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AMEER KHUSRO’S IMPACT ON ASIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

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‘The Archeology and Calligraphy of Ameer Khusro’s Tomb’

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TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS OF THE INSRIPTIONS

FROM: Zafar Hasan, A Guide to Hizam-D Din (HASI, No. 10), Calcutta, 1922;

I.—Inscription on a marble tablet in the gallery of the tomb.
Reign of Babur, 937/1530

لا اله الا الله محمد رسول الله

زهري رازم لرحي شناغری

همان گوش خور ملک سهی

آن ملیت نفل و درویک کمال

نثر از دلش ترزاپ ماه سهی

نظر از نیزاغ ترزاپ زلال

طروتی شیر مقاتل یی میثال

بابل سنش بی شهاب گران

از بی تاریخ سال فوت از

چین فرام سربنانی خیال

شد عد میثال یه تاریخ ار

دیگری شد طروت شکر مقاتل


زهري رمل جتان ساده ام ام ارخ خلاف من

طبق سهاد نیک بس نهان مشک یاری کن

(1) مهدی خواجه سید باهرا جکال

شد دانی این اساس به شهاب میثال

(2) کفتم سهی جمال مهدی خواجه

تاریخ بهای چیر قرندنه سرال

حریه شهاب اعظمین الپهلوی

"There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet.

The earth was honoured by this tablet in the reign of Babar the emperor and
champion of faith."

(1) "Mis Khusrau, the king of the kingdom of words (poetry), the ocean of accom-
plishment and sea of perfection.

(2) His prose is more attractive than flowing water, his poetry is cleaner than
limpid water.

(3) (He is) a peerless singing nightingale and an unparalleled sugar-tongued parrot.

(4) For the date of his death, when I bowed my head above the knees of thought,

(5) A chronogram occurred ‘ peerless’ and another ‘ Sugar-tongued parrot.’

(792 A.H. = 1388 A.D.)

"The tablet of my dust is without even a word of hopes of a meeting with my
beloved, simplicity is the only sign of my true love."

(1) "Mahdi Khwaja, a Sayyid of rank and dignity, became the founder of this
matchless and incomparable building.

(2) I said ‘ the good efforts of Mahdi Khwaja,’ when they enquired of me the date
of the foundation of this building.

It is written by Shihab the enigmatist of Hizât.”

897 + 40 = 937

(=1530)
II.—Inscription on the walls of the outer enclosure of Khusrav’s tomb.  
Reign of Humayun, 938/1531-2

On the northern wall.

On the western wall.

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(1) "Khusrav the king of the kingdom of works and the head and chief of saints, who's name is (engraved) on the tablet of world like the mark on hard stone.
(2) He (lit. his intellect) composed verses in such an elegant style that the tablet of meaning was adorned with it.
(3) He dived into the sea of reflection and by the grace (of God) brought out the pearls of expression from it.
(4) In the year five times five (25) and seven hundred from the flight of His Holiness (Prophet) he departed from this world to the next.  
      May his end be good.

725 (=1325)

(5) By the divine decree Sidra (a tree in paradise) became the residence of the bird of his soul, when the call 'Irja' (turn to me) reached him from the high world.
(6) Nine hundred and thirty-eight years had passed from Hijrat to the reign of Humayun, the king and champion of faith, and the wise,
(7) An emperor, so worthy, that the angels might well ever pray for his prosperity to the great God.
(8) Of high rank, wealthy, and pure, like whom there has never been nor ever will be one so peerless or matchless.
(9) O God! as long as the world exists may he ever remain in prosperity, and may the Lord of the world be his friend, helper and defender against his enemies."
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III.—Inscription on the inner walls of the tomb.
Reign of Jahangir, 1014/1605-6

On the Eastern wall.

On the Northern wall.

On the Western wall.

On the Southern wall.

(1) "O Hero, peerless in the world, I am a supplicant at thy tomb.
(2) It has been built by Tahir; eternal blessing is always found here.
(3) Wisdom thus spoke the date of its foundation, say "At the Tomb," for it is a place of secrets.

"The composer of these lines and founder of this building is Tahir Muhammad 'Imad-u-d Din Hasan son of Sultan Ali Shahwari, in the year 1014 Hijra (1605-6 A.D.), may God forgive his sins and conceal his faults. The scribe 'Abdu-n Nabi son of Aliyub."

(1) "O thou! who hast the sweet drink of love in thy cup and receivest messages constantly from the friend.
(2) The house of Farid is ordered by thee, hence it is that thou art entitled Nisam.
(3) Immortal is the slave Fakrur, for he has his thousand lives is thy slave."

(1) "My name is Nok (righteous) and 'Great Bukhara'; [it contains] two shis, two limes, two gils and two jims.
(2) If you can evolve my name from these letters I shall know thou art a wise man.
Scribe the same as mentioned above ('Abdu-n Nabi son of Aliyub) the grandson of Shahl Farid Shakar Ganj."

2 zaila . . . . . . 2 x 300 = 600 (ks).
2 limes . . . . . . 2 x 50 = 100 (Sin).
2 gils . . . . . . . 2 x 100 = 200 (Ro).
2 jims . . . . . . . 2 x 5 = 10 (Wagh).
IV.—Inscription on a marble tablet built in the northern wall, inside the tomb.

Reign of Jahangir

نور الدين محمد
بدر شهشهاء عالم دينه إبر الظفر
باداه عادل حسني ناري
خلي الله سلطنة رأفت
على العالمين ذو رحمة

"In the reign of the emperor, the asylum of the world, the father of victory, the just king (named) Nūr-ud-Dīn Muḥammad Jahāngīr, the champion of faith, may God perpetuate his kingdom and reign and extend over all the words his beneficence and benevolence."

SURVEY PLAN OF NIZĀMUD DĪN, DELHI