



## BADĪ'-AL-ZAMĀN

**BADĪ'-AL-ZAMĀN B. ḤOSAYN BĀYQARĀ**, Timurid prince (*mīrzā*) of the line of 'Omar Šayḳ. He was the eldest son of Sultan **Ḥosayn Bāyqarā** (r. Herat 873-911/1469-1506) and Begā Solṭān Begīm, the daughter of Sultan Mo'ezz-al-Dīn Sanjar of Marv (*Ḥabīb al-sīar* (Tehran) IV, p. 320). His father had originally entrusted him with the government of Jorjān and Astarābād, but after joining his father in a successful war against Ḥešār, he was named ruler of Balk (*Ḥabīb al-sīar* IV, p. 198). Badī'-al-Zamān then asked Ḥosayn Bāyqarā to confirm his son, Moḥammad Mo'men Mīrzā, as ruler of Astarābād, arguing that he had assigned it to him at the time of his circumcision (Bābor, fol. 41). Ḥosayn Bāyqarā, however, decided to give Astarābād to his own favorite son, Moẓaffar Ḥosayn Mīrzā, while, according to Bābor, he gave Badī'-al-Zamān Balk "in the interests of Transoxania" (Bābor, fol. 36). This incident became the cause of enmity between father and son and, according to Bābor, resulted in the rebellion of Ḥosayn Bāyqarā's other sons against him (Bābor, fol. 166).

Badī'-al-Zamān eventually allied himself with the powerful amirs, Ḳosrow Shah and Šojā'-al-Dīn Du'l-Nūn Arġūn, against his father (*Ḥabīb al-sīar* IV, p. 207). His first battle against his father took place at Pol-e Čerāġ in Ša'bān, 902/May, 1497, and ended in Badī'-al-Zamān's defeat and narrow escape (Bābor, fol. 416). The next day, Moḥammad Mo'men, who was holding Astarābād, was captured after a battle against his uncle, Moẓaffar Ḥosayn, and sent to Herat where he was imprisoned in Šafar, 903/September, 1497. As a result of an intrigue on the part of Moẓaffar Ḥosayn's mother, Ḳadija Bikī Āġā, who was also Sultan Ḥosayn Bāyqarā's most influential wife, and the powerful



vizer, Neẓām-al-Molk, Ḥosayn Bāyqarā was induced to sign the death warrant of his young and popular grandson, Moḥammad Mo'men (*Ḥabīb al-sīar* IV, p. 214).

Badī'-al-Zamān was defeated by his father a second time at Alang Nešin in Šawwāl, 903/June, 1498, and was then persuaded to make peace with his father in 904/1498 by the latter's foster-brother and confidant, Mīr 'Alī-Šīr, who often acted as mediator in the frequent disputes between the two. Badī'-al-Zamān now asked to be granted the government of Balk again, but acquiesced in his father's offer of Farāh and Sīstān (*Ḥabīb al-sīar* IV, pp. 237-38).

After the death of Ḥosayn Bāyqarā in 911/1506, Badī'-al-Zamān and his brother, Moẓaffar Ḥosayn, ruled together as co-regents in Herat until the city was taken by the Uzbek Moḥammad Šaybānī Khan in 913/1507, at which time Badī'-al-Zamān fled, leaving his harem and treasure behind (*Ḥabīb al-sīar* IV, pp. 363-76; Bābor, fols. 183, 205b). After a long period of peregrination which included a year's stay in India, Badī'-al-Zamān returned to Khorasan, now under Safavid rule, in 919/1513. He was allowed to live in Azarbaijan and was sent 1,000 dinars daily from Tabrīz as a stipend from Shah Esmā'īl (*Ḥabīb al-sīar* IV, p. 394). When the Ottoman sultan, Selīm, conquered Tabrīz in 920/1514, he treated Badī'-al-Zamān with great respect and took him back with him to Istanbul where, according to the *Ḥabīb al-sīar*, he died a few months later of the plague (see also Loṭfī, p. 236; Sām Mīrzā, p. 13, says he died 14 months later). He was survived by a son, Moḥammad Zamān Mīrzā. Like his fellow Timurid princes, Badī'-al-Zamān was a poet, who wrote under the pen-name Badī'ī (Faḳrī Heravī, pp. 46-47).

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