



GRANT, CAPTAIN NATHANIEL PHILIP

GRANT, Captain **NATHANIEL PHILIP**, a military officer of the East India Company (b. New York 1774, k. near Korramābād, April 1810). He arrived in India as a cadet in December 1800, eventually serving as a captain in the Bengal fifteenth native infantry regiment.

In January 1809 Grant was sent by John Malcolm to Makrān “to ascertain whether an European army could penetrate into India by the southern coast of Persia” (Grant, p. 340). He landed at Gavāter on 30 January 1809 and, ostensibly as a horse buyer, traveled in European dress via Čāhbahār (q.v.) inland to Bampur, then back by a different route to the coast and along it to Bandar ‘Abbās (q.v.). He concluded that the invasion of India was “perfectly practicable” since, contrary to expectations, water was available. He also found the inhabitants “more civil and hospitable” than expected (Grant, pp. 328-42).

In February 1810 Grant returned to Persia with Malcolm’s mission (Lorimer, *Gazeteer* I, p. 1903) and was sent with Lt. Fotheringham to Baghdad with instructions to explore the country between the Tigris and the Persian frontier. Ignoring the advice of Claudius Rich, the East India Company’s resident in Baghdad, the pair entered Lorestān by a notoriously dangerous route and were murdered, along with their Armenian servants, by Kalb-‘Ali Khan, a rebellious Lor chieftain, near Korramābād (Curzon, *Persian Question*



II, pp. 278-79). Accounts differ whether this was for their gold or their refusal to apostatize (Kaye, II, pp. 9-10; Layard, II, pp. 324-25.). Grant was not married (Hodson, II, p. 318).

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