



## FAŞĪHĪ HERAVĪ, MĪRZĀ FAŞĪH-AL-DĪN

**FAŞĪHĪ HERAVĪ, MĪRZĀ FAŞĪH-AL-DĪN**, b. Abu'l-Makārem b. Mawlānā Mīrjān Anšārī, poet of the 11th/17th century (b. ca. 987/1579, d. 1049/1639). Faṣīhī belonged to a noble family of Herat, which traced its lineage back to K̄vāja 'Abd-Allāh Anšārī (d. 481/1088, q.v.). During the invasion of Khorasan in 930/1523 by 'Obayd-Allāh Khan, the Uzbek ruler of Bukhara, Faṣīhī's grandfather, Mawlānā Mīrjān, and a number of other nobles of Herat were forced to migrate to Transoxiana. Mīrjān stayed in Bukhara, where both Faṣīhī and his father Abu'l-Makārem were born. The family remained in Bukhara until the conquest of Herat by 'Abd-Allāh Khan Uzbek in 997/1588-89, when Abu'l-Makārem and his family returned to Herat. At this time, according to Faḡr-al-Zamānī (p. 573), Faṣīhī was ten years old.

Faṣīhī spent his early youth and poetic career in Herat, where he was attached to the court of Ḥosayn Khan Šāmlū (d. 1027/1617), the Amīr-al-Omarā' of Khorasan, and his son and successor, Ḥasan Khan. In 1022/1613, eager to go to the Mughal court in India, Faṣīhī fled from Qandahār, but was brought back to Herat by the order of Ḥosayn Khan. He remained in Herat until 1031/1621 when Shah 'Abbās I, on his return trip from Khorasan, took the poet along with him. Thenceforth, until his death in 1049/1639, Faṣīhī was in the entourage of the king.

Faṣīhī's poetry is graceful and mostly in the style of Khorasani masters.



Preoccupation with creating new, intricate ideas and images, which characterizes most of the poetry of the period and often made poets sacrifice clarity of expression is, however, absent from Faṣīḥī's poetry. He versified his ideas in simple, eloquent, poetic language without resorting to multi-faceted metaphors and complex structures. A number of biographers (e.g., Āzād, p. 51) criticized his poetry for being devoid of subtle, innovative purport. His *dīvān* is still in manuscript.

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