



'ABD-AL-RAŠĪD TATTAVĪ

'**ABD-AL-RAŠĪD** B. 'ABD-AL-ĠAFŪR TATTAVĪ, SHAIKH, noted lexicographer attached to the court of the Mughal ruler Shah Jahān. He was born in Thatta, Sind, but little else is known of his life. Of his two dictionaries, the Arabic-Persian *Montakab al-loġat-e Šāh Jahānī*, known as *Rašīdī-e 'arabī*, was compiled from *al-Qāmūs al-moḥīṭ* of Maǰd-al-dīn Fīrūzābādī (d. 817/1414) and *al-Šorāḥ men al-šeḥāḥ* (681/1282) of Jamāl Qorašī. It was completed in 1046/1636 and dedicated to Shah Jahān. The most popular Arabic-Persian dictionary in India, it has been printed many times, including a rearranged version published by J. H. Taylor in Calcutta, 1816.

The Persian-Persian *Farhang-e Rašīdī* or *Rašīdī-e pārsī*, completed almost two decades later in 1064/1654, was also dedicated to Shah Jahān. It summarized *Farhang-e Jahāngīrī* (1017/1608) of Jamāl-al-dīn Ḥosayn Īnǰū Šīrāzī and *Maǰma' al-fors* or *Farhang-e Sorūrī* (1008/1599) of Moḥammad Qāsem Kāšānī, excluding the superfluous material and non-Persian words from both (ed. Du'l-faḡar 'Alī, Bib. Ind., Calcutta, 1875; ed. M. 'Abbāsī, Tehran, 1337 Š./1958; ed. and tr. of the introduction, here termed the first philological essay of a critical nature in Persian, by Dr. Splieth in *Grammaticae Persicae praecepta ac regula*, Halle, 1846).

Although 'Abd-al-Rašīd's *dīvān* does not appear to have survived, Mīr 'Alī Šīr Qāne' praises his erudition and gives a specimen of his poetry taken from a *qašīda* in praise of 'Alī b. Abū Ṭāleb (*Maqālāt al-šo'arā'*, Karachi, 1957, pp. 419f.). He is mentioned in the *taḏkeras* as having found a chronogram to date Awrangzēb's accession (e.g., Sarkḡ'oš, *Kalemāt al-šo'arā'*, Madras, 1951, p. 197).



A chronogram fixes ‘Abd-al-Rašīd’s death in 1077/1666 (Ġolām-‘Alī Āzād Belgrāmī, *Kezāna-ye ‘āmera*, Cawnpore, 1871, s.v. Māher).

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