



## 'ABD-AL-RAḤĪM 'ANBARĪN-QALAM

'ABD-AL-RAḤĪM 'ANBARĪN-QALAM, calligrapher of India (fl. late 10th-11th cent.). He was a native of Herat but, as a young man, went to India and entered the service of 'Abd-al-Raḥīm Kān Kānān. According to the *Ma'āter-e Raḥīmī*, he gained a wide reputation for his *nasta'liq* hand while writing manuscripts for the Kān Kānān's library. After some years the Kān Kānān presented him at the court of Akbar, where 'Abd-al-Raḥīm received an appointment. A number of examples of his work are extant. 1. A manuscript of the *Anvār-e Sohaylī*, illustrated by Akbar's artists at the Lahore court, was brought from the state of Balarampur and exhibited at the Indian History Conference, Allahabad (see *Proceedings of the Indian Historical Conference*, 1938, p. 64). It is signed: "Completed at the hand of the sinful 'Abd-al-Raḥīm al-Heravī. May almighty God conceal his faults and forgive his sins. Written at Lahore, the capital of the state, A. H. 1005." 2. The India Office's Johnson collection, book no. 16, contains a specimen of his calligraphy written in 1006 and signed: "'Abd-al-Raḥīm al-Heravī." 3. The same collection's book no. 7 contains an outstanding *nasta'liq* specimen written for Ḥakīm Ṭāleb 'Alī. 4. The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, has an example dated 1008 and signed as in 2, above. 5. 'Abd-al-Raḥīm's honorific title, possibly bestowed by the emperor Jahāngīr, accompanies his name on a specimen dated 1022 (C. Stanley Clerk, *Indian Drawings*, London, 1922, pl. 17 and fig. 26). 6. Examples of his writing in the collection of A. C. Ardeshir of Poona begin with the date 1028. These were usually written at Agra and sometimes bear the name of a Mughal courtier. 7. A manuscript of



the *Jahāngīrnāma* in the State library in Tehran is dated 1034 (Bayānī, *K'vošnevīsān* II, p. 390) and signed with 'Abd-al-Raḥīm's name and title. 8. The collection of Aligarh Muslim University contains one specimen of his writing, signed with his name and title and dated 1037 (*OCM* supp., Feb. and May, 1953, p. 390).

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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See also M. Mahfuzul Haq, "The Khan Khanan and His Painters, Illuminators and Calligraphists," *IC* 5, 1931, p. 628.