest of the assassins, were taken, and put to death, while Malleck Hoshier and Malleck Mubarick, who were parties concerned, were publicly executed. The Kittries, and other adherents of Surûr ul Malleck, afraid of themselves, rose up in arms. The king was obliged to shut himself up, ordering the Bagdat-gate to be thrown open to the besiegers, who, rushing in accordingly, began a dreadful massacre among the rebels, till they entirely subdued them. Such as remained alive were bound and sacrificed at the tomb of Sultan Mubarick Shaw.

The omrahs
 swear alle-
 giance to
 Mahumud
 Shaw.

Kummal ul Malleck, and the other omrahs, swore allegiance the next day, for the second time, to Mahumud Shaw; Malleck having



having the title of Kummal Chan, with the vizarit conferred upon him, Malleck Chimun being dignified with the title of Ghazi Malleck, and a jagier. The other omrahs were confirmed in their former offices, governments, and estates.

When matters were completely settled at Delhi, the king, by the advice of his counsellors, made a campaign towards Moul-
 and encamping near Mubarickpoor, gave orders to draw together his army from all the provinces. Many of the omrahs, being intimidated, delayed to repair to the imperial standard till Ameid ul Muluck arrived from Moul-
 tan, adding power to enforce the royal commands, by a numerous army, which he brought with him. All the other provincial omrahs hastened to the camp, and were honored with dresses, and other marks of favor and distinction. The sultan moved towards Moul-
 tan, to make a parade with his army, and, having visited the tombs of the saints, returned to his capital.

In the year eight hundred and forty, he marched towards Sam-
 mana, and detached a part of his army against Jisserit, the Gicker, who was raising disturbances. The country of Jisserit was plundered, and the king returned to Delhi, where he gave himself up entirely to pleasure, neglecting all the cares and necessary affairs of government. The accounts of the sultan's luxurious indolence soon affected the state. Dissatisfaction began to appear first in Moul-
 tan, where a tribe of Patans, called Linga, rose in rebellion. At the same time, Malleck Beloli Lodi, who, after the death of his uncle, Islam Chan, became governor of Sirhind, without any orders, possessed himself of the city and districts of Lahore and Debalpoor, with all the country back to Panniput.

The sultan receiving intelligence of this revolt, sent his whole army against him, who drove him back to the hills. In the retreat many chiefs of distinction were put to the sword, but Malleck Be-

loli

A. D. 1434.
 Hig. 838.

The sultan
 marches to-
 wards Moul-
 tan,

and to Sam-
 mana.

Gives him-
 self up to in-
 dolence and
 pleasure.

A revolt in
 Moul-
 tan.

Malleck Be-
 loli defeats
 the imperial
 army.



A. D. 1438.
Hig. 842.

Beloli recruited his army, and, when the sultan's forces were withdrawn, he again possessed himself of all the countries from which they had driven him. The sultan, this time, sent Hissam Chan, the vizier's deputy, against him, who was defeated, and beat back to Delhi; upon which, Malleck Beloli wrote to the sultan, that if he would put Hissam Chan to death, who, by his intrigues, had been the occasion of this rebellion, he would lay down his arms.

The sultan's
concessions to
the rebels,

alienate the
minds of his
subjects,

Confusions
in the empire.

The sultan was weak enough to listen to this arrogant proposal, and accordingly gave orders for the death of Hissam Chan. He also deprived Kummal Chan of the vizarit, and conferred it upon Hamid Chan, appointing another person deputy, with the title of Hissam Chan. The governors of the provinces observing this pusillanimous and impolitic behaviour of the king, predicted his destruction, and endeavoured to secure their own independency; while the subjects and zemindars, foreseeing the convulsions that must have ensued in the state, withheld their rents, in hopes that they might be passed over, in the general confusion.

A. D. 1440.
Hig. 844.

The impolitic and cowardly behaviour of the king.

Sultan Ibrahim Shirki possessed himself of several districts adjoining to his dominions, and Sultan Mahmood Chillegi, king of Malava, made an attempt on the capital; and, in the year eight hundred and forty four, advanced within two crores of the city. Mahummud Shaw, struck with terror in this urgent situation of affairs, imprudently sent an embassy to Malleck Beloli Lodi, to beg his assistance. Beloli accordingly, with twenty thousand Persian horse, came to Delhi; Mahummud Shaw, though his army was greatly superior to the enemy, was afraid to take the field by himself, but committed the charge of the whole to his omrahs, and reposed himself in the Haram. The omrahs, according to orders, advanced with the army against the enemy, Malleck Beloli leading the van.

When



When Sultan Mahmood Chilligi was given to understand, that the king of Delhi was not present, he thought it was meant as an affront to him; and, to be on a footing with Mahummud, he committed the charge of his army to his sons Yeaz ul Dien and Kuddir Chan. The two armies having engaged, the troops of Delhi gave way, and left Malleck Beloli alone to dispute the field, which he maintained with invincible resolution, till the fugitives, ashamed of their behaviour, returned to the action. Night, however, coming on, the victory was left undecided. Sultan Mahmood Chilligi being greatly frightened by a dream that night, and having heard, in the morning, that Sultan Ahmed, of Guzerat, was advanced as far as Mundo, he was more and more intimidated, and began to be desirous of making peace: but shame prevented him from expressing his wishes. At the same time, Sultan Mahummud, with less reason, and contrary to the advice of all his counsellors, gave himself up to base fear, and sent ambassadors with presents to his rival to beg peace.

A. D. 1441.
Hig. 845.

A drawn battle.

A peace concluded.

Sultan Mahmood Chilligi was overjoyed at these proposals, which saved the appearance of his reputation, and immediately accepting them, marched from the field. Malleck Beloli, who now began justly to despise them both, and to aspire to the empire, marched out of the city with his own troops, and pursuing Sultan Mahmood Chilligi, attacked him upon his march, defeated him, and took all his baggage. The weak sultan, who did not hitherto see through his palpable intentions, gave him the title of Chan Chanan, and adopted him for his son.

Mahmood Chilligi attacked and defeated by Beloli.

Beloli adopted by the sultan.

In the year eight hundred and forty five, the sultan marched to Sammana, giving the governments of Lahore and Debalpoor to Malleck Beloli, and ordering him to expel Jisserit. He himself returned to his capital. Malleck Beloli, by this means, became extremely powerful, and recruited a great army of Afghans; but, instead of

He marches against Delhi.

