



'AJEZ, NARAYAN KAUL

'AJEZ, NARAYAN KAUL, Kashmiri Brahman of the 17th-18th centuries, a poet and compiler of *Moḳtaṣar-e tārīḳ-e Kašmīr* (1710-11; see Storey, I/1, pp. 681-82). No biographical details are available. During the Mughal period Persian-language historiography flourished in Kashmir, drawing on a long tradition of Sanskrit historical writing there. Two notable 17th century works are the anonymous *Bahārestān-e šāhī* and the *Tārīḳ-eKašmīr* of Ḥaydar Malek. The Hindu 'Ajez was asked by the governor of Kashmir to compare Ḥaydar Malek's ornate work with some of the Sanskrit chronicles, and the poet prepared his *Moḳtaṣar*, an abridged version of the *Tārīḳ-eKašmīr*. The style of the work is relatively plain; while not original, it retains useful data, e.g., regarding the revenue of the various administrative districts (*parganas*).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

See also Radhay Nath Koul Golšan, *Bahār-e golšan-e Kašmīr*, Lahore, 1931, p. 49.

Marshall, *Mughals in India*, p. 53.