



‘ABD-AL-ŞAMAD B. AFZAL MOĤAMMAD

‘ABD-AL-ŞAMAD B. AFZAL MOĤAMMAD B. YŪSOF ANŞĀRĪ, Mughal editor and author. He was a nephew of Akbar’s prime minister, Shaikh [Abu’l-Faẓl ‘Allāmī](#). Soon after his uncle’s assassination in 1602, ‘Abd-al-Şamad began to collect his official letters. He completed this collection in 1015/1606-07 under the title *Mokātabāt-e ‘Allāmī*. Storey (I, p. 542) lists the contents of its four *daftars*: (1) letters in Akbar’s name to kings and amirs; (2) letters in his own name to kings and amirs; (3) opening and closing sections of letters, extracts, and miscellaneous pieces; (4) miscellaneous letters.

‘Abd-al-Şamad also authored a *taḍkera*, *Aḵbār al-asfiā*, containing brief biographical notices of the major Sufi saints of India (1014/1605-06). These are principally drawn from *Aḵbār al-akyār* of ‘Abd-al-Ĥaqq Dehlavī, though ‘Abd-al-Şamad does add some new information and even a few new entries. Also attributed to ‘Abd-al-Şamad is *Anīs al-ġorabā*, “a Sufi tract, completed probably in 1048/1638” (Marshall, *Mughals in India*, p. 25).



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