



ĀŞAFĪ HERAVĪ

ĀŞAFĪ HERAVĪ, Āşaf b. Na'im-al-dīn Ne'matallāh b. 'Alā-al-dīn 'Alī Qohestānī, a minor poet of the Timurid period (d. 923/1517). His father was the vizier of the Timurid sultan Abū Sa'īd (r. 855-73/1451-69), and his pen-name Āşafī was evidently chosen because Āşaf, the name of Solomon's minister, was a conventional title of viziers (*Toḥfa-ye Sāmī*, p. 97; *Dawlatšāh*, ed. Browne, pp. 517-18). His grandfather, 'Alā'-al-dīn 'Alī, had served as a government official (*mošref-e kezāna*) under Tīmūr. Having lived for a time in Shiraz, he is sometimes surnamed Šīrazī.

A pupil of 'Abd-al-Raḥmān Jāmī (*Natā'ej al-afkār*, p. 36), he enjoyed the favor of the prince Badī'-al-zamān Mīrzā and also found work in the service of the sultan Ḥosayn Bāyqarā (*Rayḥānat al-adab* I, p. 49). He had a good memory and a perceptive mind, but 'Alī-Šīr Navā'ī, who knew him personally, found him opinionated and conceited (*Majāles al-nafā'es*, p. 331). His death took place at Herat in 923/1517 (the dates 921/1515, given in *Ḥabīb al-sīar* [Tehran] IV, p. 354 and followed by S. Nafīsī, *Naẓm o naṭr* I, p. 309 is evidently wrong; cf. chronograms in *Ḥabīb al-sīar*, loc. cit., and in *al-Ḍarī'a* IX, pt. 1, pp. 8-9).

Āşafī has left a *maṭnawī* in the *sarī'* meter (as in Neẓāmī's *Maḳzan al-asrār*) and *gāzals* amounting to more than 400 pieces and 2,000 verses. His *dīvān* has been edited by H. Arfa' (Tehran, 1342 Š./1963; for manuscripts see *al-Ḍarī'a*, *ibid.*, and Monzawī, *Nosḳahā* III, pp. 2209-10).



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Ḳayyāmpūr, *Soḳanvarān*, pp. 7-8.

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