



## BARḲVARDĀR TORKMĀN

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**BARḲVARDĀR TORKMĀN**, MĪRZĀ, author of *Aḥsan al-sīar*, a history of Shah Esmā'īl Ṣafawī, completed in either 930/1523-24 (Williams, 1916, p. 298) or 937/1530-31 (Williams, 1918, p. viii). The work was apparently compiled in four volumes of which only the fourth is known. It includes: 1. a preface (pp. 1-6) in which the author states that as a Shi'ite he wants to "combat some of the errors" (ibid.) in the contemporary work *Ḥabīb al-sīar* of Ḳvāndamīr; 2. a lengthy narrative history (pp. 6-280) of the reign of Shah Esmā'īl; 3. a section on the poets and "philosophers" of his time (pp. 280-305); and 4. a compilation (pp. 305-411) of "curious stories, geographical descriptions and the like, borrowed from Khwandamir, the *Maṭla'al-sa'dayn*, and other works."

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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The only useful source on the author and his work is the very brief mention given by L. F. Rushbrook Williams in his article, "A New Authority on Babur?" *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, N.S., 12, 1916, pp. 297-98.

Idem, *An Empire Builder of the Sixteenth Century*, London, 1918, preface.

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