



ḤAMID QALANDAR

ḤAMID QALANDAR (d. Delhi, 768/1366), author of *Ḳayr al-majāles*, the obiter dicta (*malfuḏāt*) of the Češti shaikh Naṣir-al-Din Maḥmud Čerāġ-e Dehli (q.v.). Ḥamid's father, Tāj-al-Din of Kilugarhi, got him admitted at a young age into the circle of the disciples of Shaikh Neẓām-al-Din Awliā', where he shaved his head and beard, put on saffron clothes, and adopted the antinomian life of a *qalandar* (carefree, wandering dervish).

When Sultan Moḥammad b. Toġloq ordered the mass transfer of the Muslim population of Delhi to the Deccan, Ḥamid took the journey and wrote poems in praise of the new capital Dawlatābād. He attached himself to Shaikh Borhān-al-Din Ġarib, whose discourses he under-took to compile, but the death of the shaikh cut the work short. In 754/1353 he returned to Delhi, where he was attracted to Shaikh Naṣir-al-Din Čerāġ-e Dehli's *kānaqāh*. A year later he began recording the obiter dicta of the Shaikh that was written after the style of the *Fawā'ed al-fo'ād* of Amir Ḥasan Sejzi. It was completed in a year and was revised and approved by Shaikh Naṣir-al-Din himself. *Ḳayr al-majāles*, written in plain Persian (ed. K. A. Nizami, Aligarh, 1959), is divided into twelve chapters (*majles*) and a supplement (*takmela*) that was added by the author after the death of Shaikh Naṣir-a-Din in 757/1356. It is remarkable for its accurate, detailed information, and ranks second only to the *Fawā'ed* among the *malfuḏāt* literature.

Ḥamid had a fairly good knowledge of the Qur'ān and Hadith and also wrote poetry, judged to be of mediocre quality.



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