



## ABU'L-ḤASAN MOSTAWFĪ

**ABU'L-ḤASAN MOSTAWFĪ**, painter and historian of the 12th/18th century from Kāšān, son of Mirzā Mo'ezz-al-dīn Moḥammad Ġaffārī. Under Karīm Khan Zand, Abu'l-Ḥasan was governor of Kāšān, Qom, Naṭanz and Jowšeqān for more than thirty years, beginning in 1162/1749. Later he became Karīm Khan's secretary and wrote a history of his reign, *Golšān-e morād*, a detailed and important source for the period. It was completed until the end of the dynasty by Abu'l-Ḥasan's son Moḥammad-Bāqer, also a historian and painter, in Kāšān in 1210/1795-96.

A talented portrait painter, Abu'l-Ḥasan signed his works "al-Mostawfī." He was the great paternal uncle of [Abu'l-Ḥasan Khan Ġaffārī](#), who was in turn the uncle of Moḥammad Kamāl-al-molk Ġaffārī (cf. Y. Godard's references to the Ġaffārī family from Kāšān, *Survey of Persian Art*<sup>3</sup>, Tehran and Tokyo, 1977, V, p. 1900). Among Abu'l-Ḥasan Mostawfī's outstanding works are two portraits of his father Mo'ezz-al-dīn (one dated 1196/1782) seated and smoking a water pipe; a portrait of Shah Šafī (dated 1208/1793-94); a miniature of Qāzī 'Abd-al-Moṭṭaleb Ġaffārī (dated Moḥarram, 1209/August, 1794), the great grandfather of Abu'l-Ḥasan, riding a mule on his way as the delegate from Kāšān to participate in the election of Nāder Afšār as king; a portrait of Karīm Khan Zand (dated 1209/1794-95, sixteen years after his death); a portrait of Abu'l-Ḥasan's grandfather Qāzī Aḥmad (dated 1212/1797-98), seated in a garden, a boy sleeping in the background (M. T. Mostawfī, "Čand nasl-e honarmand dar yak dūdmān-e čand šad sāla-ye Kāšān," *Naqš o negār*, 1329 Š./1950, no. 7, pp. 30-44). Abu'l-Ḥasan's son writes in *Golšān-e morād* that his father died before



1210/1795-96, but this is untenable, since there exist incontestable works painted by him until 1212/1797-98.

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