CHAPTER 7

Amjad Ali Shah
‘adorning the throne’ (erika = ‘throne’) scholars, learned men (pls. alym, fazyd) morals and manners, behaviour, etc. trustworthy, good, devoted the reins of government 'having a ring in the ear' (as a sign of slavery) desire, belief, faith i.e. devoted themselves entirely to religion someone whose example is followed (mwqteda adj. = 'imitated') here = care, interest, connection manager, one who conducts statesman (Eng.) instruction, advice, urging service, serving believer, orthodox Muslim, saint help believer, faithful (in religious matters) cautious abstemious the highest authority on Muslim jurisprudence of the time. mwitshyed 'an authoritative interpreter of Muslim law'. For vityyad individual interpretation) see Gibb = Mohammedanism, pp.97 ff. alms (see Gibb, op.cit., pp.64-5) charity piety, abstinence ritual washing and purification, comprising the acts of yswl (bathing), yswu (washing before prayer) and yatynja (washing after going to the lavatory) to be thrown into confusion, turned upside down, etc. Qazi Muhammad Sadiq Khan Akhtar
rulers, agents (pl. of amyl)
wicked and evil minded
thumb
bribery, corruption
piety, abstinence
socially concerning society and culture
in spite of
best, highest
Civil Lines
directly, regularly, permanently
component, piece, bit
'a traveller of the eternal world',
(i.e. 'he died')
eengineer
Mr. Sinclair
contrast
of iron
da (Hindu) burning ground
pillar, strut
joining, soldering (jorna to join)
'he couldn't get any further with it'
hanging bridge
hanging bridge (leṭekna 'to hang' -
intrans.)
load, weight
girder, pillar
rusty (zang = 'must')
demolished, in ruins
Amin ud Daula
lit. 'daily-increasing', daily, constant
in return for (syla = reward)
'the page of his times also turned'
cancer
afflicted (with)
Mend Khan
on the side of the road
imperfect
vesiga  deed, bond, contract
mwywyn  fixed, settled, appointed
yurejan  Eurasian
vajyd eli Jan  Vajid Ali Shah
pasefan  past, former, ancient
ytoza  decline
ahl wr raq  lit. 'people of opinion'
hesaf  target, butt
syham  arrows (pl. of aehm)
matem  censure
ystisal  rooting up, destroying
tyflana-myzaqi  childish disposition
orika-ara-e swt'enst  rulers of the state

peymana  cup, measure (of wine, etc.), scale
chalakna  to overflow
jofakeji  bearing, oppression, tyranny
semara  fruit, result, harvest (syn. semar)
mwsteheq  deserving, entitled
danayan-e fyronq  the wise men of Europe
sehanet  intelligence, wisdom
tebbai  sharpness of intellect, genius
bazabytagi  regularity, conformity, steadfastness
(kysi ka) sath dana  to go along with (someone), to join
qhenqora  proclamation (by beating a drum)
mwheqqyqana  academic, scholarly (cf. tehaiq 'academic research')

apna sa bonana cahta tha  'wanted to make him just like himself'
yngyza-e wmr  the end of his life
rwjhan  trend
fwmun  arts (pl. of fenn)
terb o nejat  joy and pleasure, luxury
menja  principle, purpose, aim
gevyya  singer
qhardi  (male) Muslim singer/musician
dom  Muslim singer/dancer
reb t o zebt  connections
mwhəzzəb
ælex IQ xaq
xyl'st-e væzəṣret
ejanza
dərxwar
məwzuŋ
yə wənvan se huə

banka
ədasət-gwəstəri
nəqqi
ərsəx
kwənji
təhrəir fərməna
mmənʃiyəna təbbəi
tyṛchə
gənəghar
əxtərəx

nədyəri
xəd be dwələt
meʃəqı
serferəz fərməna
yəstələhtag
kələmat
rəst rex
pəst biya
dəst-e cəp bygərd
neqʃ-e evvelin
(təbiyet) wəkə tənə
swd kərən
ərbəb-e nəʃət

təqviəm-e parinə ho tənə

nəşəx
ətyʃ

refined, civilised
Ali Naqī Khān
'the robes of the office of minister'
youthful
confidence
balanced, fitting
it happened like this....

profligate (n., adj.); dandy
the dispensing of justice
silver (adj.)
petition
key
to write (honorific expression)
literary genius
crooked, perverse, loppish
dense, thick, populous
'Akḥtari' (the taxellws of Vajid Ali Shah was extər)
'Nadiri' (nədəri = unique)
'his honour'
practice, drill
to honour, reward (honorific expression)
technical terms
terms, words
'go straight' (Pers.)
'come back' (Pers.)
'turn left'
the first signs
to get tired of
to fall back, to return
lit. 'people of pleasure and luxury', i.e. dancing girls, musicians, etc.
to go out of date

Shaikh Imām Bakhsh Nāsikh (d.1838)
famous ghazal poet of Lucknow

Khwāja Haidar Ali Aṭish (1785-1847) famous
ghazal poet of Lucknow
rynd, sēba
myrza jīwq
ṣehvēt-horestī
ṣehvēt-horestī ki ruh phunk di thi
xylafēt-e yalamīya
xytāb kērēa
betābi
beqerari
yffēt
pwta
rynd-maʃreb
xubrē
ṭavlīn
thījī mī manūvī ṭavlī kērē
hsēn-e mwlēq
xellaq-e ałam
sēmōna
chwpa qheka
alā
qiyāmēt yyyh thi
ṣwsta o rwfta
maʃellāh
wmwēvan-e ṣstab
sēd-ha
mewzuŋ kērēn

yqrāri mwjrym
ṣaz o nadyr
hewsoŋ ko...nykal liya ho

Rind, Sabā - two minor poets of Lucknow
Mirzā Shauq (author of the masnavī Zahi-e Ishaq)
debauchery
'he popularized debauchery'
the (early) Islamic Caliphate
to address
impatience
restlessness
modesty, virtue, purity
puppet, image, figment
naturally inclined to luxury
beautiful, handsome
interpreting in a manner not according to the obvious meaning
giving the (obvious) meaning a slightly different interpretation
the universal beloved (i.e. 'God' - referring to the possible interpretation of the beloved of the ghaṣal as God)
the Creator of the world
to make lukewarm, to water down
hidden, covered up (ḏḥukna to cover)
instrument, tool
the most terrible thing was; the last straw was
elegant and flowing (of language)
by the grace of God (said in admiration - ironically)
early youth
hundreds of
to put into verse (lit. 'make scan!')
Note that a verse which scans correctly is called mewzuŋ
a prisoner who has pleading guilty
very few, almost none
'who did not indulge their lustful desires to their hearts' content'
jeraym
peblyk
zor men ana
cabhe...mager
elem-askara korna
do qedam age nyakel gaye
mwbtezel
fwhs
tamwal

kahari

daryr
bezan-o jwket
domenzily
mwrubba
mwestil
reba
khod qala gaya
geta'at
bayrna
talwqadarren-e ovedh
wai veza men
jylew-xana

ojwba-e rozgar
coblyskeinj
jelperr
modar wlmoham(m)
candivali baraderi
candi ka petter
se mwlnaq
geliyara
cswlekkhi

hwzuri nai
esimwllah

crimes, misdeeds (pl. of jwrm)
'public'
to be in full swing
although...however
to publicise
i.e. he surpassed (Mirza Shauq)
common, base, low
obscene
hesitation (i.e. 'he did not hesitate
to use common and obscene words in his
poetry)
law caste woman (wife or daughter of a
kahar - 'palanquin bearer')
character
magnificently, splendidly
two storeyed
square, foursided
oblong, rectangle
area, enclosure
'was dug up'
divisions, sections (pl. of geta)
to divide, share out
the Taluqadars of Avadh
in the same condition, shape
name of the inner courtyard of
Qaisar Bagh. jylew-xana = 'courtyard, porch'
the wonder of the time
wooden screens
mermaid
chief-minister
name of building
silver leaf
adjoining
narrow passage, lane
name of an area of Lucknow (from
ear lakh, as Sharar goes on to explain)
the royal barber
Azimullah
mewab nas mehul
mweezyz mehelat-e aliyat
hezrot mehul
gyada gyrd
mela
gerua
dhuni
dhuni romana
lakkhi phatek
peri-jamal
meh-tolet
kah wtha karte the
peri nyhwita rwx o dev der kyrjama o nas
be soxt aql sy-hayrot ky ince bwl-sjebist
lit. 'The fairy has concealed her face (and is hidden away)
and the demons are prancing.
The intellect is consumed with astonishment (to see)
what absurdity is going on.

rawjen wd dewla
qoyser pasand
mewab masjeg meheul
sri kryjen ji
rohes

Raushan ud Daula
Qaisar Pasand (new name of the building)
nname of courtesan
Lord Krishna

a Sanskrit word meaning 'solitude, privacy' -
hence 'a religious secret', 'a mystical truth'. The word then comes to mean
'sexual intercourse'(something done in
private!), hence 'merriment'. Here it
refers to a kind of ballet in which Krishna
is represented with the Gopis, in which,
as Sharar goes on to explain, Vajid Ali
Shah played the leading role.

Kanleia, Krishna

veiled, in purdah

of proven virtue

i.e. virtuous, purdah-woman
dancing and merriment

ashes (usually of cow-dung which Hindu
ascetics smear on their forehead). Here
they are made by burning pearls.

red, vermilion
chayla
bada-e tereb

tamil
xylaf-e tevqqo
mehrusa
memelyk-e mehrusa

vakystegan-e damen
kasa
ro dhoke
wzrzwahi
haqq-e veKalat

radd o bedal
yqtydar
zahmet o mezahemet
ma

jan-nyasar rwfeca

handsome, foppish
'wine of pleasure' (note the ironical way in Sharar describes these episodes of Vajid Ali Shah's reign)
enacting, executing (of an order, etc.)
unexpectedly
guarded
provinces under the government of one sovereign, protectorates
dependents
'sic' (the text is obviously wrong here)
weeping and crying
objection, proffering an excuse
the night of representation, to plead for or represent the client as perfectly as one could
annulment, change, cancellation
power, jurisdiction
trouble
with
lit. 'friends who would lay down their lives for him. rwfeca - pl. of refia
'companion'