



DĒDMARĪ, K̲VĀJA MOḤAMMAD- A'ZAM

DĒDMARĪ, K̲VĀJA MOḤAMMAD-A'ZAM b. Kayr-al-Zamān Kašmīrī (1103-79/1691-1765), historian, poet, and Sufi of Kashmir. He was born in the Dēdmar quarter of Srinagar, hence his *nesba* (attributive name) Dēdmarī. From his early years he studied traditional Islamic sciences with renowned scholars at the *madrasas* of Mollā 'Abīd and 'Abd-al-Razzāq in Srinagar. As a young poet he benefited from the guidance of the poet Nūr-al-Dīn Šāreq (d. 1127/1714) and later studied with Moḥammad-Rezā Moštāq Kašmīrī (d. 1143/1730) and Mollā 'Abd-al-Ḥakīm Sāte' (1143/1730). Moḥammad-A'zam joined the Naqšbandī order of Sufis in 1119/1706 and remained under the spiritual guidance of Mollā Moḥammad-Morād Naqšbandī (d. 1131/1718), leader of the order in Kashmir, for twelve years.

K̲vāja Moḥammad-A'zam, a prolific writer, used the pen name A'zam for his poetry. Although no collection of his poems has survived, several chronograms and poems scattered throughout his *Wāqe'āt-e Kašmīr* show that he was accomplished in the art. *Wāqe'āt-e Kašmīr* is a compendium of political, social, literary, and intellectual information about Kashmir from ancient times to the year 1148/1735 (Rieu, *Persian Manuscripts* I, pp. 300-01). K̲vāja Moḥammad-A'zam also wrote on mysticism and the Sufi orders of Kashmir. His works include *Fayz-e Morād*, *Resāla-ye fawā'ed al-Rezā*, *Resāla-ye ferāq-nāma*, *Qawā'ed al-mašāyeḳ*, *Resāla-ye etbāt al-jabr*, *Tajrabat al-tālebīn*, *Ašjār al-ḳold*, and *Tamarāt al-ašjār*.



He was buried in Dēdmar.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Moḥammad-A'zam Dēdmarī, *Wāqē'āt-e Kašmīr*, Srinagar, 1936, pp. 291-93.

Pīr Ġolām-Ḥasan Kūyhāmī, *Tārīk-e Ḥasan* I, ed. Ḥasanšāh, Srinagar, 1954, pp. 372-73.