



## ADĪB NĪŠĀBURĪ

**ADĪB NĪŠĀBURĪ**, SHAIKH 'ABD-AL-JAWĀD, Persian litterateur and poet. Son of a farmer, Mollā 'Abbās Nīšābūrī, he was born in Nīšābūr in 1281/1864-5 (or 1284/1867-8). At the age of four he was blinded in one eye by smallpox and his other eye was seriously impaired. Despite his physical weakness and his father's opposition, he was encouraged by his great love for learning and prodigious memory to spend the first sixteen years of his life in study. Then in 1297/1880, he went to Mašhad, where he lived successively in the *Ḳayrātḳānī*, Fāzel Khan and Nawwāb *madrasas*. Here, in accordance with the custom of the day, he studied the literary arts and Arabic classics. He developed a profound knowledge of Arabic letters and expertise in traditional philosophy, Sufism, mathematics, medicine, *feqh*, *oṣūl* and biography. Thus qualified, he remained a long time in Mašhad as a teacher, living abstemiously and never marrying. He had a great enthusiasm for education; many learned men of Khorasan were his direct or indirect pupils.

His works include a treatise on the connection between Persian and Arabic prosody, another commenting on the seven *Mo'allaqāt*, and a number of short pieces summarizing the commentary of *Ḳaṭīb Tabrīzī* on the *Ḥamāsa* of Abū Tammām; these have not been published. He was also a poet; his published *dīvān*, entitled *La'ālī-e mahnūn* (Mašhad, 1333 Š./1954), contains approximately 5,000 *bayts* in the form of *qaṣīdas*, *qeṭ'as*, and *robā'īs*. Initially he adopted the poetic style of Qā'ānī, but later he followed more strictly the Khorasanian style. He also approved of the styles of Ḥabīb *Ḳorāsānī* and Ṣafā-e Eṣfahānī. There is only a single political poem in his *dīvān*, written in criticism of the 1907 Anglo-



Russian Treaty dividing Iran into two separate spheres of influence. Adib

Nīšābūrī died in Mašhad on 12 Du'l-qa'da 1344/24 May 1926.

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