



BORHĀN-E JĀME'

BORHĀN-E JĀME' (Comprehensive proof), title of a dictionary compiled in the last years of Fath-'Alī Shah Qājār's reign by Moḥammad-Karīm b. Maḥdīqolī Garmrūdī Šaqāqī Tabrīzī. He undertook the task at the request of Bahman Mīrzā, one of the sons of the crown prince 'Abbās Mīrzā, and completed it in 1250/1833 at the time of the accession of Moḥammad Shah, another son of 'Abbās Mīrzā. He based his work on the *Borhān-e qāṭe'* and the *Farhang-e jahāngīrī*, which he considered to contain both defective and superfluous information. The *Borhān-e jāme'* is in effect an abridged list of words taken from the *Borhān-e qāṭe'*, with verse examples from the *Farhang-e jahāngīrī* inserted in the margins. For the order of his entries he chose the inconvenient system of the *Farhang-e jahāngīrī*, namely order determined by the second, first, third, etc. letters of each word.

The *Borhān-e jāme'* consists of a preface and twenty-nine sections. The preface begins with references to the reigning monarch (Fath-'Alī Shah), the crown prince (Moḥammad Mīrzā), and the compiler's patron (Bahman Mīrzā), and then expounds ten types (*terāz*): 1. application of the word "Pārs" to Iran and extent of the country; 2. enumeration of the letters of the Arabo-Persian alphabet; 3. order of the entries in the *Borhān-e jāme'*; 4. categories of words (noun, verb, particle), with explanations of each; 5. meanings of single letters added (prefixed, infix, or suffixed) to words, with interesting comments; 6. groups of letters which are only meaningful in compounds (i.e., as prefixes or suffixes); 7. interchangeability of letters; 8. pronouns; 9. spelling; 10. knotting the fingertips (*'aqd-e anāmel*), i.e., decimal notation.



Mīrzā Reżāqolī, a brother of the compiler, wrote out a copy of the work for the lithographers, finishing the task in mid-Rajab 1260/July-August, 1844, and the compiler finished checking it in the following month. The printing was completed under his supervision at Tabrīz in Šawwāl/October-November of the same year. This first edition has 456 pages, with the verse examples in the margin between the columns. An undated offset edition was published in Tehran. The number of the entries is between 5,000 and 6,000 (present writer's estimate).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Preface and text of the *Borhān-e jāme'*. *Borhān-e qāṭe'*, ed. M. Moī'n, introd., pp. CX-CXI.

Dehḡodā, I, introd., p. 204.