



FATH JANG

FATH JANG, EBRĀHĪM KHAN (or *Mirzā Ebrāhīm*), a Mughal official (d. 1033/1623-24). According to the *Ma'āter al-omarā* ([Calcutta] I, p. 135), he was the son of E'temād-al-Dawla Ġiāt-al-Dīn Beg Tehrānī (q.v.) and brother of Nūr(-e) Jahān, the influential wife of the Mughal emperor Jahāngīr (r. 1014-37/1605-27). Together with other members of E'temād-al-Dawla's family, he entered Jahāngīr's service and was first made a paymaster (*baḳṣī*) and inspector (*wāqe'anevīs*) of Gujarat, responsible for reporting on the events of the region to the emperor. He gained the trust of the governor of Gujarat, Shaikh Farīd Mortazā Khan, and within a year was given the rank (*maṇṣab*) of 1000 men. After Jahāngīr married Nūr Jahān in 1020/1611 and E'temād-al-Dawla gained favor at court, Ebrāhīm returned to Agra. He was awarded the title of khan in 1023/1614-15 and promoted to the rank of [commander of] 1500 men and 300 horses (Kāmkar Ḥosaynī, p. 182; *Ma'āter al-omarā* [Calcutta] I, p. 136).

Ebrāhīm Khan first served at court as a private secretary to the emperor (*baḳṣīgarī-e ḥożūr*), but by the end of 1024/1616 he was made governor of Bihar and sent there to take over the region of Khūkharha (Jahāngīr *Gūrḳānī*, pp. 178-79) or Kūkara (Kāmkar Ḥosaynī, p. 216) near Patna, an area well known for its diamond mines but hidden deep within dense and inaccessible forests and controlled by a local Hindu landlord. Ebrāhīm's campaign was successful, and earned him the title of Fath Jang and the rank of four thousand men and horse, which was later raised to five thousand. Most of the diamonds for the Mughal treasury came from these mines.



Within two years Fath Jang was able to restore order to affairs in Bihar. In 1026/1617 he was made governor of Bengal and Orissa. He held this post until 1033/1623-24, when he was killed in battle defending the fort of Akbarnagar (old Rājnagar, modern Dacca) against the army of Shah Jahān, who had rebelled against his father. Fath Jang did not leave any children; his only known son died during his lifetime and was buried near Akbarnagar in a large fortified shrine—the same one which Fath Jang chose for the defense of Akbarnagar and where he lost his own life (Kāmkār Ḥosaynī, pp. 381-83; *Ma'āter al-omarā* [Calcutta] I, p. 138). His wife was Ḥājī Ḥūrparvar, an aunt of Nūr Jahān. Ḥūrparvar lived into comfortable old age at Šāh-Jahānābād (now Old Delhi) on a royal allowance (*tamḡā*) until her death during the reign of Awrangzīb (1068-1118 /1658-1707; see *Ma'āter al-omarā* [Calcutta] I, p. 138).

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