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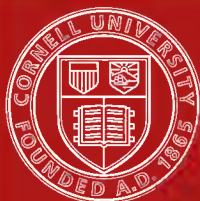
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THE LEGENDS OF THE PANJÂB.

BY

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PREFACE TO VOLUME III.

It is nearly twenty years ago since I made up my mind to publish by instalments in original and translation my collection of the legends told in the Panjâb. The work proceeded regularly for two years, and somewhat irregularly for two years more, but I could only manage to publish at long intervals during the succeeding six, since when I have been able to publish nothing. The exigencies of official life in India are responsible for the irregularity of publication, for the fact is that, in the matter of writing books about India, the official proposes but the Government disposes. My own experience has been merely that of others similarly circumstanced, for in the midst of my self-imposed labours I found myself transferred back to my old Province of Burma and then to the Andaman Islands, where I have had to work amidst associations so alien to those in the Panjâb and have been occupied by duties so numerous and absorbing as to render it impossible to continue in any form the work of publishing the Legends. This is an old story in India, for to the preface of the third edition (1823) of Sir William Jones' *Grammar of the Persian Language* there is attached a significant note:—"My professional duties having wholly engaged my attention and induced me not only to abandon Oriental Literature, but even to efface as far as possible the very traces of it from my memory, I committed the conduct and revisal of this Edition of my *Grammar* and the composition of the index to Mr. Richardson."

I have, therefore, determined to let the matter rest where it is and to satisfy myself with the completion of three volumes, although it has happened that I have been able to print only exactly half of what I had collected. It has so chanced that the number of legends and stories published in the three

volumes which are now completed, is 59, and that a careful survey of the total collection shows it to number 118 separate tales.

Although I have no hope of being able to print the whole collection, it may be of value to give a list here of those stories that have been partially prepared for publication and of those that have not yet been examined or translated; for, whether or not other hands will ever take up and carry to a conclusion the work mine have commenced, the following list will serve as a guide to the riches contained in the unwritten lore of the Panjâb, for those who may interest themselves therein.

Roughly Prepared for Publication.

- LX.—The Legend of Râjâ Harnâkas.
 LXI.—A Miracle of Bâwâ Fârid.
 LXII.—Story of Shâh Bahâwal Shér.
 LXIII.—Story of Dullâ Bhattî.
 LXIV.—Aurangzêb and Gurû Gôbind Singh.
 LXV.—Ranjît Singh and Muzaffar Khân of Multân.
 LXVI.—Râjâ Rattan Sain of Chittaur.
 LXVII.—The Song of Bhûrâ and Bâdal of Chittaur.
 LXVIII.—The Marriage of Shiv.
 LXIX.—The Story of Bandâ Bairâgî.
 LXX.—The Legend of Adham Faqîr.
 LXXI.—The Story of Râi Môrnî.
 LXXII.—A Song of Guggâ.

Not yet Translated.

- LXXIII.—The Story of Jarâsandh.
 LXXIV.—Brij Râj of Jammûn and Ghamandâ of Gulêr.
 LXXV.—The Story of Mândêv of Jammûn.
 LXXVI.—The Ballad of Harî Singh Nalwâ.
 LXXVII.—The Song of Khawâs Khân.

- LXXVIII.—The Legend of Dhólá and Sammî.
 LXXIX.—A Version of Râjâ Jagdêo.
 LXXX.—A Legend of Râjâ Rasâlû.
 LXXXI.—The Story of Jaimal and Fatteh.
 LXXXII.—A Song about Râjâ Jaswant of Jôdhpûr.
 LXXXIII.—The Song of Mirân Sayyid Hussain Walî.
 LXXXIV.—The Story of Harî Chand.
 LXXXV.—The Story of Dâûd Bâdshâh.
 LXXXVI.—Shiv and the Weaver.
 LXXXVII.—The Story of Râjâ Jôbinâs.
 LXXXVIII.—The Legend of Mirzâ and Sâhibân.
 LXXXIX.—A Story about Aurangzêb.
 XC.—The Legend of Râjâ Amar Singh.
 XCI.—Akbar and Jâmil Bêg.
 XCII.—The Legend of Râjâ Kârag.
 XCIII.—The Song of Târâ Âzim.
 XCIV.—Dâûd Khân of the Dakhan.
 XCV.—Râjâ Mân Singh of Âmbêr.
 XCVI.—The Wars of Rajaurî.
 XCVII.—The Story of Ranjît Dêv of Jammûn.
 XCVIII.—The Song of Suchêt Singh of Jammûn.
 XCIX.—The Song of Amar Singh.
 C.—The Legend of the Râjâ of Jaisalmêr.
 CI.—The Story of Râjâ Bhîm.
 CII.—Sikandar Zu'lkaran and Shêr Jang Bâdshâh.
 CIII.—The Story of Dâÿâ Râm Gûjar.
 CIV.—A Version of Râjâ Jagdêo.
 CV.—The Song of Jaimal and Fatteh.
 CVI.—The Story of Bhâo.
 CVII.—The Story of Kâlîgarh.
 CVIII.—The Wars of Jaimal and Fatteh.
 CIX.—The Story of Chandarbhân.

CX.—Râoî Nauṭankî and the Panjâbî Lad.

CXI.—Another Version of Jagdêo.

CXII.—The Story of Rânâ Maldêv of Garh Mêrtâ.

CXIII.—The History of Kasûr.

CXIV.—The Story of Bikarmâjît.

CXV.—The Story of Maghrab Khân.

CXVI.—A Legend of Râjâ Nal.

CXVII.—The Story of Râjâ Chand.

CXVIII.—The Story of Râjâ Bhartari.

The present volume has been completed precisely on the same lines as those that have preceded it; the only difference being in the addition of an index to the three supplementary volumes and of a supplementary index to this Preface. The necessities of printing have obliged me to construct two indexes in this manner, despite the plan being less convenient to the reader than that of one index only to the whole work. I have endeavoured to make the indexes true guides to all the points. I wished to bring into prominence in writing the volumes, as from their nature the matters to which any particular student would desire his attention to be drawn are necessarily overlaid by, and partially hidden away under, much that is purely extraneous.

In the remarks that I am now about to make I will try and gather together for the benefit of students the points upon which it seems to me that the legends give valuable evidence. I shall not insist on any general conclusions, for my intention is to maintain throughout the general character of this work as one of original research,—of evidence of facts at first hand—leaving it to such individuals as may honour my pages by perusal to draw their own conclusions from such facts as they may find in them. I shall not do more than help them to the best of my ability to find what they may be looking for with as little trouble as possible by the aid of the indexes and the Prefaces to this and the preceding volumes.

In endeavouring to bring into a brief comprehensive view the folklore contained in *The Legends of the Panjāb*, I have, in common with all investigators of popular lore, found myself face to face with a difficulty, *viz.*, the best mode of presentation. If one is strictly scientific and arranges the facts in a severe sequence, one is not only apt to be dull, but also to incorrectly interpret the subject, which from its very nature hardly admits of a logical treatment. To begin with, the folk are not consistent and their ideas are all hazy and muddled. Consequently the points of folklore are so far from being clearly separable that they are always mixed up with each other. Any given notion is not traceable to a distinct single basis, but strikes its roots in fact into many, and can often be classified indifferently under any one of several heads. The surest way therefore of projecting oneself into the folk-mind—so far as such a process is possible—is, with the aid of a loose and simple general sequence or classification, to take the various points as they have seemed to grow one out of the other in folk logic and processes of thought. This is practically the line that every one who undertakes the exposition of the subject seems to adopt in the end, and I apprehend that it is a procedure that will commend itself to my readers.

The value of the *Legends* for local historical purposes and for the linguistic forms in which many of them are conveyed has been already explained in the preceding volumes, but in addition they present a pretty complete view of the machinery of Indian folktales. The extent to which they actually do so can be gauged by experts from the typical tables to be found in the course of my remarks that follow, and drawn up on the lines just indicated. It is my hope that the tables will bring home to some of my readers what a wide and fruitful field any given collection of Indian tales affords; how well worth indexing they are for those who seek to get at the roots of the genuine lore of the folk in any portion of the world.

Now the so-called faculties of the human mind, despite their apparent diversity, are in reality very limited in extent, and

are referable to quite a few radical capacities. Those of attention and co-ordination will be found to cover most of the others that have names. Thus memory and observation are both referable to attention, and so are mathematics, logic, and grammar to co-ordination. Indeed, mankind, though unaware of it, talks mathematically, for the facts of speech can be actually stated clearly in terms of mathematics. And now when tracing the deas of folklore by apparently natural processes to their roots, I soon found myself harking back to grammar with its main divisions of subject and predicate; the matter to talk about and the conversation thereon. The subject divides itself into the hero and heroine, and the predicate into the commencement, the incidents, and the conclusion. But here all approach to clear division stops, and although the heroes are classed as natural and supernatural, and the heroines are considered according to qualities and peculiarities, and although the sub-heads under each of these are very numerous, it must be understood that they have been placed just as has been found convenient, that a very different disposition would probably be equally correct, and that most of the items can fairly occupy places under several heads.

Having thus explained my procedure and methods, I now give the tables themselves.

I. SUBJECT.

(I.) HERO.

A. Natural.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Miraculous conception and birth.
(a) Remarkable pregnancy of mother. 2. Substituted child. 3. Predestined child.
(a) Avenging hero.
(b) Imprisoned hero. 4. Calumniated child. 5. Acts and endowments. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Identification.
(a) Signs of the coming hero.
(b) Fulfilment of prophecy. 7. Companions, human and animal.
(a) Unrequited faithfulness.
(b) Community of birth. 8. Sons.
(a) Nostrums for procuring sons. |
|---|--|

B. Supernatural.

1. Immortality.
 - (a) Reappearance.
 - (b) Saints.
 - (c) Ghosts.
 - (d) Spirits.
 - (e) Gods.
 - (f) Godlings.
 - (g) Warriors (*bírs*).
 - (h) Demons and devils.
 - (i.) *Exorcism*.
2. Second sight.
3. Miracles.
 - (a) Delegated power as to miracles.
 - (i.) *Miracles by proxy*.
 - (b) Restoration to life.
 - (c) Restoration to health.
 - (i.) *Cures*.
 - (ii.) *Benefits*.
 - (1) Sons.
 - (2) Rain.
 - (d) Inexhaustible supplies.
 - (i.) *Voracity extraordinary*.
 - (e) Miracles for injury.
 - (i.) *Curses*.
 - (ii.) *Nightmares*.
 - (f) Stock miracles.
 - (g) Native view of miracles.
 - (h) Secret miracles.
4. Magic *versus* Miracles.
 - (a) Sympathetic magic.
 - (i.) *Effigies*.
 - (ii.) *Ceremonial cannibalism*.
 - (iii.) *Life-index*.
 - (1) Life token.
 - (2) Token-trees.
5. Enchantments.
 - (a) Prophylactic charms.
 - (i.) *Snakebite*.
6. Prayer.
 - (a) Faith.
7. Invocation.
 - (a) Summoning the absent.
8. Propitiation.
 - (a) By abuse.
 - (b) Offerings.
 - (c) Libation.
 - (d) Ceremonial generosity.
 - (i.) *Charity*.
 - (ii.) *Alms*.
 - (1) Self-sacrifice.
 - (e) Sacrifice.
 - (i.) *Asceticism*.
 - (ii.) *Penance*.
 - (iii.) *Austerity*.
 - (iv.) *Slavery for debt*.
 - (f) Vows and oaths.
 - (i.) *Ceremonial oaths*.
 - (1) Antidotes.
 - (ii.) *Vowing and swearing thrice*.
9. Prophecy.
10. Metamorphosis.
 - (a) Disguise.
 - (i.) *Change of skin*.
11. Metempsychosis.
 - (a) Sati.
12. Counterparts of saints.
 - (a) Hagiolatry.
 - (b) Demons.
 - (c) Godlings.
 - (d) Ogres.
 - (e) Giants.
 - (f) Sea-monsters.
 - (g) Mermaids.
 - (h) Serpents.
 - (i.) *Characteristics and powers*.
 - (ii.) *Miracles*.
 - (iii.) *Origin*.

13. Anthropomorphosis.

- (a) Humanised animals.
 - (i.) *Talking.*
 - (ii.) *Grateful.*
 - (iii.) *Revengeful.*
- (b) Humanised things.
 - (i.) *Talking.*
 - (ii.) *Enchanted things.*
 - (1) Circles.
 - (2) Lines.
 - (3) Necklaces.
 - (4) Rosaries.
 - (5) Arms.
 - (6) Magic numbers.
 - (7) Holy water.
 - (a) *Blood.*
 - (β) *Milk.*
 - (γ) *Ambrosia*
(*amrita*).
 - (δ) *Sacredness of*
water.
 - (8) Miraculous vehicle.

- (a) *Heroic leap.*
- (β) *Flying*
through the
air.
- (γ) *Winged ani-*
mals.
- (δ) *Winged things.*
- (ε) *Migrating ima-*
ges and
tombs.
- (9) Magic music.
 - (a) *Magic instru-*
ments.
- (10) Hair and its powers.
 - (a) *Sacredness of*
the beard.
- (11) Invisibility.
- (12) Procedure for en-
chantment.
- (13) Priests.
 - (a) *Possession.*
 - (β) *Exorcism.*

(II.) HEROINE.

A. Qualities.

- 1. Counterpart of hero.
- 2. Native view of women.
- 3. Tabu.
- 4. Characteristics.
 - (a) *Delicacy.*
 - (b) *Attraction.*
- 5. Identification.
- 6. Beneficent heroines.
 - (a) Fairies.
 - (i.) *Celestial messengers.*
 - (ii.) *Foreign brides.*
- 7. Maleficent heroines.
 - (a) Calumniators.
 - (b) Co-wives.
 - (c) Stepmothers in polygamy.
 - (d) Witches.
 - (i.) *Wise-women.*
 - (1) Powers.
 - (2) Attributes.
 - (e) Ogress.
 - (i.) *Serpent heroine.*
- 8. Foundling.
 - (a) Egg heroine.
 - (b) Sleeping beauty.
 - (i.) *Foreign or irregular*
brides.

B. Peculiarities.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Chastity.</p> <p>2. Virtue.
(a) Male <i>versus</i> female.
(b) The zone, male and female.</p> <p>3. Maintenance of virtue.</p> <p>4. Ordeals.
(a) Tests for identification.</p> | <p>(i.) <i>Fulfilment of prophecy.</i>
(ii.) <i>Signs of royalty and saintship.</i>
(iii.) <i>Pilgrimage stamps.</i></p> <p>(b) Impossible task.
(i.) <i>Swayamvara.</i>
(ii.) <i>Riddles.</i>
(1) <i>Symbolical speech.</i>
(iii.) <i>Ceremonial gambling.</i></p> |
|---|---|

II. PREDICATE.

A. Commencement.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Seeking fortune.</p> <p>2. Oracles.</p> <p>3. Prophecy.
(a) Fortune-telling.
(b) Horoscopes.</p> <p>4. Fate.
(a) Preordination.
(b) Decree of fate.</p> <p>5. Prophetic dreams.
(a) Interpretation.</p> <p>6. Augury.
(a) Divination.
(b) Omens.</p> <p>7. Luck.</p> | <p>(a) Actions.
(b) Times.
(c) Astrology.</p> <p>S. Ill luck.
(a) Misfortune.
(b) Sin.
(i.) <i>Widows.</i>
(ii.) <i>Ceremonial uncleanness.</i>
(1) <i>Leprosy.</i>
(2) <i>Treatment of lepers.</i>
(iii.) <i>Femole infanticide.</i>
(iv.) <i>Expiation.</i>
(v.) <i>Purification.</i>
(1) <i>Ceremonial bathing.</i></p> |
|--|--|

B. Incidents.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Jewels.
(a) Origin of jewels.
(i) <i>Rubies.</i>
(ii.) <i>Pearls.</i>
(b) Flowers.
(c) Laughter, tears and speech.</p> <p>2. Tricks.</p> <p>3. Ceremonies.
(a) Marriage.
(i.) <i>Betrothal.</i></p> | <p>(b) Adoption.
(c) Inheritance.
(d) Divination.
(e) Initiation.
(i.) <i>Earboring.</i>
(f) Mourning.
(g) Conventional.
(i.) <i>Challenge</i>
(ii.) <i>Disgrace.</i></p> <p>4. Domestic customs,</p> |
|---|---|

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 5. Beliefs. | (a) Aspect of shrines. |
| (a) Animals. | (b) Refuge. |
| (b) Celestial bodies. | (i.) <i>Sanctuary.</i> |
| (c) Eclipses. | (ii.) <i>Asylum.</i> |
| (d) The human body. | (iii.) <i>Hospitality.</i> |
| (e) The deluge. | (c) Calling by name. |
| (f) The Deity. | (d) Releasing prisoners. |
| 6. Customs based on beliefs. | (e) Ceremonial umbrellas. |
| | (i) <i>Signs of dignity.</i> |

C. Conclusion.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Poetical justice. | (b) Ceremonial suicide. |
| 2. Vengeance. | (i.) <i>Self-immolation.</i> |
| (a) Punishment. | (c) Stock punishments. |
| (i.) <i>Torture.</i> | |

We are now in a position to tackle the multifarious details of the subject with some chance of arriving at definite ideas, even though the extent of the materials obliges me to be brief almost to baldness. First of all it will be perceived that the typical hero is born on an auspicious day by various forms of miraculous conception or impregnation, and that his mother experiences a miraculous or at least a remarkable term of pregnancy. He is a substituted child in one instance, that of Râjâ Jagdêô, by an accident which curiously brings out an allusion to an old custom of registering princely births, and in another by his own act, as a mode of magnanimous self-sacrifice. Now, substitution of children in folktales is usually an act of malice, and its attribution to a mere chance occurrence is, so far as I know, a novel feature. He is a child of predestination fated in one case to slay the ogre who is to devour his hostess's son, the ogre being aware of the predestination. In such case he would appear to be a variant of the avenging hero, pre-ordained to set right what is wrong in this world, a belief common apparently to the whole world of religious notion. As regards this last idea, the form it usually assumes in this collection is the common one of predestination to kill his own parents, who try as usual to avert their fate by imprisoning their uncanny offspring in a pit, necessarily to no purpose. He is the

victim of calumny everywhere, the stock cause being jealousy or ill-will begotten of unrequited love. Versions of Potiphar's Wife are common in Indian and all Oriental folklore. There are two in the Legend of Râjâ Rasâlû alone ; one relating to his step-mother, Lônân, and the other to his wife, Kôkilân. He, of course, assists the grateful animal to his own subsequent advantage, and obtains access to the heroine by disguising himself as her husband with success. He is endowed with extraordinary and impossible strength or skill. His identification is almost always due to miraculous intervention of some sort, and we have more than one instance of the corollary to that idea in the signs of the coming hero with which he has to comply, a notion not far removed from that of fulfilment of prophecy. The "signs" are in themselves, however, as might be expected, childish and not very dignified. *E. g.*, his horse's heel-ropes will bind and his sword will slay giants of their own accord, and his arrow will pierce seven frying-pans. He is able to strike a pair of bamboos with arrows and knock the golden cup off the top of them. He can knock down the mangoes off a particular unapproachable tree.

The hero has companions of the conventional sorts, human beings, beasts, birds, and insects, who talk to him and assist him in his difficulties. Thus, Râjâ Pârag (Parîkshit) has a falcon that saves his life. Râjâ Rasâlû has a parrot who on more than one occasion helps him to a mistress. Râjâ Jagdêô has a horse and a servant to start with on his adventures, a following which, after success, is enlarged to a wife, a maid, and several servants. The hero's human companions, however, sometimes desert him in his times of difficulty, a situation apparently introduced to enhance the glory of the hero himself, while his animal companions undergo at times the fate of Gelert, and are killed for their endeavours on behalf of their masters, an incident well known to Indian and other folklore generally. Accidental community of birth is a common and perhaps natural characteristic of the hero's companions

everywhere. The hero and his horse or his constant friend are frequently described as having been born at the same place and hour. It is to be expected that a chance of this kind should attract the popular attention and lead to an assumption of community of fate in the beings so circumstanced.

Perhaps the most deeply engrained superstition of all among the Indian populations is the necessity of having a son as the surest means to salvation, and there is no subject in Indian folklore of more universal occurrence than that of the miraculously and fortunately born hero-son and his doings. There is no point upon which folktales more frequently turn. They hold that the desire of a son to succeed has on the people is more than once powerfully indicated in the *Legends*. Says Râjâ Jêwar in the Gurû Guggâ Legend to his wife:—"Without a son is no salvation in the world (as) all the Scriptures have sung. Our life has been wasted fruitlessly in the world." Answers Rânî Bâchhal:—"O Râjâ, listen to the thoughts in my heart. Without a son I am uneasy as a *chakwî* at night. Like the *chakwî* at night, Râjâ, I am restless day and night. No child plays in the yard and my heart is very full." In the Râjâ Dhrû (Dhruva) Legend the point is still more powerfully put:—"There was a well known Râjâ Uttânpat (Uttânâpâda) of Ajudhîâ. His Queen was barren and he had no hope of a son. He was hopeless and full of sorrow. To him continually said his Queen:—"Râjâ, we have no son and the palace is therefore empty. The garden is dry and hath no gardener.' 'Rânî, a cowife is an evil and burneth the heart. Thou wilt understand when thy heart burneth. Rânî, if thou wilt and sayest it from thy heart, I will bring (home) another (wife) and be at peace.' 'Râjâ, marry and I will say naught against it. Let there be a son in the palace to succeed to the throne. Râjâ, who hath milk (plenty) and a son in his house, Knoweth no sorrow and sleepeth in great comfort. Without a son rule and honour are empty; Therefore, Râjâ, it will be well with thee (to marry')." There can be no doubt as to the strength of a

desire when a woman will deliberately introduce a cowife into her home to secure it. A desire so universal, so strong, so important to the peasantry necessarily finds not only frequent expression in their stories and legends, but also in the acts of daily life, sometimes of a very serious nature. Women have over and over again been guilty of murder and incendiarism due to wild superstitious attempts to gratify it. I can recall a case in which the ignorant low-class mother of daughters only has, with the assistance of her elder daughter, killed a little girl belonging to a neighbour by way of human sacrifice to the supernatural powers to procure her a son at the next confinement, and a case in which a barren woman of the superior peasantry set fire to a neighbour's dwelling with the same view.

The whole category of nostrums known to Indian folk wisdom, and it is a very wide one, is employed by those who are so unhappy as to be barren or son-less to avert or overcome the misfortune. Every kind of supernatural being, god, godling, hero, saint, wise-woman, wizard, demon, devil, ogre, exorcist, and the like can grant or procure sons. The faith in the givers and the power to give is boundless and ineradicable, going back to the dawn almost of Indian folklore. But, astonishingly varied as are the nostrums tried, the oldest and still the favourite in story is the giving of something to eat to the would-be mother—flowers, fruit, rice, grain, seeds, and so on. Prayer and saintly intercession are also common in the *Legends*, more or less consciously introduced for the glorification of high places; and of course holy wells, pools, tanks, shrines, tombs, graves, and other spots, out of which money can be made by way of fees are notorious for fulfilling the wishes of the disappointed.

Sons born in response to vows, intercession, faith in nostrums, intervention of holy personages, and so forth are almost always heroes ushered into the world with the customary portents and acting in the ordinarily heroic manner. It is only, therefore, by considering what the possession of sons

means to a native of India that one can grasp the full import to an Indian audience of such a story as that of the Balôch hero, Jârô, in the Mîr Châkur Legend, who slew his two sons in fulfilment of a rash vow.

Apart from though closely connected with purely imaginary heroes, or beings round whom a mass of myth has collected, by far the most important class of popular heroes in North India are the saints and holy personages, Hindu and Muhammadan. The holy man, godling, or saint of Northern India is precisely the demon or devil (*bhûta*) of South India. There is at bottom no difference between any of them, and the stories about them are hopelessly mingled together. Be his origin Hindu or Muhammadan or merely animistic, the saintly or demoniacal, *i. e.*, supernatural, hero's attributes, powers, characteristics, actions, and life-history are in Indian folklore always of the same kind and referable to the same fundamental ideas. He does not belong to any particular form of creed or religion, but to that universal animism which underlies the religious feeling of all the Indian peasantry. I can see no radical difference in the popular conception of the Hindû Gurû Gôrakhnâth or the Muhammadan Sakhî Sarwar of the North, and the animistic Kôti and Channayya of the South. The peculiarities of any one of them are proper to them all. They are best studied as a whole.

In the *Legends* holy personages play a larger and more important part than the Râjâs or secular heroes themselves, and their characteristics and the notions about them are well displayed. Thus, in the quaint tales that have gathered round the memory of the Saints of Jâlandhar, we find an account of the struggle for local supremacy between a Musalmân saint and his rival and counterpart a Hindu *jôji* and the point for the present purpose is that the characteristics and the powers of the pair are represented as being precisely the same: they both belong to the same class of supernaturally-endowed beings, and the result of the contest clearly hinges on the sectarian proclivities of the narrator of the story.

Immortality and reappearance, ideas apparently common to the whole human race, are widely spread attributes of Indian holy men, the title of Saint Apparent (Zâhir Pîr) being by no means limited to the mixed Hindu-Musalmân canonised warrior Gurû Guggâ, and in these pages we have a case in which the opposing saintly personages, Hindu and Musalmân, on both sides of a sectarian struggle kill each other and all become living, *i. e.*, immortal, saints (*jîutê pîr*). But in other matters than immortality we find that the gods and saintly heroes are much mixed up, and naturally, in popular conception; and we have more than one instance in which the special attributes of the Deity, even from the Hindu standpoint, are ascribed to such personages, ought we to say more accurately, such abstractions as Gurû Gôrakhnâth. And *vice versâ* even such gods *par excellence* as Śiva and Pârbatî are reduced almost to the level of ordinary mortals.

In connection with the belief in immortality, that pathetic hope of the incapacity of a whole personality for death, so universal in mankind, we find that saints, especially deceased saints, are much mixed up in Indian idea with ghosts and spirits. In this form they have the power of appearance peculiar to ghosts all the world over, particularly at midnight—"mid-night the time for saints, *adhî râit Pîrân dâ vêlâ*" is an expression that occurs more than once. They appear also in dreams, sometimes I rather suspect with a view to helping the progress of the story.

A careful study of the instances in which beings endowed with immortality, *i. e.*, ghosts and spirits, on the one hand, and gods, godlings, and warriors (*bîrs*) on the other, appear in the *Legends*, and of their actions as recorded therein, will afford yet another proof that fundamentally there is no individual difference between them in the popular conception, nor between them and their mortal counterparts, the holy personages of all sorts. They all, the mortal and the immortal, do the same thing, have the same characteristics and powers, and are introduced into folktales for the same purposes. The

differences to be observed in titles and attributes is due to an overlaying, a mere veneer, of rival religious philosophies—thus, where ghosts and spirits appear the tale will be found to be Muhammadan in origin or form, where gods, godlings, and warriors appear it will similarly be found to be Hindu in origin or form. Where the tale refers back to days before set Hinduism, or has its origin in an anti-Hindu form of belief, or is given an anti-Hindu cast, the appearance will be demoniacal or animistic. In every case they will belong to one fundamental category and be essentially animistic heroes, or they may with equal truth be classed as saints minus the veneer of Musalmân, *i. e.*, Western, philosophy.

The corollary to the notion of ghosts and spirits, exorcism and the casting out of devils, only once occurs in the *Legends*, though miraculous and magical cures of all other sorts abound, and then only by a reference, which is, however, a significant one. For there a Hindu *jôgî* cures a Muhammadan family of goblins and spirits by medicines and herbs;² and it is to be observed that in the passage in question the goblins were Musulmân (*jinn*) and the spirits were Hindu (*bhût*).

Perhaps the most strongly marked variant of the idea of immortality to be found in Indian belief is the very common folktale expedient of temporary death. In the *Legends* there is, in the story of Râjâ Jagdêô, a distinct instance of it, and also a matter-of-fact allusion to it in the legend of Hari Chand (Harischandra) made in terms that clearly show the universality of the acceptance of the notion.

Supernatural personages in Indian story have as a matter of course, in common with many otherwise work-a-day mortals, the power of second sight—that knowledge of things that are hidden—and, in addition to forestalling secret malice, proving innocence “not proven,” and so on, can detect unseen thieves, a power by the way claimed by certain leaders of theosophy and esoteric Buddhism who ought to know better.

² “*Dindâ khalkat nân bûtân tē golân kardâ jinn bhût dē usj, giving the people herbs and medicines he cured (those possessed of) goblins and spirits.*”

Supernatural personages may also be said to possess certain inherent powers, of which that of working miracles is the most important. So much are miraculous powers inherent in saints that sainthood is held to be proved by the possession of the wonder-working gifts, and it is not an offence to holy men to seek to test them. Every one in contact with a saint is considered to be justified in doing so. These powers can be delegated, and we find several instances of miracles performed through an agent, by proxy as it were. The agency need not be necessarily that of a supernatural or human being. Things dedicated or sacred or appertaining to a saint are sufficient for the purpose, as when a fountain or well sacred to a saint will effect a cure, or when his flute, or conch, or horse, or other animate or inanimate thing belonging to him, will procure for him even a passing desire. The miracles effected at tombs and shrines belong to this class, and these are ubiquitous in India generally, their universality giving form to the widely-spread and ^{very} ~~plenty~~ notion of the lover miraculously disappearing alive into the tomb of the dead and buried beloved. It occurs in the great love tale of Hîr and Râñjhâ, borrowed, I fancy, from an identical incident in the older and equally famous tale of Sassî and Punnân, where Râñjhâ, transformed into a wonder-working saint, "lifting up his hand prayed much (to God and said):—' Either do thou bring her to life or slay me! All things are easy to thee, O God (Rabbâ), mighty and merciful.' It is said that the grave (of Hîr) opened and Râñjhâ went in."

As regards the human workers of miracles the sense of agency or proxy is distinctly inferred in the following remarkable narrative about one of the Saints of Jâlandhar:— " ' Shêr Shâh is dead; where shall I bury him? ' And he (the brother) also prayed to the Holy Bâwâ Jân, saying:—' The dying ascetic is dead: what shall I do now? ' From out of his contemplation said the Saint:—' All that came will return sound: it is the word of God. Ye should all go to Kaudê Shâh's (follower of Bâwâ Jân) abode. Go to him and say:— ' Pass thy hand over him.' At last obeying the order they

ran to Kaudê Shâh, Gave him the message and brought him to their abode. Said Kaudê Shâh :—‘ My friends, I am his slave, It is Bâwâ Jân that restoreth to life and giveth me the credit.’ When Kaudê Shâh passed his hand over the corpse, Then life came to it and he became quite well.’

By assuming the power of working miracles to be an attribute of saints, one becomes prepared for their being able to do anything that is necessary for their own personal glory, the protection of themselves and their followers, or the exigencies of the tales about them. But even then one is sometimes taken aback at the ingenuity of the story-tellers, *e. g.*, causing the gods to cash a document that corresponds to a cheque is the bright idea of a tale so well known about Narsâ Bhagat as to merely require a reference to it in modern story-telling, and carrying a tiger up his sleeve to terrify the ruler of the period is another bright idea attributed to Shâh Qumês. In yet another instance the *legal* remark made by a saint of a parted orthodox Hindu couple after restoration to life is a greater revolt against the accepted situation in such cases in Hindu life than at first appears.

But the very quaintest, and in some respects the most remarkable and instructive tale I have ever come across of an Indian miracle, is one arising out of the well-known scientific and astronomical proclivities of the celebrated Râjâ Jâi Singh Sawâi of Jâipur, who flourished only one hundred and fifty years ago, and to be found in the *Legends*. It is quite worth extracting from the general story of Râjâ Jagdêô and repeating here. “Now Râjâ Jâi Singh had a moon of his own, which he hung up in the sky to give light to his people, and, of course, when Râjâ Jagdêô was in the city it was lighted up as usual, and this made him ask about it, and he learnt that it was an artificial moon made by Râjâ Jâi Singh. As soon he learnt this he determined to play a practical joke, and found out where the moon-makers lived, and sent his servant to fetch them in order to make him a moon like Râjâ Jâi Singh’s. The moon-makers had heard of what happened to

the oilman for refusing oil [Râjâ Jagdêô had stabbed him], so they were afraid to refuse also, and accompanied the servant to Râjâ Jagdêô's house. When they arrived he asked them how much they wanted for a moon. They replied, whatever he wished to pay, so he gave them 500 golden pieces, and ordered a moon like Jâi Singh's. Calling them quickly spake Râjâ Jagdêô to the moon-makers, And had a moon put up in the heavens (that burnt) without oil: All the city cried out at it, And Jâi Singh said to his minister, 'the sun hath risen!' As soon as the moon-makers had raised up a second moon Râjâ Jâi Singh heard of it and asked who had done such a thing. His officials told him that it was by order of the man who had killed the oilman."

It is obviously necessary to the greatness of the saints, indeed to the very success of the shrines on the proceeds of which the bards and story-tellers live, that holy men should be able to protect themselves and their followers; and the varieties of ways in which they are fabled to be able to do this is surprisingly large. They can, of course, go unharmed through ordeals by fire, and can starve without injury. They can make themselves invulnerable by arrows, rocks, bullets, daggers, and what not, and can burst their fetters. They cannot be hanged, and can control and tame animals and slay them with ease. Even for such matters of mere personal advantage and comfort as keeping birds out of their gardens they effect miracles. In one place Shâh Qumês, in order to keep his horse in a mosque without defiling it, prevents it from evacuating for forty days! Râjâ Rasâlû cooks rice by placing it on his Rânî's breasts and procures water from a stone merely in order to get a dinner, and opens locked doors without keys in order to get at his mistress, illegitimately by the way. After all this one is somewhat surprised to learn in the *Legends* that it is wrong to work miracles for inadequate objects or for the mere pleasure of the thing. But the favourite miracle of the creation of a crowd of followers or wild beasts as a means of protection in a difficulty is probably an extension of that idea

of invisible supernatural assistance in all severe struggles that has taken so strong a hold on the popular imagination all over the world. And this leads to the consideration that in the study of the actual miracles attributed to saints and the like it is something more than merely interesting to observe how much they follow the general notions of the people as exhibited in their folktales, how much they are based on folklore, how much on the desires and aspiration of the folk themselves. Thus we may class as belonging to the idea of immortality and its corollaries the frequently recurring miracles of restoration to life, the vivification of an idol, and the curious instances of a child saint making a wooden horse run about and a wall into a hobby-horse when in want of a plaything. The restoration to the original form and life of human ashes, of a devoured bride and bridegroom, of an eaten horse and kid, are but extravagant extensions of the same idea. So also without the extravagance are the restoration to greenness and life of a dried-up garden, a dead tree, a withered forest. The odd miracles of making the *düb*-grass evergreen and fruit trees to bear fruit out of season are further developments of the main idea.

From restoration to life it is not a far cry to restoration to health, and as might be expected miraculous cures abound in the *Legends* and may almost be considered to be the stock in trade of a saint. With restoration to health I should be inclined to connect the bringing about of blessings and good fortune, the fulfilment of desires, the grant of assistance of every kind, especially in the case of followers and supporters. Saints are, of course, conspicuous for the power, directly or indirectly, to grant the most prominent of all the desires of the Indian peasantry, *i. e.*, sons to succeed them. This occurs again and again in the *Legends*, but instances are also found of the grant of promotion and high position in life. With these must also be classed the great "blessing" of a rural peasantry, the bringing of rain, and the great chief desires of seafarers, a fair wind and immunity from drowning. Saints can accordingly do all these things. In a land of great and dangerous

rivers, like the Panjâb, ferries and the crossing of rivers occupy a prominent place in the life of the people, and so we find a saint making a boat out of his begging gourd and an oar out of his staff when in a hurry to cross a stream, the form of this particular miracle being attributable to the universal belief in the miraculous vehicle.

Riches, including a plentiful supply of food, and assistance in procuring them, are largely desired everywhere, and so we have saints finding hidden treasure, turning all sorts of things into gold, and producing jewels and jewellery. We also find them making the sun to broil fish for themselves, and supplying followers with miraculous food. But cupidity demands much more than the mere supply of necessities, and the narrators of the stories about saints have had to cater to this failing of human nature, and hence the miraculous production of inexhaustible treasure and inexhaustible supplies of food, the inexhaustible bags, the stories of "loaves and fishes," and such like; the finding of hidden treasure and the creation of gold and jewels and of all sorts of unlikely objects, even out of a praying-carpet. From an inexhaustible supply to an inexhaustible capacity for absorbing it is a natural step, and so we find voracity extraordinary in many a quaint form to be a common capacity of heroes, gods, and ogres alike; indeed, of the last, as the enemy of the heroic tribe, it is the usual attribute or sign.

In opposition to the beneficent powers the converse powers to destroy life or inflict injury in an extraordinary way naturally appears in many an ingenious form, and with these may be classed the great family of saintly curses and nightmares or terrifying dreams. "He that can help can also injure," "the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away," are propositions involved in the glorification of every kind of hero. They are constantly brought forward in the *Legends* with as much emphasis as possible, the saints helping and injuring, giving and taking away and giving back again almost in the same breath. The withdrawing of all the water in the wells of the

enemy into the wells of his friends, attributed to Gôrakhnâth, is an act thoroughly to be appreciated in a dry and thirsty land like the Panjâb. So also would the hungry and greedy Panjâbî peasant appreciate the force of the method employed by Sakhî Sarwar of punishing a recalcitrant follower by making him vomit his food and turning his vessels of gold into brass.

Precisely as blessings can be conferred vicariously, so can injuries be similarly inflicted, and as a consequence of this idea a town fire is attributed to the fettering of a saint by its ruler. And lastly just as it is necessary for the bards and singers to glorify the saints, and inculcate a sense of their power for mischief, so it is also necessary, since bards are usually attached to particular saints, to maintain their individuality. Hence the peculiar habit of attributing stock miracles to certain saints. To explain: Dhannâ, the Bhagat, is always connected with the story of making a god out of a stone; Rôdê Shâh with the well-known greenness of the *dûb*-grass in the dry weather; Gurû Guggâ with speaking from his mother's womb; Sakhî Sarwar with several performed at his shrine; and Gôrakhnâth with a whole string of them performed in "the Land of Kârû."

The very large number of miracles that occur in the stories of saints, universally common as these stories themselves are, is due to the attitude of the native mind everywhere towards the marvellous. A miracle in India does not excite much wonder, and is to some extent looked upon as a natural incident in everyday life. Miracles are always occurring; every village has instances of them; everyone has knowledge of some that are notoriously within the experience of acquaintances. Even Europeans can hardly become intimate with the thoughts and customs of native neighbours without being cognisant of supposed miraculous occurrences around them. They are frequently believed to have happened to Europeans themselves. Sir Henry Lawrence is thus believed at Firôzpur in the Panjâb to have been compelled to compliance with a saint's behest by terrifying occurrences induced by the saint during sleep.

Almost precisely the same story has been current in the Ambala Cantonment about myself, and I have also conversed with the son of the child supposed to have been raised from the dead by the long-deceased saint Sakhî Sarwar for Dâñî Jattî, now the heroine of a popular Panjâbî Legend widely sung all over that Province. That personage and his neighbourhood had no sort of doubt as to the truth of the tale about his father and grandmother. It would never have occurred to them to doubt it. The once notorious Râm Singh Kûkâ, whom the present writer knew personally while a political prisoner in consequence of his raising a petty religious rebellion against the British Crown, was credited with miraculously lengthening the beam of a house for a follower at Firôzpur by way of helping him to preserve his property. This beam was shown to me in all good faith within ten years of the date of the supposed miracle. Such being the conditions one can hardly be surprised at what has been noted on the subject of the miraculous doings of saints and holy personages.

So far we have been dealing with miracles, whose value lies in their publicity, but the bards and tellers of the marvellous stories have by no means overlooked the importance to them, as a means of turning the popular imagination to their own benefit, of hidden or undisclosed miracles. In the *Legends* among the tales that have gathered round the Saints of Jâlandhar, we are specially treated to a relation of the "open and secret miracles of Sûfi Ahmad of Jâlandhar," and of the severe physical punishment of a woman for disclosing a secret miracle of another Jâlandhar saint. In other instances, disease, and even hereditary madness, are attributed to divulgence of miracles secretly performed by Shâh Qumês. Now, when one thinks over the enormous influence that the idea of ability to perform miracles secretly could be made to wield over the minds of a credulous and ignorant population, one wonders indeed that it does not more frequently crop up in Indian folklore; unless its occurrence is to be regarded as an outgrowth of the idea of the punishment of idle curiosity so

common in all folklore—the tales of Bluebeard's wives and so on—which again may perhaps be held to rest on the notion of tabu.

Miracles may be defined as wonders legitimately performed, while magic embraces the class of illegitimate wonders. The actual deeds, whether the result of miraculous powers or magical arts, seem to be much the same, and in India to be performed for much the same objects. The difference is that the one is right and holy, and the other is wrong and unholy. It is good to work marvels miraculously, but very bad to arrive at the same result by magic. And as, in the bard's eyes at any rate, all heroes, saintly or secular, are personages to be revered, one is not astonished at the very small part that magic is made to play in the *Legends*. Indeed, one scarcely ever sees it put forward as a mode of producing the innumerable marvels related. Magic is, however, distinctly attributed in one instance to a daughter of the Serpents, but only for the purpose of moving a heavy stone, an object which, in the case of a saint, would be related to have been achieved by a miracle. It is as distinctly attributed in another instance to Gôrakhnâth, in circumstances where a miracle would seem to have been more appropriate, and in the midst of a host of miracles related of this great saint or holy man. Indeed, in this last case the bard would seem to have confused the notions of miraculous and magical powers.

Of what is generally known as sympathetic magic, and may be nothing more than an extension of the notion of the delegated miracle, and so merely a cure by proxy, there is a strong instance in the Legend of Râjâ Dhôl, where the injured leg of a valuable camel is cured by firing that of a stray ass. Restoration to life and health, *i. e.*, cures, and their opposites, destruction and injury by effigy, are strictly extensions of the same idea.

Now, when a belief becomes rooted in the popular mind, a custom, however barbarous and disgusting, is sure to be based on it, and the apparently harmless notion of sympathetic

magic has led in India, and many other lands, to the horrible custom of ceremonial cannibalism. In the *Legends* we have distinct proofs of this, where *faqirs* eat up the body of a famous leech in order to obtain his curative powers, and Baloch heroes make roast meat of an enemy's ribs in order to absorb his "virtue," *i. e.*, fighting strength.

A harmless phase in the belief in sympathetic magic, leading to many a pretty and fanciful custom of the folk, is to be seen in a form which I have always flattered myself I discovered, when writing the notes to *Wide-awake Stories* a good many years ago, and then called by me the life-index. It now seems to have found a definite place among the recognised technicalities of writers on folklore under the guise of the life-token. In the *Legends*, however, we do not hear much of it, except in an allusion to the custom of presenting a female infant to the hero as a bride, together with a mango-seedling. When the tree fruits, the girl will be twelve years old at least, *i. e.*, marriageable. It is evidently felt here in a dim way that the tree is somehow or other her life-token. This custom may be of more interest to ourselves than at first appears, because the habit of planting trees, fruit trees especially, to commemorate the birth of children, or of connecting certain trees with individual children in a family, is common enough in England. It has occurred in fact in the present writer's own family, where the trees dedicated to himself and his contemporaries are still standing at the ancestral family home. It is possible, therefore, that the custom of what we may now call token-trees, the world-wide habit of planting trees to commemorate local and even general events of striking importance, such as the Revolution Elms just outside the ancestral home above mentioned, and many a famous oak and ash and yew one can readily call to mind, partly has its roots in the fundamental idea of sympathetic magic.

The existence of miraculous and magical powers presumes the existence of recognised—or may we call them orthodox?—

processes for producing miracles and magic, opening up the wide subject of charms. But of these, as matters too well-known to require explanation, there is not much detail in the *Legends*, apart from that necessary to briefly explain the miraculous acts themselves; and such as occurs is confined to that all-important division of the subject in the eyes of a superstitious peasantry of prophylactic charms. The importance of these to the people is further emphasised by the fact that when charms are mentioned it is in every case but one for the prevention or cure of snake-bite, perhaps the greatest dread of all of the Indian peasant, a situation in which he probably feels more helpless and more inclined to invoke supernatural aid than in any other. Such charms are indeed so much mixed up with miracles proper as to form in reality a variety of miraculous cures. Besides charms against snake-bite there are mentioned some as existing against sorcerers, *i. e.*, the charmers themselves, and among real prophylactic charms against general bodily harm only the wearing of the sacred *tulsí* (sweet basil) beads occurs.

The absence of detailed accounts of charms and of the performances of exorcists must not, as above hinted, be taken as implying their scarcity, or only a languid interest in them among the population, and perhaps the best indication of the facts being the reverse of such a presumption is to be found in the *Legends* themselves, in the so-called "genealogies" of Lâl Bêg, the eponymous saint or hero of that curious sect of the scavengers, which may be said to have set up a religion and ritual of its own, though that is in reality an eclectic hagiolatry derived from every superstition or faith with which its members have come in contact. Now the ritual, where it does not purport to relate the genealogy of the hero, consists chiefly of a string of charms of the common popular sorts.

Supernatural intervention in the affairs of mankind, as the result of vicarious prayer and intercession, is, one need hardly say, a universal and deeply-cherished human belief, and it is not by any means always claimed in *Legends*

that saints or saintly heroes effect their assisting or injuring wonders direct. Thus by prayer Sakhî Sarwar restores a dead horse to life, by prayer Shêkh Darvêsh turns grey hair black, by prayer Shâh Qumês creates a well, by prayer Râjâ Rasâlû restores a corpse to life, by prayer to God (Khudâ) Kaükâlî the Hindu witch vivifies the headless Hindu Râjâ Jagdêô. By faith Dhannâ Bhagat turns a stone into a god. An empty platter and a pitcher are filled miraculously with food and water merely in response to the prayer of a saint's servant in order to save him from the apprehended wrath of his master. While in the curious collection of miracles attributed to the Panjâbî Saint Rôdê Shâh they are all described as the result of the "order of the Court of God," following on more or less directly inferred prayer. These and similar instances are in themselves remarkable.

Prayer is, in fact, in common request as an agent for the performance of miracles, and some quaint stories regarding it are to be found in the *Legends*. Besides those already quoted, saintly prayer restores to life not only man and beast, but also trees and gardens, restores lost sight and limbs, procures a son, prevents a boat from sinking and produces unlimited food. This is a pretty wide category; but it is quite equalled by the efficacy of the prayers of the laity, both Musalmân and Hindu, who by it restore man and beast to life, procure water for the thirsty and move a heavy stone. Prayer in the *Legends* is usually, but not of course always, addressed to God, by both Muhammadans and Hindus, by that mixing up of the rival religious so typical of the natives of India. Thus Rânî Achhraî in the Rasâlû Legend prays to the moon for help in characteristic terms:—"O Moon, I have slept on my bed in thy light. I embrace the feet of my bed (now) and weep." And in a still more striking instance we read:—"Light all the candles, and pray to the (gods of the) lamps, saying:—"Hear, Golden Lamps, hear my prayer, To-day I meet my love, burn (then) all the night.'"

From invoking the aid to invoking the presence of the supernatural and invisible protector is but a small step, and

the notion of prayer leads straight on to that of invocation—that summoning of the absent so common in folktales, usually to help on the story. It is necessarily a most widely-spread notion, appertaining to the religion of the folk all the world over, and the means employed for it are everywhere very varied. The story in the *Legends* of the use of holy water for the purpose in the Panjâb has a European ring about it. As saints may be invoked by their followers, so can they in their turn invoke others; sometimes by mere will-power; sometimes by a direct summons in everyday use, such as clapping the hands; sometimes by one of the stock devices for summoning the absent employed in folktales.

Now, saints and all the supernatural powers that be can injure as well as aid, can curse as well as bless, and beings that can injure need propitiation. So we find offerings made to the saints without reference to the faith or creed of either giver or receiver, such as milk, the most important beverage of all in the Panjâb, precisely as it is offered to Mother Earth. At the same time we have a remarkable instance of propitiation by abuse in the story of Pûran Bhagat, where a woman deliberately abuses and curses her patron saint, with the avowed object of extorting favours from him. This notion, though somewhat startling, is widely spread. Propitiation is naturally originally prescriptive, *i. e.*, it is usually employed towards one special protector or class of protectors; but it as naturally constantly loses that character, and becomes general and even vicarious; as when the heroine pours out libations first to the God of the Waters and then to the birds and beasts, an act of general charity likely to be welcome to the gods.

In close connection with the notion of general or promiscuous propitiation, there is a variety of terms in the vernaculars, which are usually translated by “alms-giving, generosity, charity,” and so on, but their real import is the making of propitiatory gifts or offerings to saints and priestly or holy personages. Generosity in the East does not convey the idea of lavishness in gifts generally, but in gifts to saints or priests.

In this sense it is perhaps the most largely extolled virtue of all in fable and story, and of set purpose. This universal inculcation of the virtue of what may be called ceremonial generosity does not arise altogether out of any superstitious, religious, or folklore custom, but out of the necessities of the bards and the tellers of tales about saints. Shrines and their attendants have to be supported and means must be gathered to support them, and hence the very high praise and the very great supernatural and future rewards offered to the "generous," which are not confined to any particular creed or country. The Indian saint and after him the attendants and hangers on at his shrine live on alms, and so "charity" and "generosity" on the part of their adherents and audiences are "virtues" that naturally loom very largely in their tales and poems. The ceremonial nature of the "generosity" comes out in the fact that the gifts to be efficacious must be of the conventional sort, and we have repeated instances in the *Legends* of the wrong kind of alms being refused by saints and holy men, however valuable and lavish.

It is obviously necessary, when dwelling on the importance of such a virtue on behalf of a hero, that the hero himself should not be represented as being wanting therein, and hence "generosity" is an invariable attribute of the saints. Every saint has been wildly and extravagantly "generous," whatever else he may have. Sakhî Sarwar, Shams Tabrêz, and the rest of them are all heroes of generosity. So also on the other hand are the folk-heroes Harî Chand and Râjâ Ambâ while the Baloches have a special hero of their own Nôdhan-dagh the Gold-scatterer. The extravagance of the acts of generosity attributed to saints and holy men is boundless. Self-mutilation and self-blinding to gain small objects are among them, stretched in more than one notorious instance into the impossible feat of striking off his own head as alms. Extreme self-sacrifice of this kind assumes a curious form when a *jôgî* is credited with ceremonial cannibalism, in allusion, perhaps, to the well-known real or attributed habits of the Aghôrî *faqîrs*. The details of the episode are worth repeating

as a side light on the Indian peasant's views on such matters. "Rânî Sundrân dressed herself and went to see the Gurû. When she reached him, she asked him where his pupil (Rasâlû) was. 'Oh,' said the *jôgî*, 'I have eaten him up' [Rasâlû had really only run away]. 'But,' said the Rânî, 'I sent you a plate of jewels and a plate of sweets. If these have not satisfied you, will your meal off your pupil satisfy you?' 'I do not know,' said the *jôgî*, 'all I know is that I put him on a spit, roasted him and ate him up.' 'Then roast and eat me, too,' said the Rânî, and she jumped into the [*jôgî's*] sacred fire and became *sati* for the love of Râjâ Rasâlû."

Offerings of all sorts, and under whatever name, involve the giving up of something, if of value to the giver the better. A notion that has universally led to such concrete ceremonies as sacrifices of all kinds of things of both material value, like cattle, and of purely ceremonial value, like the blood spilt in a notable fight detailed in the *Legends*. All these things are, however, the giving up of something outside the self, however valued or appreciated, and the idea can be easily extended to the yet greater virtue of the giving up of something that is within or part of the self. It has actually been so extended all over the world in the forms of asceticism and penance, and nowhere more recklessly and intensely, more wildly in fact, than in India. The virtues of austerity and expiatory self-sacrifice are most carefully extolled and inculcated throughout Indian folklore and in the *Legends*, and have led there and elsewhere to one practical result in the widely-spread custom of voluntary slavery for debt not only of self but of wife and children.

Gifts, offerings, sacrifices, penances, and the like may be called practical propitiation, but several ways of reaching the same desirable goal supernaturally have been evolved by the superstitious peasantry of India, and the rest of the world too for that matter. Vows or promises to reward the supernatural powers invoked for acceding to prayers, and oaths or invocations to the same powers to witness the promises, are two

prominent methods of propitiating the all-powerful inhabitants of the unseen world, constantly in every language and in every national mind mixed up with each other. In the *Legends* we have the whole story of the idea: oaths which are vows and vows which are oaths, notices of the advantages of performing vows and oaths, the importance of keeping them, and the terrible penalties attached to their breach, especially if made to a deceased saint, or a shrine in which a bard is personally interested. A variant of the terrible tale of Jephthah's daughter is to be found in the *Legends*.

In every case where it goes beyond being a mere invocation to the supernatural powers the taking of an oath involves a ceremony deriving from the superstitions of the takers, and the ceremonies connected with the taking of oaths are therefore not only interesting but nearly always valuable to the student. They are also varied to a limitless extent, and are a strong indication of the objects held to be sacred in any given form of belief, *e. g.*, swearing by touching the sacred thread (*janeu*), or by tearing the thread off a cow's neck by a Hindu,—by touching the Qurân by Muhammadans or the Bible by Christians, are sure references to things held specially sacred under each form of faith. So also when a warrior swears by drinking the milk of his own mother, or when the hero swears by placing his hand on the body of the person adjured, or by drawing a line on the ground with his nose, we are taken back to survivals of forgotten animistic belief. That there should be in the *Legends* occasionally a mixture of Hindu and Musalmân ideas in the forms of oaths will not surprise my readers, and of this a fine example is the phrase: "The Ganges is between us and above us is the Qurân," said by so strict a Musalmân as one must presume a Qâzî to be.

The object of the ceremonies and forms used in taking oaths is of course to render them binding, but it must long ago have been equally important at times to avoid the consequences of rash and indeed deliberate oaths, and the inventive ingenuity of the folk has been turned on to this side of the question with

considerable success. *E. g.*, it is a happy and simple, not to say a convenient, expedient to interpose the presence of a pigeon's egg as an effectual stopper to the binding effect of an oath on the Qurân.

In the matter of vows and oaths the *Legends* give a great number of instances in which a certain form of oath or vow, used for many purposes, but generally for emphasis, has become common to both Hindus and Musalmâns. It has arisen out of the Muhammadan custom or law of divorce, *tîn talâq* as it is called in India. The custom is due to a passage in the Qurân which lays down that if a man with the proper ceremony pronounces dismissal (*talâq*) three times to his wife he cannot marry her again until she shall have been married to another man and divorced by him. Now, this solemn performance of *tîn talâq*, or three dismissals, has evidently presented itself to the Oriental mind as a very serious vow or oath, it matters little which, and we constantly find in consequence that not only the notion, but even the very terminology of this form of divorce has come to be synonymous with that of taking a binding oath or vow. There is among the Indian peasantry a regular custom nowadays of emphasising both oaths and vows by taking them three times.

Besides the miracle and magic working powers there are two others of importance, which may be said to be inherent in saints, those of prophecy and metamorphosis. In the *Legends* the saintly power of prophecy is usually introduced for the very useful story-telling purpose of indicating the unborn hero's career as about to be developed, and the power of metamorphosis for the purely folklore objects of helping on the progress of the stories connected with the saints, or those in whom they are interested, or with whom they have been concerned.

Metamorphosis is a belief that has struck its roots deeply into the minds of the Indian folk, and hence we find it constantly occurring in the hagiological legends. The saints can assume any form that is necessary to the tale or likely to attract the

attention of the audience, can change the forms of others, and delegate unlimited power of metamorphosis to their followers. The idea so obviously lends itself to fancy that the variations of it assume forms most startling to the everyday man. In the *Legends* there are many astonishing extensions of the notion, of which turning the Deity himself into a dog in a legend about Nâmdêv, for the purpose of pointing a moral, is perhaps the best example. A dog ran off with the saint's (*jôgî's*) food, and, instead of beating him, the saint addressed him in language applicable properly to the Deity. For his reward the dog turned into the Deity, and thus the saint had the inestimable privilege of beholding the Deity in person.

In the application of the theory of metamorphosis to folk-tales, we also find another indication of the fundamental identity of the hero, the saint or supernatural mortal and the god or supernatural immortal in the popular mind. The power is possessed by all alike, and by none to a specially great or striking degree peculiar to himself. It is equally possessed by inanimate objects. In the *Legends* there are indications that the forms it especially assumes are due to two causes: the perceptible effect that disguises have in altering the apparent nature of human beings, and the changes of skin and plumage that snakes and birds undergo; and the old-world belief in metempsychosis or transmigration of souls, by which the Indian and Far Eastern peoples have for so very long been thoroughly permeated.

Disguises for the sake of enabling the hero or heroine to carry out their respective objects are very numerous, but the essential poverty of peasant ideas, despite their apparent diversity, comes out in the fact, that the disguises are apt to run in grooves and become stereotyped. As a rule they are such as might be expected, but there is a notable instance of metamorphosis by a humanised serpent merely for the sake of disguise, and it may also be said that many of the objects for which disguise is used are identical with those for which metamorphosis is made to take place. Disguise may be said to be,

indeed, merely metamorphosis with the marvellous left out. Changes of skin or clothing, or of things pertinent to human and animal heroes, are so directly connected with metamorphosis, and so constantly in Indian folktales, as to give rise to a temporary form of it, of which many instances will almost without effort occur to those well acquainted with the tales.

The allusions to the doctrine of metempsychosis in the *Legends* are, of course, ubiquitous, but without much variation, and they habitually refer to the variety of lives the heroes and heroines have already passed through in diverse forms. In fact, the sole difference between the folk notions of metamorphosis and metempsychosis lies in the fact of the former consisting of change of form during life, and in the latter after death. The two ideas are very closely connected, so much so that the special changes represented by metamorphosis are based on the variety of bodies, that one and the same unfettered soul is assumed to be capable of vivifying.

In passing it may be here mentioned that metempsychosis is in the *Legends* most ingeniously dragged in to defend the doctrine of *sati*, which is indefensible, except politically, even from the native scriptural point of view. A victim of the custom is made to say: "For many ages will I obtain the same husband," *i. e.*, in reward for becoming *sati*. In the *Legends*, too, heroines are significantly made to commit *sati*, not only on husbands' but also on sons' deaths.

It will have been seen from what has been above said that saints scarcely differ from folktale heroes of the conventional sort. They are beautiful in appearance; they have all sorts of secular occupations, even finding a livelihood as private soldiers and horse-dealers; they have obvious foibles of their own; they claim kingly rank on assuming sainthood, make royal alliances, and keep up a royal state; they are known by special and peculiar signs, they perform conventional heroic acts in an heroic supernatural manner. Indeed, just as the saint is hardly to be distinguished from the demon, so is he hardly to be distinguished from the ordinary folk-hero.

Indian demonolatry is ancestral or tribal hero-worship, and Indian hagiolatry is very little else. The saints and their demoniacal, heroic, or godlike counterparts are, however, essentially supernaturally endowed beings of the narrator's own nationality or party, but there are in Indian folk-idea other supernaturally endowed beings, demoniacal in their nature and usually styled *rākhas* and translated "ogres," who belong as essentially to the enemy's party. In the demon world the *bhūta*, especially in South India, may be said to be always of the narrator's own class or side, and the *rākhas* to belong to the outside world, while the demon proper (*dēo*) may be looked on as being on the borderland between the two and as belonging as much to the one side as he does to the other, occasionally exhibiting the characteristics of the ogres as clearly as he does those of the saints, heroes, godlings, and what not.

In translating *rākhas* in its varying forms, I have adhered to the usual term ogre, as being its best European representative, both expressions indicating, as I take them, the foreigner who has at one time inspired fear, and has, therefore, been credited in the popular imagination with certain terrifying supernatural powers, attributes, and habits. The essentials of Indian ogre-stories seem to be constant. The ogre feeds on mankind, an idea extended to feeding voraciously on the larger animals also. He worries the hero's people and friends, and he is finally conquered by the hero, in fair fight, by miraculous intervention, or by conventional exorcism. He is, of course, a giant, and supernaturally endowed, performing much the same miraculous feats as his heroic or saintly opponents. In many respects he may be fairly described as the hero on the other side, his attributes as the result of the fear he inspires, and the struggles with him as vague memories of long past tribal fights with remarkable foreigners.

In one notable passage, showing how ideas extend and run into each other, in a fragment of a modern version of the far renowned (in India, that is) Sindhî story of Sassî and Pun-nûn, we find that ogres and man-destroying monsters of all

kinds are closely classed together. The fragment is based on the very celebrated (in India) poem by Hâsham Shâh, and for the present purpose I will quote the original :

*Adamkhôr jandwar jal dê, râkas rūp sarâen ;
Majarmachh, kachhû, jal-hûri, sarp, sansâr balâen ;
Tandûê, kahar, zambûran-wâlê, lâwan zôr tadâen.*

Man-eating monsters of the deep, like unto ogres ;
Alligators, turtles, mermaids, serpents, and world-horrors ;
Crocodiles, dragons, porpoises, were bellowing aloud.

Of the same nature in Indian story as the ogre is the *nâg* or serpent, this important fact being strongly emphasised in the *Legends*, in which the serpents and their doings occupy a prominent place. They here, though not in ordinary belief, appear just as ordinary heroes, and are distinctly human in their personalities and all their ways, as often appearing in human as in other forms. They are servants to the hero's patron saint ; they live in human dwellings and show hospitality to human heroes ; they are subject to human diseases ; they give their daughters to, and marry the daughters of, human neighbours. They are divided into families, and like ogres they live on human flesh. Like the rest of the heroic or supernatural world, they have a wide power of metamorphosis : into and out of human or serpent form, into many animal forms and into a variety of things, such as fruit, a fine needle, a golden staff, a blade of grass. In the same way they have an almost unlimited power of working miracles, chiefly malevolent ; destroying life in various ways, setting on fire and scorching with their breath, or bite, or by the flash of their eyes, and drinking up the life of another. But they have an equally pronounced power of restoration to life, ordinarily by the recognised folk-tale methods. And, lastly, apart from being frequently "winged," they have the usual heroic powers of rapid and miraculous movement.

Now, the notions exhibited in these modern legends on the *Nâga* serpents go back a long way in Indian story, and I think it a fair inference to draw from them and their prototypes, that

Indian serpent legends are but a memory surviving in an ignorant and superstitious peasantry of an old life struggle between the Aryan population and the perhaps aboriginal Nāga peoples, whose totem, so to speak, or even merely national fighting emblem or standard, has, it may be, become confused with the race.

From the ogre and the *nāga* one passes almost imperceptibly to the humanised animal that appears so constantly in Indian legends, and plays so conspicuous a part in the stories loved of the people. The humanity, so to speak, of the animal, *i. e.*, the non-human, world of beings is most strongly marked in all Indian folklore. Indeed, human and non-human beings seem hardly to be distinguished in the minds of the peasantry. In the *Legends* we find in one clear instance a distinct ascription to the latter of an immortality of precisely the same nature as that universally attributed to mankind. "He took the bullocks at once to the river. They began to drink in the river, where a serpent was on the bank. Bitten, they fell to the ground and their life went to the next world." Here the actual expression used is: "*bhavar Baikunth lōk kō dhāyā*, the breath went off to the world of Paradise"; just such an expression as would be properly applicable to a human being. In another strong instance a parrot describes itself as "a good Hindu," requiring a purification ceremony after touching a dead body.

Human characteristics may be expected in tales of the customary Oriental animal pets and companions of mankind, such as the horse, the bullock, the camel among quadrupeds, the parrot, the *mainā*, the falcon among birds. And there are many instances in the *Legends*, in which the doings, sayings, and feelings of all of these are hardly to be differentiated from those of the human actors. It may be here noted that the absence of any allusions to a sense of companionship between man and the dog marks a point of wide divergence between ordinary Oriental and European feeling.

There is, in fact, scarcely any characteristic or capacity of the human that is not equally attributed to the non-human

world. All sorts of animals act as messengers. Serpents, cattle, and birds are, of course, described as being affected strongly by music. Serpents and deer, extended in one case to "all the beasts and birds of the forest," are attracted by human beauty in a human manner. A swan falls in love with the heroine in the human sense: deer can dream human dreams: a swan is made to address the Creator (*Kartá*) by way of prayer, and a doe to distinctly pray to God (*kittí Rabb aggé faryád*).

The grateful animal is a stock expedient in folktales, and we are treated to instances of all kinds in the *Legends*, some of which may be called unexpected. Thus, in this category appear cats, crickets, hedgehogs, serpents, swans, crows, cranes. The opposite quality of ingratitude is also ascribed to a deer and a parrot. And in the quaint legend of Dhanná, the Bhagat, a god, consisting of an ordinary commercial stone weight, is made to play the part of the grateful animal, using the term in the sense of a non-human being. But the legend here has more than probably an origin in a consciously allegorical story.

Just as animals can be grateful and ungrateful, so can they be revengeful, and of revenge on human lines here is a fine instance in the tale of the humanised Hírâ the Deer in the Rasâlû Cycle, who throughout acts the part of the ordinary folk-hero. The tale goes even to the extreme length of attributing caste feelings to the herd he belonged to; for "they cast him out of the herd because he had no ears or tail," (they had been cut off). But perhaps the strongest possible instance of humanisation occurs in the same Cycle, where a lizard as the hero and a female serpent as the heroine play a variant of the story of Potiphar's wife.

The direct and almost universal use in story of the animal with human attributes is to help on or interfere with the action of the hero in a simple or in an extraordinary manner, as when cranes, crows, parrots, and falcons act as messengers, a falcon takes his turn at keeping watch, and a flock of birds stop the progress of a ship by merely sitting on the shore. In order to

do these things they must be able to talk, and do so as naturally and freely as do the men and women themselves. But the use of unnatural powers of speech is carried very much further, and they are habitually attributed to everything that is introduced to forward the story or the interests of the actors therein. Indeed, in the legend of Niwal Dâi we are expressly told, "It was the virtuous time of the golden age; all things could speak their mind." An expression used again in the legend of Râjâ Dhôl in almost identical but more limited terms: "It was the golden age of virtue and the cranes spake." An astonishing variety of objects is thus supposed to be gifted with speech. Any kind of plant for instance: trees, mangoes, plums, *pîpals*, plantains, grass. All sorts of articles in domestic use: a bed's legs, a lamp, a pitcher, a necklace, a conch, a couch, a needle, a pestle and mortar, a garland. Even such a general object in Nature as a lake. In one instance a sandal tree relates its very human adventures merely by way of incident. Anthropomorphism could hardly go further.

It is, however, carried pretty far in an instance that occurs in the fruitful Rasâlû Cycle in two versions. A corpse, restored to life through the prayers of the hero, helps him out of gratitude in such a matter as a gambling match, in one of the instances. In the other the corpse appears as a number of severed heads, whom the hero adjures not to weep and to help him with their prayers. After all this the story of the well-known parrot of Râjâ Rasâlû, that "was wise, knowing the Four Vedas," could answer riddles and give wholesome human advice, falls somewhat flat. And the common folk notion of a foetus speaking from the womb becomes, as it were, natural. It is the stock miracle related of Gurû Guggâ, but attributed also to a good many other personages remarkable in subsequent separate life.

It will have been noticed that the notion of the humanised animal almost slides imperceptibly into that of the humanised thing. When once the habit of anthropomorphosis comes into play, it appears to matter little whether it be applied to an

animate or an inanimate object, and especially is this to be observed in the case of things held to have been subjected to the action of miracles or magie, *i. e.*, to things charmed or enchanted by visible or invisible agency, the main use for which in the *Legends*, it may be observed, is to assist the hero or the progress of the tale about him: *e. g.*, enchanted dice made out of such uncanny objects as dead men's bones, which always win.

The well-known enchanted or protecting circle or line, within which no harm can come, taking us very far back in Indian belief, is but hinted at in the *Legends*, though its descendants the ascetic's necklace and rosary commonly occur. But the more practical means of defence, such as magical or enchanted arrows, play a considerable part. Thus, there are several instances of the use of fiery arrows, varied in one quaint instance as the fiery quoit, a survival of the classical magical quoit of Krishna and in a still quainter one as an arrow of cold. This last variant is clearly due to an expansion of the general idea of the fiery arrow, for it is introduced for the purpose of combating fire: "Then again Arjun shot an arrow of cold and all the enemies' bodies trembled. Then were the sun's rays obscured and day turned into night. Frost and cold began to fight with fire."

Magic numbers of course exist in India, chiefly in the forms of multiples or parts or combinations of seven and twelve, but I do not think that the peasant mind sufficiently grasps such abstract notions as numbers to lay much stress on any enchanted properties that they may be supposed to possess. I have carefully collected every number that occurs in the *Legends*, and the general conclusion is this: that as to the larger numerals no clear conception is entertained at all. They all mean a very large quantity to the peasant storyteller, and for that purpose one large figure is as good as another. As to the smaller numerals there is but a dim idea that there is something holy or sacred or supernatural about some of them, they are not sure which, and they never remember them accurately.

The most widespread and familiar, but perhaps not the best recognised, article subjected to supernatural agency is holy water, as common in India under Islam and Hinduism as it is in Europe under Christianity. In the *Legends* its uses are to invoke "the blessing of the great saints" and to effect miraculous cures—uses that will recall ideas current outside of heathenism. Much of the virtue of holy water is transferred in the popular mind to blood, especially human blood, which is the main folk agency of miraculous restoration to life and health, and a common one for the performance of a host of other marvellous feats. In the *Legends* these virtues are to a certain degree yet further extended to milk, and it is of interest to record that in them ambrosia or *amṛita* not only turns up as the beverage of the gods, but also when pure as holy water, in a most remarkable passage in a Hindu story, where it is regarded as the blood of the Almighty:

Kīrpā hāt hai Sakat kē : hāt Qadr at hā khīyāl :
Apnā unglē chērke amṛtē Uā nikāl.

The Almighty had mercy: the All powerful considered them .
 Cutting His finger He draw forth the water of life.

In India, however, all water may be called in a sense holy. There water of itself purifies, an idea that still leads to an incalculable amount of disease and sickness. The rivers and pools are all more or less sacred, though some of course are pre-eminently so, and ceremonial bathing is a source of infinite gains to the priests and holy personages.

The enchanted miraculous vehicle is a very old and widely-spread folk-notion, and so we find all sorts of heroes, saintly and demoniacal, flying through the air, leaping the ocean, accomplishing a journey of months in a few paces, and proceeding about their business at any required rate of speed on a variety of unlikely articles, of which abnormally winged creatures, bulls, lions, horses, camels, and the like are but variants. So closely do we find the two ideas connected, that I have sometimes thought that the whole notion of the miraculous vehicle and its concomitants is nothing but an expan-

sion of the heroic leap, which in its turn is a mere popular exaggeration of some actual feat. In the *Legends* the idea of personally flying through the air is extended to making a saint's shoe to fly through the air in order to punish the saint's opponent by beating him. This causing of things to move miraculously is to be further seen in the common miracle of a saint moving his tomb from one place to another, leading to the quaint practice, observed by myself in Hindu India, Buddhist Burma, and even Japan, of chaining an image to prevent its returning whence it miraculously migrated.

The value of invocation or calling together the tribe and its defenders by a loud cry or sound must necessarily have been a very early human observation, and its importance and weird suddenness when used has all the world over led to some fanciful and pretty notions as to magical music and enchanted instruments, dependent chiefly on the observed or fancied influence of musical sound on the animal world. In these *Legends* there are distinct evidences of the history of the idea, and the chief use to which the magic flute, or its variant the magic conch, is there put—is, where it is used by the secular hero, to call together the tribe and its friends, or where it is used by a saint or religious leader, to collect his following, celestial or terrestrial. Its secondary uses are to play upon the emotions of friendly animals and to call the attention of the gods and the invisible inhabitants of the celestial worlds to the aid of the hero, who, where the hero is a saint, usually seem to occupy the place of his subordinates and assistants. The sound of the flute or conch seems also to have become mixed up in the popular mind with the “voice of prayer,” for it can “reach to the Court of God” and so secure the divine intervention in human affairs.

The power of enchanted human hair to assist human beings—perhaps as a spirit haunt, to use Sir James Campbell's phrase—is another world-wide and very old notion, and again in the *Legends* we seem to get at an explanation of it, for it and its counterpart the insect's feeler is of no avail until burnt, an idea arising probably from the palpable effect burnt hair has on

those who become insensible from a blow or disease. The concrete idea, however, in burning hair appears to be to drive the spirits out of it by the process and so compel them to your service, for the actual use of burnt hair is to call up invisible assistance. But when once the hair has started on its career as a power to interfere in the affairs of man, it is made to do a variety of things for him, for it can, among other things, cut down trees, burn up forests and enemies, and lead the heroine into her enemies' clutches. The outcome of the belief in the virtue inherent in hair has been a variety of Oriental beliefs and customs deriving directly from it:—*e. g.* the sacredness of the Musalman's beard and of the entire hair on the body of a Sikh.

To pass from a part to the whole, the great power possessed by enchanted human or animal bodies is invisibility. But I do not think its constant use in folktales and in these *Legends* is altogether due to a love of the miraculous. The notion gives such obvious opportunities for investing the heroes and actors with a deeper interest than they could otherwise be made to possess, and especially saints with additional supernatural powers for overawing those who listen to tales about them, that neither story-tellers nor bards have anywhere refrained from taking advantage of it. The practical use to which the power of invisibility is put in the *Legends* is to help on the development of the tales, or to assist the hero or the heroine in their desires, or to glorify a saint or holy personage.

Curiously enough the procedure of enchantment is not anywhere directly given in the *Legends*, though of course it occurs often enough in the folklore of the country. All the enchanted articles that occur are supposed to have undergone the processes necessary to render them supernatural. Probably the audience is assumed to know what those processes were, and such charms as occur are all of the prophylactic nature already described.

Between the supernatural and unmistakable human being there has existed everywhere and at all times an intermediary, a being who, while obviously and distinctly human, has assumed or acquired certain unusual and therefore, in the popular mind, uncanny powers. His ordinary form is that of the priest, but the forerunner, and in early society the contemporary, of the priest is the being who is possessed, *i. e.*, subjected to enchantment, magical, supernatural, or miraculons. Spirit-possession is not a desirable accident of life, especially as sudden, severe, or striking disease or illness is confounded with it, and hence the existence of the possessed has led to that of the exorcist or professional curer of the misfortune. The idea of possession and its antidote does not seem to have taken a strong hold of the Panjâbî, and consequently not much of either appears in the *Panjab Legends*. Indeed, it is directly mentioned only in one place; but in many respects a remarkably similar series of legends from Kanara which I have somewhat recently edited in the *Indian Antiquary* under the title of the *Devil-Worship of the Tuluvas*, mainly turns on it, as indeed does the whole complicated system of modern Tibetan Buddhism, exhibiting once more that common phenomenon in Nature, the rudimentary existence only in one series of connected creatures of a part that is fully developed in another.

So far, we have been dealing with the heroes and their male counterparts, but on turning to the heroines it will be found that, so far as Indian ideas on the parts that the sexes are capable of playing in the affairs of life admit, the stories of the female actors follow strictly on the lines of those of the male. The main cause of the differences observable lies in the low estimation in which women generally are held by the populace—a fact typified in the *Legends* by the belief that it is not only foolish, but socially indiscreet, to praise a woman, especially one's wife, by the ceremonial observances demanded of the women towards their male relatives, all intended to emphasise their position of subjection, and by the universal custom of the seclusion of women.

The typical heroine is emphatically "a child of predestination," *tabued* as it were, from birth to the hero. Her characteristics are impossible strength or skill to save the hero in trouble, as when she cuts a tigress in two; or, on the other hand, impossible delicacy, as when she is weighed against flowers; or she is endowed with impossible attractiveness, dropping flowers when she laughs and pearls when she weeps. Her beauty is, of course, all-conquering, the animal world, the heavenly bodies, and the God of the Waters (Khawâjâ Khizar) succumbing to it, and like the hero, she is known by "signs"—*e. g.*, by the bubbling of the water in a well when she looks into it.

Of beneficent heroines we do not hear much in the *Legends*. Perhaps it is hardly to be expected that amongst the Panjâbi peasantry a woman could be held to be of much assistance in life. The fairies, when they do appear, are accordingly merely messengers between this and other worlds, or they represent outside, unorthodox brides or mistresses of Râjâs, or heroes, as in the well known case of Rânî Lônân in the Râsalû Cycle. But of maleficent heroines we hear a good deal, and of the victims, male and female, of their active ill-will. Calumny, born of jealousy, is the favoured method of showing it. Jealousy of a co-wife, natural enough where polygamy is practised, and of a co-wife's children, gives so commonly the spring to vindicative action, that the story of the calumniated wife may be looked upon as a special variety of Indian folk-tale, though the enmity is sometimes represented as being extended to the husband, the husband's sister, and the nurse or duenna.

To the category of malevolent heroines belong the step-mothers, who play a prominent and peculiar part in Indian folktales, due to the polygamy practised by the rulers, the rich and the great. They are nearly always the malignant co-wives with the hero's mother, interfering in his life and story in two main ways—*i. e.*, they either get him into trouble by acting after the manner of Potiphar's wife, or they seek to ruin him out of jealousy of his mother. From the latter cause the

heroine is also frequently made to suffer at the hands of one or more of her step-mothers. The methods of the step-mother of arriving at her ends are, however, generally human, and the women held to be endowed with malevolent supernatural powers are the wise-women, witches, ogresses, and *nâgnîs* or serpent-women.

So far as the legendary lore is concerned, we may treat witch and wise-woman as synonymous terms for the same class of wicked woman. Both invariably play the same part in a tale and have the same characteristics. They are the marplots, the malignant fiends of the story, and their natural occupation is to place the heroine in the power of her enemies—of which assistance to the hero to get at the heroine in irregular manner is but a variant. They have disgusting and terrible attributes. They are cannibals and take out the liver and eat it. They have second sight and are suspected of knowing things that are hidden. But they are not necessarily ugly or uncomely; often, indeed, they are the reverse. In order to attain their ends they are endowed with the power of metamorphosis and miracle-working—"setting water on fire" being in one instance claimed in the *Legends* as a difficult feat, which no doubt it is.

The ogress is in every essential merely a female counterpart of the ogre, with the same attributes, the same supernatural powers, the same enmity to the hero's race, even as the *nâgnî* or serpent-woman is just a woman of her kind, with all the *nâg's* attributes, humanity, habits, and powers. In their struggles with the human or heroic races their methods, though necessarily differing from those of the males of their class, are in each case of the same nature. Thus instead of directly fighting mankind or the heroic opponents, they seek to destroy them by winning them over by female blandishments, and so getting them into the power of themselves and their party.

Besides what may be called the heroine proper of a legend or folktale, the child miraculously born and predestined to great deeds, the legitimate pride and glory of the tribe or race, there is the foundling, that kind of child which has

come irregularly or illegitimately into the tribal or family circle, to play an important part therein. The career of the foundling may be expected to attract the imagination of a peasantry. Such an unexpected and unlooked-for addition to the family or tribe is sure to be interesting and to give rise to hereditary tales. But apart from the interest attaching to the conditions under which foundlings are introduced, the exigencies of native life serve to create and maintain foundling stories. So many sub-castes and tribes and so many families of the upper ranks have from the native point of view a doubtful origin, so many of the richer people, who can pay for bards and their flatteries, have a blot on their escutcheons—a bar sinister, as one may call it—that tales of foundling girls are bound to flourish in order to connect families, castes, tribes, and prominent personages of the day with those of bygone times, whose position and claims are held to be beyond all doubt. Ancestor-making and genealogy-inventing are arts well understood in India, especially by the bardic class, and the story of the foundling mother of the eponymous hero is the most cherished resort for the purpose. In the Panjab, that land of great rivers, the river-borne foundling is the favourite variety. The girl infant is discovered floating by various methods down a river, is adopted by the finder, is married to the eponymous hero or his father, is subsequently traced to an aristocratic family, and the desired high-class connection is established. A dive into any of the accepted accounts of the more important families, or into the legendary history of the sub-tribes and sub-castes—even into that of the tribes and castes themselves—anywhere in India will produce many such stories in many quaint forms. They abound in the folktales and appear in the *Legends* of course.

Pretty and popular varieties of the foundling tale are to be found in the many variants of the egg-hero story, where the little stranger, male or female, is fabled to have sprung miraculously from an egg, from fruit, from a box, a flower, or other small and fanciful article. And to the same category must, I think, be referred the universally popular sleeping-beauty.

A careful survey of her life-history, the manner of her discovery, her doings and characteristics, point her out as the representative of the bride from the other side—raped it may be, or stolen, or abducted, or taken in fight as a sort of *spolia opima*, or perhaps simply found. Whatever she may be, princess in disguise, ogress born, or captive in a foreign land, she is emphatically not of the hero's race or party, and their union is always irregular—*i. e.*, not according to established tribal custom.

In one essential point, arising out of the view taken by the peasantry of women and girls, the folk-heroine differs entirely from the hero. As the actual property of some male, either tabued to him or as part of his personal effects, the heroine has to be chaste. Of male chastity we do not hear much, except as virtue—*i. e.*, manly capacity, which is quite a different idea from that attached to sexual chastity. Of virtue in the above sense a great deal is heard, and it is most jealously guarded. The terms usually rendered "pure" and "chaste" and so on however, never, imply male sexual purity, and Râjâ Rasâlû, a hero essentially of gallantries of every kind, is repeatedly called "*jati sati*, pure and chaste," in the sense of being endowed with unimpaired capacity. He was in that sense fully virtuous. The possession of such virtue is made a condition of worldly power, and when possessed in an inordinate degree calls down the wrath of the supernatural powers as a positive danger to them. It is also a vital point to keep out of touch with women at periods of stress and trial in order to maintain it, their approach and proximity impairing it. The origin of all this is obvious, the male is not subjected to *tabu* or appropriation, and the female is.

Perhaps the neatest indication of the point that of old chastity was the virtue of women and virile capacity the virtue of men, is shown in the manner in which the zone, both as a word and as an article of costume, was used. There was always the female girdle or zone, the emblem of chastity, and the male zone or sign of virility and fighting capacity. In

the Himālayas the silver zone is still the sign *par excellence* of a warrior. Says a legend: "The Lord Rājā is coming himself to this war. He has called every wearer of a silver zone to Jungā."

Now, the very line of reasoning which renders male chastity of no account, makes female chastity the main virtue—*i. e.*, capacity of the sex. In such a society as is reflected in Indian legendary lore, it was as essential for a woman to be chaste, as it was for man to be of his hands, capable. The maintenance of the tribe and its social structure rested on these features of the two classes of human beings composing it. We Europeans have the remains of this feeling in all our languages when we talk of a woman and her virtue. Female chastity, then, being of such very great importance to the men, and also very difficult to secure without the co-operation of the women themselves, the men were always calling in the supernatural powers to their aid in maintaining it, out of their natural and well-founded suspicion that such co-operation did not exist. Of this there is universal folktale evidence, and it gives occasion to resort to ordeals, both practical and supernatural, more often than anything else—except perhaps the cruel "wisdom" of the witch-finder—by fire, by dice, by water, by impossible tasks and conditions. However, it being on occasion most important to prove the virtue in a hero, ordeals of the same kind are resorted to in tales for that purpose also, and not only has the hero to prove that he is a man of parts, but the saint, too, has to show the peculiar virtue in him by giving a "sign," usually in the form of a miracle. Indeed, many miracles are merely forms of ordeal.

The extravagant extension of any idea for the purpose of story-telling, may be looked for in all the literary productions of the folk, and in the *Legends*, by way of emphasising the grave importance of female chastity, the famous heroine, Hir, before what we, but not the natives, would call her fall, is in one place said to feel polluted, simply because the hero occupied her bed in her absence.

The value to the early intelligence of ordeals for the discovery of virtue in mankind has led to their wide employment in folktales, for the intelligible and important purpose of proving the long lost hero or heroine—for testing claimants, in fact. Tests, natural and supernatural, for their identification are ubiquitous in all folk-stories, and equally so in the *Legends*, leading in many instances almost imperceptibly into the region of prophecy and its fulfilment. Almost the whole stock of folk ideas is pressed into the service of this most prominent necessity of the progress of a story. Heroes and heroines are identified by marks, personal characteristics, and properties, surviving still as “the signs of royalty,” both possible and impossible, and by definite ordeals, such as the answering of riddles and the performance of impossible tasks; and, further, by resort to such purely mythological ideas as a correct recollection of details and surroundings in “a former life.” On the other hand, there is in one instance a reference to that widespread, practical form of identification, which is embodied in the custom of placing a stamp or mark on the body or clothes, as a voucher of a visit to a shrine or of a pilgrimage completed, where the hero’s camel carries away betel-leaves and water to show that he had really been to the heroine’s abode, and so knew the way thither.

The favourite folktale form of ordeal is the impossible task, and naturally so, as the individual fancy can here range at will; while the poverty of peasant imagination is also shown by the constant resort of the story-tellers to well-known stock tasks. In one form, however, the impossible task is of exceptional interest, for when it is imposed as a condition of marriage with the heroine, the *Legends* show that it is the poor remnant of the once important political manoeuvre of the *swayamvara*, or public choice of a husband by girls of princely rank.

There are two common variants of the impossible task frequently occurring in the *Legends*—riddles and ceremonial gambling. Conventional riddles preserved at the present day in garbled traditional verse, and usually perfectly unintelli-

gible, are used for all the purposes of their prototype—for identifying the hero; as necessary preliminaries to marriage, and even to an illicit intrigue; as a variant of the *swayamvara*; as a kind of initiation into saintship; in fact wherever an ordeal is for any reason desired. But the more legitimate use of riddles as a symbolical, or secret, or private form of speech is merely hinted at in the *Legends*, as where a birth is announced in the form of a riddle, and where the female attendants of a princess make communications in the same form.

Gambling is looked on by the Indian populace as the usual and proper occupation of the great and rich, and so a good deal is heard of it in the *Legends*. But the ceremonial gambling occurring in them bears evidence of the origin; for, as a test before marriage, it is clearly an ordeal in the form of a variant of the impossible task. In this sense it is regarded and repeatedly spoken of as “a virtue of the rulers.” Of course, in folktales and legendary lore, the notion is subjected to great exaggeration, and we are favoured with most extraordinary stories of reckless gambling—for property, possession, and even life itself—and in the *Legends*, with what is of far more importance, detailed descriptions in all its technicalities of the great and ancient royal game of *chaupur* or *pachisi*.

Passing thus without effort almost from the actors to the course of the story, we find that perhaps the commonest way of commencing it is to set the hero seeking his fortunes, either by way of a start to the story, or to get a living, or as the result of troubles at home, or in response to a prophecy or fortune-telling. This opens a wide door to preliminary incident, even to a relation of invaluable details as to the prescribed modes of procuring oracles and forecasts of fate and fortune, which will be found on examination to be substantially the same all over India, north and south. Such oracles as occur in Indian tales are as vague in form and uncertain in meaning as elsewhere, leaving the inquirer to make what he can of them. A fine specimen, drawn from the working of the Persian water-wheel so universally used in the

rural Panjâb, and couched in good rustic verse, occurs in the Legend of Mirzâ and Sâhibân, though the hero seems to comprehend it without effort or hesitation :

The axle binds the shaft and the spokes bind the axle ;
 The axle-tree lies on the ground fastened by strong chains ;
 Wheel works with wheel as a king with his courtiers ;
 The whole machine creaks as a heggar among husbandmen ;
 The pitchers clink (as they come up) full of pure water.

It could hardly be expected that the regular and irregular priesthood of India would allow so fruitful a source of class and personal profit as is offered by such a matter as fortune-telling to pass them by, and so we are distinctly told that the casting of horoscopes, or the grant of peeps into the future, is the peculiar province of the Brâhmans.

The whole vast fabric of fortune-telling, prophecy, sooth-saying, oracle making, built up by the various kind of Indian priesthood, is throughout Indian folklore and in the *Legends* to be seen to clearly rest on the universal and ineradicable belief in fate. Allusions to it are innumerable, and every act or chance of human life is referred to it as a matter of course—as an accepted incontrovertible proposition. The terms for fate and life are even found to be mutually convertible, though instances do occur in which, especially among Muhammadans, fate is distinguished from the consequences of evil deeds, being perhaps an echo there of Christian or Jewish or even Buddhist teaching. Of such a sentiment the following is an example : “ If a bullet strike thy forehead, know it is the reward of thy (evil) deeds, know it not for thy fate.”³ But such ideas as this are, however, extremely rare in story, and habitually every event is attributed to the action of fate.

Perhaps the best way of obtaining a comprehension of the depth and width of the sentiment of fatality among the Indian populace—a notion of the extent to which it permeates their

³ “ *Tainû gôlê jê lagt viakh-tawirôn ;
 Jânê apnê karnê p it, nahkê jânê takdirôn.*”

ideas as to the causes of the events of everyday life—is by an examination of the *ipsissima verba* of the bards and popular singers, for which the *Legends* afford very many opportunities. It will then be seen that the popular philosophy really amounts to this—every occurrence is fated, the action of fate is visible in every event, is inevitable, is pre-ordained, “written,” or decreed. The very terms in which the actors in the *Legends* apostrophise Fate shows this strongly. Cries an unfortunate more than once: “What, Fate, hast thou written in my fate?” Cry others again and again: “O Fate, what hast thou done?” “O Fate, what is this that thou hast resolved on?”

Widely differing occurrences are repeatedly attributed to the direct action of fate. Typical expressions are the following: “The matter was in the hands of Fate, and she (the wife) saved the Râjâ.” Thou wast not in fault, my Lord, it was in my fate.” “What is to be must be borne; why make plans (to avoid it)?” “Fortunate is our fate that the Court remembers us.” “Thy fate is evil.” Here are expressions that recur repeatedly: “I, too, am fate’s victim.” “I die for her sake, my fate hath come.” Says a king of his minister: “His fate and mine were one.” Says an enemy, feeling that he had no chance otherwise: “If Pûran’s fate be awake (*i. e.*, against him) I will come back and slay him.” Cries a young girl: “All my studying is over, for Fate hath brought me love.”

The difficulty of accounting for occurrences—the inscrutability, in fact, of fate—has of course forced itself on the peasant mind, and the feeling finds voice in their exclamations, of which “There is no fathoming fate” is perhaps the commonest. The most conspicuous quality, however, of fate is necessarily the inevitability of its action, and we accordingly find this fact expressed in many different and sometimes quaint terms, of which good examples are: “The rest is in my daughter’s fate (over which) none have power.” “Who can vary the lines of fate?” “This (a throw of dice) was in the power of fate, no power (of ours) avails.” “Thy fate hath encompass-

ed thee and there is no way to save thee." "Fate is not to be gainsaid, and God doeth as He listeth." Here is a strong way of putting the rustic view: "Fate hath come on thee: when fate slew such prophets, shalt thou escape?" Perhaps the most usual ways of all of expressing the hopelessness of fighting against the inevitable are: "What fate has written who can blot out?" "There is no remedy against fate." And lastly a curious belief in the godlike powers of the founder of the Sikh Religion is to be seen in the expression: "What fate the Gurû (Nânak) hath ordained cannot be avoided." But the pathetic cry of a mother over a murdered son seems to point to a latent hope in the villagers' hearts that peradventure, for all its inevitability, the action of fate may possibly be avoidable: "Death met him in the street and fate stopped the way (for flight). When thy fate was written had I been by, I would have made a great cry to God and had it written favourably."

The usual way of stating the inevitable is by viewing it as written or decreed by fate. The common expression is: "It was written in my fate; thou canst do nothing." And there also occurs twice in the *Legends*: "See, this was written in the lines of fate, this misery of mine." A religious fanatic in order to account for his mode of life, says: "Mendicancy was written in my fate:" and it is further said of a herdsman: "God wrote no labour (in his fate); he was to be happy with (tending) buffaloes." Of a parted husband and wife it is said: "This much connection was written; fate hath done this." Again, one of three brothers puts the Panjâbî peasant belief very powerfully when he explains to a judge: "Chiefship was written in Ohûchak's fate and lordship in Michrû's. In my (Kaîdû's) fate was written saintsship; it was the writing of God."

The decree of fate occupies a prominent position in Indian idea, and typical ways of giving expression to it are such as these: "The decree that fate has written down against me have I suffered to the full." "O queen, if posterity had been

decreed in my fate, it would have been through you." "The decree of my fate (leprosy) hath been passed upon me." The commonest expressions of resignation are: "The decree of fate must be borne," and "Pain and grief are with all; it is the decree of fate." The notion has even passed into a frequently recurring proverb: "The decree of fate is strong and waits not for postponing." Cries one of a number of refugees from an unhappy political struggle: "It was fate's decree that drove us to the forest."

Fortune-telling in all its forms involves the intervention of a second party, but a forecaste of fortune can also be sought within one's own personality, as it were, by the interpretation of dreams, and so dreams, their results and their meaning play an important part in Indian folktales. They frequently occur in the *Legends*, where they are usually of the prophetic sort, a start being given to a story by the hero's dream of the heroine or *vice versa*; an idea neatly turned to practical use in some stories of saints by making the saintly hero fix on a preceptor owing to a dream. The idea is further useful in tales about the recovery of recalcitrant followers, by making the saint terrify them through dreams. The actual method of utilising dreams in folktales is to make the hero or heroine follow them up in their subsequent waking hours, often to their great temporary tribulation. And of the familiar warning or prophetic dream of the western world, there is one quaint example, in which a doe is made to warn her husband, the buck, of his impending death at the hands of the hunters, by telling him a vividly related dream as to the details of it.

The interpretation of dreams is a form of augury or divination, *i. e.*, it is a means of foretelling the future, from occurrences to human beings which are beyond control, though the latter terms in themselves imply an attempt to forecaste the future from natural occurrences beyond human control that take place only in the surroundings of mankind. In the *Legends* direct references to augury and divination are few, and then

only stock ones relating chiefly to marriage ceremonies; which last may in India be best described as one prolonged effort to sacerdotally control and foretell the future. But all over the world the commonest and most universal mode of arriving at an idea of the future from chance occurrences in the natural world around us lies in omens and their interpretation, and of these we are treated to a great number in the *Legends*, as might be expected. They are all, however, of the usual sort, except perhaps that it is unlucky in the Himâlayas to give milk to a warrior on the war-path. With this exception we have dished up for us the well-worn superstitions relating to the meeting of lucky and unlucky personages, to lucky and unlucky things in Nature, plants, trees and so forth, to the flight and calls of birds, to sneezing which, like hiccough, is a most mysterious proceeding of the animal body to the Indian mind, to accidental occurrences on mounting a horse and while walking and so on.

Following on and arising out of the notion of fortune-telling, augury, divination, and omens are the actions necessary to ensure good fortune or luck; the lucky things to do, and the lucky times for doing them, such as swinging during the rainy season. And as everyone is of course interested in finding these out, we are everywhere favoured in Indian folklore with a goodly array of them, and amongst lucky acts may be mentioned as noticeable, that of mounting a horse with the left foot, a curious instance of giving a semi-religious sanction to an act that is otherwise right from a practical point of view. The sole use to which the "science" of astrology is put in the *Legends*, is to ascertain auspicious times and moments.

In folktales the main use of the idea of ill-luck is to fill up the tale by introducing a great number of incidents, describing all the misfortunes which fancy can call up as happening to the hero or heroine; but the thousand and one precautions taken in practical life against incurring misfortune are based upon far more serious considerations than this. To the Indian peasant mind misfortune is a sin, and indicates a sinful condi-

tion in the victim thereof, defining that very difficult and much ill-used term "sin" as an offence, witting or unwitting, against the tribal conventions. The good luck of the lucky obviously benefits their surroundings, and the bad luck of the unlucky as obviously brings harm. Therefore the unlucky are sinful and, what is of supreme practical importance to them, must be punished accordingly. The amount of misery and suffering arising out of this "correct argument from a false premiss" that is being and has for ages been incurred by the victims of perfectly involuntary and uncontrollable misfortune — such as widows for instance — is quite incalculable, and a little consideration will show why it is that the nostrums for the prevention of the dreaded sin of misfortune are interminable, both in variety and number.

Another most fruitful result of the primitive view of misfortune is the idea of ceremonial uncleanness, an "unfortunate" condition clearly the consequence of inadvertence even to the savage, which has led to unnumbered ceremonies and customs in practical life and to many incidents in tale and story. The ceremonially unclean condition, however much it may be natural or the result of mere chance, is perceived in a dim way to be somehow sinful or the result of sin, and hence the nostrums for avoiding the consequences thereof, but when the condition is intensified and exhibits itself in a loathsome or continuous form, then to the popular mind its sinful origin is no longer doubtful. The story of that prominent, mysterious, obviously unclean, loathsome, and much dreaded disease, leprosy, and of the native treatment of lepers in India, will bring out all these points; and the subject of lepers and leprosy, if taken up as a folklore study, would be found to cover nearly the whole range of belief and customs among the folk. In the *Legends* we see much of it. There, the separation, isolation, and treatment of lepers is due to their uncleanness, the origin of leprosy lies in sin and in the punishment of sin, and its cure is due to ceremonial cleansing.

In another direction, the doctrine, so to speak, of ill-luck has led to very serious practical consequences, a fact which is clearly brought out by an incident in the *Legends*. The birth of a daughter is announced to Râjâ Sarkap just as he had lost his great gambling match. "Kill her," said Râjâ Sarkap, "she has been born at an unlucky moment, and has brought me bad luck." But, as an instance where female infanticide, based on ill-luck, has been widely resorted to, though from a different concrete origin, the whole of the celebrated historical legend of Mirzâ and Sâhibân is witness. Briefly Sâhibân, a daughter of the Panjâbî Siyâls, eloped with Mirzâ, the Kharal, and was overtaken by her tribe and strangled. The subsequent feuds were so severe that it became unlucky to have daughters, and an extensive practice arose of strangling female infants in memory of Sâhibân. This is an instance where folk-notions have actually affected history.

Now, the predatory portion of the priesthood has everywhere been most careful to keep alive and foster the folk-notions of sin, misfortune, and ill-luck, because out of them arises the most prolific source of all of a good livelihood for themselves. Sins must be expiated; sinful bodies must be purified; the priest is always ready to secure expiation and purification, and to guide the ceremonies enjoined in either case. Ceremonial bathing, as a result of the notion of the holiness and cleansing powers inherent in water, is the great panacea in India, and out of the holy bathing places perhaps more wealth has been transferred from the laity to the coffers of the priestly classes than from anything else that has been invented for the ghostly benefit of the people.

After providing the personages and setting the story going in a definite direction, the next thing necessary is to keep up the interest by the process known to adverse reviewers as padding and to the sympathetic as valuable incidents. Those in the *Legends* are, as might be expected, of the stock description; scraps of well-known verses or tales, or references to stock notions about this world and its affairs. From the very nature

of the circumstances under which they are introduced they offer the most undiluted folklore with which the narrators are imbued, and are thus often the most valuable part of a tale to the student. Thus, there are everywhere valuable references to the miraculous origin of that puzzle to the peasantry, a pearl or precious stone, or even a bright flower. Rubies are the products of the sea, or the special gift of the god of the rivers, or more fancifully still drops of blood from the murdered magical hero or heroine. Pearls are rain-drops during a particular asterism, and both they and flowers are derived from the tears or laughter or speech, indifferently, of the hero or heroine, and so on.

A very large portion of the incidents observable in folktales are tricks, in the narration of which, as in that of many other contents of stories, resort is had to both plain matter of fact circumstances and to the whole gamut of peasant fancy and wisdom. There are tricks humorous and tricks malicious. There is the cruel practical joke, the mysterious supernatural tragedy, the downright cheat; even the lie direct is perpetrated by the Lady of Virtue (Sîlâ Dâi), who is held up to honour as the embodiment of all the virtues.

References to and details of ceremonies of all sorts are a necessary, and frequently a most valuable, form of folktale incident, but they do not require more than mere mention in such a discussion as this. In the *Legends* we are treated to many a most interesting and instructive description especially of marriage ceremonies, involving allusions to equally interesting and instructive notions about marriages generally. In fact, as regards marriages, and betrothals which are their counterparts in India, a perusal of the *Legends* will take the reader over the whole subject: the beliefs, forms, ceremonies, customs and laws, and political uses; some of them throwing light on European customs of past and present times. In other directions also we are treated to allusions to, or descriptions real or fanciful of, such practical ceremonial matters as the adoption of girls, declaring an heir to the throne, regulat-

ing a Râjpût hunting party, the reception of guests. In sacerdotal or quasi-sacerdotal matters we have the ceremonies of divination by the breath, and initiatory rites into the sect of the Lâlbêgi scavengers and into various sects of *jôgîs* and *faqîrs*, of which the ear-boring ceremonies are the most prominent and of some importance, as they have led to the use of earrings of fixed sorts as signs of occupation or caste and to ear-boring customs among the women of various nations in the East as general prophylactics against evil.

In matters affecting the daily life of the people, there are the use of ashes as a sign of both grief and saintship, and other conventional modes of expressing sorrow, such as the breaking of bracelets and jewellery, and the ceremonies gone through by the newly-made widow. There are also various conventional ways of conveying specific and general challenge to combat, claiming inheritance to land, blacking the face, and other strange methods of inflicting disgrace. Of the daily and domestic customs which are hardly to be distinguished from ceremonial observances, there are many instances; *e. g.*, the quaint methods of showing that the occupant of a house is not at home, announcing a visitor, awakening a slumbering chief on an emergency, tying a knot to jog the memory, showing submission and making supplication. To show how the *Legends* reflect the people and their ways, there is an interesting use made for story-telling purposes of the inveterate habit of village children of teasing hedgehogs.

Allusions to popular beliefs and the frequent introduction of incidents turning on them must, of course, be looked for. These open up so many questions of interest and debatable points, that it would only be unduly swelling this already too long category of folklore subjects, to do more here than just merely run over the recognised titles of some of those that occur in the *Legends* and have not been above classified, in order to bring them to notice, and to show how very wide is the net that is cast by this collection of tales for gathering in the flotsam of Indian folklore. Many are the be-

liefs relating to the animal world and their forms, of which the following are samples:—the origin of twisted and back-curved horns of various deer, the sacred, celestial, and marvellous characteristics of that favourite the horse, the sacred and supernatural nature of the peacock and the swan, the capabilities of the dreaded scorpion. Beliefs relating to the heavenly bodies are necessarily legion, and those relating to eclipses and the moon and stars find a place here, as do also the worlds outside that which man inhabits, heaven and hell and their inhabitants, *hâris* and such like. The parts of the human body and their uses give rise to many beliefs, such as the correct foot to start with, the marks of hands and feet on rocks and other places, both natural and marvellous, the head and the shaving thereof. We have also most interesting references to the world-wide belief in a flood or deluge, clearly in one instance more or less indirectly based on the Biblical story. And lastly there are many data for arriving at a clear notion of the peasants' ideas of the Deity and the confusion of mind they are troubled with on the subject, owing to the intermixing of Hindu and Musalmân teaching in so many parts of India.

Customs having their roots in popular beliefs are from their very nature, not only perpetually alluded to in the stories of the folk, but are a productive source of incidental narrations; *e.g.*, the aspect of the shrines as the remnant of sun-worship. Of these the old-world and universal idea of refuge, asylum, and sanctuary, as it is variously called, and as likely as not owing its inception and extension to sacerdotal pretensions and exclusiveness, is perhaps the most favoured in legend and folklore. In practical application it everywhere consisted of protection to strangers against their enemies, so long as they paid their way and only so long. The well-known Oriental conception of hospitality and its obligations is sanctuary pure and simple, both in theory and practice. Indeed, the Indian and Eastern notion of hospitality cannot be distinguished from sanctuary, and when the Pathân treats his enemy or a guest

worth plundering to the best cheer in his power, gives him a fair start, and then prepares to try and murder or rob him, he is merely doing in his way what the old heathen Greek, or for that matter the mediæval Christian priest, did in his, when he granted asylum or sanctuary to the fugitive or criminal only so long as he could pay for it, and made no sort of effort to shield him or obtain immunity for him when the payment ceased. All this is pithily brought out in a passage in the *Legends*. Râjâ Rasâlû's faithless wife had successfully hidden her paramour, Râjâ Hôđi, in her husband's house, but Rasâlû's faithful parrot betrayed him, and then we read:—"Said the parrot; 'slay not thy guest, he is as thy brother.' So Râjâ Rasâlû and Hôđi went together to the wilds, and there, wounded by an arrow, Râjâ Hôđi was slain."

The very widespread custom, rooted in a superstitious belief that it brings ill-luck, of declining to refer to a husband by name is also mentioned in the *Legends*, while on the other hand the ancient royal prerogative of releasing prisoners, nowadays in civilised Europe attributed solely to kindness and mercy, is given in the directest phraseology its right attribution of an act to insure good luck. That very ancient and widespread Oriental emblem of divine protection, the shade giving umbrella, is repeatedly mentioned, as might be expected, in its degenerated form of a sign of royalty and thence of dignity generally.

Indian folktales end up usually in the most orthodox manner. The hero and heroine live happy ever afterwards after the Indian fashion, which I must remind European readers is not at all theirs, and the villain, male or female, comes to an untimely and well-deserved end. Poetical justice is thoroughly appreciated in the East, perhaps because for so many ages there has been so little of any other description. The interest here is chiefly in the forms that vengeance and punishment take as an indication of the popular notions on the subject. In the *Legends* and elsewhere punishments are all vindictive and cruel, most ingenious indeed in their cruelty; and torture is solely used as a

means of expressing vindictiveness. In resorting to it there is no other ulterior motive. Enemies are cut to pieces, buried and burnt alive, shot to death with arrows, buried up to the neck to starve, in company on occasion with thorns, scorpions, snakes, and so on. There is much personal triumph mixed with the vengeance. Enemies' skulls are mounted in silver as drinking cups, strangled bodies are exposed, graves of enemies are ploughed up and walked over by the conquering hero and heroine, the ashes of victims of burning alive are sent to their mothers, and an unchaste wife is tricked into eating her lover's heart by the injured husband. Callously cruel as all these proceedings are, they may, as every reader of Oriental history knows, be fairly termed mild when compared with many that must have often been within the actual personal knowledge of the peasantry of all parts and at all times, even the most recent.

The lengths to which sacerdotal vindictiveness has often gone in India, is indicated by the well-established custom of ceremonial suicide, self-immolation, and self-injury, in order, to bring divine or supernatural wrath on an opponent or enemy. Debased as such a custom is in its nature and object, it has given rise to another equally well established and as noble as its prototype is execrable: the old and often exercised Rajput *sáká* or *jauhar*, which meant the voluntary suicide of the women of a palace, while the men went out to make the last wild sally when it was no longer possible to continue a defence.

With this, perhaps the noblest outcome of all of Indian superstition and belief, I close my survey of the folklore contained in these pages, in the hope that I have said enough to show that in the *Legends of the Panjab* we have displayed before us practically the whole machinery of popular Indian story-telling. Both the actors and their actions, so far as we have been able to regard them, have all shown themselves to be of the same description, and to have the same characteristics as those in Indian folktales generally whether purely;

narrative or of set purpose connected with the hagiolatry or demonolatry of the people. I hope also that what has been laid before my readers has been sufficient to convince them that these *Legends*, if explored, will decisively and instructively show the value of studying them in detail to those who would dig down to the roots of folklore anywhere in the world, and would learn something of the thoughts of the folk and of the trains of reasoning, which give form to the many apparently incomprehensible and unreasonable actions observable in the everyday life of the peasantry everywhere.

I cannot part finally with *the Legends*, my companions, in true Indian fashion, off and on, for so many years, without once more expressing my gratitude to those who unselfishly helped me long ago, and if in the former prefaces I have inadvertently omitted the names of any friends that ought to have been included amongst those of my acknowledged co-adjutors, I humbly crave their pardon.

And now in saying the last words about my old friends, *the Legends*, I would ask the reader's indulgence if I point out that the story of the composition of this book is itself thoroughly typical of English life in India. My labours on it began about the time that my children were being born. Like them, this book was at first my constant companion. With the passing years, as with them, the conditions of Government service in India, obliged me to part with it for ever lengthening periods, till at last I have been obliged, as again with them, to launch it on the world with far less personal knowledge and recollection of it than a true father desires. Thus is it always now, as it has always been, with those whose fortune takes them for their working life to the "Land of Regrets."

R. C. TEMPLE.

Port Blair, Andaman Islands, May 1900.

No. XXXIX.

MIRZÂ AND SÂHIBÂN, AS SUNG BY SOME JATTS FROM THE JÂLANDHAR DISTRICT.

[This is a very celebrated tale in the Jhang and Montgomery Districts, and thence throughout the Panjâb, because of the feuds which the elopement of the heroine, Sâhibân, with her cousin Mirzâ led to between the Mahnis (Siyâls) and the Chadhars of Khîwâ in the Jhang District and the Kharals of Dânbâd in the Montgomery District. The story generally told is as follows:—Mirzâ was sent to his relative the Mahni Chief of Khîwâ, who had a daughter Sâhibân. Sâhibân was betrothed to a youth of the Chadhar tribe, but before she could be married to him she eloped with Mirzâ towards Dânbâd. Before they reached, however, their pursuers, the Mahnis and the Chadhars, overtook them, killed Mirzâ and strangled Sâhibân. The Kharals thereupon attacked the Mahnis and the Chadhars, defeated them and recovered the corpses of Mirzâ and Sâhibân, which they buried at Dânbâd. The feuds, however, lasted a long while, so that it became to be considered unlucky to possess daughters, and thus they led to extensive female infanticide by strangulation in memory of the manner of Sâhibân's death. As regards the Kharals, this was only put down by the English within the last forty years. The Siyâls to the present day resent a reference to Sâhibân as they do to Hîr, the heroine of the tale of Hîr and Bânjhâ given in the previous volume.]

[The date of Hîr was in the previous volume referred to the 16th century A.D. and that of Sâhibân is no doubt much more modern.]

[The version here given is characteristically incomplete and full of references of a local nature. It is also wanting in that skillful treatment, which is so distinctive of the ancient Indian legends, even in their garbled modern forms.]

TEXT.

Ghar Khîwe de Sâhibân jamî Mangalwâr :
 Dom suhelî gâwande Khân Khîwe de bâr.
 Râj doân dittân sohane parwâr,
 Ral tadbîrân bandiân ; chhail hoî mutiâr,
 5 Sâhibân nâl suhelîân kûrî ris kâr.
 Ghar Banjal de Mirzâ jamiâ karape bâr.
 Janam ditte mâl-bâp ne, rûp dittâ Kartâr :
 Aisâ Mirzâ sûrmân Kharalân dâ sardâr.
 Sâhibân parhe pattîân, Mirzâ parhe Kurân :

- 10 Bich Masît* de lagiân, jâne kul jahân.
 “Nâ mâr, Kâjî chhamkân, nâ de tati nûn tâo.
 Parhnâ sâdâ rah giâ, le âe ishk Likhâ.”

- Sâhibân gaf tel nûn, gaf pasârî de haṭ :
 Phar nâ jâne tâkhrî, hâr nâ jâne waṭ.
 15 Tel bhulâve bhûlâ Bâniân, dittâ shahit ulaṭ.
 Banajf gaiwâ le Bâniân ; balad gaiwâe Jatt.
 Tin sai Nâgâ piṛ rihîâ, ho gae choṛ-chapat.
 Mirzâ Sâhibân dî dostî raho bich jagat.

- Ghar se Sâhibân ṭur pie karke parhne kî nît :
 20 “Kâjî sâdâ mar giâ, sunî pie Masît.”

- “Tûn sun, Karmû Bâhmanân, kadhî na âiâ kâm.
 Ghoṛî deân tere chaṛhan nûn, sane kâthî lagâm :
 Hâthon dî dewân chûṛiân, sonâ kardî dân :
 Jhoṭî deân dûdh pîn nûn, hal dî zamîn inâm.
 25 Jad lag jîve Sâhibân, rakhe terâ ahsân.
 Chauthe nûn Chaṇḍar biyâh le jânge, phir kî karogâ ân?”
 Agion Karmû boldâ : “Sachî deân sunâe.
 Châlîs kohân dâ pandâ hai ; kaun âve ? kaun jâ ?
 Ghar Mirzâ dî hor istrî, sunî dî burî balâe.
 30 Saukan utte saukan pai mare love âdh batâe.
 Chhaḍ de purâne Jatt dî dostî, nawîn Karmû bal lâ.
 Ghar bich lâ, le dostî bahke ishk kamâ.”
 Âge Sâhibân boldî : “Munh tere suhâe :
 Mârân chaupaṛ tere gajab dî, deân akal gaiwâe.
 35 Khabar ho jâ mere bap nûn, tainûn shaharon den ujâr :
 Tân khabar ho jâ bir Shumer nûn, tainûn karan mâr :
 Je khabar ho jâ piṇḍ de muṇḍiân nûn, karde ṭemân dî
 mâr.
 Bhulke srâdh, Dâdâ, âwange, neude khân te jâ ?
 Lagîân main terî potrî, bah giâ ran banâe.

40 Lago Kachahrî Khîwe bap de, tainûn bañhke lûn mangwâe."

"Eh gunâh merâ bakhsh le, Sâhibân, jithe ghalle uthe jân.

Dorâ lagâ afim dâ, sâde akal ðhikânâ nân.

Main to bholâ gharîb hân; meri rakh dhaulîân dî lâj.

Barî râton utþke ður pawon Kharalân dî râh."

45 Siyâlân te Bahman ður piâ, piâ Kharalân dî râh.

Kol Mirze de âke das ditti sâhe dfe pâ :

"Mehndî Sâhibân de biyâh de chalke hâthon apne lâ.

Bhejâ Sâhibân dâ â giâ; chhetî ho tayyâr."

Charhde Mirzâ Khân nûn Chhahtî kare jabâb :

50 "Haþke baiþheñ, Mirzâ, ghar vichh karîñ salâh.

Utte palang te bahke mere hathîñ kâj sunwâr :

Bhulke âwange Bhattî Sandal Bâr de, Sâhib Sunde Bâr."

"Merâ jân zarûr dâ, piþhe bhâichâr :

Achhî karnî apne nak nûn: nahîñ, Kharalân nûn âo hâr.

55 Merâ jânâ zarûr dâ, jânde nûn hoj na pæ.

Kâj bahûnân main phirân, mainûn kî kisî kâjân nâl?"

Charhde Mirzâ Khân nûn matâ deve mân :

"Bure Siyâlân de mu'âmlâ; burî Siyâlân dî râh;

Burî Siyâlân dî auratân: jâdû len pâ.

60 Kaððh kalîje khândîân; mere jhâte tel na pæ.

Ran de khâtir chaliâ, âven jân ganwâe.

Âkhe mere lag jâ; âge pair na pæ."

"Ghar Khîwe dî kâj hai: lâgî bhajiâ mere bâr.

Ghar mere ânke das ditti sâhe de pâ.

65 Oh nânke main dohtâ; jânde nûn moj na pæ.

Panj rupæ ik patrâ mainûn dâ pâungâ jâ."

Mirzâ ne ghorî singâr lfe, âsan baiþhâ jâ.

Charhde dâ pallâ aþakiâ; chhink sâmhne â!

Mirzâ Syâlân nûn chaliâ, Khere niwâke sîs.

70 Kâddh kalîje le gaî Khân Khîwe dî dhî.
 “Gaz gaz lamîân menđiân, rang jo gorî sî ;
 Je deve piâlâ zahar dâ, main, Mirzâ, lainsâ pî :
 Je mâre burchî kaske, Mirzâ kadhî na karûngâ sî :
 Apnî maut main marân : mere nâl tuhâ nûn ki ?”

75 Charhde Mirzâ Khân nûn Banjal dendâ mat :

“Bhat ranân dî dostî ; khorî jinhân dî mat.

Hanske lâwandî jârîân, roke dendî das.

Jis ghar lâî dostî mul na ghate lat.

Sathî hâth nâ âwandî dânishmandân dî pat.

80 Sâhibân âitn na chhadke, sir nâ raho sâdî pat.

Râjâ jhore râj nûn, budh nûn jhore chor.

Gorî jhore rûp nûn, pairân jhore mor.”

Charhde Mirzâ Khân nûn mâ mat dindî kharî :

“Sapân sherân dî dostî nâ kar, bhât, arî.

85 Tapî karhâ hai tel dî, sir par lât jalî.

Mûsâ bhâjiâ Maut te, us de âge Maut kharî ;

Parbat bharde tukren lenghan kehre galî.

Rondî Bîbî Fâtima karke bâhan kharî.

‘Main kî, Rabbâ, terâ phariâ, merî jorî khâk ralî ?”

90 Aj dâ wâr bichâle, bhulke Siyâlân jâ barîn.”

“Biyâh hove chhadî dewân, mang na chhadî jâ.

Jekar mang main chhadî dewân, lage Kharâlân nûn lâj.

Pût Mirzâ, nûh Sâhibân, sâdî tîrnî jag vich wâr.”

Charhde Mirzâ Khân nûn mâ mat dindî kharî.

95 “Jârân chorân vichh baiṭhke gal na kariye kharî.

Âj dâ wâr bichâe, bhulke Siyâlân jâ barîn.”

Âge Mirzâ boliâ : “dewân sach sunâ ;

Ghar Banjal de jamiâ ditte kul sanwâr.

Sadiâ Sâhibân Siyâl, kîkar dewân jabâb ?

100 Jiwandâ rahâ tân â milân ; mat chhoro âs.”

Mirzâ Siyâlân nûn tur piâ, chaliâ hûâ sawâr.

Mirzâ puchhâ Pîlû sha'ir nûn ; “dasîn shagun vichâr.”

Pilû baithâ khû te karke lakh tadbîr.

“Kânjan bandhâ takulâ, takulâ bandhâ tîr ;

105 Lath pilânâ miliâ, karare ghat zanjîr.

Kabiân mudh dhaturîân, jiwen badshâhân mudh wazîr.

Kathâ hat hat kar rakâ, jiwen dâr vichh kharâ fakîr.

Ṭiṇḍân gîram gîriân, bhar bhar dhaulan nîr.”

Âge Mirzâ boliâ : “ tainûn deân sunâ :

110 Terî gallân jhûṭiân ; ik bhî mandî nâ.”

“ Ehnân charkhe-wâle admî kabaren jâ pîe ;

Je bhale châhunâ zindagî gâhân pair na de.”

“ Raste pe jâo, râhio, dandî pair na ghat.

Jis din sâhâ sâdhiâ lâgî dinde ghat,

115 Ghar Mirzâ de âke pâwandâ sâhâ de das,

Panj rupae ik patiâ, na wâdâ jânâ ghat.

Tuhâde bâr ghorîân, merî Bakkî dâ patlâ lak.

Â, leo rupae, salâm dâ tuhânûn âge na âe mat.

Sum Bakkî dî kharakde, jo lohe pain dhagân :

120 Dum Bakkî dî in phirî, jaisî chauvrî karê ghulâm.

Munh nâl lâhen pagarîân, phatke site anjân :

Bakkî lâhîân pagarîân, vekhî na kisî dî lâj.

Nâi merâ mâriâ, sharbat dittâ dhol.

Puchh na painde mu'âmla, na ho na lagde chor.

125 Gallân karan sukhâlîân, aukhî pâlne bol.”

Mirzâ Siyâlân munch â giâ, ran Sâhibân dâ chor.

Hor ânde hâthen barchhân, Mirzâ dî sabz kumân.

Dahine kane âwandâ merâ Mirzâ sher jawân.

Mirzâ ghar Bîbo dî â giâ, charkhâ dindâ ṭaharâ :

130 “ Je tûn mâsî dharm dî Sâhibân nûn le âke milâ.”

Ghar te Bîbo ṭur pîe moharân leke châr :

“ Uṭhen, Sâhibân sutîe, uṭhke deîn didâr

Chîrewâlâ chhokrâ Bîho andar kaun parâ ?

Mirzâ phûl gulâb dâ merî jholîn ṭûṭ piâ !”

135 “ Na phar, baiîân ghutkê, bangân jândî phat !

Kal chir charhîân, pahin na dekhî raj !

- Bherî galî, kuṭhîân ghar, mûrakh dhûlî gad.
 Khabar hove Khân Shumer nûn, lahû pîvegâ raj !
 Le chal Dânbâd nûn, je sir haigî pag ;
 140 Tainûn mâr gañwâvegî ; tûn rakh Khaṛalân dî laj.”
- Âge Mirzâ boldâ : “ tû sun, Jâm* Lohâr !
 Kyâ sutâ ? kyâ jâgdâ ? kî giâ pawâr ?
 Majûrî le lien apnî, kîliân dien hazâr.
 Je tû bhâi dharm dâ Sâhibân ṭorien nâl.”
- 145 Mirzâ kîliân gadîân, Panj Pîr manâ :
 Paurî paurî Jaṭṭ chaṛh giâ, ûpar chaṛhiâ jâ ;
 Uparon Sâhibân utarî, pai gañ chhiukâr :
 Sâlû dâ pallâ aṭakiâ. “ Ratak Bakkî nûn pher !”
 “ Âge ghar, Sâhibân, bap dâ nau lakkhâ. Lâ dún sâlûân
 dâ dher.
- 150 Chaṛhî rah Bakkî dî bel te, sakh Mirzâ dî loṛ.”
 “ Mârî terî ṭîrkî, Mirzâ, lâiâ kidharon ṭor ?
 Sukkâ ahîdâ chaukaṭâ ; kâwân khâḍe kamroṛ !
 Je ghar na sî tere bap de, mang le âwandâ hor !
 Ghorî Khîwe Khân dî baṛî murâtab-khor !
- 155 Bhajiân nûn jân na denge, udhal ghasiân de chor ;
 Bich ujâr de mârde, tere sat de dhoñ maroṛ !”
 “ Kan lambî, khor patli, dum Bakkî dî siyâh ;
 Dekhke maṛî tîr nûn jhorî chit na pâ.
 Bâi Dogar jinhân de bahan pawânde â:
- 160 Bap de khatiân chârke Bakkî ne liân banâ.
 Das mahîân dâ ghiân dittâ Bakkî de didh pâ.
 Bakkî te ḍaran farishte, maiton ḍare Khudâ !
 Chobhê bich Patâl ; urke chaṛhî Agâs !
 Chaṛhnâ apne shauk nûn, Bakkî nûn lâj na lâ !”
- 165 Bûhe nûn tamak bajiâ, Sâhibân ghate tel.
 Andar baithe nânakî, bûhe baithâ mel.
 Thâlî baṭwâ rah giâ, kûpe atar phulel,
 Gahne sane patârîân, chhânjan sane hamel !

Paroz Dogar kûkiân : “ Sunûn, Khân Khîwâ, bap.

* A title used towards the caste.

- 170 Sâhibân nûn Mirzâ le gîa rondî Kuḡde de Bâr !
Lâ gîa lâj Siyâlân nûn, gîa sí dâgh lâ.
Ghoḡe páo pakarân, paidal, ho jáon aswâr !
Raste pawo, paidalo, muḡḡ mallon aswâr !
Sâwân Mirzâ márnâ, karke kaul karâr !”
- 175 Ishk litâre âdmî, baraf litâre rukh ;
Nînd na âwandî chor nûn, âshak na lage bhukh.
- “ Sâhibân Mirze dí dostî jag na rahní luk.
Le chal Dânábad nûn, ján lukâve mukh.
Jaḡḡ de heḡḡ, Jattâ, so rahâ, uḡḡ sust sambhâl.
- 180 Bakkî tainûn chhaḡḡḡke uḡḡ gai, jis de utte barâ aitbâr !
Nârad chhaḡḡḡke uḡḡ gîa, terâ muḡḡ kadîmân dâ yâr,
Maran Sâhibân nûn â gîa, jeh dâ kardâ ná sí aitbâr !”
“ Mere úpar na koî dídhâ súrmâ, jeḡḡ merâ parwâr kare.
Mâr kohân tere, jin ne pás tere bír kare.
- 185 Jhattak jhûḡḡ jaḡḡ heḡḡ lain de, jeḡḡ Khudâ kare !
Aj dí gharî so lain de, dújî gharî barân Dânábad.”
“ Jaḡḡ de hethân, Jattâ so rihâ lâl dushâl tân,
Wahî chalâîân kânîân Maut ne dinde ján.
Mathe bich kaljognâ, fatteh na dinde hon.
- 190 Likhiân Dâdhe Rabb ; deiân meḡan-wâlâ kon ?
Uḡḡhan, Mirzâ sutiâ ; khabe âe aswâr !
Hathen teghân rang liân, karde mâr-o-mâr !
Mere bâbal wargîân ghoḡîân ; bír mere sawâr !
Kî dhuḡḡhâwan asân de ? Kî mîr-shikâr ?
- 195 Jaḡḡ de jaḡoriâ, túhen karen niyâûn.
Hoio dînâ phale, chaḡḡunâ teri mehḡḡḡi mâne chhâûn.”
Muthiân bhar jagâwandî yâr nûn : “ Jáḡîye, Rabb de
nâm :
- Dhur na âprî ran Sâhibân ; merî bichâlon ḡḡḡî lân.
Je na sí oḡ nabhânî, mere kâh nûn palrî bâhen ?
- 200 Bachâ dendâ, âshakâ*, ná âḡe milná tainûn thâûn.”

- Arson utare chhah jane, chhah haiñ bahin bharâñ.
 Duldul lieñ Shâh Alf ne, pâñen Kâba dî râh.
 Ik lâ Gûge Chauhân ne, Bâgrân dittiân dhâ.
 Nîlâ lâ Râjâ Rasâlû ne, Kâniâ lâ chhundâ.
- 205 Garârâ Jaimal Fatte sandal beṭî na ditti biyâh.
 Lakhî le lain Dûlâ jawân ne, mâre Akbar dî râh.
 Kakkî ghar Sultân de châren kunṭân lâiân niwâ.
 Sabhnân te chhoṭî haiñ Bakkî, chalke âi Mirzâ de pâs.
 Muñh kaḍiâlâ, Jaṭṭ ne de lâ Panj Pîr manâ;
- 210 Chhikkê tang kasiâ ; lie na shagun manâ :
 “ Sir Siyâlân de badhke, dewân jaṇḍ charhâ.
 Bakkî kî bel par bahke ; Bakkî nûñ lâj na lâ !”
 “ Sherû Kaliyar bhaunkde ; dekh janân de dhûñ.
 Jyûñ Makkâ labbâ hâjîñ, mainûñ labbâ tûñ.
- 215 Shahar Siyâlân de â lage, jo phattân utte nûñ :
 Teghân mâr urâwange, jo panjâ punjdâ rûñ.”
 Mirzâ âkhe : “ Koî na dhendâ sûrmâ, jeṛâ mainûñ hath
 kare.
 Kaṭak bharâ den tukren, maithoñ bharâr ðare.
 Balbal baḍ dũngâ sûrmâ, jo kethî nûñ pain gare.
- 220 Sir Siyâlân de badhke sittũngâ bich rare.”
 “ Áthan wakat dhor dâ, jyûñ suboh se hoe shâm.
 Dhartî tâmbâ ho gai, siâhî phaṛî âsmân.
 Ghar bagâne mârke, so rahâ bich maidân.
 Tere sire sagân bajdiân, jyûñ lohe pare thangân.
- 225 Chandar dhunke jan banke mâre, tainûñ bâj na jân.
 Chher Bakkî chaliye Dâñâbâd ; kyûñ piâ bich maidân ?
 Mere Mirzâ de hathon paiân bhâjñ, ambar koî na
 piñḍâ thal.
 Ranî mahanî tanjanî tarapî Mirzâ dî gal.”
 “ Main baithâ bich Kachahrîñ Râjâ honde mere bal.
- 230 Mârân râh Lâhor dâ, shahren ghattâ har jal.
 Chârân kunṭân lût lâñ, sângân nâl athal.
 Marnâ te jag chhadḍnâ, merî jag bich rah jave gal.”

Chandar Siyâl charh pie, râhî ghat bhîr :
 Faujân gherâ ghatiâ karko bare tadbîr.

- 235 Karâkar chalan goliân, Mirzâ nûn bahotî painde tîr.
Oh sutâ nahîn jâgdâ, kâim nahîn hondâ sarîr.
Dekh jaṇḍre dî chhatrî sir par bolî kân :
“Tângon baje Maliku'l-Maut de ; kite nahîn dinde jân.”
- “Chandar Siyâl mârânge bare sûrme jawân.
- 240 Uṭh, Mirzâ sutiâ, kyûn piâ bare gumân ?
Ghorî âwandî bîr Shumer dî, âwandî haiñ bare tân.
Sutâ hî tû uṭh khar, je Rabb rakhe sidak imân.”
Mirzâ âwandâ dekhîâ Sâhibân dâ bîr Shumer,
To Mirzâ ne goshe vichon kaḍḍhiâ karaṛî nukhî dâ tîr,
- 245 Kar Bismi'llah mâriâ, bhaundâ wâng bhabîr,
Ghorî uthon lah liâ Sâhibân dâ bîr Shumer.
- Âge Sâhibân boldî : “ Mân, Mirzâ, merî salâh.
Chhar Bakkî nûn pawan râh Kharalân dî, le chal Dâñâbâd.
Siyâlân dî ghorîân âdam-khânîân, nit rok laindîân râh.
- 250 Jo tû, Mirzâ, sûrmâ, merî Sâhibân dî oṛ nabhân.”
Mirzâ vich barâ ghumân thâ, phir son gîâ jaṇḍore de
pâs :
“ Maiñ balbal baḍ dîngâ surmei, deûn pûr khapâ.
Maiñ jhitak ḍhaunkâ lâ lain de, sute nûn nâ jagâ.
Din chaṛhde nûn chalânge, tainûn le chalân Dâñâbâd.”
- 255 Honî Mirzâ dî kûd pie, ralî Siyâlân de nâl.
Chhutî kânî ghazab de le gîen Mirzâ nûn nâl ;
Râh Mirzâ dî nikal gai, lagî jaṇḍorâ nâl.
“ Mandâ kîtâ, Sâhibân, tû ral gainî Siyâlân de nâl.”
“ Kanî gharî kamgarân, phal ustâkâr.
- 260 Dhoke mâre merî Sâhibân ne nâ âr nâ pâr.”
Khainchke khaṇḍe Mirzâ jawân ne, kar gîe Mirzâ nûn
pâr !
Âge Sâhibân boldî : “ Mirzâ, man merî arjâ.*
Honî bartî pagambarân ; Hon Mirzâ te gai â.
Bete Shâh Alî de, Hasan wa Hussain bharât,

* For 'arzî.

- 265 Larde nâl Yahûdi ditte pûr khapâ.
 Dar vich rondî Bîbî Fâtima : ‘ murke na âe mere pâs.’
 Mirzâ ede pagambar mâr lê, tû kî dâ pânî-hâr ?
 Ik araz merî man le mainûn, Sâhibân, le chal nâl !”
 “Mandâ kîta san, Sâhibân, merâ tirchhak tangia jaṇḍ.
- 270 Tin sau kânî Mirzâ jawân dî dindâ Siyâlân nûn baṇḍ.
 Pahile mârdâ bir Shumer de ; dūje kulle de tang ;
 Tîje mârân joṛke, jeḍe hai tû mang.”
 Sir te mudâsâ uṛ giâ ; gal bich pîe jhaṇḍ ;
 Bâjh bharâwân Jaṭṭ mâriâ ; koî na Mirzâ de sang.
- 275 Pilû pûchhe shâir nûn ; “kewal gîâ jahân.
 Lag lag gaiân majlisân, beh beh gae Dîwân.
 Mirzâ mârâ Maliku’l-Maut dâ, kuchh mârâ unhoñ ghu-
 mân :
 Bich kabarân de khap gîâ Mirzâ sohanâ jawân !”
 Yeh kissâ Mirzâ Sâhibân dâ joṛâ Pilû shâir ne, je nûn
 jâne jag jahân.

TRANSLATION.

- Sâhibân was born on a Tuesday* in the house of (the
 Chief of) Khîwâ :
 And the singers sang songs of rejoicing at the gate of
 the Chief of Khîwâ.
 The kindred congratulated him with auspicious prayers
 And made presents; and as she became beautiful and
 buxom,
- 5 Her maidens emulated Sâhibân.
 Mirzâ was born in the house of Banjal on an inauspicious
 day.
 His parents gave him birth, but God gave him beauty :
 So that Mirzâ became a hero and a leader among the
 Kharâls.
 Sâhibân learnt her letters and Mirzâ read the Qurân :
- 10 And in the School† they fell in love, so that the whole
 world knew (of it).

* Or simply “on an auspicious day.”

† *Lit.*, Mosque.

(Said Sâhibân), "Strike not, holy Qâzî, beat not the wretched.

All my studying is over, for Fate hath brought me love."

(Sâhibân) went for oil, went to the druggist's shop.

He could not hold his weights, nor adjust his scales,

15 And so the fascinated trader forgot the oil and gave honey instead.

The trader forgot his trade and the Jatt his oxen ;

Three hundred Nâgâs* fell in love and were undone : †

But the loves of Mirzâ and Sâhibân live on in the world.

Sâhibân went out to learn. ‡

20 (Said she) : " My teacher is dead, the school is empty." §

(Said Sâhibân) : " Hear, O Karmû Brâhman, thou hast not (yet) done me a service.

I will give thee a horse to ride with saddle and bridle :

I will give thee bracelets for thy wrists, and alms of gold :

A buffalo for milk to drink, and a plough of land as a present.

25 As long as Sâhibân lives she will remember her obligation to thee.

In four days will Chaḍdar come to marry me and then what will he (Mirzâ) do ?"

Then said Karmû : " I will tell thee truth.

It is 40 miles from hence : how can I come and go ?

I hear that Mirzâ has another wife said to be of an evil temper.

30 Co-wife with co-wife will divide half (the property).

Let go thy love for the old Jatt and take anew to Karmû.

Come home and be my love."

* Compare Legends XV. and XVI. of Vol. I., p. 414 ff.

† For love of Sâhibân.

‡ This seems to begin a story of which the bard has forgotten all but these two lines.

§ *Lit.*, Mosque.

Then said Sâhibân: "Be ashes on thy face:
I will slap thy face and knock out thy senses.

35 If my father hear of this, he will turn thee out of the
city :

If my brother Shumer hear of it, he will kill thee.

If the village youths hear of it, they will stone thee.

To-morrow there is to be a funeral, Father, but who
will feed thee ?*

I should be thy daughter and thou wouldst make me
thy wife !

40 When my father (the Lord of) Khîwâ's Court is open
I will have thee fettered."

"Forgive this my fault, Sâhibân, and I will go whither
thou sayest.

I am drunk with opium and my senses are not clear.

I am poor and foolish ; spare my white locks.

In the early evening I will start for the Kharals."

45 The Brâhman left the Siyâls and went toward the
Kharals.

Going to Mirzâ he gave him the invitation (to the
marriage, saying :)

"Put the henna (in earnest) of marriage to Sâhibân on
thy hands.

Sâhibân hath sent for thee, get ready quickly."

Said Chhahtî† to Mirzâ Khân as he was going :

50 "My advice, Mirzâ, is to come back and stay at home.

Sit on thy couch ‡ and arrange for my marriage :

For to-morrow will come the Bhaṭṭî of the Sandal Bâr,
Lord of Sunde Bâr."§

"I must go ; our kinsfolk are (left) behind,

Who will arrange well for their own sakes, or the
Kharals will be disgraced.

* According to Hindû custom : observe that the speaker is a Musal-
mân. † His sister. ‡ *i.e.*, at thy ease.

§ *i.e.* her betrothed was a Bhaṭṭî of the Sandal Bâr, a tract in the
Montgomery and Jhang Districts.

- 55 I must go ; stay me not.
I go to my duty : I have no concern with the duty of others."

Said his mother to Mirzâ as he was going :

" Evil are the dealings of the Siyâls ; evil the way to the Siyâls ;

Evil the women of the Siyâls : be not bewitched by them.

- 60 They will take out thy liver and eat it ; * lay not this trouble upon me.

Thou goest for the sake of a woman, thou wilt return with loss of life.

Hear my say : put not thy foot forward."

" I have business in the house at Khiwâ : they have sent (a marriage) messenger to my door.

Coming to my house he has shown me the date fixed upon.

- 65 I am a son of their house ; stay me not.
I will go and give him five rupees and a suit of clothes." †

Mirzâ saddled his mare, and took his seat.

As he mounted his skirt caught ; and some one sneezed in front of him. ‡

Mirzâ went to the Siyâls and bowed his head to the Kheṛâs. §

- 70 The daughter of the Khân of Khiwâ took away his heart. (Said he) : " Her locks are a yard long, and the maiden is fair :

If she give me a cup of poison, I, Mirzâ, will drink it :

If she strike me with a spear, I, Mirzâ, will never even sigh :

I will die in my own way : what have I to do with you ?"

* A common attribute of witches in India.

† In earnest of agreement to the marriage.

‡ A bad omen.

§ See Vol. II., story of Hîr and Rânjhâ, *passim*.

- 75 Said Banjal* to Mirzâ as he was going :
 “ Evil is love for women ; foolish are their ways.
 Smiling they make love and weeping they tell it abroad.
 Never put thy foot into the house where thy love is.
 The honor of the wise when lost is never found again.
- 80 Bring Sâhibân with you that our honor be not destroyed.
 Râjâs weep over kingdoms, thieves over ill success,
 Women over beauty, peacocks over their feet.†”

Again did his mother give Mirzâ advice as he was going :

- “ Make not friends of serpents and lions, my beloved.
- 85 The oil in the cauldron is boiling and the flames reach
 thy head.
 Moses fled from the (Angel of) death, when he stood
 before him,
 And stopped his way as he entered the mountains.‡
 Bibî Fâtima wept and wailed, (saying) :
 ‘ What have I done to thee, O God, that thou hast laid
 my pair (of sons) in the dust ?’§
- 90 Stay then to-day, and go in the morning to the Siyâls.”
 (Said Mirzâ) : “ Were she married I could give her up :
 I cannot give up a betrothed maiden.
 If I were to give up my betrothed shame would fall on
 the Khaṛals.
 The story of thy son Mirzâ and his wife Sâhibân will
 go forth into the world.”

And again his mother spake to Mirzâ as he was going :

- 95 “ Speak not honest words before thieves and scoundrels.
 Stay to-day and go to the Siyâls in the morning.”
 Then spake Mirzâ : “ I tell thee truth ;

* His father.

† Which are ugly. These two lines are proverbial.

‡ i.e. he could not escape fate. But the passage seems to refer in a manner to the Muhammadan version of the story of the burning bush as related in the 20th and 27th *sûrâs* of the *Qurân*.

§ Hasan and Hussain, the martyr-heroes of the Shi’a Muhammadans.

I would be a glory to the house of Banjal, wherein I
was born.

How can I refuse Sâhibân the Siyâl, who hath sent for
me ?

100 As long as I live I will come to see thee ; be not down-
cast."

Mirzâ went riding to the Siyâls.

Said Mirzâ to Pîlû the soothsayer : " Explain to me the
omens."

Pîlû sat by the well-side and thought out a thousand
things (and said) :

" The axle binds the shaft, and the spokes bind the axle ;
105 The axle-tree lies on the ground fastened by strong
chains.

Wheel works with wheel, as a king with his courtiers.

The whole machine creaks, as a beggar among the
husbandmen.

The pitchers clink (as they come up) full of pure
water."*

Then said Mirzâ : " I tell thee,
110 That thy words are false ; I will not listen to one."
(Said Pîlû) : " They that love women fall into trouble ;
If thou wishest well for thy life put not thy foot forward."

(Said Mirzâ) : " Go along the road, O travellers, go not
on the pathways.

On the day that the messengers gave me the invitation
115 And came to my, Mirzâ's, house and showed me the
invitation,

(I fixed the marriage by a present of) five rupees and a
suit of clothes, and cannot go back on my word.

Your mares are fat, my Bakkî is lean.

Come, take your money, or your proposals will not prosper.
Bakki's hoofs clang like iron on an anvil :

* Simile drawn from the working of a Persian wheel. This, of course,
is an oracle.

- 120 Bakkî's tail whisks like a fan in the hands of a servant.
 She will tear off turbans unknowing :
 Bakkî will tear off a turban and think of no one's honor.
 They* beat my barber† and threw away the sweet drink.
 Love cometh not for asking and sticketh fast.
- 125 It is easy to say but difficult to fulfil."

The thief of Sâhibân, Mirzâ, hath come to the Siyâls.
 Mirzâ hath in his hands a green bow and the others
 have spears.

Mirzâ, my lion-like youth, hath come from the right
 hand.

Mirzâ went to the house of Bîbo and stopped her spin-
 ning her wheel (and said) :

- 130 "If thou be my real aunt then bring Sâhibân to me."
 Came Bîbo from her house with four gold *mohars*, and
 said :

"Up, sleeping Sâhibân, and show me thy face.

What turbaned youth is in Bîbo's house ?

Mirzâ, (as beautiful as) a rose, has fallen into my skirt !"

- 135 (Said Sâhibân to Mirzâ) : "Squeeze not, my bracelets
 break !

Only yesterday I got them and am not tired of them
 yet !

Narrow the lane, small the house, fool wast thou ?

If Shumer Khân hear of it, he will satisfy himself with
 thy blood !

If there be a turban on thy head take me to Dânbâd,

- 140 (Or) they will kill thee : so preserve the honor of the
 Kharals."

Then said Mirzâ : "Hear, O Blacksmith !

Art sleeping, or waking, or in the clouds ?

* Sâhibân's parents.

† i. e., marriage messenger.

- Take thy wages and make me a thousand nails.
 If thou be my sworn brother we will take Sâhibân hence.”
- 145 Mirzâ prayed to the five Saints,* and drove in the nails. †
 Up went the Jatt ‡ up this ladder :
 (But) as Sâhibân came down her ornaments clinked,
 And her skirt caught. ‡ (Said she) : “ Stop (thy mare)
 Bakki !”
 ¶ (Said Mirzâ) : “ In front, Sâhibân, is my father’s house
 worth nine *lâkhs* (of rupees). § I will get thee many
 skirts.
- 150 Get on to Bakkî and pray for Mirzâ’s safety.”
 “Lean and bony is thy mare, Mirzâ, whence hast thou
 stolen it ?
 Dry is her skin and her back, and the crows have eaten
 into her back !
 If (a strong mare) were not in thy father’s house thou
 shouldst have brought one from elsewhere !
 Khîwe Khân’s || mares are great eaters of corn !
- 155 They will not let thee escape, that art the thief of an
 eloped woman ;
 But will slay thee in the wilds and cut thy throat !”
 “ Bakkî’s ears are long and her sides thin and her tail
 black ;
 But be not down-hearted at her wretched appearance.
 Behind whose bed two and twenty Dogars sit : ¶
- 160 Bakkî eats freely of my father’s fields.
 Bakkî eats up the butter of ten buffaloes.
 The angels fear Bakkî and God fears me !
 She can penetrate into Hell and fly to Heaven !
 So get up cheerfully and disparage not Bakkî !”
- 165 Music was played at the door and Sâhibân was anointed
 with oil.

* See Vol. II., footnotes, *passim*.

† *i.e.*, made steps with them in the wall of Sâhibân’s house.

‡ Bad omens.

§ See preceding volumes, footnotes, *passim*.

|| *i.e.*, my father’s.

¶ *i.e.*, behind his father’s bed. This means that he was so great a man that Dogars sat *behind* his bed as a sign of inferiority.

The women sat within and the guests at the door.
 But the pastry remained in the plate and the essences
 in the bags,
 The jewels in the caskets and the bangles and necklaces
 too !

Firoz the Dogar* cried out ; “ Khân of Khîwâ, hear my
 words.

170 Mirzâ has carried off Sâhibân weeping to the Sunde
 Bâr.†

Shame hath he brought to the Siyâls and a stain upon them.
 O you footmen, catch the horses and mount them !
 Take the road, O footmen and horsemen, to the
 forests !

And make a promise to slay Mirzâ !”

175 Love distresses mankind, as snow loads the trees ;
 No sleep knows the thief, and no hunger the lover.‡

(Said Sâhibân) : “ The loves of Mirzâ and Sâhibân are
 not hidden in the world.

Take me to Dânbâd, this life irks me.

Arise, O Jatt, sleeping under the acacia tree and be on
 thy guard.

180 Bakkî, in whom was thy great trust, hath left thee !
 Nârad, thy oldest friend hath left thee !
 Sâhibân (too) will die, whom thou wouldst not believe!”

“ I know of no hero that can harm me.

I will slay every brother that you have.

185 Let me sleep awhile beneath the acacia tree, and let
 God do (as He pleases) !

Let me sleep this hour, we will enter Dânbâd the next.”

“ O Jatt sleeping under the acacia tree with thy red shawl
 round thee,

* Sâhibân's maternal uncle. † See line 52.

‡ A proverbial couplet thrown in for effect.

(The Angel of) Death hath ready his arrows and will not let thee live.

Misfortune is upon us, and we shall not win the victory.

190 The Great God hath said it, and who shall gainsay him ?

Up, sleeping Mirzâ ; these are horsemen !

Swords are in their hands and they are brandishing them !

The mares are like my father's ; the riders are my brothers !

Are they looking for us ? Are they a-hunting ?

195 O acacia tree, be on our side.

May thy fruit be doubled and thy shade increase four-fold."

Kneading him with her hands she awakened her love, (and said) : " Awake, for God's sake :

Sâhibân hath not reached her home : save the broken rope (of my life).

If thou protect me not to the end why didst thou take me by the wrist ?

200 Save me, my love, or thou shalt win no place (in the next world)."

Six horses descended from heaven and the six were brothers and sisters.

Shâh 'Alî took Duldul and found the road to the Ka'aba.

One had Gûgâ the Chauhân, which beat the Bâgrâs.

Râjâ Rasâlâ had the dark-grey one and conquered the city of Kâniâ.

205 Jaimal Fattah had the piebald one, that refused his beautiful daughter in marriage.

Dûlâ, the hero, had the bay one, who plundered Akbar.

Sarwar (Sultân) had Kakkî and conquered the four quarters (of the world).

Last of all was Bakkî that was with Mirzâ.*

The Jatt (Mirzâ) called on the Five Saints,

- 210 Bitted and tightened up (the mare), but took not the omens.†

“I will cut off the heads of the Siyâls and hang them on the acacia.

After having ridden Bakkî do not disparage her !”

(Said Sâhibân): “I hear Sherât and Kaliyar barking; I see the dust of the men.

As pilgrims look to Makkâ, so do I look to thee.

- 215 The Siyâls use their weapons, so that none escape.

They will scatter us with their swords, as carders scatter cotton.”

(Said Mirzâ): “I know of no hero that can conquer me.

I will cut the host to pieces, for the warriors fear me.

I will cut up these heroes, that are banded together in the field.

- 220 I will caste down the heads of the Siyâls on the sands.”

“It is dark as night, as when day turns to evening.

The earth is (red) as copper and there is blackness in the sky.

Thou that robbest others' houses art sleeping in the plain!

(The arrows) fall about thy head, as the strokes upon an anvil.

- 225 The Chandars‡ are come as a marriage party, they know not that thou art flying.

* The allusions here are numerous. The first is to Duldul the famous mule of 'Alî: then to the horse Javâdiâ of Gûgâ, on which he rode when fighting his brethren (see Vol. I., p. 200ff): Kâniâ, said to be the city of Râjâ Sirkap (see Vol. I., p. 39 ff.), is a new name in connection with Rasâlû and his grey horse: the story of Jaimal is a Râjpût one belonging to Chittaur; see story of Râjâ Rattan Sain, Vol. II., p. 350 ff; Dûlâ Bhattî was a celebrated robber chief of the Montgomery District in the 16th Century: Kakkî was the name of the mare of Sakhî Sarwar (See Vol. I., p. 96).

† And said to Sâhibân.

‡ i.e., the Chadhars of Khivâ into which tribe Sâhibân was betrothed.

Spur up Bakkî and let us go to Dânbâd : why art lying
in the plain ?

My Mirzâ, at whose hands the heavens tremble, should
rout the warriors.

My Mirzâ is known in the battle-field and at the
meetings of girls and maidens."

"When I sit in my Court I have Râjâs under me.

230 I can rob on the road to Lâhor and put the cities into
confusion.

I have robbed in the four quarters (of the world) by the
power of my spear.

When I die and leave the world my story will be told
in it."

The Chandars and the Siyâls assembled on the road,
And were drawn up together in good order.

235 They fired their balls at Mirzâ and many arrows fell about
him.

He slept and awaked not and his body could not live.

Sitting in the shade of the acacia tree spake a crow to
him :

"The drum of the Lord of Death is being beaten and
thou shalt not live."

(Said Sâhibân) : "Great heroes of the Chandars and
the Siyâls (are come to) slay thee.

240 Up, sleeping Mirzâ, why art full of pride ?

My brother Shumer's mare cometh on apace.

Wake up out of thy sleep, if thou hast faith in God !"

When Mirzâ saw Sâhibân's brother Shumer coming,

He took out of his quiver a sharp-pointed arrow,

245 He loosed it in the Name of God and it hurtled (through
the air),

And threw Shumer, the brother of Sâhibân, from off his
mare.

Then said Sâhibân : " Mirzâ, hearken to my advice.

Mount Bakkî and take the way to the Khaṛals and take me to Dânbâd.

The mares of the Siyâls are man-eaters and will stop the way.

250 If thou be a hero, Mirzâ, save Sâhibân to the end."

But Mirzâ was overcome by pride and went to sleep again under the acacia tree (and said):

"I will destroy thy heroes and break them in pieces.

Let me slumber awhile and wake not the sleeper.

I will take thee at sunrise, take thee to Dânbâd."

255 Fate deserted Mirzâ and joined the Siyâls.

A small arrow entered Mirzâ.

And the soul of Mirzâ was about to leave him under the acacia tree.

(Said he) "Thou didst practise deceit on me, Sâhibân, and wert joined to the Siyâls."

(Said she): "A bowman made the shaft and a cunning workman made the tip.

260 It hath gone through thee by no deceit of Sâhibân."

Mirzâ the hero drew it out and it had gone through him!

Then said Sâhibân: "Mirzâ, hearken to my prayer.

Fate came on the prophets: Fate hath come on thee.

The brethren Hasan and Hussain, sons of Shâh 'Alî,

265 Were destroyed in the fights with the Jew.*

At the door wept Bibî Fâtima (saying): 'They will come not back to me.'

Mirzâ, when (fate) slew such prophets, shalt thou escape?

Hear my prayer and take me, Sâhibân, with thee!"

"Thou didst play me false, Sâhibân, and hanged my quiver in the acacia tree.

* Hasan and Hussain, the sons of 'Alî by Fâtima, the daughter of Muhammad, were destroyed respectively in 669 and 680 A.D., it is said, at the instigation of Yazîd the son of Mu'âwia, the great opponent of 'Alî. As Yazîd succeeded Mu'âwia in the Khalifate at Damascus, and as Mu'âwia ruled Syria and Palestine for about 40 years, the expression "the Jew" probably stands for both of them.

- 270 In it were my 300 arrows to shoot at the Siyâls.
First I would have slain thy brother Shumer, next his
following,
And thirdly the fool to whom thou wast betrothed."
His turban fell off his head and his locks fell about
his neck.
And Mirzâ the Jaṭṭ died and his brethren were not
there (to help him).
- 275 Said Pîlû to a poet : " Thus runs the world on.
Societies and Courts all pass away.
Partly the Lord of Death and partly pride slew Mirzâ :
And the beauty of Mirzâ was hidden in the grave !"
Pîlû the poet hath composed this story of Mirzâ and
Sâhibân, celebrated throughout the world.
-

No. XL.

A VERSION OF SASSÎ AND PUNNÛN, AS TOLD BY A BARD FROM THE HUSHIÂRPÛR DISTRICT.

[This bardic version of the very celebrated tale of Sassî and Punnûn, which properly belongs to Sindh and Southern Balûchistân, is specially valuable as showing a folktale, after becoming a literary story, in the process of returning to the people. In this case it is the literary Panjâbî version of the tale by the poet Hâsham Shâh that has become the property of the bards and is reproduced in a terribly curtailed, confused and mangled shape. The bard has repeated as much as he could remember—which is not much—and as the tale is thoroughly well known to the audience in all its details he is quite indifferent as to how many of the original verses are given or in what order.]

[Hâsham Shâh's poem is a complete one and consists of 126 stanzas or quatrains and his version of the story is as follows: In the City of Bhambor there was a king called Jâm Âdam to whom was born a daughter named Sassî. The astrologers foretold that she would fall in love with a man outside of her tribe and so disgrace her family. So she was placed in an ark and floated down a river (the Indus or a mouth of it), from which she was rescued by Atîâ, a washerman, who brought her up as his own daughter. Many a young washerman wished to marry her, but she refused them, saying she was a king's daughter. Presently the king heard of her beauty and wished to marry her himself, but when he saw from the amulet round her neck that she was his own daughter he was very much ashamed and sent her back to the washerman. After a while Sassî happened to see a picture of Punnûn, the son of the king of Kecham,* and fell in love with it. Some merchants too from Balûchistân told her all about him and said they were his brethren. She thereupon locked them up in the hope that Punnûn would come to rescue them. Two cameleers of the party escaped and told Hot 'Alî†, Punnûn's father, what had happened. Punnûn accordingly set out, met Sassî, lived happily with her, and refused to leave her. So his father's adherents made him drunk and carried him off from Sassî. Finding this out she went off after him on foot and died in the deserts. ‡ At her death her spirit visited Punnûn and called him to her grave, and he resisting all entreaties went there, when it opened and he entered it.]

* Kech in Makrân.

† Âri in the Sindh version. The tribe of the Hots can have had no connection with the tale and the name is a modern interpolation.

‡ In the Pabb Mountains in Sindh.

[The following table will show how the original order of the stanzas has been perverted by the bard, and it must be understood that in many cases he has given but fragments of the poet's stanzas.]

Bard.	Poet.	Bard.	Poet.	Bard.	Poet.
I.	14	IX.	35	XVI.	117
II.	17	X.	36	XVII.	19
III.	22	XI.	37	XVIII.	115
IV.	21	XII.	(?) 33	XIX.	116
V.	23	XIII.	34	XX.	124
VI.	24	XIV.	(?) 104	XXI.	125
VII.	25	XV.	(?) 105	XXII.	126
VIII.	27				

Stanzas XII, XIV., and XV. are not in the original, but appear to stand for 33, 104, and 105 respectively.]

[In order to show clearly what the bard refers to by his fragments I here give the full stanzas of the poet meant to be quoted by him, with a rendering. With the help of this and the outline story above given the student will not find much difficulty in comprehending this difficult and mutilated text.]

14

[*Orak kauf utâr najûmê, bât kahê man bhânê :*

"*Kâmil ishk Sassê nûn host, jad hog jawân siyânê.*

Must be-hosh thalân vichh marsê, dard farâk na jânê.

(*Hâsham*) *dâgh lagâwag kul nûn ; jaj vichh hog kahânê."*

At last the astrologer overcame his fear and spake what was in his heart.

"Sassê will be perfect in love, when she grows up.

Wild (with love) she will die in the deserts and not know the fear of separation (from her lover).

She will cast a stain on her family ; and her story will be known in the world."

17

Kahîd Wazêr, "kê dos Sassê nûn ? Likhiâ lekh Kahârê.

Be-takstêr kahâwan kantân ; nasht kare kul sârê.

Is thên pâp kê hor parere ? Kaum hove hatîârê.

(*Hâsham*) *pâe sandûk rirhâ, mûl chukê khar-khwârê."*

Said the Minister, "What fault is it of Sassî ? God hath written it in her fate.

The maiden shall be called blameless, though she disgrace the whole race.

Is there any greater ein than this ? Her race will be disgraced.

Put her into an ark and float her away and thy fears shall be destroyed."

22

Kar tadbêr kîte tin chhânde, charkh dittâ kar nâle.

Tis de milk hotâ ik chhândâ, shêr pilâwan-wâle ;

Dâjâ dâj-dahej Sassê nûn ; hor pachâwan-wâle.

(*Hâsham*) *likh tâviz hakikat, harf Sassê gal qâle.*

They settled her (future) expenses in three portions and put the money in for them.

One portion for him whose she would become, for rearing her ;
A second for Sassi's dowry ; and (a third) for her education.

They wrote her story on an amulet and put the writing round Sassi's neck.

21

Chanman shâkh mangût kaddhôn, baiṭh kârîgar gharîâ :
Bâṭṭ vel sunahrê kṭîṭ ; lâl jawâhir jarîâ.

Pâ zanjêr chaufer pinjar nûn, baiṭh be-dardân kaḍhîâ.
(Hâsham) vekh tavallad hundê, ân dukhân lar pharîâ.

Procuring a branch of sandal-wood a workman fashioned it :

Put trees and creepers of gold upon it and studded it with rubies and jewels.

They put chains all round the ark and the shameless ones put her into it.
Behold her fate was evil and troubles came upon her.

23

Pâ sundâk riṭhâ Sassi nûn : Nûh tâfân wagaindâ.

Bâsak Nag na hâth lidwan, dhûl siyâh bagaindâ.

Pâr urâr balâṭn phirdâṭn, deo dânw dhal rahindâ.

(Hâsham) vekh, nastb Sassi dâ kṭ kujh hor karaindâ ?

They put Sâssi into the ark and floated her off: a very storm of Noah blew.

Bâsak Nâg could not stay her and the black dust flew.*

Horrors wandered on both sides and demons and devils dwelt there.

Behold, could Sassi's fate do any more ?

24

Turiâ tor zanjêr sidak dâ, châtân rizak muhârân ;

Gardash falak hûâ sir-gardân : bôjh mallâh kahârân.

Suraj tez hoîâ, jal khânê, lain tusân chamkârân.

(Hâsham) vekh, Sassi vichh ghere dushman lakh hazârân.

On it went, breaking the chain of continence, drawn by the letter of fate,
Surrounded by a stormy sky, without a boatman.

Hot was the sun, blood-red the water from his shining rays.

Behold, a thousand thousand enemies had surrounded Sassi.

25

Âdamkhor janâwar jal de, râkas rūp sarḍeñ,

Magarmachh, kachhâ, jal hûrê, nâg, sansâr balḍeñ,

Tandue, kahar, zambûrân-wâle, lâwan zor taddeñ.

(Hâsham) marg Sassi vichh thal de : mâras khaun uṭhâeñ ?

Man-eating monsters of the deep, like unto ogres,

Alligators, turtles, mermaids, serpents and horrors of the world,

Crocodiles, dragons, porpoises, were bellowing aloud.

Sassi's death was (however) to be in the deserts : and who shall stay fate ?

* See notes to Text, p. 34, *post.*

27

Shahron bāhir ko pattan dhobā dhondā nadī kināre.

Aṭṭā nām, misāl farishta, buzurg nek satārī,

Diṭṭhā os sandāk durādā, dil vichk kauf chitāre.

(Hāsham) gao ras hosh dimāghoñ, wekh sandāk sitāre.

Without the city was a washerman washing by the river-bank.

Aṭṭā his name, holy and righteous as an angel ;

He saw the floating ark and was afraid in his heart.

His senses left him, when he saw the shining ark.

35

Sharkat nāl Sharīk Aṭṭe de, bure, bakhīl, fasādī,

Pās Bhambor Shahr de wāl jā, hoe fariyādī :

“*Hoṭ jawān Aṭṭe ghar beṭl, sūrat shakal shāhzādī.*”

(Hāsham) kahā pukār bakhīlāñ : “Lāik hai tusādī.”

Aṭṭā's comrades, the evil and wicked strife-makers, made a plan,

And went to the lord of Bhambor City and said :

“A daughter hath grown up in Aṭṭā's house, like unto a princess.”

Called out the wicked men : “She is worthy of thee.”

36

Bhejīā nafar ghulām Aṭṭe nūñ, Ādam Jām bulāid.

Sassi khol tāviz gale dā shāh-i-huzār pahunchāid.

Kāghaz vāch pachhātā shāh ne, jo pāe sandāk rīrhāid.

(Hāsham) vekñ hoīd sharmindā Ādam Jām siwāid.

Sending a servant to Aṭṭā Jām Ādam called her.

Sassi took the amulet from her neck and sent it to the king.

The king read the paper and recognized her as (the girl) set float in the ark.

When the great Jām Ādam saw this he was much ashamed.

37

Lahū garm hoīd, dil baridñ ; pher aulād piārī.

Māñ piū nāl Sassi de chāhan, bāt kīl akwārī :

“*Sassi, sāf jawāb dīto nē, khol hakīkat sārī.*”

(Hāsham) milan harām tusā nūñ rīrh dīl akwārī.”

His blood warmed and his heart expanded, for love of his offspring

He desired to speak with the maiden Sassi's (ostensible) parents :

(Saying) : “speak to me clearly, Sassi, and tell me all thy story.

We did thee a wrong when we set our maiden afloat.”

33

Ik din kol Sassi de piū ne baiñh kīl gal chherī.

Ākh : “Bachā, tūñ bāligh hotoñ : vāg tere hath tere.

Dhobē vāt ūchhe ghar ūwan : phir phir jāñ bahutere.

(Hāsham) kaun tere man bhāve? Ākh sunā sawere.”

One day Sassi's (washerman) father sat beside her and spake disagreeable words.

Said he: "My child, thou art of age: thy fate is in thy hands. Washermen of good houses come and many go away again. Whom doth thy heart desire? Tell me early."

34

Sassi mûl jawâb na kitâ nâl piû sharmândî.

Dil vichh pher lagî oh sochan: "Bekh likhê karmân dî.

Dhândan sâk jharre mâpe; main dhî badshâhân dî."

(Hâsham) pher oh nâm na lewan, vekh Sassi darmân dî.

Sassi for shame gave no answer at all to her father.

And began to think in her heart: "Behold, the decree of fate.

My parents want to marry me to a washerman and I am the daughter of kings."

But he said no more, seeing that Sassi was unwilling.

104

Kujh bahindî, kujh digdî thaindî, uhdî te dam laindî;

Jiûnkâr tuṭ sharâbon âve, pher utte wal dhaindî:

Dhûnîl khoj shutar dâ phirke; kit wal bhâl nâ paindî.

(Hâsham) jagat na kiûnkâr gâven, pît sapûran jinheñ dî?

Sometimes sitting, sometimes falling about, getting up and resting;

As when intoxication from wine comes and overcomes the strength:

She searches for the footprints of the camel and finds them nowhere.

Shall she not be sung throughout the world, whose love was perfect?

105

Kudrat nâl Sassi hath âiâ phirâññ khoj shutar dâ.

Jân pâiâ us khoj shutar dâ, miûâ jâm Khizar dâ.

Yâ oh nûr nazar dâ kaktÿe dârû dard jigar dâ!

(Hâsham) paik Sassi hath âiâ, kâsid Kech Shahar dâ.

Searching Sassi luckily found the camel's footprints.

She recognized them and followed them to the realm of (Khwâjâ) Khizar.*

Call ye that sight the cure for the pains of the heart!

A messenger it was from the City of Kech, that reached Sassi.

117

Uḍiâ bhavar Sassi de tan thîn, pher Punnûñ wal âiâ;

Mahmal, mast, be-hosh, Punnûñ nûñ suphme ân jagâiâ:

"Le hun, yâr, asân sang tere, kaul karâr nibhâiâ.

(Hâsham) rahî Sassi vichh thal de, main râh rukhsat le âiâ."

Sassi's soul left her body and went to Punnûñ,

And wakened the love-stricken Punnûñ in a dream:

"Take me now, my love, with thee and fulfil thy promise.

Sassi hath remained in the desert; I, her soul, have taken my leave and am come."

* i.e. the river.

19

Wáh kálam nasīb Sassí de, nám lián dí dardá.
Takhtoñ chāe siṭe sultānāñ, khair parwe dar dar dá :
Bail gharīb na-kābil jihā chāe zamēn sir dhardá.
(Hāsham) jāe na bolan Wālt, jo chāhe so kardá.
 The heart fears to mention the fate of Sassí.
 Kings are hurled from their thrones and are given alms from door to door,
 Like a poor powerless ox that stands with his head on the ground.*
 God is not to be gainsaid, that doeth as He listeth.

115

Aiyar chhoḍ Sassí wal turid, dardá rah pakardá.
Súrat vekh ahwál Sassí dá, chārhíá josh kahar dá.
Dil toñ shauk gaiá uḥ sárá : máh, aurat, put, ghar dá.
(Hāsham) jān díloñ jag fānt de yeh fakír phardá.
 Leaving his flock he went to Sassí, taking the way with fear.
 Seeing Sassí's beauty and condition, pity rose within him.
 All desires left his heart : property, wife, son and home.
 Knowing in his heart that this world is mortal he became a *faqír*.

116

Thal vichh gor Sassí dí karke, baiṭhā gor sirhāne.
Gal kafnē, sir pá barahná, wāng yatīm nimāne.
Ik gal jān lat—jag fānt ;— hor kalām na jāne.
(Hāsham) khās fakír ihá, par koṭ virlá jāne.
 He made a grave for Sassí and sat at its head.
 A shroud was on his breast and his head bare, like a neglected orphan.
 One thing he knew—the world is frail ;—nothing else he knew.
 This was real saintship, but some thought it madness.

124

Shābash os shutar dá ṭurná, tez ṭuro ṭuk ṭiron !
Pahutá ún Sassí dí gore akal shutar waziron.
Tāzī gor díḥhē shāhzāde ; puchhíá os fakíron.
(Hāsham) "kaun buzurg samáid ? Wākif kar is píron !"
 Praise be to the camel's pace that went as swiftly as wing of bird !
 The camel, wiser than a minister, reached Sassí's grave.
 The prince saw a fresh grave and asked the *faqír* :
 "What saint is buried here ? Tell me about this saint !"

125

Ákhe os fakír Punnūñ nūñ, khol hakikat sárí :
"Áhī nal parí dí súrat, garmē mār utārí :
Japdí nám Punnūñ dá áhī, dard ishī dí mārē.
(Hāsham) nám makán nū jānāñ, áhī kaun vichārē."

* For explanation see the text on page 37.

Said the *faqîr* to Punnûn, saying all he knew :

“ Beautiful was she as a fairy and borne down by the heat :

Calling on Punnûn's name was she, stricken with love.

I know not her name, nor home, nor who she was.”

126

Gal sun Hot zamên te ðigâ, khâe kaljâ kânê.

Khul gat gor, piâ vichh kabare : pher milê dil-jânê.

Khâtir ishk gat ral mittîhî, sûrat, husan, jawânê.

(Hâsham) ishk kamâl Sassî dâ jag vichh rahe kahânê !

Hearing this the Hot* fell to the earth stricken to the heart by the arrow
(of love).

The grave opened and he fell within it, and once more met his heart's
delight.

For love's sake was their youth and beauty mingled in the dust.

May the story of the perfect love of Sassî remain ever in the world.]

[The story of Sassî and Punnûn has often been treated, and in the *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. XI., p. 291, will be found all the bibliography of the subject, as far as I am acquainted with it, except the mention in Burton's *Sindh Revisited*, Vol. I., p. 128 ff. Briefly the story may be referred to an early period in Sindh History. Bhambor or Bhambûr is a ruined site on the road between Karâchî and Ghârâ, and was probably on an old mouth of the Indus. It is one of the places fixed on as the Barbarikê emporium of the Greeks. The name of Sassî appears also in the form of Sasswi, and of Punnûn as Punhû and Psnnûn. The story is naturalized in the Panjâb and Kachh, besides being indigenous to Sindh.]

* This is probably an error. Punnûn was not at all likely to have been a Hot by tribe.

TEXT.

I.

Orak khaump* utâr najûmî bât kare man bhânî :

“ Ishkhoû kamâl Sassî dâ, jad hove jawân siyânî.

Mabbal mast thalân vichh marsî, dard farâk rijhânî.

(Hâsham) dâgh lagâve kul nûn tere : pawe jahân kahânî.”

II.

Kahe Wazîr : “kî dosh Sassî nûn ? Likhiâ lekh likhârî !

Be-taksîr kûhâve kanîân : tere nisht ho jâ kul sârî !

Is te pâp nâ hor badhere, tere kaum ho jâ hatîârî !

(Hâsham) pâ sandûk rijhâve ; e dî mul chuke kar-khwârî.”

III.

Kar tadbir kîte tre chhânde, kharch dittâ kar nâlê :
 Tis de milk hoiâ ik chhândâ, shîr chugâhan-wâle ;
 Dûjâ dâj-dahej* Sassî nûn ; hor paṛhâwan-wâle.
 (Hâsham) Likh tâbez† hakîkat, harf Sassî gal dâle.

IV.

Channan chîr madânî siṭṭiâ, baiṭh karîgar ghaṛiâ.
 Bûtâ bel sunahrî karke, lâl jawâhir jaṛiâ.
 Pâe zanjîr chaupahre pinjre, baiṭh be-dardân ghaṛiâ.
 (Hâsham) bolan di châh kujhnâ, ân dukhân laṛ phaṛiâ !

V.

Sassî pâe sandûk riṛhâ liê, jêkar Nûh tûfân bagaindâ.
 Bâsak Nâg nûn hâth na âve, Dhaul pânâh mangaindâ.
 Pâr urâr balâîn buriân, jithe deo dâno ṭhil rahindâ.
 (Hâsham) dekh nasîb Sassî dâ ! Aje kî kujh hor
 karaindâ ?

VI.

Turiâ ṭor zanjîr sabar dâ ; châhîân rizak muhârân :
 Gard vichh falak hoiâ sir-gardân, bâz mallah kahârân.
 Sûrij vekh hoiâ jal khûnî, pain lashkân chamkârân.
 (Hâsham) dekh Sassî vichh gherî, jithe dushman lakh
 hazârân.

VII.

Âdam-khor janâwar jal de, râkhas rûp sarâîn,
 Magar-machh, kachh, jal-hûrî, nâg, sarâr balâîn,
 Tandue, kahar, jambhûrân, bolan lâwan zor uṭhâîn.
 (Hâsham) maut likhî vichh thal de ; mâre kaun uṭhâîn ?

VIII.

Aṭṭâ nâûn, mashâl farishta, buzurg nek sitârî.
 Dekhâ un sandûk darîde, man vichh khauf chitârî,
 (Hâsham) gae oh de hosh ðimâkûṭ‡ dekh sandûk sitârî.

* For *jahez*.† For *ta'vîz*.‡ For *dimâghon*.

IX.

“ Beṭī jawân Aṭṭe ghar janamî; oh de sūrat shakal shahzâdî : ”

Bâdshâhân nûn chug boldeal “ Lâik hai kul tuâdî ! ”

X.

Ghattiâ nafar Aṭṭe de ghar nûn, pās Aṭṭe de âiâ :

“ Kah kahân, beṭī ; ki kariye âpân ? Likhiâ Huzûron âiâ.”

Khol tabîz Sassî ne gal dâ, Hâsham de hatth pharâiâ.

“ Bânc̄h le, be piû, likhiâ : merâ (Hâsham) jâm parâiâ.”

XI.

Labû garam hoiâ, dil bhadia, oṛak aulâd piârî.

XII.

Mattân den Sassî nûn mâpe : “ Âo, dhî, pavâhîn.

Dhobî zât kamîn karke, tainûn chhad̄ gaî tujh tâhîn.”

XIII.

“ Dhobî zât Jhînwe janedî : main dhî bâdshâhân dî.

Karmî likhâ, kadhî nahîn ṭaldâ : honihâr nahîn jândî.”

XIV.

Sassî nûn khoj Punnûn dâ laj piâ magari jândî bhâje.

XV.

Jaun jaun khoj agârî jândâ, bâl paṭe-paṭ sitdî.

Sassî dî goṭak wâng kabûtarâû, laṭak laṭak jind ṭuṭdî.

“ Nitdiân nitdiân kajiân nâlon, mainûn kar jâ chukdî-mukdî.

(Hâsham) bolan dî châh kujh nâ mere nard joṛon ṭuṭdî.”

XVI.

Urîâ bhawar Sassî de tarfoñ, phir Punnûn bal dhâiâ.

“ Lakhân, yâr, asân sang tere, kaul karâr nibhâiâ.

Sassî mar gaî bich mârû thal de ; rûh rukhsat lekar âiâ.”

XVII.

Bâh, kalâm nasîb Sassî de nâm liân dil ḍardâ.

Takhton châh ṣite sultânân, khair mangâve dar dar dâ,

Bail gharîb nakâwal* jihâ, châh zamîn sir dhardâ.

(Hâsham) bolan dî châh kujh nâ ; Rabb jo châhe so kardâ.

* For *nâ-qabil*.

XVIII.

Ijar chhor ajâlî tûriâ, dil dardâ pav dhardâ.
 Utar chhaunk* gîâ sab dil dâ mâl, dhyân, put, ghar dâ.
 Dekh shakal Sassî dî us ne baiṭh fakîrî kardâ.

XIX.

Gal vichh alfî, sir babrânî, bah gîâ kabar sirhâne:
 "Iko jân—rahâ-jag fânî." Hor kalâm na jâne.

XX.

Sabâsh âkho us karhe nûn tej dhare pav tîron.†
 Pahunchâ ân Sassî de kabare akalon surt wazîron.
 'Tâzî gor dekhe shâhzâde puchhiâ os fakîron:
 "Ithe kaun buzurg samânâ? Wâkif karo, fakîro!"

XXI.

Âkhiâ us fakîr Punnûn nûn khol hakikat sârî:
 "Â gaî nâr, parî dî sûrat, garmî mâr utârî.
 Japdî nâân Punnûn dâ, â gaî teg hijar dî mârî.
 (Hâsham) thân makân nahîn jandâ, â gaî kaun bipârî."‡

XXII.

Sunde sâr zamîn par ḍigiâ, khâe kalîjâ kânî.
 Khul gaî gor, piâ vichh kabare, phir mile dil-jânî.
 Khâtir ishk de oh ral mâṭî; oh dî sûrat husan jawâni.
 (Hâsham) ishk Sassî de lagiâ, oh dî pai jâe jahân kahânî.

TRANSLATION.

I.

At last overcoming his fears the astrologer spake his
 mind:
 "Sassî will be perfect in love, when she becomes of age.
 By her evil destiny she will die in the deserts, over-
 come by the pains of separation (from her lover).
 She will cast a stain on thy family, and her story will
 be known throughout the world."§

* For *shaug*.† For *târon*.‡ Probably meant for *vichârî*.§ i.e., her love will be illicit. I have omitted the *tagallus* or *nom de plume* of the poet, where it is inserted in the text without reference to it after the Indian literary fashion.

II.

Said the minister : " How is Sassî to blame ? It is the will of fate !

If thou let the innocent maiden die, thy whole race shall be ruined.

Thou canst have no greater blame, than to destroy (one of) thy own race !

Set her afloat in an ark ; thus will thy anxieties cease."

III.

They made a plan for her (future) expenses (dividing them) into three portions and put the money in for them.*

One share for him whose she was to be, for her rearing ; One for Sassî's dowry ; and (one) for her education.

They wrote her story in an amulet and put the writing round Sassî's neck.

IV.

They cut down a sandal-wood tree in the plain, and a workman fashioned a box.

He put on it trees and creepers of gold, and studded it with rubies and jewels.

They put chains all round the box, and the shameless ones put her into it.

One can say no more than that trouble had seized upon her !

V.

Sassî was put into the ark and set afloat (in the river) rushing as in a Noah's deluge.†

Bâsak Nag‡ could not stay her, nor Dhaul give her refuge.

* *i.e.*, into the ark : see preceding verse.

† The story of Noah and the Deluge is common to Christians and Muhammadans.

‡ Vâsuki ; see Vol. I., p. 415ff. Dhaul is one of the Elephants that supports the earth.

On this side and that were dread horrors, and demons
and devils dwelt there.

Behold the fate of Sassî ! Could it be worse ?

VI.

On went the ark, breaking the chains of patience, drawn
by the halter of fate :

Hidden it was, as the sky by dust, and without a boat-
man (to steer it).

The water became blood-red at sight of the sun, shining
with his light.

Behold ! thousands upon thousands of horrors have sur-
rounded Sassî.

VII.

The man-eating monsters of the deep, like unto ogres,
Aligators, turtles, mermaids, serpents and all horrors,
Crocodiles, dragons, porpoises, were bellowing aloud.
But her death was ordained in the deserts ; who can
slay her now ?

VIII.

There was a holy man, righteous as an angel, named
Attâ.

Seeing the ark floating he was terrified in his heart.

His senses left him on seeing the shining ark.

IX.

“ A daughter is born in the house of Attâ, beautiful as a
princess :”

Said the backbiters to the king : “ She is fit for thy
family.”

X.

A servant was sent to Attâ's house, and came to Attâ •
(Said Attâ) : “ Tell me, my daughter ; what shall we do ?
His Highness' letters have come.”

Sassî opened the amulet at her neck and Hâsham* took
it in his hand (and she said) :

* i.e. the author !

“Read the writing, father: I was born in a stranger’s*
house.”

XI.

His (the king’s) blood warmed and his heart expanded,
and in the end his daughter became dear to him.

XII.

Spake her (washer-)parents to Sassî advising her:

“Daughter, mend your ways.

Thinking you to be a low-caste washerman’s daughter,
they have left you here.”†

XIII.

“The washerman is of the Jhîuwar caste:‡ I am the
daughter of kings.

Fate wrote it, which cannot be gainsaid: fate is not to
be put aside.”

XIV.

Sassî followed after the footsteps of Punnûn.

XV.

When the footmarks led her forward she tore her hair.

Sassî’s voice was as a dove’s: worn out she sank down.
(Said she): “Secret was our love and it is best that
I die.

When so decreed by fate, I have no escape from joining
the broken.”

XVI.

Sassî’s soul left her and went to Punnûn.

“Between us, love, thousands of promises must be
redeemed.

Sassî has died in the cruel deserts, and her spirit has
taken leave of her and come (to thee).”

XVII.

The heart fears to contemplate the strangeness of Sassî’s
fate.

Kings are dashed from their thrones, and have to beg
from door to door,

* *i.e.*, I am a stranger’s daughter and not thine.

† This verse is not in the original poem.

‡ A low one.

Like a poor powerless ox that stands with his head on
the ground.*

Fate is not to be gainsaid, and God doeth as he listeth.

XVIII.

The shepherd left his flock and went onwards with
trembling heart.

His heart went out to her (leaving) his goods, his
daughters, his sons and his home.

Seeing Sassí's beauty he became a *faqír*.

XIX.

A mendicant's dress on his breast, his head bare, he sat
(as a *faqír*) at the head (of her tomb),

(Saying): "One thing I know—the world is perishable."

Nothing else would he say.

XX.

Praise ye the camel that quickly goes onwards with
winged feet.

He came to Sassí's grave with the unerring wisdom of
a minister.

Seeing a fresh grave said the prince to the *faqír* :

"What saint is contained in this? Tell me, O *faqír*!"

XXI.

Said the *faqír* to Punnŭn telling the whole story :

"A woman came, fair as a fairy, worn down by the heat.

Calling on Punnŭn she came and stricken at heart.

Her home I know not, nor who she was."

XXII.

Hearing this he fell down and the arrow (of death)
pierced his heart.

The grave opened and he fell within it, and again met
his heart's delight.

For love's sake he was turned to dust, beautiful and
young.

His love for Sassí is known throughout the world.

* Simile drawn from an ox that has slipped his yoke and stands helpless with his head lowered to the ground : a common sight in India.

No. XLI.

PIRTHĪ RĀJ AND MALKĀN,

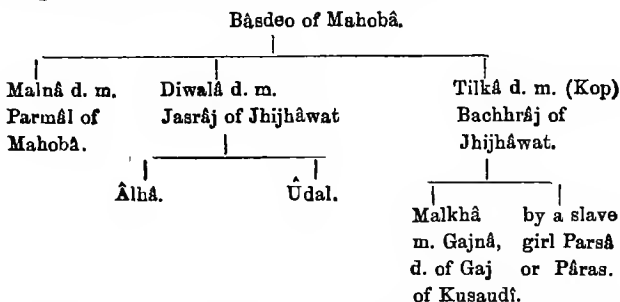
AS TOLD BY A WELL-KNOWN BARD OF BHARAUT
IN THE MERĀTH DISTRICT.

[This story belongs to the well-known cycle of the *Ālhkhaṇḍ*, a popular collection of poems relating to the doings of Ālhā and Ūdal (or Rūdal) two warriors engaged by Rāja Parmāl (Paramārdi Deva) the Chandel ruler of Mahobā in Bundelkhaṇḍ to defend him against Prithivī Rāja of Dehlī, or more properly Dillī. Prithivī Rāja, who was the great Rāi Pithaurā of Dehlī and Ajmer, defeated and slain by Shahābu'ddīn Muḥammad Ghori in 1193 A.D., overcame Parmāl in 1182 A.D. and reduced the Chandels of Mahobā to the rank of petty princes from which they never recovered. This is all the history that is connected with the *Ālhkhaṇḍ* cycle, the rest of which is merely a confused popular tradition of a memorable fight between the Chandels of Mahobā and the Tuḥwar—Chauhān dynasty of Dehlī.]

[The *Ālhkhaṇḍ* is divided in the ordinary rescensions—that by Chandrī Ghās Rām of Bhatipurā, printed at Merāth, being the best known in the Panjāb and the western divisions of the North-West Provinces—into seven parts or chapters. A useful *résumé* of this by Mr. G. A. Grierson will be found in the *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. XIV., p. 255 ff. This particular quarrel is detailed there in the fifth chapter, and as that version differs entirely from the one here given I quote Mr. Grierson's summary of it. "One day Malkhā (Malkān in the bard's text) respectfully made representations to Parmāl (of Mahobā) that all his brothers had been allotted separate forts and residences, but none had been given to him. He asked that the same consideration might be shown to him. The king (Parmāl) replied that Prithivī Rāja of Dillī had encroached on his territory and that he had invited him and the neighbouring kings to meet him at Mahobā and settle the dispute. He was prepared to give Malkhā what Prithivī should return. The meeting took place and Malkhā charged Prithivī with the encroachment and demanded the territory back on pain of war. Prithivī finally refused to give up the disputed land and war ensued. Parmāl first laid seige to Saresmā (Saraswā in the bard's text) and in the first battle defeated Pārath (of Saresmā, who is (?) the Pārae of the bard). Then a larger army was sent from Dillī, but it also he defeated. Thus the king of Mahobā got possession of Saresmā and giving it to Malkhā returned to his capital." I would mention that the bard's version, which makes out that the powerful ruler Prithivī Rāja, who was strong

enough to make a long stand against Shahâbu'ddîn, on this occasion merely suppressed a refractory baron for ravaging his borders, is more likely to have preserved the correct tradition than Ghâsi Ram's version.]

[As to the other actors in the tale. These are Pâras, Kop Bachhrâj and Gajmodhnî. Mr. Grierson has made out a pedigree from the *Âlhkhanḍ*, which shows the relationship between the parties as therein stated. From it we gather this much :—



[The relationship in the bard's version differs from the above, but not materially. As to Gajmodhnî: she is evidently the Gajnâ of Chapter vii. of the *Âlhkhanḍ*, who was the daughter of Gaj, king of Kusaudî in Gujarâ. Her brother was Motî, and it seems that in the bard's version these two names have been merged into one. Motî figures in Chapters vi. and vii. of the *Âlhkhanḍ* as a great hero.]

[Saresmâ or Saraswâ seems to have been a fort in the old Indian district or division of Sambhal or Sambhalpûr, now in the Murâdâbâd District.]

TEXT.

QISSA LARÂÎ RÂJÂ PIRTHÎ RÂJ.

Malkân zamîndâr kâ Râjâ se zamîn lêkar qilâ banânâ aur chughalî khânî Pâras ne Malkân kî Râjâ se. Phir larâî honî Râjâ Pirthî Râj kî Malkân se aur Malkân kâ mârnâ Pâras ko aur Kop Bachhrâj brâdar Pâras ko, aur phir hamla karn ba-zât khûd Râjâ Pirthî Râj kâ aur mârnâ jânâ Malkân kâ.

I.

Pirthî Râjâ hûe Dillî meñ asthân.
 Nau lakkh neza sang meñ, sûr bîr balwân.
 Aisâ balwân balî chhatardhârî,
 Us ko to dekh parjâ kâmpî sârî.
 Râjâ sab jît lîe nezadhârî,
 Kâmpê balwân, hukm aisâ bhârî.



II.

Sun Râjâ ke zor ko, ân Tikkâ Malkân :
 “ Jagah batâo, Râojî, mujhe mile asthân.
 Charsâ bhar ik jagah mujh ko dije.
 Rakh lenâ mân, karam apnâ kîje.
 Râjâ ke dharam karam, jitne sâre,
 Mujh ko manzûr aur bartûn piyâre.”

III.

“ Us Sambhal ke sarhad pe mujh ko hai manzûr.
 Jagah banâo, khush raho,” bole Sadr-sadûr.
 “ Us par makân karo khâtir rahnâ ;
 Âge, Malkân, rahâ terâ lahnâ.
 Nekî har wakt karo ; sobhâ pâo :
 Rahnâ hoshiyâr ; badî mat na lâo.”

IV.

Sîs niwâyâ Râo ko pahuchâ apne dhâm.
 Kilâ banânâ sarhad pe aur karan lagâ bisrâm.
 Hât aur bazâr kare baithak niyârî ;
 Mahilon meñ rahan lagî us kî nârî.
 Bâghî das bîs sâth lekar ðolî ;
 Lûte aur khâe ; phir bal ko tolf.

V.

Pâras.

“ Taine dînî thi jagah aur us ne karî anek.
 Be-îmân Malkân to âve nahîn babek.
 Woh to balwân hûâ, lûte, khâve.
 Badhâ hai gharûr ; nahîn hâzir âve.
 Apnâ hî zor-shor ghar ghar tole.
 Mâyâ meñ mast hûâ andhâ ðole.”

VI.

Pirthî Râj.

“ Pâras, us ko jâke kah denâ samjhâe.
 Dher dilâsâ sab karo, aur lâo use bulâe.
 Us ko bulwâo, chale abhî jâo ;

Leke sitâb khabar ulṭe âo :
Pîchhe bisrâm karo khânâ khâo.
Mat karo avîr, chale jaldi jâo.”

VII.

Sun Râjâ ke bachan ko Pâras pahunchâ jâe :
“ Chalo pâs Pirthî Râj ko, kahûn tumheñ samjhâe.
Râjâ ne yâd kiyâ tujh ko, Bhaîâ,
Nahîn ho mallah terî kaisî naîâ.
Nekî to dûr, badî kartâ dolî.
Resam kî gâṇṭh kaun is ko kholî ?”

VIII.

Malkân.

“ Main apne makân pe nâ kuchh liâ kasûr.
Jis ke dil ko shak hûâ, kyâ nere kyâ dûr,
Râjâ ke pâs badî kisî ne kînî.
Jitnâ thâ hukm maine utne linî.
Kaptî ho, mitr nahîn, us pe jâe.
Gere to dût pâs, phir mat na âe.”

IX.

Sunke itnî bâṭ ko Pâras bharâ gharûr.
Tab âyâ Pirthî Râj pe ; kahnâ lagâ huzûr :
“ Woh to Malkân nahîn bas meñ âve.
Mâyâ meñ mast hûâ, lûṭe, khâve.
Kîjo ilâj koî us kâ kârî,
Mujh ko bhî, Mahârâj, hûâ rahnâ bhârî.”

X.

“ Ik lâkh neza, aur sawâ lâkh talwâr !
Top dharo boh-bhânt kî ab mat karo awâr :”
Râjâ ne hukm karâ faujân âî.
Pâras ik bâr dihal dil pe khâî.
Jangaî lie fauj chaṛhî sâump sârî.
Râjâ Pirthî Râj chaṛhe, bal ko dhârî.

XI.

Saraswâ ko gher liâ ḍerâ kinâ :
Jab to ik bâr hukm Râjâ dînâ.

Mahiloñ ke Rânî kharî dekh rahî chhaun or ;
 Jab to lo aisî lagî, jaisî chand chakor :
 “ Jangal men ghât kisi dhobî ne-lâyâ ?
 Kyâ phûlen men kâns ? Bagî Har kî mâyâ !”

XII.

Rânî Gajmodhnî kî Mâ.

“ Fauj charhî Pirthî Râj kî, sunîye Râjkanwâr :
 Sutâ sher jagâ de, ab mat kare awâr.
 Betî, mat der kare, mâno merî.
 Akal kis des gaî, sunîye, terî ?
 Marne kî kâl gharî sir pe âî !
 Pânî kê âg bîch kis ne lâî ?”

XIII.

Jab Rânî Gajmodhnî pahunch gaî darbâr,
 Pahilî us ne jâke thâ lie hathiyâr.
 Thâe hathiyâr aur us se bolî ;
 Jitnî thî bêt sabbhî dil se kholî :
 “ Dushman kî fauj sajî tujh par âî !
 Utho, Mahârâj, main to tujh pe âî !”

XIV.

Sunke itnî bêt ko uthe Râjkanwâr.
 Edî se chotî lagî, jaisî jhamak rahî talwâr.
 “ Mere hathiyâr kahio kis ne thâe.
 Dushman koî pàs nahîn mere âe !
 Achraj kî bêt fikar man meñ khâyâ !
 Main thâ be-dâgh ; dâgh kis ne lâyâ ?”

XV.

Hâth joṛ Rânî kahî : “ eh lîjo hathiyâr.
 Dushman tere sîs pe ûpar karhâ tayyâr.
 Râjâ Pirthî Râj tere ûpar âyâ.
 Dekhke ahwâl merî kâmpî kâyâ.
 Saraswâ ko gher lâ faujân garjain.
 Dekho, Mahârâj, tere bâghî larjain.”

XVI.

Pânchon phare kapre, bândh lie hathiyâr.
 Pirthî Râj kî fauj pe Râjâ hûâ tayyâr.

Denî lalkâr n̄the bâghî âe ;
 Bândh hathiyâr khar̄e âge p̄ae.
 Das hazâr s̄ath char̄he ran pe dh̄ae :
 Saraswâ ko chhoṛ nikal bâhir âe.

XVII.

Jab dekhâ Pirthî Râj ne mârâ bánjî tûr.
 Char̄ho udhar se garajke : “ Suniyo sanwat-sûr.”
 Pâras tab bikat̄ âge dh̄âyâ :
 Dekhan balwân balî kâmpî kâyâ.
 S̄unte talwâr p̄are jodhâ ran meñ,
 Jaisî ik bâr âg lagî bhârî ban meñ.

XVIII.

Mahâ krodh tan meñ ut̄hâ yûn bolâ Malkân :
 “ Sanmukh se hat̄nâ nahîn, ch̄âhe j̄âte raho prân,
 Kat̄-kat̄-ke s̄is nuhî ûpar aveñ.
 Mârîn har wakht ; nahîn j̄âne p̄aveñ.
 S̄unte talwâr, bar̄ho âge, m̄aro.
 Dushman se wâr karo, lîjâ târo.”

XIX.

Pâras ne dh̄awâ kiyâ : “ dekh ham̄are hâth !
 Âge se nahîn jân d̄ûn, aur diu se karûn rât.”
 M̄are talwâr ik Pâras bar̄hke,
 Dh̄âl pe sambhâl lie âge bar̄hke.
 Jab to mukh moṛ diâ us kâ, bîrâ,
 Bhûlâ ḡiâ hosh, nahîn dh̄are dhîrâ.

XX.

Teg lie Malkân ne ; sanmukh dh̄âyâ dhîr.
 Bad̄hke m̄are beg de ; kâmpan lagâ sarîr.
 Râjâ ne wâr kiyâ, ran pe dh̄âyâ ;
 M̄are das bîs ; phir us pe âyâ.
 Râjâ talwâr hâth le rahâ nangî ;
 Chau tarfoñ fauj khar̄î dekhani jangî.

XXI.

Pâras ne tegâ liâ ; bal bad̄h ḡiâ upâr.
 Tegâ mârâ s̄untke ; karâ dusrâ wâr.
 H̄ane pe teg lagî, tuk ke m̄are.

Kalghî ghorê kî kâṭ niche dâre.
 Jhukke talwâr phir tîje mâre :
 Jab to Malkân dher dil pe dhâre.

XXII.

Ghorê ke châbuk dîâ ; agin lagî balwân.
 Sîs kâṭ niche dharâ, kabhî na ubhrat prân.
 Pâras ko mâr aur dhâwâ kînâ.
 Rahnâ nahîn, yâr, sadâ jag meñ jînâ.
 Bâje talwâr jawân iko bârî :
 Râjâ kî fauj tarâsh deke mârî.

XXIII.

Pâras kê marnâ sunâ uṭh Kop Bachhrâj.
 Ân parâ Malkân pe, jûn tîtar pe bâj.
 Golî bandûk chaleñ, bâje barchhî.
 Tuk-tuk-ke jawân sâng mâreñ tarchhî.
 Lothon pe loth parê faujân sârî :
 Pâe nahîn hosh, mân aisî mârî.

XXIV.

Agan parî ran bîch meñ, pâve nahîn shumâr ;
 Jab Malkân mahâbalî sînt rahâ talwâr.
 Nangî lie teg sînt dhâwâ kînâ ;
 Bhâgî sab fauj, hûâ mushkil jînâ.
 Das hazâr fauj khapî ran meñ aisî,
 Bâdal ke bîch chhipî bijlî jaisî.

XXV.

Sâng lie jab hâth meñ, dhâwâ kînâ hâl ;
 Mâre jab Malkân ke sanmukh dar sâ kâl.
 Sanmukh se kâl dekh us ko âyâ ;—
 Aisâ nahîn aur balî ran meñ pâyâ ;—
 Dekhî chau taraf, teg sontî nangî,
 Jab to koî nahîn rahâ sâ ho sangî.

XXVI.

Sâng lie Malkân ne aur mârio Bachhrâj.
 Ran jîtâ, faujân bhâgî, aur pûran ho gîâ kâj.
 Pîchhe se phir ik dhâwâ mârâ ;

Das hazâr fauj khapî kampû* sârâ.
 Bhûlâ lie sab dhâm chaṛhe jitne bâgî ;
 Dekhâ Malkân fauj âge bhâgî.

XXVII.

Bârâh kampû* bândhke chaṛhe âp Prithî Râj :
 Kampeñ sûrmâ balî, chaṛhe bîr ransâj.
 Ghan† kâ bandûk chalen bâjeñ golî,
 Rang kî phuâr, jaise kheleñ Holî.
 Jab to Pirthî Râj âp baṛhke âyâ ;
 Mârâ Malkân ; nâm us ne pâyâ.

XXVIII.

Darwâzâ ko torke liâ Saraswâ lût.
 It ut bhâge sûrmâ, paṛ gaî ran meñ phut.
 Lûte dhan mâl aur hâthî ghorâ.
 Dhâm dhâm haul kâl sir par ghorâ.
 Jab to Pirthî Râj fattah aisî pâi :
 Sâunt ko jît fauj dal meñ âi.

Kishn Lâl Shibkanwar nê bhâkâ kahî banâe,
 Jaisî mîn samundar kî jit châhe ut jâe.

TRANSLATION.

STORY OF A FIGHT WITH RÂJÂ PIRTHÎ RÂJ.

Malkân, a land-owner, obtains some land from the Râjâ and builds a fort thereon and Pâras tells tales of Malkân. Then there is war between Râjâ Pirthî Râj and Malkân, and Malkân slays Pâras and his relative Kop Bachhrâj, and then Râjâ Pirthî Râj himself attacks Malkân and kills him.

I.

Râjâ Pirthî Râj's throne was at Dillî.
 Nine lākhs of spears and heroic warriors were in his following.
 So heroic and powerful a ruler was he,
 That all his subjects trembled to look upon him.
 He conquered all the spear-bearing kings,
 And heroes trembled at his wondrous power.

* From the English word *camp*.

† For the English word *gun*.

II.

Prince Malkân came, hearing of the Râjâ's power,
(And said); "Show me a place, Sir King, where I may
find a home.

Give me as much land as I can irrigate (in a day).
Keep up thy honour and thy word.
As many rights and dues as the king may have
I agree to and will willingly fulfil."

III.

"I agree to a spot on the boundaries of Sambhal.*
Build a home and be happy there," said His Majesty.
"Make a house there to dwell in,
For the rest, Malkân, remains with thee.
Do ever good and be happy :
Be wise and do no evil."

IV.

He bowed his head to the king and went to his home.
He built a fort on the boundaries and took his ease
there.
He built shops and a *bâzâr* and a separate palace,
And his women began to dwell in the palace.
He collected a few outlaws and wandered about,
Robbing and enjoying himself, and using his power.

V.

Pâras.†

"Thou gavest him a place and he has made encroach-
ments.
The faithless Malkân has no prudence.
He is a warrior and robs and enjoys himself.
His pride increases and he is never present (in Court).
He shows his power in every house.
He goes about blinded by his illusions."

* *i.e.*, apparently a spot somewhere between the modern Dehli and Murâdâbâd Distriets.

† Complaining to Pirthî Râj.

VI.

Pirthî Râj.

“ Go and make him understand, Pâras.
 Use all haste and bring him here.
 Go now and call him here,
 And come back soon with news of him.
 Take thy ease later and eat thy food.
 Make no delays and go quickly.”

VII.

Hearing the king's words Pâras reached (Malkân),
 (And said) : “ I tell thee, come to Pirthî Râj.
 The king hath called thee, Friend.
 Thy boat cannot float without the boatman.
 Thou hast sent away goodness and doest evil.
 Who shall untie this silken knot ?”

VIII.

Malkân.

“ I have done no wrong in my house.
 Some person, who has doubted me, whether near or far,
 Has spoken evil of me to the Râjâ.
 I have done as I was told.
 Some hypocrite and no friend has gone to him.
 He may send a messenger now, but I come not.”

IX.

Hearing this pride filled Pâras.
 Then went he to Pirthî Râj and said in the presence :
 “ I had no power over Malkân.
 Filled with illusions he robs and enjoys himself.
 Invent some strong remedy for him,
 For I, too, will now find it difficult to live, Mahârâj.”

X.

“ Get one *lâkh* of spears and one and a quarter of swords.
 Get many kinds of guns and make no delay.”
 (Such) were the king's orders and the army assembled.

Pâras was suddenly frightened in his heart.
 He sent forward a warlike army with much care.
 Râjâ Pirthî Râj went with it and gave it strength.

XI.

They surrounded Saraswâ* and pitched their camp,
 And the king gave orders at once.
 The Rânî† stood on the palace (roof) and gazed around
 her ;
 She stood like a partridge gazing at the moon,‡
 (And said) : “ Has a washerman brought his clothes to
 the forest !
 Or is the *kans* grass flowering ? ” § It is an illusion
 (made) of God !

XII.

Rânî Gajmodhnî's Mother.

“ It is Pirthî Râj's army, hear, my Princess ;
 Go and awaken the sleeping lion || and make no delay.
 Make no delay, my daughter, and mark me.
 To what country have thy senses flown ?
 The hour of death hath come upon us.
 Who hath thrown fire into the water ? ” ¶

XIII.

When Rânî Gajmodhnî reached the presence,
 First she took up (Malkân's) arms.
 Taking up the arms she spake,
 Saying all that was in her heart :
 “ The enemy's army is upon thee !
 Up, my Lord, I am come to thee ! ”

* The Saresmâ of the *Âlkhkhand* and Malkân's fort.

† Gajmodhnî, the wife of Malkân.

‡ The *chakor*, partridge, is commonly supposed to be in love with the moon.

§ The *kans* grass has a conspicuous white flower.

|| i.e., Malkân.

¶ Idiom—who hath spoken evil against us ?

XIV.

Hearing this up got the Prince.
 (Anger) blazed from head to heeles as a sword flash.
 (Said he): "Tell me who hath taken my arms.
 No enemy hath come to me!
 Thou art troubled at heart at an impossible thing!
 I was without a stain; who hath brought a stain upon
 me?"

XV.

With joined hands said the Princess: "Take these
 arms.
 Thy enemy is ready to be upon thy head.
 Râjâ Pirthî Râj hath come upon thee.
 When I saw it my body trembled.
 A roaring army hath encompassed Saraswâ.
 Behold, my Lord, thy outlaws are trembling."

XVI.

He took his five (sorts of) clothes and fastened on his
 arms.
 The Râjâ Malkân was ready for Pirthî Râj's army.
 Shouting out the outlaws came up,
 And stood before him armed.
 Ten thousand went up with him to the field;
 And leaving Saraswâ they came outside.

XVII.

When Pirthî Râj saw that they were beating their drums,
 Furiously he came forward (and said) "listen to them,
 ye warriors."
 Then Pâras rushed forward furiously,
 And the warriors and heroes trembled as they saw him.
 Drawing their swords the warriors rushed into the field,
 As a fire suddenly catches a great forest.

XVIII.

Very wrathful in his heart thus spake Malkân:
 "I will not turn my back on them, though I lose my life,
 And severed heads fall upon the ground.

Strike every moment and let them not escape.
 Draw your swords and go forward and slay.
 Fall upon the enemy and rest not.”

XIX.

Cried out Pâras : “ behold my strength !
 I will not let thee go on and will turn day into night.”
 Pâras advanced and struck a blow with his sword.
 And he (Malkân) advancing warded it with his shield.
 And when he turned his face at him, friends,*
 (Pâras) forgot his sense and had no courage.

XX.

Malkân took his sword and rushed forward,
 Quickly he struck him and his body trembled.
 The Râjâ (Malkân) shouted and rushed into the field,
 Slew some ten or twenty and then came upon him again.
 The Râjâ had his sword drawn in his hand,
 And on all sides the warlike army looked on.

XXI.

Pâras took up his sword and showed great strength.
 Drawing his sword he struck a second time.
 His aim (was bad) and the sword struck the pommel.†
 The crest of the horse was cut and fell down.
 Recovering his sword he struck a third time,
 When Malkân summoned up all his courage.

XXII.

He whipped up his horse and a strong fire burned with-
 in him.
 He cut off his head and there was no hope of life left.
 Slaying Pâras he went onwards.
 One cannot stay, friend, or live for ever in the world.
 Suddenly the warriors brandished their swords,
 And cut up the Râjâ (Pirthî Râj's) army.

* To the audience.

† Of Malkân's saddle.

XXIII.

Hearing of the death of Pâras up got Kop Bachhrâj.
 He came upon Malkân, like a hawk upon a partridge.
 Guns discharged bullets, and spears were brandished.
 The warriors aimed and hurled their javelins.
 All the army was piled up, corpse on corpse,
 And the javelins were so hurled that all lost their
 senses.

XXIV.

Fury raged in the field beyond compute,
 When the powerful Malkân drew his sword.
 Drawing his naked sword he went forward,
 And all the army fled, and it was difficult to live.
 Ten thousand men slain fell in the field,
 As lightning is hidden by the clouds.

XXV.

(Kop Bachhrâj) now seized a javelin and went forward,
 And hurled a terrible blow at Malkân's face.
 Seeing death in front of him,—
 —For there was no such warrior as he* in the field,—
 He looked all round, with his naked sword (drawn),
 And found no comrade by him.

XXVI.

Malkân took a javelin and slew Kop Bachhrâj.
 He won the field, as the army fled, and his work was done.
 Then he again rushed forward,
 And destroyed the whole camp of ten thousand men.
 As many of the warriors as advanced forgot their places,
 And seeing Malkân's army ran away.

XXVII.

Putting together twelve armies Pirthî Râj advanced,
 And powerful warriors trembled on the advance of the
 battling hero.

* *i.e.*, as Kop Bachhrâj.

Cannons let loose their balls,
 Like the powder* that is thrown about at the Hoff
 (festival).
 Then Pirthî Râj came up himself,
 And slew Malkân and made a name for himself.

XXVIII.

Breaking open the gates they sacked Saraswâ.
 Its warriors running hither and thither were slain on the
 field.
 They took the money and the goods, the elephants and
 the horses.
 Trouble and death came upon every household.
 So Pirthî Râj won the victory,
 And having beaten the enemy the army returned home.

Kishn Lâl and Shibkanwar† made this in the vulgar
 tongue,
 Just as a fish in the sea goeth where it listeth.

* A red powder is thrown over each other by the revellers at this Indian Carnival.

† The bard and his wife.

No. XLII.

THE LEGEND OF HARĪ CHAND.

AS TOLD BY A CELEBRATED BARD FROM BARAUT
IN THE MERĀṬH DISTRICT.

[This is a modern version of the very old tale of Hariśchandra, which is related in part in the *Mahābhārata* and *Aitareya Brāhmaṇa* and in detail in the *Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇa*, on which last the modern versions are mainly founded. Like the tale of Nala and Damayantī, the tale of Hariśchandra is a very favorite one at the present day. In the Classics Hariśchandra's wife is Śaibyā and his son Rohitāśva.]

[The story of the Classics is fairly well followed by the modern one so far as it goes, for it only carries us to the point where Hariśchandra and all his subjects go to heaven. While in heaven (according to the Classics) Nārada induced him to boast of his merits, whereon he was expelled, but while he was falling he repented and so his course to the earth was arrested with the result of his occupying a position in mid air, where his city can still be seen. This is alluded to in stanza LXVII. of the following legend and is still a favorite folktale in Northern India.]

[Biswāmītr or Viśvāmītra, who plays an important part in this story, was one of the Rishis and is a personage of great antiquity. He is related to have been a Kshatriya (soldier) who became a Brāhmaṇ (priest) by virtue of his austerities. He incurred the animosity of the Brāhmaṇ Vasishṭha (Bisishṭh) and the struggle between this priest and his rival the soldier-priest is told in many a story. Viśvāmītra is an ever present personage in ancient heroic tales, and often plays, as here, a part intended to show the 'virtue' of complete submission by the laity to the priesthood.]

TEXT.

Qissa Rājā Harī Chand.

I.

Satwādī Harī Chand sī, satī jo Tārā nār ;
Sīlwant Rohtās sī ; sat kā ār na pār.

TRANSLATION.

The Story of Rājā Harī Chand.

I.

Virtuous was Harī Chand and virtuous was his wife Tārā ;
Virtuous was his son Rohtās, whose virtue had no
bounds.

'Sat kê âr na pār !' kahtî parjâ sârî.
 Bed aur kitâb parhen bedâchârî.
 Pichhe se jag kare aise bhârî,
 Indar ke lok gaî sobhâ sârî.

II.

Indar kahe, "Nârad, suno, mere larze prân.
 Mirth lok ke bîch meî barhâ kaunsâ dân ?
 Kaunsâ woh dân baḍhâ ? Kaunsâ râjâ ?
 Eh to ahwâl sunâ ham se tâjâ.
 Matkaro âbîr; chale abhî jâo :
 Sat ko bismâr karo; ulṭe âo."

III.

Biswâmitr Brâhman.

"Râjâ, dutetâ nâ karo; dil kî na karo andesh.
 Bidiyâ koî dhâran karûn, aur metûn terâ klesh.

'Their virtue hath no bounds,' said all their subjects.
 Faithfully they read the Scriptures and the books.
 At last (Harî Chand) performed so great a sacrifice,
 That the fame of him reached to Indra's land.*

II.

Said Indra, "Listen, Nârad,† my heart trembles.
 Who is it upon earth that gives so much in charity ?
 Who is it that gives in charity ? What king is he ?
 Tell me of this new matter.
 Make no delay, but go at once,
 And come back after ruining such virtue."‡

III.

Biswâmitr, the Brâhman.

"Râjâ (Indra), be not afraid and have no anxiety in thy
 heart.

I will fix on some plan and blot out thy fears.

* See Vol. II., p. 215.

† Nârada was the messenger of the gods. Here he is meant to be Viśvâmitra, cf. Vol. II., p. 222.

‡ The point is that Indra fears that the *virtue* of Harî Chand's auster-
 ity and good works will oust him from heaven.

Met dūn klesh, dekh Har kī mâyâ.
 Sat ko bismâr karûn, paltûn kâyâ.
 Jodhiâ Nagarî men khet aisâ dârûn,
 Râjâ kâ man ik pal men mârûn.”

IV.

Râjâ Indar.

“Hâthî, ghorâ, rath le, râj, pâṭ, dhan, mâl !
 Châhiye, le to Indarpad ; hîrâ, lîje lâl !
 Hîrâ aur lâl, ratan, muktâ lîje !
 Itnâ ahsân ik mujh pe kîje ;
 Merî to lâj râkh, Paṇḍit Bhâî.
 Merî to âj haul dil se âî.”

I will blot out thy fears when thou seest the illusions of
 God.

I will ruin his virtue by transforming my body.*
 I will create such a disturbance in Ajudhiâ City,
 That I will destroy the Râjâ's credit in a moment.”

IV.

Râjâ Indar.

“Take elephants and horses and chariots and kingdom
 and dignity and wealth and goods !
 If thou wilt, then take my Indra's throne, take diamonds
 and rubies !
 Take diamonds and rubies and gems in hoards !
 Lay me under an obligation.
 But preserve my honour, Friend Priest.
 To-day is my heart anxious.”

* By pretending to be some one else.

V.

Kar parnâm, bidâ hûâ Biswâmitr sujân :
 Awadhpurî ke bâgh meñ rok lââ maidân.
 Rokâ maidân; ik mâyâ dhârî.
 Phûlan ke bel phâr niche dârî.
 Ghanchâ* bismâr kiâ jitnâ sârâ :
 Mâlî kâ mân giâ nahche mârâ.

VI.

Mâlî.

“Jânwar to balwân hai; kiyâ bâgh bismâr.
 Lâkh lâkh kâ peḍ thâ, lagî nek nahîn bâr.
 Ghanchâ* bismâr karâ, mewâ phârî.
 Meṭî sab rît-bhânt, jitnî sârî.”
 Mâlî to hâth male, peṭî chhâtî :
 “Merî yeh sâk gaî, ab nahîn âtî!”

V.

Bowing and taking his leave the wily Biswâmitr
 Blocked the park in the gardens of Awadhpurî.†
 He blocked the park, putting on a disguise.
 He pulled down the flowering creepers and threw them
 aside.
 He destroyed the whole garden,
 And the gardeners could not resist him.

VI.

Gardener.‡

“A mighty beast hath destroyed the garden.
 In a moment of time (he hath destroyed) myriads of
 trees.
 He hath destroyed the gardens and pulled down the
 fruits :
 And hath blotted out all the orderly (ways).”
 The gardener wrung his hands and beat his breast :
 (saying),
 “My honour hath fled and will not return !”

* For *baghichâ*. † *i.e.*, Ajudhiâ in Awadh (Oudh). ‡ To his wife.

VII.

Mâlan.

“ Jânwar ko mat chherīye, mere kanth sujân.
 Âg lago is bâgh meñ, tujhe na dotî jân.
 Jânwar ke pās nahîn jâne detî.
 Chhoṛo rozgâr, karo khâo kheti.
 Jânwar to zor-shor aisâ kartâ.
 Bin âî maut mare kaise, bhartâ !”

VIII.

Mâlî.

“ Jas jîwan, âp jas maran ; kal meñ upje do.
 Kyâ Lankpat le gîâ ? Aur kyâ Karan giyâ kho ?

VII.

Gardener's Wife.

“ Incense not the beast, my wise husband.
 If the garden be on fire I will not let thee go.
 I will not let thee go near the beast.
 Give up thy profession and take to farming.
 The beast is making a great noise.
 Do not thou die an untimely death, my husband !”

VIII.

Gardener.

“ Good it is to live and evil it is to die: these two things
 are born into the world.
 What took the Lord of Lanka away ? What lost
 Karṇa,*

* Allusions here to the story in the *Râmâyana* in which Râvana, lord of Lanka, abducted Sitâ, wife of Râma Chandra, for which act he was eventually slain. And to the story in the *Mahâbhârata* in which Draupadî at her *swayamvara* would not allow Karṇa, then king of Anga (Bengal), to compete for her hand on the ground of his being a bastard. He was half brother to the Pânḍavas.

Bed aur kitâb bharen̄ uu kî sâkhi.
 Duniyâ ke bîch nâm rahtâ bâkî.
 Râjâ kî rît chalan tû na jâne.
 Jhûṭâ takrâr kaun kare ? Sat ko mâne ?”

IX.

Mâlan.

“Jânwar ko mat chheriye, ai mere bhartâr.
 Tûṭî nâo samundar ko kis gun utaregî pār ?
 Jânwar yeh nahîn : koî honî âi.
 Râjâ ke sâth âu bâjî lâl.
 Dharke bakrâl rūp bâgh meñ âyâ.
 Dekhke chalit̄ merî kâmpî kâyâ.”

X.

Mâlî.

“Chhodâ to kuchh hai nahîn, kiyâ bâgh pâmâl.
 Us Râjâ ko jâke kahnâ parâ ahwâl.

The Scriptures and the books tell their story.
 A good name lives on in the world.
 Thou dost not know the ways of kings.
 Why lead me astray ? Let me remember my duty !”

IX.

Gardener's Wife.

“Incense not the beast, O my husband.
 How shalt thou cross the ocean in a broken boat ?
 This is no beast, but some frightful horror.
 It will play some trick on the Râjâ.
 Assuming a horrible shape it hath come into the garden.
 Seeing the trick my body trembles.”

X.

Gardener.

“Nothing is left, but the whole garden is destroyed.
 I will go and tell the Râjâ all about the matter.

Kahnâ hai ahwâl, khiyâl guzrâ sârâ.
 Be-wâris mâl giyâ jitnâ niyârâ.
 Jânwar to kûd kûd ûpar âve,
 Dahle sab bhawan, nahîn rastâ pâve.”

XI.

Mâlan.

“Ugme, soî, utme, janne so mar jâe.
 Chhunne soî gir paṛe, phûle so kamlâe.
 Pand ko bichâr, bâgh lâve mâlî,
 Kartâ gulzâr jagah nahîn khâli.
 Birwe bûṅṭon ko kare niyârâ niyârâ,
 Sinche sab peḍ ; rahe sab se piyârâ.”

XII.

Mâlî bâghân se chalâ Râj-sabhâ meñ jâe,
 Jo hawâl* hûâ bâgh meñ, dînâ sabhî sunâe :

I am determined to tell all that has happened.
 All the fruit has become useless.
 The beast keeps leaping about.
 And all my body trembles and I know of no way (of
 escape).”

XI.

Gardener's Wife.

“What appears disappears, what is born dies.
 What is picked up falls again, what blossoms fades.
 Selecting his (seedlings) the gardener makes his garden,
 Beautifying every place and leaving nothing empty.
 He separates seedling from seedling in order.
 He waters all the trees and takes care of them.”†

XII.

The gardener went to the Royal Court,
 And told all that had happened in the garden : (saying),

* For *ahwâl*.

† This speech is a mere string of platitudes in rhyme thrown in for effect.

“ Kînâ bismâr bâgh jitnâ sârâ.
 Gendâ, gulzâr, kâṭ-kâṭ-ke ḍârâ.
 Chhoṛî nâ ik kalî sâbit ḍole ;
 Aisâ ahmân hûâ, bal ko tole.”

XIII.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ Terî akal kahân gaî, re Mâlî mat-hîn ?
 Parbat âpar, bâware, kaise baiṭhe mîn ?
 Jal bin to mîn kahîn ḍole.
 Rît ko pahchân, jhûṭ mat nâ bole.
 Parde kî bâṭ rahî pargat khole.
 Tû to be-hosh yûnhîn martâ ḍole.”

XIV.

Mâlî.

“ Râjâ, merî bâṭ kâ mâno tum aitbâr.
 Bâkî te chhoṛî nahîn, karâ bâgh mismâr.”

“ (The beast) hath destroyed the whole garden.
 It hath cut down the marigolds and the flowers.
 In its wanderings it hath spared not a bud ;
 And is now quite mad and wild in its strength.”

XIII.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ Where are thy senses, thou foolish Gardener ?
 How shall a fish sit on the mountain top, thou fool ?
 A fish cannot wander except in water.
 Think it out and tell no lies.*
 Thou art divulging some secret thing.
 Thou art foolish and art wandering at random.”

XIV.

Gardener.

“ Râjâ, believe my words.
 It hath left nothing, but destroyed the garden.”

* The Gardener seems to have described ‘the beast’ as a fish to the Râjâ and hence this speech.

Aisî bismâr karî ðâlî ðâlî.
 Dekhke ujâr pás âyâ Mâlî.
 Lajjâ ko râkh mere, Chhatardhârî.
 Bândho hathiyâr, karo jaldî tayyârî.”

XV.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ Bikat bândh, Jodhâ, charho, karo bâgh men jang.
 Jânwar to balwân hai, bigar gîâ hai rang.
 Bâghon ke âs pás jaldî jânâ ;
 Chhatrî kâ dharm sîs bândho bânâ.
 Sanmukh se aur nahîn hatke ânâ ;
 Karke ashnân, pher khâo khânâ.”

XVI.

Mâlî.

“ Sabhâ-dhyân, ðhade raho, yeh jânwar balwân.
 Yeh to bas kâ hai, nahîn aisâ mâre mân.

It hath destroyed it branch by branch.
 I, the Gardener, have seen it and come here.
 Preserve my honour, O King.
 Fasten on thy arms and come quickly.”

XV.

*Râjâ Harî Chand.**

“ Go together, O Warriors, and fight in the garden.
 The beast is very strong and affairs are bad.
 Go round the garden
 And fasten on your heads the turbans of (true) soldiers.
 Turn not your faces back (from the beast),
 Then bathe and eat your food.’†

XVI.

Gardener.

“ O Lord of the assembly, wait awhile, the beast is strong.
 It is beyond control and not thus to be stayed.

* To his men.

† Idiom : do your work quickly.

Râjâ, Mahârâj, dekh ûpar âyâ.
 Pal pal meû badle rang, paltî kâyâ,
 Terâ to hukm nahin jâtâ pherâ ;
 Râjâ, raho alag, mân kahnâ merâ.”

XVII.

Râjâ to mânâ nahîû, pahile kînâ wâr.
 Jânwar âyâ kûdke, sont lie talwâr.
 Sontî talwâr ik us kî mârî.
 Lie sambhâl ghâo âyâ kârî.
 Râjâ lalkâr dîe. “Us ko mâro !
 Mat karo abîr, hâth ûpar dâro !”

XVIII.

Jânwar ne dhâwâ kiyâ aur mâre das bîs.
 Bhujâ phâr phenke, tabhî aur urâ de sîs.
 Sûwar kâ rûp dharâ ; ûpar âyâ.
 Jânwar ne palaṭ lie apnî kâyâ ;

When it sees a Râjâ, my Lord, it will come upon thee.
 It changes its colour and body every moment.
 I cannot disobey thy orders ;
 (But) Râjâ, keep aloof and hearken to my words.”

XVII.

The Râjâ would not listen and made his first attack.
 The beast leapt at him and he drew his sword.
 Drawing his sword he struck it once.
 Receiving the blow it was wounded.
 The Râjâ called out : “ Kill it !
 Make no delay and capture it !”

XVIII.

The beast charged and killed some twenty men.
 It tore off their arms and hurled about their heads.
 In a boar's form it attacked them.
 The beast then changed its form

Hâthî par wâr karâ, ghorê mârâ.
Jânwar to tej khet chhodeñ sârâ.

XIX.

Harî Chand Râjâ kahe, badan gê ghabrâ :
“ Leke tegh tarâsh dûn, jo koî haṭke jâ.
Jis ke ûpar ko kûd jânwar jâve,
Us kî to âj gale phânsî âve ! ”
Nagarî meñ shor machâ aisâ bhârî :
‘ Râjâ kî lâj ik jânwar târî ! ’

XX.

Jânwar ne dhâwâ kiyâ ; ûpar kînâ wâr :—
Jab Râjâ ke bâgh ko bahut kiyâ bismâr :—
Dînâ dâr dâr, pair sir par mârâ.
Pahilî hî bâr paran Râjâ hârâ.
Man meñ to soch kare Chhatardhârî :—
‘ Kyâ karûn ilâj ? Parî biptâ bhârî ! ’

And attacked the elephants and slew the horses.
All the swift animals (that were there) fled from the
field.

XIX.

Râjâ Harî Chand cried out at this extremity :
“ I will kill him with my sword that turneth back.
Over whom the beast shall leap and escape,
Shall be hanged this very day ! ”
And it was widely noised throughout the city :
‘ A beast hath ruined the Râjâ’s honour ! ’

XX.

The beast attacked and leapt upon the Râjâ :—
It had greatly destroyed the Râjâ’s garden :—
It put its paws on his head (and leapt over him).
At the very first the Râjâ went back on his word.
The king thought in his heart :—
‘ What remedy have I now ? Great is my misfortune ! ’

XXI.

Mâlî.

“ Râjâ, merî bât kê karâ nahîn aitbâr !
 Jatan banâo kyâ bane ? Gîâ paran ko hâr !
 Paran ko baḍar dîâ, hârî bâjî !
 Âge, Mahârâj, rahe terî râjî.
 Maiñ ne jo bât kahî âge ât.
 Tum ne, Mahârâj, daghâ kaise khâ ! ”

XXII.

Râjâ ko dosht hûî :—“ Kîje kaun ilâj ?
 Bât gaî Darbâr kî sabhî bigâṛâ kâj ! ”
 Ban ke bîch gîâ Râjâ bîrâ,
 Sûraj pargâsh badan sundar hîrâ.
 Mirg kê bichâr kare Râjâ bole ;
 Brâhmañ se pûchh rahâ : “ sat ko tole. ”

XXI.

Gardener.

“ Râjâ, thou wouldst not believe in my words !
 What canst thou do now ? Thy oath is broken !
 Thou hast broken thy oath and lost the game !
 For the rest, my Lord, it is thy pleasure.
 What I said hath come to pass.
 How much wrong hast thou done, my Lord ! ”

XXII.

The Râjâ was frightened (and said) :—“ What shall I do ?
 The oath given in Court hath been all broken ! ”
 The noble Râjâ went into the forest,
 His fair body shining as the sun and like a diamond.
 Thinking of the deer the Râjâ spake
 And asked the Brâhmañ to tell him the truth.*

* ‘The beast’ has now become ‘a deer,’ and in that form speaks as the Brâhmañ Viśvâmitra to the Râjâ.

XXIII.

Biswâmitr Brâhman.

“ Mirgâ to dekhâ nahîn ; sun, Râjâ parbin ;
 Ik arzî merî suno, kahtâ hûn parâdhîn.
 Ajodhâ ko âj lâgi merî tayyârî ;
 Râjâ Harî Chand sunâ satâdhârî.
 Izzat kî kâj mahâ biptâ bhare :—
 Kaudî nahîn pâs, byâh kaise kare ? ”

XXIV.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ Ajodhâ kâ rahnâ gîâ aisâ atkâ kâm :
 Phaîsâ paran ke bîch meñ. Merâ Dâtâ Râm !
 Atkâ hai kâm, paran kînâ bhârî ;
 Mîthâ jal âj lage mujh ko khârî !
 Ab to kuchh dân dîâ nâhîn jâtâ,
 Bîpr, main sach kahûn tum se bātân.”

XXIII.

Biswâmitr, the Brâhman.

“ I have seen no deer ;* hear, my wise Râjâ ;
 Hear a prayer of mine which I bring respectfully.
 I go to Ajudhiâ to-day ;
 For I have heard that Râjâ Harî Chand is full of virtue.
 A great misfortune hath befallen my honour :—
 I have no money, so how can I perform the marriage ?”†

XXIV.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ I am prevented from staying in Ajudhiâ,
 As my oath has been broken. God is my Redeemer !
 My difficulty is that I made a great oath,
 And to-day sweet water tastes bitter to me !
 I can give thee no alms now,
 O Brâhman, and I tell thee truth.”

* *i.e.*, “ the beast ”—the poet is confused here.

† Of my two daughters : see further on in stanza XXV.

XXV.

Biswâmitr Brâhman.

“ Satwâdi Râjâ sunâ mulkon meñ sarnâm.
 Kanîyân donon biyâh de, nâ tû de kuchh dâm.
 Kanîyân bar jog bhañ merî, Râjâ,
 Aṭkâ hai kâj, bachan sunîyo tâjâ.
 Gangâ ashnân karc, Chhatardhârî ;
 Kar le kuchh nâm, âj terî bârî !”

XXVI.

Ban meñ ghorâ bândhke, karan lagâ ashnân.
 Hâth joṭ thâḍâ kharâ : “ Bipr, lîjo dân.
 Mângo, Mahârâj, jaise ichhâ tere.
 Hâthî, gajbâj, mâng kane mere.
 Châhîye so mâl, mulk ham se lîje.
 Itnâ ahsân ik mujh par kîje.”

XXV.

Biswâmitr, the Brâhman.

“ I have heard thy great name, Râjâ, throughout the
 land as virtuous.
 Let me marry my two daughters and never mind the
 alms.
 My daughters are ripe for marriage, Râjâ,
 I am in difficulties and my tale is new.
 Bathe in the Ganges,* O King ;
 To-day is thy opportunity for gaining a name !”

XXVI.

Fastening up his horse in the forest he prepared to bathe.†
 He stood with his joined hands and said : “ Brâhman,
 take thy dues.
 Ask, my Lord, according to thy desire.
 Ask elephants and hawks of me.
 If thou desirest goods, take my country.
 Lay me under this obligation.”

* Idiom : perform a good work ; in this case by helping to marry off the Brâhman's daughters.

† i.e., to do the good work the Brâhman demanded of him.

XXVII.

Biswámitr Bráhmaṇ.

“Sâth bhâr swarran mujhe, Harí Chand, kar dân.
 Niche ko mat dekhîye, kar Gangâ ashnân.
 Kar Gangâ ashnân paran dhâran kîje ;
 Swarran ke sâth bhâr mujh ko dîje.
 Duniyâ ke bîch baje terâ bâjâ ;
 Tab to ânand suphal bolûn, Râjâ.”

XXVIII.

Râjâ Harí Chand.

“Châlis bhâr meñ lîjîye is guṇṭhî* kê mol ;
 Bîs bhâr meñ basat le : dîne tum se khol.
 Main ne sab khol dîe jitnî sârî.
 Âge, Mahârâj, rahî manshâ thârî.
 Sâth bhâr dân dîe main ne sâre.
 Ab to ghar baith, mere Bráhmaṇ piyâre.”

XXVII.

Biswámitr, the Bráhmaṇ.

“Give me dues of sixty loads of gold, Harí Chand.
 Look not down, but bathe in the Ganges.†
 Bathe in the Ganges and take an oath,
 To give me sixty loads of gold.
 Thy glory shall be noised throughout the world,
 And I will call thee happy and blessed, Râjâ.”

XXVIII.

Râjâ Harí Chand.

“Take this ring for forty loads of gold,
 And my property for twenty loads : and I have given
 all.
 I have given all I have.
 For the rest, my lord, thy desire remains.
 I have given the whole sixty loads in alms.
 Go to thy house now, my dear Bráhmaṇ.”

* For *angúthî*.

† Idiom : do it quickly.

XXIX.

Biswâmitr Brâhman.

“ Râjâ, tû sarb ans de dachnâ dekar piyâr.
 Yeh prabhe ke same hai, kar beṛe ko pār :
 Beṛâ kar pār, mere Râjâ gyânî,
 Satiyâ kâ kambh sunî terî Râni.
 Dachnâ de aur bane pûran âsâ ;
 Terâ Baikunṭh dhâm hovegâ bâsâ.”

XXX.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ Ik Râni Târâwatî, ik beṛâ Kaṅwar Rohtâs :
 Ik Râjâ Harî Chand hai kharâ tumbhâre pâs.
 Hâzir main pâs kharâ, lîje arjî :
 Kah de, Mahârâj, kaisî terî marjî ?
 Jodhiâ meṅ châl, aur lîje bîrâ.
 Mat karo abîr, karo man meṅ dhîrâ.”

XXIX.

Biswâmitr, the Brâhman.

“ Râjâ, give me every part of my dues with gladness.
 This is the opportunity for thee to take thy boat over,*
 To take thy boat over, my wise Râjâ.
 I have heard that thy Queen is a pillar of virtue.
 Grant me my fees and fulfil my hope,
 That thou mayest dwell in Heaven for thy home.”

XXX.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ I have a Queen Târâwatî and a son Prince Rohtâs,
 And I Râjâ Harî Chand stand before thee.
 I stand before thee, hear my prayer :
 Tell me, my Lord, what is thy desire ?
 Come to Ajudhiâ and take thy dues.
 Make no delay and have patience in thy heart.”

* To obtain salvation.

XXXI.

Ban men se chal pare, Jodhiâpur men âe.
 Woh Râjâ Harî Chand ke baiṭhâ âsan lâe ;
 Âsan to lâ dîâ Bipr piyâre.
 Râjâ ke mân ik pal meû mâre :
 "Lâyâ taiû bâgh khilî dâlî dâlî.
 Dachnâ bin dân chalâ sagrâ khâlî."

XXXII.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

"Sun, Râûf Târâwatî, dâu dîâ sarb ans.
 Dachnâ men tînon bike, na râkh liâ kuchh ans.
 Chhatrî kê ans râkh mâûn ue nahîn lînâ.
 Marnâ bar-hakk, nahîn sat ko dînâ.
 Rânî, dhar dhîr, karam kâran niyârâ.
 Bidhnâ kê dât nahîn metanbârâ."

XXXI.

They left the forest and came to Ajudhiâ City,
 Râjâ Harî Chand took his seat there,
 So also did the friendly Brâhman.
 In one moment he ruined the Râjâ's honour (and said):
 "Thou hast planted a garden (of virtue) and every
 branch is blossoming,
 But without alms it is all useless."

XXXII.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

"Hear, Rânî Târâwatî, I have given away every part of
 me in alms.
 We three must be sold for alms, for I have kept back
 no part.
 I have kept back no part of the Chhatrî.*
 It is better to die than to give up virtue.
 Rânî, have patience, fate cannot be avoided.
 The lines of fate cannot be blotted out."

* *i.e.*, of himself as a Kshatriya or Chhatrî. The 'parts' of himself were his own body and those of his wife and son.

XXXIII.

Betâ lînâ sang meñ, aur Rânî lînî sâth,
 Brâhmañ ko kahne lage : " suno hamâri bât.
 Meri sun bât, chalo, Pañdit gyânî.
 ' Lîjo kahîñ dâm,' kabe tum se Rânî.
 Châhe jalân bîch dâm apne lîje.
 Itnâ, Mahârâj, karam mujh pe kîje."

XXXIV.

Pañdit lekar sang meñ gîâ Banâras Gâm.
 Us Kâsî ke bîch meñ mângan lagâ dâm ;
 " Barde haiñ pâs tîn ; lîjo, koî !
 Sâth bhâr dâm kahâ tum se soî.
 Saudâ sastâ hai ; âj koî lîjo !
 Sâth bhâr dâm mujhe dil se dîjo !"

XXXIII.

He took his son and his Queen with him
 And said to the Brâhmañ : "hear my words.
 Come, hear my words, my wise Priest.
 ' Get our price from somewhere,' saith the Queen to thee.
 ' Get thy price (somewhere) in the world.
 Show me this favor, my Lord.' "

XXXIV.

The Priest took them with him and went to Banâras City.
 And began to demand a price for them in Kâsî,* (say-
 ing) :
 " I have three slaves ; buy them, somebody !
 I demand sixty loads of gold from you !
 The bargain is a cheap one, buy them to-day !
 Gladly give me sixty loads of gold !"

* i.e., Banâras.

XXXV.

Bis bhâr raṇḍî ne dîe aur Rânî lînî mol ;
 Bâki to chhode nahîn ; dîe tarâzû tol.
 “ Bis bhâr dâm, Bipr, mujh se bharnâ,
 Is men takrâr koî nâhîn karnâ.
 Mujh ko rasîd âp dil se dîjo ;
 Pichhe Rânî ko sâth mere kîjo.”

XXXVI.

Us raṇḍî ke hâth se Bipr lînî dâm.
 Raṇḍî ko rukhsat kiyâ, sabhî bane subh kâm.
 “ Sabhî subh kâm kare Dâtâ mere.
 Kartâ ke ank nahîn jâte phere.”
 Pichhe se Bipr ik bânî bole :
 “ Laṛkâ ik aur bike, dil kî khole.”

XXXVII.

Baijnâth Seth.

“ Laṛkâ mujh ko dîjo ; suno, Bipr Mahârâj.
 Mol karo, sachî kaho, Bipr, parmârath ke kâj.

XXXV.

A courtezan gave twenty loads and bought the Rânî,
 And weighed out the price, leaving nothing.
 (Said she) : “ I owe twenty loads, O Brâhman,
 And will not quarrel over it.
 Gladly give me a receipt for it,
 And then give me over the Rânî.”

XXXVI.

The Brâhman took the price from the courtezan.
 He dismissed the courtezan and obtained all his desire.
 (Said he) : “ God hath fulfilled all my desire.
 The will of God cannot be turned back.”
 Next said the Brâhman :
 “ I freely offer this lad for sale.”

XXXVII.

Baijnâth, the Merchant.

“ Give me the boy, hear me, my Lord Brâhman.
 Fix the price and say truly, Brâhman, for pity's sake.

Satkî ik bât kaho, Bipr bhât.
 Sat kî mirjâd Bed chârôn gâi.”
 “Eh lar̄kâ tujhe diâ bîs bhâr, Mahârâjâ.
 Abhî dîjo tolke, tujhe sunâûn kâjâ.”

XXXVIII.

Baijnâth Seth.

“Lar̄kâ mujh ko dîjo, suno, Bipr Mahârâj,
 Abhî dîjo tolke, tujhe sunâûn âj.”
 “Tujh ko main âj kahî sachî bânî.
 Bîs bhâr bîch diê Târâ Rânî.
 Saudâ sastâ hai, is se hanske lîjo.
 Is kâ kuchh bhed kahîn mat nâ dîjo.”

XXXIX.

Bîs bhâr swarran diê ; lar̄kâ lînâ sang.
 Saump diê sab lachhmî, nirmal kînî ang.

Say one true price, friend Brâhman.
 The four *Vedas* have sung the praises of truth.”
 “I give thee this boy, my Lord, for twenty loads.
 Weigh it out at once, I tell thee.”

XXXVIII.

Baijnâth, the Merchant.

“Give me the boy, hear, my Lord Brâhman.
 I will weigh it out now, to-day I tell thee.”
 “I have told thee truth to-day.
 I have sold the Rânî Târâ for twenty loads.
 It is a cheap bargain, take him from me.
 Let there be no secrets in this.”

XXXIX.

He gave the twenty loads of gold and took the boy
 with him.
 He handed him over all his money and purified his
 body.*

* Idiom : had a son. This would argue that he had been previously childless.

Nirmal sab ang banî, Har kî mâyâ.
 Seth ko jawâhir, lâl, kundan pâyâ :
 Bhogî sukh chain, drab mâyâdhârî :
 Biptâ sab dûr gaî jitnî sârî.

XL.

Kalwâ Chandâl.

“Mol kaho Hari Chand kâ, lijo ham se mâl.
 Châhe soî lîjîye, tujhe sunâyâ hâl.
 Tujh ko main hâl kahâ sachî bânî.
 Kahânî kî jog nahîn, so nahîn kahânî.
 Kah denâ mol tol iko bârî :
 Rît rît bât karo jitnî sârî.”

XLI.

Biswâmitr Brâhman.

“Eh Râjâ satwant hai, sat kî bole bât.
 Beṭâ bikâ bazâr meñ, got ginâ nahîn nât.

By the wondrous (power) of God his body was purified.
 The merchant obtained jewels and rubies and gold,
 He dwelt in comfort and became very rich,
 And all trouble was absent from him.*

XL.

Kalwâ, the Scavenger.†

“Fix a price for Harî Chand and take it from me.
 I say truth, take what thou wilt.
 It is truth that I have told thee.
 One should not say that which is unworthy.
 Tell me the price once for all,
 Speaking proper words.”

XLI.

Biswâmitr, the Brâhman.

“This Râjâ is virtuous and speaketh truth.
 His son was sold in the market without noting caste
 or clan.

* *i.e.*, his purchase prospered him.

† To Viśvâmitra.

Sat ke partâp tajî sagrî mâyâ.
 Sat ke partâp bikan Kâsî meñ âyâ.
 Bîs bhâr swarran ke mujhe abhî denâ :
 Râjâ Harî Chand pâs apne lenâ.”

XLII.

Swarran dînâ tolke, bîs bhâr kiyâ mol ;
 Sâth liâ Mahârâj ko, karke pûrâ tol.
 Bîs bhâr dâm dîe, baje bâjâ.
 Marghat ke râkh diâ chaukî meñ Râjâ.
 Baniye se roz ser sattû letâ,
 Râjâ Harî Chand nahîn sat ko detâ.

XLIII.

Gangâ Rañdî.

“ Bîs bhâr main ne dîe, Rânî, tere mol.
 Peshâ karnâ paṛegâ ; dînâ tum se khol.

For virtue's glory he gave up all his wealth.
 For virtue's glory he hath come to be sold in Kâsî.
 Give me twenty loads of gold now,
 And take Râjâ Harî Chand with thee.”

XLII.

He weighed out the twenty loads of gold for price,
 And took the Râjâ with him, after paying the full price.
 He paid the twenty loads and beat the drum (of his
 glory).

He placed the Râjâ as guardian over the burning-place.*
 Daily he procured a *ser*† of coarse flour from the trader.‡
 Still Harî Chand gave not up his virtue.

XLIII.

Gangâ, the Courtezan.§

“ I bought thee, Rânî, for twenty loads.
 I tell thee that thou wilt have to be a courtezan.

* Where his duties would be to see that the fees for burning the dead were properly collected.

† 2 lbs. ‡ As food for Harî Chand. § To her slave the Rânî Târâ.

Tum se main khol dîe dil kî Rânî.
 Gangâ se nîr bharo merâ pânî.
 Mat kâre andesh, âp khânâ khâo,
 Gangâ ashnân karo, abhî jâo."

XLIV.

Ik ausar pâ chalî Rânî dil meñ Gangâjî ke nahâne ko.
 Tap tej barhâ aur sîl charhâ, lagî mukat silâ pe jâne ko.
 Paṭ khol dîe detâ tajke, kuchh gham na rahî sarmâne kî.
 Râjâ ke soch kare Rânî; 'tajvîj kare kyâ khâne kî?'
 [Kishn Lâl Shib Kaiwar], sang Harî Chand nazar paṭâ
 Rânî kî.
 Atamrâm ko chin lâ, rahî bat nahîn samjhânî kî.*

I have told thee, Rânî, what is in my mind.
 Get me water from the Ganges (daily).
 Have no anxiety and eat thy food.
 Go and bathe in the Ganges now."

XLIV.

Thus the Rânî had an opportunity to bathe in the
 Ganges.†
 Her glory shone and her virtue increased towards
 attaining salvation.
 She took off her veil and felt no shame.
 The Rânî left the water and began to think how the
 Râjâ was obtaining his food.
 [Say Kishn Lâl and Shibkaiwar‡] her glance fell on
 Harî Chand.
 Her soul went out of her beyond telling.

* This verse is in a metre peculiar to itself, as though it came from another song.

† And so obtain salvation.

‡ The authors of the poem: see below at the end of it.

XLV.

Rânî Târâ.

“ Râjâ, apne chit kî bhûl kho mat ko.
 Jab lag bāt na bhâkhe, tab lag kâraj ho.
 Râjâ, main araz karî tum se soî.
 Tâjub kî bāt: kahân kâyâ khoî ?
 Sûkh gîâ badan, hûi pinjar kâyâ.
 Kaise tû soch kare ? Kyûn na khâyâ ? ”

XLVI.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ Rânî, Bipr wahî hai ; sâbit mâuge dân.
 Lâj gai, to jân de ; sat nahîn denâ jân.
 Sat ko na jân dîâ, merî piyârî.
 Sat kî partâp hûi ham se niyârî.
 Sat ke hî kâj gîâ beṭâ ham se.
 Sat kâ sat saug kahâ main ne tum se.”

XLV.

Rânî Târâ.

“ Râjâ, tell not the secret of thy heart.
 As long as the secret is not out, thou wilt prosper.
 Râjâ, I told thee this before.
 Wondrous it is whither thy body hath fled.*
 Dried up is this thy bony body.
 Why art so anxious ? Why dost not eat ? ”

XLVI.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ Rânî, it is the Brâhman's (fault) that demanded his
 full dues.
 If thy honor go, let it go, but let not thy virtue go.
 I let not my virtue go, my love.
 For the glory of virtue thou art parted from me.
 For the sake of virtue my son hath left me.
 It is only of virtue that I speak to thee.”

* That thou art so thin.

XLVII.

Rânî Târâ.

“ Râjâ, mujh ko bhî biptâ paṛî raṇḍî ke darbâr.
 Bolan kâ tûṭâ hûâ, ron zâr-bazâr.
 Kartâ kî dât nahîn jâte phere.
 Âge takdîr rahe, kanthâ mere.
 Raṇḍî ne zor zulam mujh par kînâ.
 Peshâ karne ko kahî, mushkil jînâ ! ”

XLVIII.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ Rânî gharâ uṭhwâ de, kahtâ hove âdhîn.
 Rât dinân tarphûn, paṛâ jaise jal bin mîn.
 Rânî, har wakt sabar kaise âve ?
 Dekhûn chau taraf, nahîn rastâ pâve.
 Biptâ ke kâj paṛe, seven Kânsî.
 Apnâ to maran, jagat kartâ hânsî ! ”

XLVII.

Rânî Târâ.

“ Râjâ, great is my trouble at the courtezan's house.
 I cannot speak and weep incessantly.
 The will of God cannot be turned back.
 Fate is before us, my husband.
 Great is the tyranny of the courtezan upon me.
 She tells me be a courtezan and hard it is to live ! ”

XLVIII.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“ Rânî, help me with the pitcher, I ask thee humbly.
 Restless am I day and night, as a fish out of water.
 Rânî, how can patience be ever with us ?
 Looking all around I see no way (of release).
 To overcome my trouble I dwell at Kâsî.
 I am dying and yet the world jeers ! ”

XLIX.

Rânî Târá.

“ Chhâtî tak jal men̄ baro, aur gharâ lîje thâe.
 Sat Nâm ke tek hai, ab tû ghar ko jâe.”
 Ghare ko to thâ lââ, bhangî ke âve :
 Baniyâ se pher ser sattû lâve.
 Jab to khâne ko lagâ Biprâyâ ;
 Sâbit lââ mâng ; nahîn khâne pâyâ.

L.

Gangâ ke ûpar kharî, Rânî dhârî dhîr.
 Soch kare mañ men̄ kharî, nain se â gîâ nîr.
 Nainon̄ se nîr hûâ us ke jâre :
 “ Lâjjâ kî bāt mare sat ke mâre.
 Duniyâ men̄ âj nahîn merâ koî.”
 Biptâ ko yâd kar Rânî roî.

XLIX.

Rânî Târá.

“ Go breast deep into the water and lift up the pitcher.
 Trust in the True Name (God) and go to thy home.”
 He lifted up the pitcher and went to the scavenger's,
 And then got his *ser* of coarse flour from the tradesman.
 When he began to eat the Brâhman came
 And demanded the whole of it, so that he had nothing
 to eat.

L.

Standing by the Ganges the Queen had patience.
 Standing there thinking tears fell from her eyes.
 Tears fell from her eyes : (said she) :
 “ It is shameful that I suffer thus for virtue's sake.
 I have no friend in the world to-day.”
 Thinking of her misery the Queen wept.

LI.

Rânî man meñ jhurî thî, gîâ wahân seth :
 “ Tû gharâ kaisî bharî ? Kahân lagî karam ke hetth ?”
 Beṭî kâ bachan kahâ : “ Mukh se bolo,
 Apnâ to bhed kaho, sat ko tolo.
 Tujh ko chhuṭwâke jabhî khânâ khâûn ;
 Ab to main nâhîn palat ghar ko jâûn.”

LII.

Pânî bhar Rânî chalî rañḍî ke ghar jâe.
 Pîchhe âe sethjî aur kahan lage samjhâe.
 Kahte samjhâe : “ Suno, rañḍî piyârî,
 Rânî kâ mol kaho khâtir mahârî.
 Bîs bhâr swarran ke mujh se lîje,
 Rânî ko âp mujhe dil se dîje.”

LI.

While the Queen was grieving a merchant* went
 there,
 (And said) : “ Why art filling pitchers (with water) ?
 How hast thou come to misfortune ?”
 Calling her daughter (he said) : “ Tell me,
 Tell me the truth about thy secret.
 I will not eat till I have released thee,
 Nor will I return home (till then).”

LII.

The Queen got the water and went to the courtezan.
 The merchant followed her and spake.
 Said he : “ Hear, friend courtezan,
 Tell me the price of the Queen.
 Take twenty loads of gold from me,
 And graciously give me the Queen.”

* *i.e.* Baijnâth, who had bought her son.

LIII.

Gangâ Raṇḍî.

“ Bis bhâr swarran dîâ, suno, seṭh gunwân.
 Rânî ham se lîjo, tujhe nahîn dîn jân.
 Rânî ko sâth karûn, kuchh na lenî.
 Tujh ko jawâb nahîn ultâ denî.
 Yeh to, Mahârâj, kare âge tere.
 Mat karo aubîr, le jâ apne dère.”

LIV.

Rânî lînî seṭh ne, aur beṭe se dîe milâî.
 Marne se to bach gaî, aur kînî Râm sahâî.
 Beṭe ke pâs gaî Târâ Rânî,
 Jab to yeh bâṭ gaî jag meñ jânî.
 Mâtâ aur putr mile, bâṭân kholî.
 Ânkhon se nîr chalâ, deke koli.

LIII.

Gangâ, the Courtezan.

“ I paid twenty loads of gold for her, hear, my wise
 merchant.
 Take the Queen from me, I will not let thee go back.*
 I give the Queen and take nothing (for her).
 I will make thee no refusal.
 Here she is, my Lord, I offer her to thee.
 Make no delay and take her to thy home.”

LIV.

The merchant took the Queen and brought her to her
 son.
 She was saved from death, for God helped her.
 Rânî Târâ went to her son,
 And all the world knew of it.
 Mother and son met and told (each other) their stories.
 Tears fell from their eyes, as they embraced.

* On thy bargain.

LV.

Rânî Târâ.

“ Beṭâ, jâo bâgh meṅ, phûloṅ kî dekh bahâr :
 Un ko lo jâo sâth meṅ jitne tere yâr.
 Larṅon ko sâth leke bâghoṅ meṅ jâo ;
 Gajre phûloṅ ke gûnd ulṭe âo.
 Daliyâ phûloṅ kî ik dil se bhariye ;
 Aunâ shitâb, der mat na kariye.”

LVI.

Gale bâñh ḍâlke piyârâ, woh bâghoṅ meṅ dhâyâ ;
 Bâghbânoṅ se yûn bolâ, “ barg lene ko main âyâ.”
 Dharâ jab dast phûloṅ pe, nikalke nâg ne khâyâ.
 Nashe meṅ ho giâ ghâḥl, jatan koî pesh nahin âyâ.
 Parâ tab gardiyân khâke, zard nîlî hûî kâyâ :
 “ Merî mâtâ se kahnâ, mujhe sine se nahin layâ.”

LV.

Rânî Târâ.

“ Go, my son, into the garden and see the beautiful
 flowers,
 And take all thy companions with thee.
 Go into the garden with the boys,
 And come back with garlands of flowers.
 Fill thy basket with flowers happily,
 And come back quickly, and make no delay.”

LVI.

With arms round (each other's) necks they went into the
 garden,
 And (the prince) said to the gardeners: “ I am come
 for flowers.”
 As he put his hand to the flowers a snake came out and
 bit him.
 He became insensible and there was no help for him.
 He fell backwards and his body became pale and blue :
 (Said he) “ Tell my mother that she hath not pressed
 me to her breast.”

LVII.

Rājkanwar Rohtās.

- “Merâ piyârâ hai jo koî, mere bedan kaho soî.
 Nahîn jîne kâ main, sâkî ; nahîn rah gîâ dam koî,
 Burd kar de mujhe âke, merâ dil milne ko châhâ.
 Milâ hai gul se gul, jâke daskar woh sâmp ne âke mârâ.”
 Brâhmaṇ palatke kâyâ sunâ mâtâ se yûn bole :
 “Rohtās kî nayâ paṛî manjdhâr meñ ðole.”

LVIII.

Bete kâ marnâ sunâ Rânî kiyâ andes.
 Bâl bakherî mahil meñ, aur Jogin kâ kiyâ bhes.
 Jogin kâ bhes bharâ, tajâ sab kâ nâtâ.
 Aisâ to dukh sabâ nâhîn jâtâ.
 Bete ke pâs gai, chhâtî se lâyâ.
 Umar thî nadân, nabîû bilsâ khâyâ.

LVII.

Prince Rohtās.

- “Let him who is my friend go and tell her of my misfortune.
 I shall not live now, my friends ; no breath is left me.
 Let her come and perform my obsequies, for my heart
 would meet her.
 Flower met flower and a snake slew him.”
 The Brâhmaṇ changed his form and spake to his mother :
 “The boat of thy Rohtās is wandering in mid-stream.”*

LVIII.

The Queen was sorrow-stricken on hearing of her son's death.
 She dishevelled her locks in the palace and put on the
 garb of a *Jogin*.†
 Putting on a *Jogin's* garb she deserted her kindred.
 She could not bear such a sorrow as this.
 She went to her son and took him to her breast.
 Young was he and had (as yet) known not enjoyment.

* Figurative for “he is dying.”

† Female ascetic.

LIX.

Râjkanwar Rohtâs.

“ Ai.mâtâ Târâwatî, sachî karke jân.
 Pitâ milan se rah gîâ, mere nikas prân.
 Marne kî nâhîn rahî mujh ko sansâ.
 Duniyâ se âj chali merî hansâ.”
 Chhut gai prân, kharî pîti chhâtî.
 “ Betâ koî nâhîn rahâ merâ sâthî !”

LX.

Rânî le marghat gai, aur chatâ lagâi ân.
 Marne kî tayyârî karî, apnî khongî prân.
 Tajî thî prân, jabhî Râjââyâ.
 “ Lenâ nâhîn hukm :—dâgh kaisî lâyâ ?
 Pânc hake swarran ke mujh ko dîje.
 Pichhe laṛke ko phûnk marghat dîje.”

LIX.

Prince Rohtâs.

“ O Mother Târâwatî, know the truth.
 I have not met my father, and my life goes,
 But I have no fear of death.
 And to-day my soul will leave the world.”
 His life departed and she stood and beat her breast,
 (Saying) : “ I have no son with me now !”

LX.

The Queen took him to the burning-place and raised a
 pyre.
 She prepared to die by destroying her own life.*
 As she was about to give up her life Râjâ (Harî Chand)
 came up (and said) :
 “ Thou art forbidden to do this : †—what disgrace art
 thou bringing upon me ?
 Give me five pieces of gold,
 And then thou canst burn the boy in the burning-place.”

* This is a very curious incident : the Queen is about to commit *sati* for her son instead of her husband.

† *i.e.*, perform the obsequies without paying a fee.

LXI.

Râni Târâ.

“Pâñch ÷ake parbat hûe, kaudî nahîñ pâs.
 Be÷â *terâ* mar giâ ; sun merî ardâs.
 Yeh to ardâs suno, kanthâ mere.
 Kaisî aurîñ hûi dil meñ tere ?
 Pâñch ÷akâ, bol, âp kis se lîtâ ?
 Mujh ko be÷e ko kyûñ na phûnkan detâ ?”

LXII.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“Us Kalwâ ke hukam kò kaise karûñ adûl ?
 Jiuâ to bhârî hûâ, lenâ mujhe mahsûl.
 Us ko jawâb, kaho, kaise dîje ?
 Bipr anrîñ kare hañske lîje.
 Mujh ko to pâñch ÷akâ denâ châhîye.
 Is kâ jawâb mujhe, Râñî, deñye.”

LXI.

Râni Târâ.

“Five pieces (of gold) are a mountain to me, I have not
 a mite.
 It is *thy* son that is dead ; hear my prayer.
 Hear this my prayer, my husband.
 What unlawful thing is in thy heart ?
 Of whom art thou demanding the five pieces ?
 Why wilt not let me burn thy son ?”

LXII.

Râjâ Harî Chand.

“How can I disobey the orders of Kalwâ ?
 It is hard to live, but I must take the fees :
 Or how should I answer him ?
 It is the Brâhman that gladly doeth unlawful things.
 Thou must give me the five pieces.
 Answer me this, Râñî.”

LXIII.

Sir kâ chîr utârke us ke denâ hâth.
 Âg die jab chatâ meñ, jalne baiṭhî sâth.
 Chatâ lie dekh, jabhî Bipr âyâ ;
 Rânî nangî hûî dekhî kâyâ.
 Râuî sarmâke satî andar âî ;
 Bipr lâsh kâdh âgî lagâî.

LXIV.

Biswâmitr Brâhmaṇ.

“ Dâkin âî satî meñ, sunîye, Kalwâ, bât.
 Âdamkhorî ho rahî, karan lagî utpât.
 Baijnâth Seth kâ woh larîkâ khâyâ.”
 Râjâ ke pâs jabhî Kalwâ âyâ.
 “ Leke shamsher abhî jaldî jâo ;
 Dâkin ko mâr abhî hâzir âo.”

LXIII.

She took off her veil and gave it into his hand.*
 Then she lighted the pyre and prepared to sit beside
 (the body).†
 When he saw the pyre the Brâhmaṇ came up
 And saw the Queen's naked body.‡
 The Queen ashamed went into the *satî's* hut
 And the Brâhmaṇ took off the corpse and set fire (to
 the pyre).

LXIV.

Biswâmitr, the Brâhmaṇ.

“ A witch hath gone into the *satî's* hut, hear, O Kalwâ.
 Cannibal she is and is making a disturbance.
 She has eaten up the son of Baijnâth, the merchant.”
 Then Kalwâ went to the Râjâ, (and said) :
 “ Take thy sword and go quickly,
 Kill the witch and return.”

* In lieu of the fee.

† *i.e.*, to commit *satî* : see above stanza LX.

‡ By ‘naked’ understand ‘unveiled.’

LXV.

Harî Chand talwâr sont dhâyâ nangî :
 "Aisâ kiyâ zulam merî chaukî changî!"
 Satî se nikâl lîe apnî Rânî,
 Jab to Harî Chand ik bolâ bânî :
 "Larke uthâo, suno, âdamkhânî ;
 Marnâ kâ wakt pâs, baiṭho, Rânî !"

LXVI.

Hâth jor Rânî kharî ; "Ai mere Kartâr,
 Aisâ teghâ mâriye, tînoñ ke ho jâ pâr !"
 Râjâ shamsheer sont ûpar âyâ ;
 Rânî kî ik bâr kâmpî kâyâ.
 Râjâ shamsheer sont mâran lâge,
 Jab to âsmân zamîn kâmpan lâge.

LXVII.

Dâtâ ne ṭîr sunî us kî bhârî !
 Aisâ Mahârâj kare pûran sârî !

LXV.

Harî Chand drew his naked sword and went up (to the Rânî).
 (And said) : "Such is the disturbance thou createst,
 while I keep strict watch!"
 He drew his Queen out of the *satî's* hut,
 And then spake Harî Chand :
 "Take up the boy, hear, thou cannibal ;
 Thy death is near, sit here, Rânî."

LXVI.

The Rânî stood with joined hands (and said) : "O my
 God,
 So strike thy sword that it go through all three of us !"
 The Râjâ drew his sword and came up,
 And the Rânî all at once began to tremble.
 When the Râjâ with his drawn sword prepared to strike,
 The heavens and the earth began to quake.

LXVII.

God heard the loud cries (of the Rânî) !
 Thus the Râjâ fulfilled all (his trials) !

Dâtâ ne darshan diâ sat ke kâran :
 Jab to Mahârâj pâr âve târan !
 Nagari pâr ân kari jitrî sârî.
 Râjâ Harî Chand, âj terî bârî !

LXVIII.

Nagarî chalî, Gangâ chalî, Kalwâ bhangî, sâth.
 " Mere to kul sab tareñ, suno hamârî bāt !"
 Dekhke ahwâl sabhî Bipr dhâyâ.
 " Lâkhoñ, Mahârâj, rache main ne mâyâ.
 Râjâ ne sat mujhe nâhîn diâ.
 Tâjub kî bāt merâ larze hîâ."

LXIX.

Bipr ne jitrî kahî sunî Indar man lâe.
 " Râjâ ne tâjub kiâ, ab kuchh kahe na jâe.

God appeared to him through his virtue,
 And the Râjâ came to salvation !
 His whole city also was saved.*
 O Râjâ Harî Chand, this day was thy opportunity !

LXVIII.

The city and Gangâ (the Courtezan) and Kalwâ were
 (saved) with him.

(Prayed he): " Save my whole family, hear my prayer!"
 Seeing all this the Brâhman came (and said) :
 " Thousands of plans have I tried, my Lord (Indra),
 But the Râjâ would not give up his virtue to me,
 Wondrous it is and my heart trembles."

LXIX.

Indra listened attentively to all that the Brâhman had
 said.

(Said the Brâhman): " Wondrous things hath the Râjâ
 done that are beyond telling.

* Allusion to another portion of the legend of Harî Chand : see preliminary note.

Râjâ ne jît lââ mujh ko, piyârâ.
 Chhodâ sab râj; nahîn sat ko hârâ.
 Mâyâ aur mâl taje jîtnê sâre.
 Apne sab chhor dîe dil ke piyâre.”

LXX.

Râûî apne sût ko linâ god uṭhâe.
 Larâkâ to jîwat milâ ; kînî Râm sahâe.
 Jodhiâ ke bîch pbir Râjâ âyâ ;
 Jitnâ sab râj, wahî pâyâ.
 Rânî mandar ke bîch âsan lâve ;
 Mâyâ ke bhog kare khele khâve.

Kishn Lâl Shibkañwar ne bânî kahî apâr.
 Râjâ Rânî ral mile, sat ka kiyâ adhâr.

The Râjâ hath beaten me, my friend.
 He left his whole kingdom, but gave not up his virtue.
 He gave up all his money and food,
 And he gave up all that were dear to his heart.”

LXX.

The Rânî took her son* into her lap.
 Through the mercy of God she found him (still) living.
 The Râjâ went again to Ajudhiâ,
 And obtained again all his kingdom.
 The Queen went into the palace
 And enjoyed all wealth and luxuries.

Kishn Lâl and Shibkañwar† made this great story.
 The Râjâ and Rânî met again and lived on virtuously.

* Restored to life in the interim!

† The authors: see Vol. III., p. 52.

No. XLIII.

THE LEGEND OF SHAMS TABREZ, AS TOLD BY A BARD FROM JĀLANDHAR.

[This story in a garbled way relates the usual legend of this celebrated Sūfi saint. It is to be observed that the scene of the story of his being flayed alive and wandering about after that operation is placed in Multān, where there is a tomb or shrine to a namesake: as also is that of the story of the sun broiling a fish (should be an ox) for him. The heat, so very observable at Multān, is here attributed to the action of Shams Tabrez on this last occasion. Properly speaking, however, the story should be referred to Qunia, or Iconium, in Asia Minor, where the saint really lived and died. It is noticed at pp. 404 and 573 of Vol. II. of this work.]

[Maulānā Shamsu'ddīn Muḥammad Tabrezī, *i. e.*, of Tabrez, was the Sūfi tutor of the Maulānā Jalālu'ddīn Manlvī Rūmī, who dedicated a work to him under the title of the *Dīwān-i-Shams Tabrezī*. In disputes between the opposition parties of Sūfis led by Shams Tabrezī and 'Alānuddīn Maḥmūd, the son of the Maulvī Rūmī, Shams Tabrezī was killed by being thrown down a well at Qunia in 1247 A.D.]

[There is in Multān an important Shi'a family, who call themselves descendants of a saint of Multān named Shams Tabrez, to whom in 1787 A.D. Mīr 'Alī, one of the family, raised a large tomb. This has, as the astute founder probably conjectured, caused the local Shams Tabrez to be confounded with his great namesake to the profit of the shrine and its owners.]

TEXT.

Zikar Karāmāt Shams Tabrez Sāhib.

Maulā dī razâ dâ dam jo mâre,
Allah oh de bigare kam sañwâre.
Faizon se jahân jin kī labrez,
Hai, yâro, oh pîr Shams Tabrez.
5 Multān meñ buzurg jehre mashhûr ;
Un meñ hai bayân in kâ mazkûr.
Multān meñ sâ ik Nawâb hoiâ ;
Iklotâ pisar thâ oh dâ moiâ.
Nawâb ghamîn jo eh ne pâiâ,

- 10 Hukm apne se murdâ nûn jilâiâ.
 Eh kahâ, ke 'Mere hukm se zindâ ho.'
 Kyûn na kahâ, ke 'Khudâ ke hukm se zindâ ho?'
 Ulmâ ne karî, 'eh nuktagîrî
 Haigî eh khilâf sharâ pîrî.'
- 15 Tâzîr dâ hukm eh pukârâ :
 'Eh dâ chamrâ târo sârâ !'
 Jallâd na kar sakâ jo tâmil,
 Tab pîr eh bolâ karke tâjîl :
 'Main chamrâ utâr dâwân tainûn.'
- 20 Taklîf na, yâr, hove tainûn !'
 Ik chuṭkî se post-i-tan utârâ :
 Allah nûn yâd kar sidhârâ.
 Jad bhûkh ne bahut kuchh sitâiâ,
 Machhî kuchh kahîn se lâiâ ;
- 25 Bhunnan nûn jo us de hoiâ tayyâr ;
 Nafrat se haṭâ dîâ ahl-i-bâzâr.
 Sûrij nûn pukârâ hoke lâchâr :
 'Ham-nâm dî lâj rakh de, tû yâr.'
 Kahinde haiñ, ke niche nayar âiâ,
- 30 Aur pîr dî machhî nûn bhunâiâ.
 Multân dî garmî dî shikâyat
 Mashhûr hai : pîr dî karâmat !
 Multân meñ Âm-khâs de kol
 Firozî rozâ un kâ sâ ḍhol.

TRANSLATION.

The Story of the Miracles of Shams Tabrez.

- Who awaits the will of God,
 God will perform his frustrated desire.
 The lavisher of his gifts on the world,
 My friends, is the saint Shams Tabrez.
- 5 In Multân the saints are famous ;*
 Among them (even) his story is renowned.
 There was a Nawâb in Multân,
 Whose only son died ;

* Multân is a veritable City of the Saints.

- When (the saint) discovered the Nawâb's sorrow,
 10 By his own command he raised the dead to life.
 Thus said he, 'By *my* order be alive.'
 Why did he not say, 'By *God's* order be alive ?'
 Said the doctors, 'such conduct
 Is against the law of the saints.'
- 15 The order of the law was thus proclaimed :*
 'Take off all his skin !'
 The executioner could not do it,
 And the saint said at once :
 'I will take off my skin and give it thee.'
- 20 Be not troubled, my friend !
 (He gave) the skin of his body a pinch and took it off,
 And trusting in God he went his way.
 When he became very hungry
 He procured a fish from somewhere ;
- 25 And prepared to broil it,
 But the people of the *bâzâr* turned him away with
 disgust.
 Then he called out to the sun in his trouble :
 'Preserve the honor of thy namesake, † friend.'
 They say that (the sun) came down
- 30 And broiled the saint's fish.
 Complaints of the heat of Multân
 Are loud, (and it is due to) the saint's miracle !
 Near the Public Hall ‡ in Multân
 Is the dome of the (saint's) blue-enamelled tomb.

* *Ta'zîr* is properly in Muhammadan law a punishment ordained by God, but left to the discretion of the judge.

† A play here on the name Shams Tabrezî, which means the Sun of Tabrez.

‡ Built by Diwân Sâwan Mall, Governor of Multân, under the Sikhs, from 1829 to 1844 A.D.

No. XLIV.

THE LEGEND OF SHÂH QUMÊS,

FROM ACCOUNTS PROCURED IN SÂDHAURÂ TOWN AND
IN THE KOTÂHÂ HILLS, BOTH IN THE AMBÂLÂ DISTRICT.

[This legend is about a local saint of much celebrity in the Ambâlâ District, whose shrine is at Sâdhaurâ and who is said to be a descendant of 'Abdu'l-Qâdir Jilânî, (flourished in Baghdâd between 1078 and 1166 A.D.) through a son 'Abda'r-Razzâq, apparently not otherwise known to history. For an account of 'Abdu'l-Qâdir Jilânî see p. 153, Vol. II.]

[The legends make out, according to a genealogy, that the birth of Shâh Qumês occurred about 1425 A.D., and that his arrival at Sâdhaurâ for the first time took place in 1454 A.D. But in another place they make out that Alâuddîn Hussain Shâh of Bengal, who reigned 1493—1524 A.D., offered his daughter in marriage to Sayyid Shâh Tâju'ddîn, the saint's grandfather, and that this marriage was accepted for Sayyid Shâh 'Abdu'l-Hayât, his father. His mother was apparently according to the legend this Bengal princess. His brothers are connected with the wars of Nasib Shâh *alias* Nusrat Shâh of Bengal, the son and successor of Alâuddîn Hussain Shâh, who reigned 1524—1538; and the legends say that the saint himself married this king's daughter. Another part of the story connects him with the wars of the Emperor Humâyûn in recovering the Panjâb from Sikandar Shâh Sûr in 1555 A.D., and says, too, that his brother-in-law, Sayyid 'Abdu'llah, lost his life in the expedition against Burhânpûr in 1562. It also distinctly connects the saint himself with the Emperor Akbar, who did not commence his reign till 1556. This chronology, though an impossible one, makes it pretty clear that Shâh Qumês most probably flourished in the 15th century A. D.]

[The story of the saint's and his father's royal marriages in Bengal, though not impossible, see Vol. II., p. 116, is not, so far as I can ascertain, supported by history, nor can I find out if there is any real reason for saying that his cult extends to Bihâr and Gorakhpûr, as stated in the legends.]

[The language of the stories as given to me being current Urdû I have not recorded the originals.]

I.

The Saint of Sâdhaurâ.

His name is Shâh Qumês and he was a follower of Shekh 'Abdu'l-Qâdir Jilânî, who adopted him as his son; but some say that he was the legitimate and not the adopted son of

'Abdu'l-Qâdir.* Three large fairs are yearly held in honour of Shâh Qumês at Lodiânâ and Sâdhaurâ and in Bihâr. He was buried at Sâdhaurâ and performed his devotions at the other places, hence the fairs. They usually take place in March.

II.

The Legend of Shâh Qumês according to Pîr Muḥammad of Lâhor.

I am a follower of Shâh Qumês, whose pedigree is as follows:— Shâh Qumês, son of Sayyid Shâh 'Abdu'l-Ḥayât, son of Sayyid Shâh Tâju'ddîn, son of Sayyid Shâh Bahâu'ddîn, son of Sayyid Shâh Jalâlu'ddîn, son of Sayyid Shâh Dâûd, son of Sayyid 'Alî Nasîr, son of Sayyid Shâh, son of Sayyid Salâhû'nasar, son of Sayyid Shâh 'Abdu'r-Razzâq, son of Sayyid Shâh Muhayyu'ddîn 'Abdu'l-Qâdir Jîlânî.†

One day Sayyid Shâh Tâju'ddîn was sleeping in the Mausoleum‡ of Sayyid Shâh Muhayyu'ddîn 'Abdu'l-Qâdir Jîlânî on the night of the 7th of Ramazân, when he saw the great saint in a dream, who told him to go to Bengal and convert to his sect Sayyid Ḥussain Shâh, the king thereof. Then he awoke. He soon fell asleep again and had another dream and was again told to travel to Hindûstân. He accordingly set out and in due time reached Bengal, where he began to work miracles, being especially successful in obtaining many followers at Gorakhpûr. The king heard of these and became his follower. After a while the king sent his minister to the saint asking him to accept his daughter in marriage, saying he had made a vow to give her to him. The saint, however, wanted the girl to be married to his son Sayyid Shâh 'Abdu'l-Ḥayât, then resident in Baghdâd, and in the end they were married in due form.

Soon afterwards Sayyid Shâh Tâju'ddîn left for Baghdâd and put up at Bannûr§ on the way, staying in a *masjid*, outside

* This would make him out to have existed 300 years at least before the rest of the legend does.

† This genealogy makes out the birth of Shâh Qumês to have been about 1425 A.D. which corresponds fairly with the rest of the tale.

‡ *i.e.*, in Baghdâd, see below.

§ In the Patîâlâ State.

which he tied up his horse. Next day when the people came to say their prayers they objected to the horse being there, as his urine and *excreta* would defile the *masjid*. The saint, however, said that that would never happen, and though it commenced raining and continued to do so for forty days, during which the horse was never moved, he had no calls of nature! The saint worked many other miracles besides this and many people followed him, but he would not have them for disciples and said he would send his grandson Sayyid Shâh Qumês to them, whom they could follow. He then went away.

Sayyid Shâh 'Abdu'l-Ḥayât had three sons, *viz.*, Shâh Qumês, Sayyid Shâh Muḥammad Zâkirî and Sayyid Shâh 'Abdu'l-'Azîz. One day Muḥammad Zâkirî was playing with some boys, who were riding wooden horses, and as he had not one he got on to a wall and made it run about with him. This made his father very angry and he cursed him to die an untimely death, which duly came to pass. Sayyid Shâh 'Abdu'l-'Azîz suffered martyrdom when his mother's brother, Nasîb Shâh, was fighting to extend his dominions.

Shâh Qumês devoted himself to the service of God and was married to the daughter of Nasîb Shâh, but he would not have connection with her. One day while he was praying she came and stood before him and he told her to sit down, but she would not do so, though he repeated the command more than once. At last he cursed her to sink into the earth, which she did at once and was seen no more. When Nasîb Shâh heard of this event he went to the saint and said that his first daughter had met her fate and wanted him to marry another. This made the saint angry and he left for Sâdhaurâ, where he dwelt in the service of God for forty years. He then went on a pilgrimage to Makkâ, after which he dwelt at Baghdâd with his grandfather, who gave him an ewer of water and told him to go away with it and to dwell at that place, where all the water was found to be expended. He accordingly started and found that the ewer was quite dry at Sâdhaurâ, so he took up his abode there under a dried up tree. This immediately became green and under it he lived. This was in

A.H. 858 (or A.D. 1454.)* Near the tree he prayed that a well might come into existence, and when it did so miraculously, he used the water for drinking and for his ablutions. These miracles made him famous and the chief Qâzî† of the place became his follower along with many other residents. Soon after this the saint went to Pirpûr, which is close by, and there married the daughter of Shekh 'Abdu'l-'Azîz,‡ and then returned to Sâdhaurâ.

At this time (1555 A.D.) the Emperor Humâyûn was making his conquests and among other doings he made prisoners of many of the saint's followers at Sarhiud,§ so he went to Humâyûn at Shâhâbâd || and asked him to release them. As the Emperor had heard of the saint's miraculous power he came with his Minister Bairâm Khân¶ and paid his respects to him, and he in his turn prayed that the Emperor might succeed in obtaining the throne of Dehlî. In reward for this the Emperor and his Minister made a vow, that if they should succeed in winning Dehlî, no follower of Shâh Qumês should be again molested, and that the revenues of Sâdhaurâ should be remitted to the saint for the entertainment of *faqîrs*. The Emperor then marched on and conquered Dehlî, and not long afterwards was called away from this world and was succeeded by Jalâlu'ddîn Muḥammad Akbar, (in January 1556).

About this time a child was born to Shâh Qumês, who would not suck in the day time; and it was the daily custom

* This was probably *before* his adventures in Bengal.

† The Muhammadans of Sâdhaurâ say that in the time of Shahâ-bu'ddîn Ghorî (1174—1206 A.D.) four sects of Sayyids got possession of the town and divided it into four wards (*mahallas*) and that these were called after them Qâzî, Wastî, Abû-halîm, and Siâniâ. To this a fifth was afterwards added called Pirzâdâ, where the descendants of Sayyid Shâh Qumês congregated. Curiously enough their story is that Shâh Qumês came to Sâdhaurâ in 1008 A.H. or 1599 A.D. The 'chief Qâzî' of the text means the leader of the Qâzî *mahalla* of Sâdhaurâ. The Sikhs in their irruptions about 1760 A.D. dispossessed the Sayyids of nearly all their lands and possessions.

‡ A local personage merely.

§ This battle was fought 22nd June 1555.

|| In the Ambâlâ District.

¶ This is the Bairâm Khân, Khân Khânân, who was the great general of Humâyûn and Akbar.

of the saint to visit the graves of those who had suffered martyrdom.* Sayyid 'Abdu'llah,† the saint's brother-in-law, took service under the Emperor Akbar and went to the Dakhan on an expedition. In a battle at Burhânpûr‡ Sayyid 'Adu'llah was captured by the enemy, but called on Shâh Qumês for help, who *immediately* appeared and released him. On another occasion when a barber was shaving the saint he observed that the saint's dress was soaking wet and asked him why. He replied that the ship of a follower named Hâtim Beg had been sunk in the sea and that he had just been to fetch it up and had got wet. He told the barber never to mention this or he would go mad. After a while Hâtim Beg returned from his journey and thanked the saint for his help in the barber's presence. Whereon the barber forgetting the saint's injunction said, "Yes, the holy father told me all about it," and went on to relate the story. As soon as he had finished he went raving mad and to this day his descendants are still born mad! Once a follower named Sayyid 'Alî presented the saint with a philosopher's stone, which the saint at once threw into a river. When asked why he had done so by Sayyid 'Alî and why he had not valued what had been procured with so much trouble, the saint said, "go to the opposite bank and you will find it." His follower did so and found there many such stones.

Akbar once sent for Shâh Qumês to test his miraculous power and the saint accordingly went to Dehlî. When he arrived the Emperor observed a lion in each of the saint's sleeves and became so frightened that he sent him back at once to Sâdhaurâ. Soon after this Shâh Qumês left for Bihâr, where he died. When he was dying he requested his disciples to bury him at Sâdhaurâ, which they did.

* Apparently in Humâyûn's wars.

† Son of the 'Abdu'l-'Aziz, whose daughter Shâh Qumês married.

‡ Burhânpûr was taken by storm for Akbar in 1562.

XLV.

SARWAR AND NĪR.

AS TOLD BY A CELEBRATED BARD FROM BARAUT IN
THE MERĀṬH DISTRICT.

[I have been unable to find out who the heroes of this legend were in real life. Rājā Ambā of Pūṇā and Satārā, with his wife Amlī or Ambalī and his sons Sarwar and Nir, after various mishaps, end life happily in Ujjayinī, of which place Ambā finally becomes Rājā. Such is the legend and in all probability Ambā is a Rājput hero, and not a Marāṭhā as the legend would show him to be.]

[The heroes of some of the legends are very difficult to unearth from their historical hiding places, and it is possible that Ambā may yet be tracked down. When I gave the Story of Rājā Dhol, legendarily the son of Nala, I had not traced him out : see Vol. II., p. 276ff. Now, however, I find him duly recorded in Tod's *Rājasthān*, Original Ed., Vol. II., p. 302ff, as a very prominent Rājput hero and founder of the Kachhwāhā State of Amber or Dhundhār. Tod puts his date from local information at 967 A.D. and calls him a descendant,—33rd in the line—of Nala. He records a form of his famous love-tale with Mārōnī, daughter of the Rājā of Ajmer. Dhol and Mārwan in Tod are known as Dholā Rāi and Mārōnī.]

[Rājā Ambā is a well known name in the Panjāb and connected with the Rasālū legends, having been one of his opponents, and as such had possessions, according to the legends, at Ambakāpī in the Lahore District and at Māṇikyālā in the Rāwal Pīṇḍī District. He is also credited with being the founder of Ambālā. There is a well known verse quoted by Cunningham in his *Ancient Geography of India* and in his *Archæological Survey of India* which runs—

*Ambā Kapā paṭ larāṭ ;
Kālpt bahin chhurāwan āṭ.*

This Cunningham has rendered with fair accuracy by

When strife arose 'twixt Amb and Kap,
Their master Kālpt made it up.

But whether this Rājā Ambā has any connection with the Rājā Ambā of the tale now given I cannot say.]

TEXT.

Qissa Sarwar Nîr.

I.

Ik Ambâ, ik Amlî, ik Sarwar, ik Nîr.
 Pûne kê Râjâ hûâ ; wahân âyâ ik fakîr.
 Ang pe bhabût, mukh se nâdh bajâve.
 Âyâ bâgh meñ ; baiṭh ‘âlakh’ jagâve.
 Bistar dîâ lâe, dhare dhîraj man meñ.
 Gall bîch paṛî sîlî ; soch kînî man meñ.

II.

Mâlan ne dekhâ ; us se aur kînî ardâs :
 “Apne man se jo kah, lâûn tere pâs.
 Bhojan chhattîs tujhe khâne ko lâûn.
 Kar dûn terî khabar Râjâ pe jâûn.
 Rânî se bayân kahûn, Phakar, terâ.
 Rahnâ hoshiyâr ; mân kahnâ merâ.”

TRANSLATION.

The Story of Sarwar and Nîr.

I.

There were Ambâ and Amlî and Sarwar and Nîr.
 (Ambâ) was Râjâ of Pûnâ, where came a *faqîr*.
 With ashes on his body he sounded his conch.
 He came into (Ambâ's) garden and called out ‘*âlakh*.’*
 He brought out his bed and began to meditate in his
 mind.

His (*faqîr*'s) necklace was round his neck as he medi-
 tated in his mind.

II.

The Gardener's wife saw him and said :

“I will bring thee thy heart's desire.

I will bring thee the thirty-six kinds of food.†

I will go to the Râjâ (Ambâ) and tell him about thee.

I will tell the Rânî about thee, *Faqîr*.

Be careful and mark my words.”

* See Vol. I., p. 32.

† *i.e.*, a complete “dinner” from the Native point of view.

III.

Faqīr.

“Mâl mulk kî gham nahîn aur nahîn râj se kâm.
 Rât baseñ, din uṭh chalen; aur baso tumhârâ gâm!
 Bastî âbâd raho, Mâlan, terî.
 Dhûnî pânî meñ rahe ichhâ merî.
 Râjâ se jâke khabar jaldî karîye.
 Ho gûâ diyâl, kahâ merâ karîye.”

IV.

Bâghoñ se mâlan chalî aur ghatâ rahe ghan chhâe.
 “Râjâ, tere bâghoñ meñ jogî utarâ âe.
 Khânâ nahîn khâe, nahîn pânî pîve.
 Râjâ, kis taur, kaho jogî jîve?
 Râni, tû chal, abhî darshan karnâ.
 Jogî kâ ik khauf nahîn karnâ.”

III.

Faqīr.

“I grieve not for wealth and lands and have no wish for
 rule.
 I stay the night and go on in the day; and happy be
 thy town!
 Full be thy town, O Gardener's wife.
 All I want is fire and water.
 Go to the Râjâ and tell him quickly (of me).
 Be kind and do as I tell you.”

IV.

The Gardener's wife left the garden and clouds gathered
 in the sky.
 (Said she): “Râjâ, a *jogî* hath come into thy garden.
 He eats not food and drinks not water.
 Râjâ, say, how can the *jogî* live?
 Râni, go at once and visit him.
 There is nothing to fear in the *jogî*.”

V.

Râjâ Rânî bhare hîrâ, lâl, jawâhir.
 Khân-pân manjan lîe aur kho lâe bhaṇḍâr.
 Khole bhaṇḍâr, lîe bhojan sâre.
 Duniyâ ke aur paṛe wahân se lâre :
 Râjâ Rânî to bâgh bîch meṅ âven ;
 Bhojan ke thâl us ke âge lâven.

VI.

Ânand ho bhojan lîe, duniyâ nâdh bajâe.
 “Jo mângûn, so lûngâ, kahtâ tumheṅ sunâe.
 Man kî ichhâ se mujhe bhojan dînâ ;
 Jab to, Mahârâj, sukhan ham se lînâ.
 Sab kâ sawâl merâ tum se kahnâ,
 Is gun, Mahârâj, terâ bâgh meṅ rahnâ.”

V.

The Râjâ and the Rânî collected diamonds, rubies and
 jewels.
 They took food and good things, opening out their
 stores.
 They opened up all their stores of food.
 Many others of the world collected there (as well),
 As the Râjâ and Rânî went into the garden,
 Taking the platters of food to (the *faqîr*).

VI.

He took the food gladly and sounded his conch (saying) :
 “I will take (from thee) what I desire, I tell thee.
 Thou hast brought me food with a sincere heart,
 And, Râjâ, I will tell thee something.
 I will tell thee all the desire
 I had, Râjâ, in coming to thy garden.”

VII.

Rājā Ambā.

“Phakar, tum dil kī jo jo apnī bāt,
 Jo mänge so tujhe dūn aur bahuteri bāt.
 Ādar se baiṭh, abhī khânâ khâo.
 Apnâ lo sukhan, pīchhe jāo.
 Jo jo, Mahârâj, tere dil pe âṭ,
 Main ne bhī ik bāt dil kī pâṭ.”

VIII.

Faqîr.

“Rājâ, tū sarb ans de, ke sat jāo hâr !
 Yo berâ maujdhâr meñ, karnâ is ko pâr.
 Is ko jo pâr karo sobhâ terî.
 Hovegâ nâm ; mân kahnî merî.
 Koî nahîn pâs ; merî jân akeli.
 Dījo sat bhâo ; terâ Dâtâ belî !”

VII.

Rājâ Ambā.

“O Faqîr, whatever is in thy heart,
 As thou askest so I will give thee and much besides.
 Sit at thy ease and eat thy food.
 Fulfil thy desire and then go (hence).
 Of what hath come into thy heart, Mahârâj,*
 I would find out but one matter.”

VIII.

Faqîr.

“Rājâ, give me every part of thee or lose thy virtue !
 My boat is in mid-stream, take it across.
 If thou take it across thine will be the reward.
 Thou wilt obtain a (good) name ; hearken to my say.
 I have no friend and live alone.
 Give me freely and God will be thy helper !”

* Form of address used towards *faqîrs*.

IX.

Râjâ Rânî bâgh meñ donon karen bichâr.
 “Ke, Râjâ, sarb ans do, ke sat jâo hâr.
 Sat ko mat hâr, mere kanthâ gyâni :
 Denâ is wakt, tujhe kahtî Rânî.
 Mat karo aver is se, abhî denâ :
 Phakar kâ sukhan ik dil kar lenâ.”

X.

Tab Râjâ sarb ans diyâ us phakar ko dân :—
 “Sat kî bândî Lachmi ; phir milegâ ân.”—
 Râjâ ne dân diyâ, jogî lînâ.
 Jitnâ sarb ans, râj sârâ dînâ.
 Sarwar aur Nîr râkh dil se lâe ;
 Rânî ko râkh lâa ; bachan jogî se pâe.

IX.

The Râjâ and Rânî pondered (the matter) together in
 the garden.
 (Said she) ; ‘ Either thou must give every portion,
 Râjâ, or lose thy virtue.
 Lose not thy virtue, my wise husband :
 Give at once, saith thy Queen.
 Make no delay in this, but give at once :
 Fulfil the *faqîr*'s desire with all thy heart.”

X.

Then the Râjâ gave every portion as alms to the *faqîr* :—
 (Saying) : “ Lachmi* is the slave of virtue and I shall
 meet her again.”—
 The Râjâ gave the alms, which the *jogî* took.
 The Râjâ gave up every portion.
 Sarwar and Nîr, his beloved, he kept,
 And he kept the Rânî, and received the blessings of the
faqîr.

* *i.e.*, wealth personified.

XI.

Râjâ Rânî chal paṛe, lâ god meñ Nîr.
 Sarwar Râjâ ne lâ ; tuk ik bândhî dhîr.
 Râj pâṭṭ tiyâg diyâ, mâyâ tiyâgî :
 Sat kî shamsheṛ lîe Rânî bhâgî !
 Us ban ko chhoṛ aur ban meñ âe :
 Jo kuchh thâ kand-mûl ban meñ khâe.

XII.

Râjâ Amlî.

“ Râjâ, angiyâ lîjîye, becho sar bâzâr :
 Angiyâ us ko dîjîye, jo ke ho sâhûkâr.
 Angiyâ kâ mol âp dil se kahnâ :
 Jo deve dâm, sohî mahârâ lahnâ.
 Bete ko bhûk lagî, khânâ khilâo.
 Jaldî, Mahârâj, abhî bechke lâo.”

XI.

The Râjâ and Rânî went away with Nîr in her lap.
 The Râjâ took Sarwar and had patience in his heart.
 He gave up rule and honour and wealth,
 And the happy Rânî gained the sword of virtue !
 They left their own forest and came to another,
 And lived on the fruits and roots of the forest.

XII.

Rânî Amlî.

“ Râjâ, take my bodice and sell it in the *bâzâr*,
 Giving the bodice to some merchant.
 Fix the price of the bodice in thy heart,
 And he that giveth the price is our benefactor.
 Thy children are hungry, give them to eat.
 Go quickly, Râjâ, sell it and bring (the food).”

XIII.

Angiyâ le Râjâ chalâ, aur kari nek nahî wâr.
 Âge us ko mil gîâ Kundan Sâhûkâr.
 Kundan ko jâke us ne angiyâ dikhâî :
 “ Bechne kî manj mere dil par âî.
 Angiyâ kâ mol kahûn, is ko lenâ.
 Apne râkh pâs, dâm mujh ko denâ !”

XIV.

Râjâ ko biñhlâ lîâ aur pûchhan lâgâ bât :
 “ Rânî chhoṛî tû Kahân ? Kyûn nahîu lâyâ sâth ?
 Lâyâ na sâth ; terî akal mârî !
 Kaise tain âj kari dil se niyârî ?
 Dhoke meñ âke kahîu mârâ jâve :
 Rânî kâ khoj phir nahîu pâve !”

XIII.

The Râjâ took the bodice and made no delay.
 Presently he met Kundan the Merchant.
 He showed the bodice to Kundan, (and said):
 “ I have a mind to sell this.
 I will tell thee the price of the bodice and thou shouldst
 buy it.
 Keep it and give me the price !”

XIV.

He made the Râjâ sit down and asked him :
 “ Where hast left thy Rânî ? Why didst thou not bring her
 with thee ?
 Thou hast not brought her with thee and hast lost thy
 senses !
 Why hast thou separated thy heart from her to-day ?
 Thou art fallen into a snare and wilt suffer,
 When thou shalt find no trace of thy Rânî !”

XV.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“Rânî baithî baṛ tale, ik Sarwar, ik Nîr.
 Mol karo, angiyâ dharo, suno, hamâre bîr.
 Das hazâr dâm us ke mujh ko denâ:
 Pîchhe se âp merî angiyâ lenâ.
 Saudâ sastâ hai, âp mujh se lîje.
 Mat kare andesh, dâm mujh ko dîje.”

XVI.

Us se biṭhâyâ dūkân par apne ghar ko jâe.
 Jaldî jâkar shahar meñ dolâ lîâ khichâe:
 Dolâ khichwâke pâs Rânî ke âyâ.
 Angiyâ dikhlâ dîe: “chalo, tujh ko bulâyâ.”
 Dole biṭhlâ lîe, Rânî piyâri:
 Larke lîe âp karâ dolâ jârî.

XV.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“The Rânî was under the banyan tree with Sarwar and
 Nîr.

Buy the bodice and listen, my friend.
 Thou must pay me 10,000 (rupees) for it,
 And then take my bodice.
 It is a cheap bargain, so take it from me.
 Have no fears and give me the price.”

XVI.

(Kundan) sat (the Râjâ) in the shop and went homewards.
 Going quickly into the city he got a litter,
 And took the litter to the Rânî.
 He showed her the bodice (and said): “(Thy husband)
 calls thee, come.”

He sat the lovely Rânî in the litter,
 And taking the boys (aside) started off the litter.

XVII.

Laṛkon ko chhoṛke âyâ Sâhûkâr ;
 Jâke apne mandir meñ Rânî dîe utâr.
 Rânî ko utâr pâs Râjâ ke âyâ :
 “ Angiyâ kê mol nahîn ghar pe pâyâ.
 Angiyâ ko leke yehân se ghar ko jânâ.
 Becho kahîn aur ; jâo khâo khânâ.”

XVIII.

Angiyâ le Ambâ chalâ, laṛkon âyâ pâs :
 “ Ammân thârî kit gai ? Suniye ardâs !
 Ammân kê bhed abhî ham se kahîye.
 Ammân bin, tum kaho, kaise rahîye ?
 Sachî bât batlâo, Beṭâ, mujh ko.
 Dil meñ mat râkho, kahâ main ne tum ko.”

XVII:

He left the boys there and the Merchant returned,
 And going to his house put the Rânî down.
 Putting down the Rânî he went to the Râjâ (and
 said :)
 “ I could not find the price of thy bodice in my house.
 Take away home thy bodice.
 Sell it somewhere else and live on the proceeds.”

XVIII.

Ambâ took the bodice and came to the boys (and
 said :)
 “ Whither hath your mother gone ? Hear my words !
 Tell me now all about your mother.
 Say, how shall we live without your mother ?
 My sons, tell me the truth.
 Keep back nothing in your hearts, I tell you.”

XIX.

Sarwar NĪr.

“Dolâ âyâ shahar se ammân liê biṭhâe.
 Ham ko to dhokâ dîâ, gîâ badan ghabarâe.
 Ham to ghabrâ gae dil se, Pitâ.
 Angiyâ dikhlâ dîe, aisâ kîṭâ !
 Mâtâ ko ân kahâ : ‘tujh ko bulâyâ.’
 Dole biṭhlâke le gîâ, pher na âyâ.”

XX.

Sun laṛkoñ kî bâṭ ko man meñ karâ andesh :
 “Biptâ kis se sunâiye ? Ân ṭake pardes !
 Bhûk piyâs tan meñ, nahîn khânâ khâyâ !
 Kartâ ne dât likhâ, soṭ pâyâ.
 Beṭâ, nahîn âj koî jag meñ thârâ.
 Kâran Bidhnâ ke nahîn meṭanhârâ.”

XIX.

Sarwar and NĪr.

“A litter came from the city and our mother was seated
 in it.
 We were deceived and are afraid.
 We are afraid in our hearts, Father.
 The bodice was shown her and thus was it done !
 He said to our mother : ‘(thy husband) calls thee.’
 He seated her in the litter and returned not again.”

XX.

Hearing the boys’ words he was grieved in his heart :
 (And said) : “To whom shall I tell my sorrow ? I am
 in a strange land !
 Hungry and thirsty I have eaten no food !
 I have received according to the lines written by God.
 My sons, you have no friend in the world to-day.
 The will of Fate none can blot out.”

XXI.

Sarwar.

“ Mâtâ merî kit gaî ? Mujhe batâo hâl !
 Honî to hoke rahî, ân merî be-kâl.
 Mâtâ se chalke, Pitâ, mujh ko milâo :
 Pichhe se phir âp khânâ khâo.
 Dil pe kuchh aur lâgî mere sansâ !
 Marne kê taur chalî merî hansâ !”

XXII.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“ Ammân mâmâ ke gaî, suno, Sarwar Nîr.
 Ammân tumheñ milâ dîn, jo ÷uk bândho dhîr.
 Ammân ke pâs tumheñ leke jâûn.
 Mat na ghabarâo, us se tum ko dikhâûn.”
 Kandhe pe biñhâ lîe donoñ bhâî :
 Kâran Dâtâ kê, nadî âge âî.

XXI.

Sarwar.

“ Whither hath my mother gone ? Tell me of her !
 Fate hath come upon us and we suffer unduly.
 Take me to my mother, Father,
 Before thou take thy food.
 More grief than ever is on my heart !
 And my soul is like to die !”

XXII.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“ Your mother has gone to her brother, hear me, Sarwar
 and Nîr.
 I will take you to your mother, if you will have patience.
 I will take you to your mother.
 Be not afraid, I will show her to you.”
 He sat the two brothers on his shoulders,
 And by the will of God he came to a river.

XXIII.

Soch kare Râjâ kharâ ; “ kis bidh târûn pâr ?
 Jo na detâ râj ko gêâ thâ paran ko hâr ! ”
 Nîr to biṭhâ dîâ, Sarwar lînâ :
 Bar gêâ nadî meñ, gawan Râjâ kînâ.
 Larke ko pâr biṭhâke ultâ âyâ :
 Gâh ne garâs liâ ! Har kî mâyâ !

XXIV.

Chakwâ chakwî kî tarah, ut Sarwar, it Nîr !
 Jo Bidhnâ ne likh dî, kyâ kare tadbîr ?
 Ho gêâ andesh baiṭhe rowan ban meñ :
 Mâtâ ko yâd karenî apne man meñ :
 “ Ham se te bichaṛ gêâ mahârâ pitâ !
 Jogî ne zulm barâ ham se kitâ ! ”

XXIII.

The Râjâ stood thinking : “ how shall I cross over ?
 Had I not given up my kingdom I should have broken
 my word.”
 He put down Nîr and took Sarwar :
 He went into the water and the Râjâ used his strength.
 He put down the boy and came back :
 When an alligator seized him ! It was the will of God !

XXIV.

Like *chakwâ* and *chakwî** Sarwar was on this side and
 Nîr on that !
 What remedy is there against the writing of Fate ?
 They sat down and wept in their sorrow in the forest,
 Remembering their mother in their hearts, (and said) :
 “ Our father too, is separated from us !
 Great hath been the *faqîr*'s cruelty to us ! ”

* See Vol. I., p. 125.

XXV.

Barî fajar dhobî uthâ denâ ghât pahlâe.
 Do larke rowat mile, us ne dekhâ âe.
 Larakon ko dekh dayâ dil pe âî :
 Dhobî ne milâ dîe donon bhâî.
 Donon ko leke apne ghar pe âyâ :
 Mukhre dûtâ dîe, khânâ khilâyâ.

XXVI.

Ik mandir meñ rakh lie donon Sarwar Nîr :
 Brâhman kari rasoîân, piyâve thaṇḍâ nîr.
 Paṛhan ko biṭhâ die donon bhâî :
 Jo jo sab rît-bhânt un ko batâî.
 Râj-dharam rît paṛhe jitrî sârî,
 Aur sab kitâb paṛhe niyârî niyârî.

XXV.

In the early morning a washerman was up and
 spreading out his clothes.
 He found two boys weeping and came to see.
 He had pity on the boys in his heart.
 And the washerman brought the two boys together.
 He took them both to his house,
 And washed their faces and gave them food.

XXVI.

He put Sarwar and Nîr into one house,
 And a Brâhman cooked for them and gave them water.*
 He taught both the brothers to read,
 And taught them all the ways (of society).
 He taught them all the ways of royalty,
 And made them read all the books one by one.

* So that their caste might not be injured. A *dhobî* is of much lower caste than a Râjput or Chhatrî.

XXVII.

Parhe jo bârâh baras, tak bidiyâ lie anek.
 Jitne sab kânûn thî, unhoñ no lînî dekh.
 Karne rozgâr chale donoñ bhâî ;
 Chalkar Ujjain Nagar, un ko âi.
 Râjâ se kahan lage biptâ sârî ;
 Chhode gharbâr aur duniyâ-dârî.

XXVIII.

Ujjain kâ Râjâ.

“Kaun des ke gadhpatî ? Patâ, kaho, kis des ?
 Mâtâ thârî kaun hai ? Tum kînâ mailâ bhes !
 Ham se bayân karo niyârâ niyârâ.
 Sachî kaho bât, kyâ hai maksad thârâ ?
 Apnâ bayân sabhî ham se kahnâ.
 Bândho hathiyâr, kushî dil se rahnâ.”

XXVII.

They read for twelve years and became very learned.
 They learnt all the rules (of the law).
 The two brothers (then) started to obtain a living,
 And went to Ujjain City.
 They told the Râjâ all their sorrows,
 How they had left their home and kingdom.

XXVIII.

The Râjâ of Ujjain.

“Of what country was (your father) lord ? Tell me, of
 what land ?
 Who was your mother ? You are in dirty clothing !
 Tell me the story bit by bit.
 Tell me the truth, what is your meaning ?
 Tell me all your story.
 Put on the arms* and remain here at your ease.”

* i.e., as retainers of the Court.

XXIX.

Nîr.

“Ambalî to mâtà mahârî, Ambâ pitâ bakhân :
 Yo Sarwar, main Nîr hûn ; sachî karke jân.
 Ham to rozgâr karen dil pe âe.
 Dil se lo râkh, raheñ donon bhâf.
 Gâh ne girâs lâ bâbal merâ :
 Ammân par jâl ik thag ne gherâ.”

XXX.

Ujjain kâ Râjâ.

“Mahilon kî chaukî karo, jahân merâ ranwâs.
 Khabardâr hoke raho, koî nahîñ âve pâs.”
 Dîne hathiyâr aur wardî sârî.
 Donon ko râkh, hukm kînâ jârê:
 “Deorhî ke pâs tumheñ chaukas rahnâ :
 Guzre jo hâl sabhî ham se kahnâ.”

XXIX.

Nîr.

“Our mother was Ambalî and our father Ambâ :
 This is Sarwar and I am Nîr : know this for truth.
 We came here in hopes of a living.
 Take us to thy heart and let the two brothers remain
 (here).
 An alligator seized our father,
 And a deceiver carried off our mother by guile.”

XXX.

The Râjâ of Ujjain.

“Be ye guards over my female apartments.*
 Be ye careful that no one approaches them.”
 He gave them arms and all the clothing (required).
 He kept them both and gave them orders :
 “Be ye guards over the entrance,
 And tell me of all that happens.”

* A responsible position in a Râjâ's palace.

XXXI.

Donoñ bhâiyâ mahil ke karen rât dinon rakhwâl.
 Diu soven, naisâ same jâgen bâram-bâr.
 Bândhen talwâr, aur pahrâ deven :
 Bâki kuchh aur hukm us se leven.
 Râjâ ke bahut hûe dil ke piyâre.
 Hâzir har wakt, nahîn hoveñ niyâre.

XXXII.

Jhinwâr âyâ nadî par, rok dîâ hai jâl.
 Gâh phansâ, woh âuke lînâ bâhir nikâl.
 Peṭ ko jo châk karâ aur us kî kâyâ,
 Us ke andar se Râjâ Ambâ pâyâ !
 Râjâ ke pâs gîâ, us ko leke,
 Donoñ kar joṛ milâ âge leke.

XXXI.

The two brothers kept watch day and night.
 In the day they slept and were up at times throughout
 the night.
 They fastened on swords and kept watch,
 And took other orders (from the Râjâ).
 The Râjâ was very foud of them in his heart :
 They were ever present and never away.

XXXII.

A fisherman came to the river and dammed it with his
 net.
 An alligator was caught and he took it out.
 When he cut open its body and stomach,
 He found Râjâ Ambâ in it (alive) !
 He took him to the Râjâ (of Ujjain),
 And presented him with joined hands.

XXXIII.

Jab Râjâ ne dekhke âpe lâ biṭhâe,
 To : “ Bhâiyâ, kis taur se gîâ jal meṅ âe ?
 Aisi biptâ paṛî kyûnkar tujh pe ?
 Kis tarah yeh pakar tujh ko lâyâ mujh pe ?
 Kahnâ bayân hâl niyârâ niyârâ.
 Ban ke taii bîch karâ kaise guzârâ ?”

XXXIV.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“ Pûṅe kâ to janam aur Satârâ pâs.
 Pun-dân bahute kare, sab kâran the râs.
 Jogî ne mâng lâ mujhe aisâ,
 Jitnâ sarb ans diâ jaisâ taisâ !
 Chhorâ sab râj, pât, jitnî mâyâ :
 Rânî ko sâth lâ ban meṅ âyâ.”

XXXIII.

When the Râjâ saw (Râjâ Ambâ) he sat him down be-
 side him,
 (And said) : “ O brother, how camest thou to fall into
 the net ?
 How came such misfortune to fall upon thee ?
 How came he to catch thee and bring thee to me ?
 Tell me the story bit by bit.
 How didst thou live in the forest ?”

XXXIV.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“ I was born in Pûṅâ near Satârâ.
 I gave much in alms and was well-to-do.
 A *faqîr* came and asked so much of me,
 That I gave him every portion of what I had !
 I gave up all my kingdom and all my wealth :
 And taking my Rânî with me I went into the forest.”

XXXV.

Râjâ Ujjain kâ.

“ Rânî terî kit rahî ? Guzrâ kaun hawâl* ?
 Tû kaise is meñ phansâ, ân marâ be-kâl ?
 Bhâî aur band taje taiñ ne sâre.
 Ab main kis taur karûñ, mere piyâre ?
 Man kî jo bât sabhî ham se kahnâ.
 Biptâ hûi dûr, pâs mere rahnâ.”

XXXVI.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“ Rânî bâhir biñhâke main giâ Banâras Gâm.
 Ik Sarwar, ik Nîr thâ,—yeh larakon kâ nâm.—
 Angiyâ main pâs lîe bechan dhâyâ ;
 Kundan Sâhûkâr mere âge âyâ.
 Augiyâ kâ mol kahâ main us se.
 Sunke itnî, lîe us ne mujh se.”

XXXV.

The Râjâ of Ujjain.

“ Where hath thy Rânî dwelt ? What hath happened to
 her ?
 How camest thou into such untimely trouble ?
 Thou hast left all thy brethren and friends.
 What can I do for thee now, my friend ?
 Tell me all that is in thy heart.
 Thy trouble is over, for thou canst dwell with me.”

XXXVI.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“ I sat my Rânî outside† and went into Banâras City.
 Sarwar and Nîr were with her,—these are the names of
 our boys.—
 I went to sell her bodice,
 And met Kundan the Merchant.
 I asked him to buy the bodice,
 And he took the bodice from me.”

* For *ahwâl*.† *i.e.*, in the forest.

XXXVII.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“Us Rânî ko jâke angiyâ dî dikhâe.
 Larke chhore bâr tale ; lâyâ us se biṭhâe.
 Mandir meñ biṭhâ mujhe angiyâ dînî.
 Rânî ko râkh lîâ, aisî kinî !
 Angiyâ ko leke main pâs larakon ko âyâ ;
 Rânî kâ khoj kahîn mujh ko pâyâ.”

XXXVIII.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“Leke larakon ko nadî ûpar âyâ :
 Gâh ne girâs lîe merî kâyâ.
 Aisâ to pech parâ mujh pe bhârî :
 Is gun se chhuṭ gaî merî nârî.
 Châhe so âp karo khâtir mere :
 Main ne sab bāt tere âge gerê.”

XXXVII.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“He went to the Rânî and showed her the bodice.
 He left the boys under the banyan tree and took her
 away (in a litter).
 He took her to his home and gave me back the bodice.
 Thus it was that he kept the Rânî !
 I came back with the bodice to the boys,
 And could find no trace of the Rânî.”

XXXVIII.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“I brought the boys to the river,
 And an alligator seized my body.
 So great was the heavy trouble upon me,
 That I had lost my wife.
 Do what thou canst for me ;
 I have told thee the whole story.”

XXXIX.

Rājâ ne khâtir karî, dil se kinâ mel.
 Us ko beṭâ kar lââ : yeh Kudrat kâ khel !
 Bîs baras bît gae us ko, bhâî ;
 Rājâ kî kâl gherî, sir pe âî.
 Rājâ kâ maran hûâ, us ne gaddî pâî.
 Rājâ ko aur same aise âe !

XL.

Rânî se kahne lagâ Kundan Sâhûkâr :
 “ Bahut dinân tum ko hûe, ab bâso gharbâr.
 Bâso gharbâr ; karo rahuâ-sahnâ.
 Dil kâ tum bayân sabhî ham se kahnâ.
 Duniyâ kî rît-bhânt barto sârî :
 Baso gharbâr ; suno, merî piyârî !”

XXXIX.

The Rājâ (of Ujjain) had pity and loved him in his heart.
 He adopted him as a son : such is the caprice of (God's)
 power !

Twenty years passed over them, my friends,*
 When the Rājâ (of Ujjain) was encompassed by death.
 The Rājâ (of Ujjain) died and (Rājâ Ambâ) obtained
 the throne.

Thus the times changed for Rājâ (Ambâ) !

XL.

Said Kundan the Merchant to Rânî (Amlî) :
 “ Many days have passed over thee, live now in my house.
 Dwell in my house and live with me.
 Tell me all the desire of thy heart.
 Fulfil all the customs of the world : †
 And dwell in my house ; hear, my beloved !”

* Addressed to the audience.

† *i.e.*, let us live as husband and wife.

XLI.

Rânî Amlî.

“Gangâ mujhe nahlâ de, jab bâsûn gharbâr.
 Ab to merî dil kê tujh ko hai ikhtiyâr.
 Gangâ de nahlâe, karo khâtir merî:
 Phir to main karûngî, jaisî marjî terî.
 Ab tû mat der kare, mâno merî.
 Terî bhî bêt nahîn jâgî pherî.”

XLII.

Hâthî, ghore, rath lîe, aur bhare lakhîne mâl.
 Rânî baithî rath meñ, dîe wahân se châl.
 Jab ke Ujjain Nagar chalke âe,
 Tambû dîe tân aur ðere lâe.
 Kundan Sâhûkâr chalâ Râjâ ke âyâ:
 “Tere darbâr main ne ðerâ lâyâ.”

XLI.

Rânî Amlî.

“Let me bathe in the Ganges and then I will dwell in
 thy house.
 Now hast thou power over my heart.
 Have pity on me and let me bathe in the Ganges,
 Then will I do as thou desirest.
 Make no delay and listen to my words.
 Go not thou back upon thy promise.”

XLII.

He took elephants and horses and chariots and *lâkhs*
 of property.
 He sat the Rânî in a litter and started thence.
 When he reached Ujjain City,*
 He pitched his tents and made a halt.
 Kundan the Merchant went to the Râjâ† (Ambâ) (and
 said:)

“I have made a halt in thy territories.”

* There is confusion in the geography here. Kundan starts from Banâras for the Ganges and has to pass Ujjain!

† Now Râjâ of Ujjain.

XLIII.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“Jo kuchh tere kahan hai ham se de tû khol.
 Jo mônge so dîn, tujhe na kuchh letâ mol.
 Rahnâ hoshiyâr, âp ðerâ lâo :
 Châhe jis taur âp khânâ khâo.
 Aur kaho bât koî apue man kî.
 Malke ashnân karo apne tan ke.”

XLIV.

Kundan Sâhûkâr.

“Pahrâ mujh ko dîjîye, lagî andherî rain.
 Pîchhe to dukh bahut sahâ, râton parî na chain.
 Gangâ ashnân kâran ham ko jânâ ;
 Dîn-pun aur karen khânâ-dânâ.
 Ham to, Mahârâj, saran tere âe :
 Ghar se te mâl bahut bharke lâe.”

XLIII.

Râjâ Ambâ.

“Tell me all that thou hast to say.
 I will give thee what thou dost want and take no price
 (for it).
 Be careful and make thy halt,
 And eat thy food at thy ease.
 And tell me of any other desires of thy heart.
 Bathe and anoint thy body.”

XLIV.

Kundan the Merchant.

“Give me a guard, for the nights are dark.
 Hitherto I have had much trouble and no ease at night.
 I am going to bathe in the Ganges,
 To give alms and much food (to Brâhmans).
 I am come, Râjâ, to salute thee,
 Bringing many things from my house.”

XLV.

Pahrâ dene bhoj dîe ik Sarwar, ik Nîr.
 Tambû kî chaukî dîe, ûpar barse nîr.
 Biptâ kî bât kaheñ donon bhâî :
 “ Bhâiyâ, kis tarah guzârâ kare mahârî mâî ?
 Bâbal kis^odes gîâ ? Miltâ nâhiñ :
 Un kî to phir khabar pâî nâhiñ.”

XLVI.

Mâtâ ne us wakt hî un kê sunâ bayân :
 Dâtâ kê karnâ hûâ ; lene kañwar pahchân.
 Kañwaron ko pahchân lââ, tambû phârâ :
 “ Lâkhon kê mâl gîâ merâ sârâ !”
 Rânî ne kûk dîe, shor machâyâ :—
 “ Kis ne yeh chor mere tambû meñ lâyâ ?”

XLV.

He sent Sarwar and Nîr as guards.
 They watched the tents, while the rain fell from above.
 The two brothers began talking over their sorrows :
 (Saying) : “ Brother, what can our mother be doing ?
 Whither hath our father gone ? For we see him not,
 And have had no news again of him.”*

XLVI.

Their mother overheard them talking,
 And by the will of God she recognized the princes.
 She recognized the princes and tore open the tent :
 (Crying out) : “ All my *lâkhs* of property are gone !”
 The Rânî cried out and made a noise :—
 “ Who brought this thief to my tent ?”

* This is a slip, they had met their father long before this and he was now King of Ujjain.

XLVII.

Rânî ne pakaṛwâ de donon Sarwar Nîr.—
 Dekho Râjâ Ambâ kî sudhî hûî takdir!—
 Donon giraftar kîye Râjâ pe lâe :
 “Mere to chor yeh hî donon bhâî.
 Kar de insâf âj merâ, Râjâ :
 Sab kê ik bâr baje milke bâjâ.”

XLVIII.

Râjâ Sabhâ lagâke pûchhan lâgâ bât.
 “Kah denâ ham se sabhî kyâ kuchh guzrî rât.
 Kitne kê mâl gâ terâ, piyârî ?”
 Râjâ ne soch kare man meî bhârî :
 “Kar dîngâ insâf tere dil se, bînâ.
 Terâ to mâl gâ, merâ tarphe sînâ.”

XLVII.

The Rânî had both Sarwar and Nîr seized.—
 Behold the change of fortune to Râjâ Ambâ !*—
 They were both seized and brought to Râjâ (Ambâ):
 (Said she) : “These two brothers are the thieves.
 Do me justice to-day, Râjâ :
 That we may all sound our drums† together.”

XLVIII.

The Râjâ held a Court and began to ask (questions,
 saying) :
 “Tell me all that hath passed during the night.
 How much of thy property hath gone, my friend ?”
 The Râjâ was very grieved in his heart ; (said he) :
 “I will do thee justice according to thy desire, my friend.
 My heart is grieved that thy goods have gone.”

* Addressed to the audience.

† *i.e.*, be happy.

XLIX.

Jab Râni kahne lagî : “ Mâno madan gind !
 Chamkat âven bijlî, jhuk-jhuk barse ind.
 Is ne kahâ Nîr : ‘ Suno, Sarwar bhâiyâ,
 Jâne kis des gaî mahârî mâiyâ ?’
 Pûton ko pahchân, ros dil pe âyâ.
 Main ne is taur, Râjâ, yeh phail machâyâ.”

L.

Uthke Râjâ Ambâ ne chhâtî se lî lagâe.
 Amlî Ambâ ral mile ; kar dî Râm sahâf.
 Kundan ko hukm dîâ : “ Phânsi lâo :
 Leke jallâd is se abhî jâo.
 Yeh to badmâsh badâ, mârâ jâve.
 Kar do bismâr, nahîn jîne pâve.”

XLIX.

Then said the Râni : “ Be careful of the young
 elephant !
 The lightning flashes and the heavy rain is falling.
 Said Nîr : ‘ Hear, brother Sarwar,
 Who knows whither our mother hath gone ?’
 I recognized my sons and anger was in my heart.*
 So I made all this disturbance, Râjâ.”

L.

Up got Râjâ Ambâ and took her to his breast.
 Amlî and Ambâ met again through the mercy of
 God.
 He gave an order to have Kundan hanged, (saying) :
 “ Go and do it at once, fetching the executioners.
 He is a great scoundrel, let him be killed.
 Undo him that he may not live.”

* At her treatment.

LI.

Le jallâd jaldî charḥe, phânsî pe dîâ charḥâe :
 Jab Kundan ke gale meñ katwâ dîâ lagâe.
 Phânsi se târ lâ nîche dârâ :
 Khainche ik bâr us se gardan mârâ.
 Jangal meñ dūr use gerke âe :
 Râjâ ko bayân sabhî âke sunâe.

LII.

Rânî utarî mahil meñ, biptâ sab hûi dâr.
 Râj pāt sab mil gîâ, baiṭhe rahan hazûr.
 Rânî sab dharam-karam leke âi :
 Sat ke partâp barî sobhâ pâi.
 Kartî ashnân dhyân khânâ khâve.
 Rath meñ sawâr hûi Gangâ nahâve.

LI.

They quickly fetched the executioners and put on the
 noose :
 Then was Kundan strangled by the neck.
 They tightened the rope and threw him down,
 And pulling at it broke his neck.
 They threw (the corpse) far into the wilds,
 And came and told all about it to the Râjâ.

LII.

The Rânî dwelt in the palace and all her troubles passed
 far away.
 Rule and honour and all she gained and dwelt in the
 (royal) presence.
 The Rânî fulfilled all her obligations,
 And obtained great happiness through her virtue.
 Bathing and meditating before her food,
 Going in a litter she bathe in the Ganges.

LIII.

Râjâ Râni se kahe : “ Biptâ parî upâr.
 Hirâ, lâl, jawâhir kî nahîn koî jâne sâr.
 Râni, kis taur tû ne khânâ khâyâ ?
 Kahân kahân kâ pâni tere pine ko âyâ ?
 Kar de bayân hâl niyârâ niyârâ :
 Biptâ kâ hâl kaho ham se sârâ.”

LIV.

Râni Amlî.

“ Jis ko Sâin rang diâ kadhî kurang na ho :
 Lâkh bairî sir pe baso, bâl na bingâ ho.
 Jis po, Mahârâj, khushî hoven Sâin,
 Sat ke partâp nikal wahân se âen.
 Beṭe bhî phir mile, bâkî sâiyân :
 Dâta ne Âp merî pakarî bânhiyân !”

LIII.

Said the Râjâ to the Râni : “ Great trouble fell upon us.
 None know the value of diamonds and rubies and jewels.*
 Râni, how didst thou get thy food ?
 How didst thou get water to drink ?
 Tell me about it bit by bit.
 And tell me all the story of thy sorrow.”

LIV.

Râni Amlî.

“ Whom God honoureth can never be dishonoured :
 Though a hundred thousand enemies be against him, yet
 a hair of him is not injured.†
 With whom, Râjâ, God is pleased,
 Is saved from them by his virtue.
 I have met my sons and then my husband again,
 For God Himself hath taken me by the arm !”

* But those that lose them : a proverb.

† A proverb.

LV.

Rājâ sunke khush hûe aur man mei bharâ umang.
 Rânî beṭe sab mile, chaṛhâ sawâyâ rang.
 Dâtâ ne râj dîâ, bâkî mâyâ.
 Karam kâ likhâ thâ, soî âge âyâ.
 Jab to khushî se rahan lage Rājâ Rânî.
 Mukh setî kahan lage imrat bânî.

Chalî putalî lôn kî thâ Sindh kî lon!—
 Kishn Lâl Shib Kanwarjî kah ; jawab de kon ?

LV.

The Rājâ heard and was pleased and very happy in his
 heart.
 The Rânî and her sons and all met again and were
 exceedingly happy.
 God gave them rule and also wealth.
 What Fate had written down came to pass.
 Then the Rājâ and Rânî dwelt in happiness,
 And began saying pleasant things with their lips.

‘A doll of salt hath entered into the salt of the
 ocean!’—*

Say Kishn Lâl and Shib Kanwar ; † ‘who shall answer it!’

* A riddle, answering apparently to the English phrase ‘a drop in the ocean,’ and meaning that the legend is as a drop gone forth into the ocean.

† The authors : see *ante*, page 52.

No. XLVI.

THE LEGEND OF RÂJÂ DHRÛ,

AS TOLD BY A CELEBRATED BARD FROM BHARAUT IN
THE MERATH DISTRICT.

[The Legend of Dhruva is a favorite one all over Northern India and is based—in its modern forms—on a story repeated in most of the *Purâṇas*. That on which the present seems to be based is found in the *Vishṇu*, *Bhâgavata*, *Padma*, *Agni* and *Nâradya Purâṇas*, and others are in the *Matsya*, *Brahma* and *Vâyu Purâṇas*. It is also to be found in the *Hari Vanśa*.]

[The usual classical legend is that Uttânapâda, the son of Manu Swâyambhuva, had two wives, Suruchi and Sûṅritâ. The former gave birth to Uttama and the latter to Dhruva. Suruchi was determined that her son should succeed to the throne, and to this Sûṅritâ and Dhruva agreed, the latter declaring he only wanted religious and not worldly honors. He thereupon went through such austerities that Vishṇu raised him to heaven as the pole-star.]

[It will be observed that the present legend differs very much from this—making out that Uttânapâda was King of Ajudhiâ and that the worldly Queen was the daughter of a Râjâ Mân Pâl of Amarâvatî (Amrâotî).]

[There is a well known saying—*Dhrû kî mâ pûrî mâ ; Gopî Chand kî mâ âdhî mâ* : Dhru's mother was a full mother ; Gopî Chand's mother was half a mother :—which arises from the story that Dhru's mother never tried to dissuade him from completing his austerities, whereas Gopî Chand's mother first persuaded and then dissuaded him. See Vol. II. pp. 1 to 77. This part of the story is, however, only once hinted at in stanza LXII. of the following legend and it is nowhere brought into prominence.]

TEXT.

Qissa Râjâ Dhrû.

I.

Uttânpât Râjâ hûâ Jodhiâ meṅ pargâs.
Rânî kî sampût nahîṅ, beṭâ hûâ nirâs.

TRANSLATION.

The Story of Râjâ Dhrû.

I.

There was a well-known Râjâ Uttânpât of Ajudhiâ.
His Queen was barren and he had no hope of a son.

Ho gîâ nirâs, soch kîni bhârî.
 Us se har wakt kahî us kî nârî :
 " Râjâ, koî putr nahîn, mandir khâlî :
 Sûkhâ gulzâr, pâs nahîn mâlî."

II.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

" Ajjâ sutâ ke khandh meñ jâm rahe than do :
 Kânṭûn to sobhâ gai, râkhûn to dukh ho.
 Rânî, hai sauk burî, dil ko jalâve.
 Dekhî jis wakt jalat man meñ âve.
 Rânî, tû hukm kare, aur dil se kahnâ :
 Lâûn koî aur khushî hoke rahnâ."

III.

Pahilî Rânî.

" Râjâ, biyâh karâṭye, main nahîn karûn babâd.
 Beṭâ hove mandir meñ ; gaddî hove âbâd."

He was hopeless and full of sorrow.
 To him continually said his queen :
 " Râjâ, we have no son and the palace is (therefore) empty
 The garden is dry and hath no gardener."*

II.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

" The goat hath but two udders at its waist.
 If I cut them off its beauty goes, if I keep them it is in
 pain.
 Rânî, a co-wife is an evil and burneth the heart.
 Thou wilt understand when thy heart burneth.
 Rânî, if thou wilt and sayest it from thy heart,
 I will bring (home) another (wife) and be at peace."

III.

First Queen.

" Râjâ, marry and I will say naught against it.
 Let there be a son in the palace to succeed to the throne."

* Figurative language : we have no son.

Râjâ, jo dûdh pâṭ ghar meṅ hove,
 Nâ rahe andesh, baṛâ sukh bhar sove.
 Bcṭe bin râj pâṭ khâlî sârâ :
 Is se gun, Mahârâj, bhalâ hove thârâ.”

IV.

Râjâ ne pâṭî likhî Mân Pâl ke pâs :
 “Merî mansâ biyâh kî, putr nahîṅ koî pâs.
 Beṭâ nahîṅ koî pâs ; Rânî rove ;
 Khânâ nahîṅ khâî ; nahîṅ sukh se sove.
 Mujh pe hukm dîâ Rânî piyârî :—
 ‘Kîjîye tum biyâh, nasil hove jârî.’”

V.

Pâṭî le kâsid châlâ, Amrâwatpûr meṅ jâ ;
 Râjâ Mân Pâl ko pâṭî dîe dikhâ :
 “Dekho, Mahârâj, pâs tere lâyâ.
 Rastâ hai kathan, dukh maiṅ ne pâyâ.

Râjâ, who hath milk* and a son in his house,
 Knoweth no sorrow and sleepeth in great comfort.
 Without a son rule and honour are empty ;
 Therefore, Râjâ, it will be well with thee (to marry).”

IV.

The Râjâ wrote a letter to (Râjâ) Mân Pâl, (saying) :
 “I wish to marry as I have no son.
 I have no son and my Queen weepeth.
 She eateth not her food, nor sleepeth at her ease.
 My beloved Queen hath desired me
 To marry and beget issue.”

V.

The messenger took the letter and went to Amrâwatpûr,†
 And showed the letter to Râjâ Mân Pâl, (saying) :
 “Behold, Râjâ, I have brought it thee.
 Rough was the way and much trouble I endured.

* *i.e.*, plenty.† *i.e.*, Amrâotî.

Is kâ jawâb mujhe denâ châhîye.
Pâtî, Mahârâj, khushî hoke lâîye.”

VI.

Parwâne ko dekhke khushî hâe Mahârâj :
“Ichhâ pûran ho gaî sabhî, banî sab kâj.
Is meñ nahîn her-pher ; sachî jâno.
Is meñ shak nahîn ; merâ kahnâ mânô.
Beî hai ik, khushî hoke denî.
Mat kare andesh ; terî pâti lenî.”

VII.

Mâgh mahînâ panchamî, rut basant lagî ân.
“Khân-pân man-jan karo, bhar lo sabhî samân.
Shâdî kâ rão-rang sabhî karnâ :
Sab tarah samân aur berâ bharnâ.”
Râjâ ne sudh likhâ matlab sârâ:—
“Main bhî kisî tarah nahîn us se niyârâ.”

Let me have the answer to it.
Accept the letter gladly, Râjâ.”

VI.

The Râjâ saw the letter and was glad, (saying) :
“My desire is fulfilled and my ambition satisfied.
There is no evasion in this ; kuow it for the truth.
There is no doubt in it ; hear my words.
I have a daughter and I give her gladly.
Have no fear ; I accept thy letter.”

VII.

It was the fifth of Mâgh* and the spring had begun.
(Said he†) : “Get ready the food and all the necessaries.
Make ready the rejoicings for the marriage.
Prepare all the necessaries and the supplies.”
The Râjâ replied sincerely and fully (to the letter and
said) :—
“I will never be separated from him.”

* February-March : say about 20th February. † To his people.

VIII.

Kâsid wabân se chal parâ, Jodhiâpûr men jâe ;
 Jo jo kharch barât kâ diâ sabhî samjhâe :
 “ Hanske, Mahârâj, merî pâtî lînî :
 Us ne to bahut merî khâtir kînî.
 Rut likhî basant, kabâ : ‘ Kâsid, jâo,
 Sâjke barât mere dwâre lâo.’ ”

IX.

Sun, samân Râjâ karâ, gâven mangalchâr.
 Hâthî, ghorâ, pâlkî, kîni bâgh bahâr.
 Jitnâ gulzâr chaman raushan jârî.
 Bâje bajwâe, gît gâven nârî.
 Sâjke barât chalî chhatardhârî ;
 Hâthî gaj-bâj lie faujân sârî.

VIII.

The messenger went thence and arrived at Ajudhiâ,
 And explained all the preparations for (receiving) the
 marriage-procession.*
 (Said he) : “ Râjâ, he took my letter with gladness,
 And was very kind to me.
 He wrote that it was the spring time † (and said) : ‘ Go,
 Messenger,
 Bring a great marriage-procession to my doors.’ ”

IX.

Hearing this the Râjâ made preparations and they sang
 songs of rejoicing.
 He made a splendid show of elephants and horses and
 litters.
 He lighted up the whole garden of flowers. ‡
 The bands played and the women sang songs.
 The monarch went forward with a splendid procession,
 Taking his elephants and falcons and all his army.

* That Mân Pâl was making. † *i.e.*, the season for marriage.
 ‡ *i.e.*, made a very fine show.

X.

Kagnâ kare, bândh lâ, baje bâjâ ;
 Sâjke barât charhe sundar Râjâ.
 Amrâwatpûr jâke derâ kînâ ;
 Âdar sat kâr bahut bahut kas lînâ.
 Tambû tanwâ dîe derâ lâe :
 Leke sab bast khare hâzir pae.

XI.

Lagan mahûrat sâdhke pherôn kâ kîâ samân.
 Râjâ beg bulâ lâ, paṇḍit karen bakhân.
 Agin to parchaṇḍ kare, sâkhâ gâî.
 Pherôn ke wakt sabhî kâmnî âî.
 Kanîyân kâ dân karâ, dil se dinâ.
 Phere dîe sâth aur sundar bînâ.

X.

He made a marriage-bracelet and fastened it and the
 music played,
 While the handsome Râjâ advanced with his splendid
 procession.
 They halted at Amrâwatpûr,
 And were received with all courtesy and attention.
 They pitched their tents and made their halt,
 And servants waited on them with every kind of food.

XI.

Awaiting the favourable moment they prepared for the
 marriage.
 The Râjâ was quickly called and the priest read the
 ceremony.
 The (marriage) fire was kindled and their genealogies
 read.*
 All the maids came to the marriage.
 The maiden was given away with gladness.
 The marriage was performed with every grace.

* To see that they were not within the forbidden degrees.

XII.

Hâthî, ghore, rath, ghane bhâkan basan âpâr :
 Dâs dîe, dâsî dî, aur jhuk kare jawâhr.
 Rukhsat karî barât, bidâ sab ko dînî :
 Râjâ ne aur barî mintî kînfî.
 Rânî kâ dolâ lâ Jodhiâ meñ âe :
 Jitnâ parwâr sabhî dekhan âe.

XIII.

Rânî kâ dolâ lâ, ghar meñ dîâ utâr :
 Jitnî pûr ki kâmnî darsan karen kâi nâr.
 Mil-mil-ke nârî sabhî gâveñ bajâveñ.
 Bahû ko biñhlâ aur khânâ khilâveñ.
 Rahse parwâr sabhî niyârâ niyârâ.
 Rânî kâ bhâv karâ, jitnâ sârâ.

XII.

Elephants, horses, chariots and jewels in plenty were the
 dower :
 Servants and maids were given and bowed low to them.
 Then were all dismissed and the procession sent away,
 And the Râjâ showed great humility.
 Taking the (new) Queen in a litter he returned to
 Ajudhiâ,
 And all the household came out to see.

XIII.

The (new) Queen's litter was lowered at the palace,
 And many of the maids of the town came to look on.
 All the women together sang and played.
 They sat the bride down and gave her a feast.
 All the household rejoiced in groups,
 All rejoicing over the (new) Queen.

XIV.

Râjâ âe mandir meñ jab Rânî ke pàs :
 “ Jo châhîye, so hî karûñ, suno merî ardâs.
 Kanchan ke palang aur swarran jhârî,
 Mahiloñ ke bîch raho, Rânî piyârî.
 Mukh se ikbâl karo, mujh ko kahnâ.
 Mat kare andesh, khushî dil se rahnâ.”

XV.

Dûsrî Rânî.

“ Chhînkat hî ðolâ uthâ sir par bolâ kâg.
 Merî saukan mahil meñ ; ðîjo us seduhâg !
 Ðîjo duhâg ; yeh hî kahnâ merâ.
 Is meñ, Mahârâj, bhalâ hove terâ.
 Rânî kâ mahil judâ dil se kîje.
 Itnî, Mahârâj, araz merî lîje.”

XIV.

The Râjâ came to the (new) Queen in the palace (and said) :

“ I will do as thou desirest, hear my say.
 A bed of pure gold and an ewer of gold (I will give thee),
 That thou mayest dwell in the palace, my beloved Queen.
 Tell me thy desire with thy lips.
 Be not down-hearted, but dwell at ease.”

XV.

Second Queen.

“ As the litter was raised a crow cawed overhead.*
 I have a co-wife in the palace ; make her a widow !
Make her a widow ; this is my desire.
 Thus will it be well for thee, Râjâ.
 Give the (first) Queen a separate dwelling.
 Hear this my petition, Râjâ.”

* A bad omen.

XVI.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“ Bhalî karî tainî ne ; kahî apne dil kî bât.
 Jo jo tere dil pe kar dîn us ke sâth.
 Us ko dîn duhâg, karûn khâtir tere.
 Mujh se to kaban nahîn jâte phere.”
 Sun karkar soch baṛî Râjâ kînî :——
 “ Dâtâ, Tainî âj bipat kaisî dînî ?”

XVII.

Baṛî fajar Râjâ uṭhâ ; man meñ karâ andesh :—
 “ Kaho, kaun se kîjîye, nahîn kuchh âve pesh !”——
 Rânî ke pâs gîâ Râjâ bole ;
 Apnâ to bhed sabhî dil kâ khole :
 “ Tujhe dîn duhâg, aisî dil par merî.
 Kartâ kî ank nahîn jâtî pherî.”

XVI.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“ Well hast thou done, and spoken the wish of thine heart.
 I will do to her as thou dost desire.
 I will make her a widow and I will cherish thee.
 I will not go back upon my promise.”
 (But) hearing (the Queen's wish) the Râjâ was in great
 trouble, (and said) :
 “ O God, what sorrow hast Thou given me this day ?”

XVII.

In the early morn the Râjâ arose and was sorrowful at
 heart.
 (And said) : “ Tell me, what should I do, I can think of
 nothing !”——
 The Râjâ went to the (first) Queen and said,
 Telling all the secret of his heart :
 “ To make thee a widow, this is in my heart.
 The decrees of fate cannot be blotted out.”

XVIII.

Pahilî Rânî.

“Baḍâ barhâ, Mahârâjjî, us Rânî kâ bhâg !
 Binâ dosh, Râjâ, mujhe kaise deve duhâg ?
 Mere taksîr muâf, Râjâ, kîje.
 Kis ke kahne se karam aisâ kîje ?
 Mujhe to bahut khushî us kâ ânâ.
 Maiñ ne kîâ sabar ; pâs us ke jânâ.”

XIX.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“Sûhe kushambe sîs se, Rânî, dharo utâr.
 Abran pahro râñḍ ke ; mujhe hûâ gul khâr !
 Denâ ik mahil aur tujh ko niyârâ.
 Mîthâ jal chhor, pîo pânî khârâ !
 Milegâ rozîna tujhe, Rânî, khânâ :
 Bhojan sab dûr kare, jau kâ dâñâ !”

XVIII.

First Queen.

“Greatly hath the fortune of the (second) Queen advanced,
 my Lord !
 How canst thou make me a widow without any fault,
 Râjâ ?
 Forgive my fault, Râjâ.
 Who hath urged thee to do this thing ?
 I was pleased that she should come.
 I will have patience, if thou go to her.”

XIX.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“Rânî, take off the red veil* from thy head.
 Put on the garb of a widow ; † my rose hath become a
 thorn !
 I will put thee into a separate dwelling.
 Give up sweet water and take to salt !
 Food shall be given thee daily, Rânî ;
 But give up good food and eat barley grain !”

* The sign of coverture in India.

† A coarse white robe.

XX.

Jab Râjâ ke sâmhne abran dharî utâr :
 “Yehân merâ koî nahîn. Kyâ kare, Kartâr ?
 Bhâf aur band nahîn koî merâ.
 Saukan be-îmân, bhalâ hove terâ !
 Terâ kyâ dosh ? Buri kismat merî !
 Dâtâ kî dât nahîn jâti pherî.”

XXI.

Phuṭe-tuṭe mandir meñ Rânî dîe bhijwâ :
 Phuṭe purâne bistar de, jau khâne ko kahâ.
 Rânî ko duhâg dîâ Râjâ âyâ ;
 Rânî se araz kare : “Ab sukh pâyâ !”
 Râjâ ne aur bâṭ mukh se bolî :
 Jo kuchh parde kî bâṭ, soî mukh se kholî.

XX.

Then she took off her clothes before the Râjâ (and said) :
 “I have no friend here. O my Creator, what hast thou
 done (for me) ?
 I have no relatives and friends here.
 Faithless co-wife, may it be well with thee !*
 What is thy fault (in this) ? It is my evil fate !
 The lines of God cannot be blotted out.”

XXI.

He sent the (first) Queen to a broken-down dwelling,
 Gave an old and worn out bed and ordered barley for
 her food.
 Making the (first) Queen a widow the Râjâ came
 And said to the (second) Queen : “Be happy now !”
 And the Râjâ said other things with his lips,
 Telling all the hidden secrets of his heart.

* Ironical.

XXII.

Mâs das bîte jabhî khelan chalâ shikâr.
 Ban men to ghorâ dîâ aur lââ mirg ko mâr.
 Mirg ko uthâ lââ, ultâ âyâ :
 Rânî jo duhâgan thî, us ke derâ lâyâ.
 Rânî ke pâs rahâ, khânâ khâyâ.
 Us ko to garb rahâ ;—Har kî mâyâ !

XXIII.

Barî fajâr Râjâ uthâ, âyâ Rânî ke pâs.
 Dil se lâe khushâ kare, kîyâ raîn ko bâs.
 Us ko bhî garb rahâ ;—Kudrat Terî !
 Rânî ne boli, ik us par gerî :
 “ Kal kî rât kahân baithê, Râjâ ?
 Bolne se aur lagî mujh ko lâjâ.”

XXII.

After ten months had passed (the Râjâ) went a-hunting.
 He took his horse into the woods and slew a deer.
 He took up the deer and returned,
 And stopped at the house where the widowed (first)
 Queen was.
 He stayed with her and ate his dinner.
 She became pregnant, by the will of God !

XXIII.

In the early morning the Râjâ arose and came to the
 (second) Queen.
 He took her to his heart and was happy and remained
 the night.
 She too became pregnant, by the will of God !
 Said the (second) Queen, asking (suspicious) questions :
 “ Where didst thou pass yesternight, Râjâ ?
 I am ashamed to say more.”

XXIV.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“Khelne shikâr gae, Rânî, ban meñ.
 Pîchhe kî nahîñ rahî koi man meñ.
 Khelton shikâr rain ûpar âî.
 Rahne ko ik kaṭî ban meñ pâî.
 Hote parbhât pâs âyâ tere.
 Na-hakk meñ tû yûñhîñ bolî gerî.”

XXV.

Utar gaî nau mâs jâb laṛkâ upjâ ik.
 Saukan ko khabarân hûî, hûâ kalîjâ chhek.
 Man meñ to fikar kîyâ, sunkâ mânî.
 Sunke yeh bât soch kîñî Rânî:
 “Bâp binâ pût, kaho, kaise hove ?
 Sun pâve kanth, lâj us kî hove !”

XXIV.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“I went hunting in the forest, Rânî.
 I had no other thought in my heart.
 I was overtaken by the night while hunting,
 And had to stay in a hut in the forest.
 As soon as it was dawn I came to thee.
 Thou art thus suspicious of me without cause.”

XXV.

When nine months had passed a son was born (to the
 first Queen).
 When her co-wife heard of it her heart was jealous.
 She was distressed in her mind through jealousy.
 Jealously thus thought the (second) Queen :
 “Tell me, how shall there be a son without a father ?
 When my husband hears of it he will feel disgraced !”

XXVI.

Rânî ke baje bajen ; upje pût sapût :—
 Jis ghar aise putr hon kabhî na njhe sût !—
 Rânî ke bâr bajen naubat-khâne.
 Dekhen sab nagar, gae mulkôn jâne.
 Us kê to mahil kiyâ Râjâ niyârâ.
 Kaise shahzâdâ hûâ dil kê niyârâ !

XXVII.

Dûsrî Rânî.

“ Us saukan ke mahil men rahe deo ke dant ?
 Râjâ, tere dil kê mujhe na pâve ant.
 Pâve nahin ant ; hûâ achraj bhârî.
 Rânî ne lâj terî kaisi târî ?
 Leke talwâr sâf gardan mâro :
 Kiyâ, to dariyâe pâr us ko târo.”

XXVI.

Drums were beaten for the (second) Queen, for a true
 son was born to her :
 Who hath such a son in his house shall ever prosper !—
 The drums were beaten at the (second) Queen's door.
 All the city came to see and the world heard of it.
 The Râjâ gave her a separate palace.
 And how dear to his heart became the prince !

XXVII.

Second Queen.

“ Doth a devil or demon dwell in my co-wife's house ?
 Râjâ, I have not fathomed thy heart.
 I cannot fathom it ; it is a mystery to me.
 How did the (first) Queen dare to disgrace thee ?
 Take a sword and cut off her head :
 And then take her over the waters.”

XXVIII.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“Rânî, dhîrat dharîye, mat na kare andesh.
 Rakhnâ us ko hai nahîn, pahunchâûn pardes.
 Jo jo tainî bân kahî dil par mere ;
 Jitne tainî bol kahî, sachî terî.
 Kar dângâ jatanî, âp khânâ khâo.
 Mat karo andesh, râm* talabî pâo.”

XXIX.

Us ke bhî larîkâ hûâ, baje bajen âpâr.
 Dân dâ, sobhâ kare, harkhe bâram bâr.
 Râjâ kî bahut khushî man men hove :
 Mukte motî ke thâl bhar bhar bove.
 “Khâne ko dân-pân, bákî mewâ :
 Dâtâ ne pâr kiyâ merâ khewâ !”

XXVIII.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“Rânî, have patience and be not distressed.
 I will not keep her, but will send her abroad.
 What thou hast said is on my heart ;
 What thou hast said is true.
 I will make some plan, † so do thou eat thy food.
 Be not distressed and take thy needful rest.”

XXIX.

(The second Queen) too had a son and much music was played.

Alms were given, and there were rejoicings everywhere.

The Râjâ was very pleased in his heart :

And gave ‡ away many platters of pearls, (saying) :

“Riches had I in plenty, I but wanted fruit : §
 God hath made my boat to cross over !” ||

* For *âram*. † To get rid of the first Queen.
 ‡ *Lit.*, sowed. § *i.e.*, a son. || *i.e.*, given me my desire.

XXX.

Pâñch baras ke umar meñ DhrÛ ne bolí bol :
 “Mâtâ, merí báp ki bātāñ mukh se bol.
 Mâtâ, yeh bāt sabhî ham se kahnâ.
 Kis bidh se âke hûâ terâ rahnâ ?
 Khânâ kis taur mile ham ko, Mâtâ ?
 Aisâ to dukh sahâ nahîn jâtâ !”

XXXI.

Pahilî Rânî.

“Beṭâ, tere pitâ ne bahut kare anrit.
 Binâ dos mujh ko tajâ ; ho, Beṭâ, be-prît.
 Ham se bé-prît hûâ bâbal terâ.
 Us ghar mat jâ : mân kahnâ merâ.
 Saukan kî sîkh sunî Râjâ us se :
 Râjâ is taur hûâ ham se ghusse !”

XXX.

When DhrÛ* was five years old he said :
 “Mother, tell me all about my father.
 Mother, tell me all about him.
 How camest thou to dwell here ?
 How do we get our living, Mother ?
 Such trouble as this is intolerable !”

XXXI.

First Queen.

“My son, thy father did a great injustice.
 He discarded me without a fault, and became unloving,
 my son.
 Thy father became unloving to me.
 Go not to his house : mark my words.
 The Râjâ listened to the teaching of my co-wife,
 And so the Râjâ became angry with me !”

* DhrÛ was the son of the first and discarded Queen.

XXXII.

Us wakt sunke, gîâ jhukke karî jawâhr.
 Gîâ pitâ ke takht par, lagî nek nahiñ bâr.
 Râjâ ko prît hûî, chhâtî se lâyâ.
 Dûsrâ woh aur apne pâs biñhâyâ.
 Donoñ se piyâr kare Râjâ aisâ,
 Chand kê chakor kare ur-ur jaisâ.

XXXIII.

Dhrû.

“Ik nagar, do chhatarpatî aur ûpar chhatarphirân :
 Main tujh se pûchhûñ, Pitâ, kis bidh râj karân ?
 Mâli lâve bâgh, peṛ sab man meñ mâne :
 Jude jude pahchân, bel birwe kî jâne.
Un ko bhojan dih, ham ko jau kê dâñâ !
Un ko sejâ ratan, ham ko phûs purânâ !”

XXXII.

As soon as he heard this he went (to his father) and saluted him.

He went up to his father's throne without any hesitation.

The Râjâ loved him and took him to his heart.

He took his other (son) too and sat him down beside him.

And the Râjâ fondled them both,

As the partridge* fieth to the moon.

XXXIII.

Dhrû.

“One city and two kings and both would rule :
 I ask thee, Father, how shall they both rule ?
 The gardener maketh a garden and knoweth every tree.
 He knoweth all apart, shoot and branch.
They have good food, we have barley grain !
They have jewelled couches, we have old straw !”†

* See Vol. II. p. 257.

† *They* are the second Queen and her son: *we* are the first Queen and her son, Dhrû.

XXXIV.

Râjâ ke dil pe charhî, sun bete kî bât :
 Bahut piyâr karne lagâ us larke ke sâth.
 Tab woh Rânî â gaî, kahîn milî nahîn bât.
 Barî soch dil men hûî, kâmpau lâgâ gât.
 Râjâ ko haul hûî iko bârî :
 “Kis bidh se âj rahe izzat mahârî ?”

XXXV.

Us larke ko dekhke jalne lâgâ gât.
 Niche gerâ takht se, ûpar mârâ hâth.
 Ûpar hâth dîâ : “Phir mat âiye !
 Jau kê, nirbhâg, jâke khânâ khâiye !”
 Râjâ se kahan lagî hoke ghusse :
 “Is ko nâ châhe, kahâ maiû ne tujh se !”

XXXIV.

When the Râjâ heard his son's words, they sank into his mind.

And he loved the boy very much.

Then the (second) Queen would have nought to do with him.

He was distressed at heart and began to tremble.

The Râjâ too was altogether distressed (saying) :

“How shall honor remain to me to-day ?”

XXXV.

When (the second Queen) saw the boy her heart began to burn.

She threw him down off the throne and struck him.

She struck him (and said) : “Come no more !

Go, wretch, and eat thy barley grain !”

And then in wrath she said to the Râjâ :

“I desire him not, I say to thee !”

XXXVI.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“Jis din gîâ shikar ko, Rânî, kahûn sunâ,
 Us din us ke mahil meñ us gun utarâ jâ.
 Utarâ main jâe, wahîn khânâ khâyâ ;
 Hote hî parbhât pâs tere âyâ.
 Is tarah yeh putr hûâ, main ne batâî.
 Â beṭâ pâs, dayâ mujh ko âî.”

XXXVII.

Dûsrî Rânî.

“Us saukan ke mahil meñ jis din upjâ pât,
 Merâ terâ âj se is gun bigarâ sût.
 Jab tû mukar gîâ ham se bolâ ;
 Apnâ nahîn bhed koî dil kâ kholâ.
 Merâ taiñ, kanth, nahîn mânâ kahnâ :
 Ab to, Mahârâj, hûâ mushkil rahnâ !”

XXXVI.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“I tell thee, Rânî, that on the day I went a-hunting,
 I stayed at the house (of the first Queen).
 I stayed there and ate my food,
 And at the dawn I came to thee.
 Thus was this son born, I tell thee.
 My son came to me and I had pity on him.”

XXXVII.

Second Queen.

“From the day a son was born in my co-wife's house
 There hath been estrangement betwixt me and thee.
 Then didst thou tell me an untruth,
 And did not tell me the secrets of thy heart.
 Thou didst not hearken to my say, my husband,
 And now, my Lord, it is hard for me to stay !”

XXXVIII.

Dhrû.

“Main pahunchâ thâ takht par, aur kiyâ pitâ ne piyâr.
 Ghussâ mân mâtâ uñhî, diâ takht se dâr.
 Mujh ko dâr aur taktâ bolî :
 Dekhî anrit, merî kâyâ ðolî.
 Rahnâ kâ dharam nahiñ, Mâtâ, merâ.
 Is meñ nahîñ dosh koî, Mâtâ, terâ.”

XXXIX.

Pahilî Râñî.

“Betâ, mukh se bolo Râm ; jagat kâ Kartâ soî.
 Likh ank Kartâr bhâvegâ jag meñ soî.
 Un ke mîthe bachan kokilâ birhe râgâ :
 Hamare bachan khaṭor, tark jyûñ bolat kâgâ !
 Jis ghar bādhe pâp, phûl phal aisâ âve ;
 Ast bhân ho jâe, tabar upar ko chhâve !”

XXXVIII.

*Dhrû.**

“I went to the throne and my father was kind.
 My (step-)mother came in wrath and threw me from
 the throne.
 She threw me down and spake harshly,
 And at her injustice my body trembled.
 It is not right for me to stay, Mother.
 In this there is no fault of thine, Mother.”

XXXIX.

First Queen.

“My son, call on God with thy lips ; he is the Creator of
 the world.
 The decrees of the Creator must be fulfilled in the world.
 (The second Queen's) words are as sweet (to the Râjâ)
 as the song of the cuckoo and peacock :
 My words are as harsh as the caw of a crow !
 In whose house sin prevails its fruit will be obtained ;
 Sunlight will desert it and darkness cover it up !”

* Speaking to his mother.

XL.

Dhrû.

“Merâ pitâ to bebak meñ barat rahâ anrît.
 Pârâ, pânî, istrî : kabhî na pâ le prît.”
 Sat âsau kar liâ, sail kar jag meñ ðole.
 Kisî tarah koî kaho, âp mukh se nahîn bole.
 Baiṭhâ âsan lâe surt jin sodhî lâi.
 Nahîn koî dekhe aur, iktâ aisî pâi.

XLI.

Sone se kundan hûâ aur palaṭ gaî sab sâr.
 Tînon us kî miṭ gaî, mâr, dhâr, talwâr.
 Larke âe pâs, bhed kuchh dil kâ khole :
 “Tû hamâre sâth kheltâ nis din ðole :
 Ab ho baiṭhâ mûn, âp mukh se nahîn bole.
 Rît-bhânt gaî chhûṭ, iktâ sat ko tole.”

XL.

Dhrû.

“My father hath been duped into doing injustice.
 Mercury, water and woman should never be beloved.”*
 He became a *jogî* † and wandered over the earth.
 However much one spake to him he spake not with his
 lips. ‡
 He sat in his (*jogî's*) seat with a pure heart.
 None else saw him, so secret was he.

XLI.

From gold he became pure gold and changed all his
 nature.
 He conquered the three (vices), murder, robbery and
 violence.
 His playmates came to him and spoke their mind :
 “Thou didst play with us day and night,
 And now thou sittest dumb and speakest not with thy
 lips.
 Thou hast lost thy (old) ways and hast taken to piety.”

* This line is a proverb. † *Lit.*, took the seat of virtue.
 ‡ *i.e.*, he was under a vow of silence.

XLII.

Sat kê âsan lâ dîâ, aur machâ nagar meñ shor.
 Ik bâr parjâ chalî, jaisî chand chakor.
 Sun-sun-kar nagar gûâ jitnâ sârâ :
 Râjâ kê pût hûâ sab se niyârâ.
 Râjâ se kahe duniyâ jâke ;
 Bole ik bâr pâs us ke âke.

XLIII.

Sunkar un ke bachan ko Râjâ bolâ yûn :
 “ Us larke se jâ kaho, jo mânge so dûn.
 Mânge so dûn mâl jitnâ sârâ.
 Rakhtâ nahîn kapât ; woh hai merâ piyârâ.
 Kah do samjhâe abhî us se jâke :—
 ‘ Baiṭho is wakt gharoñ apne âke.’ ”

XLII.

He became a *jogî** and it was noised in the city.
 And the people all went together (to see him) as a
 partridge to the moon.†
 All the city went when they heard
 That the Râjâ's son had separated himself from all (the
 world).
 The crowd went to the Râjâ and spake ;
 Speaking all together they came to him.

XLIII.

When the Râjâ heard their say he spake thus :
 “ Go and tell the boy I will give him what he asketh.
 If he ask for all my goods I will give them.
 I hold him to be no bastard ; he is dear to me.
 Go and tell him at once,
 That he should go at once to his house.”

* See above, Stanza XL.

† See above, Stanza XXXII.

XLIV.

Râjâ ne agyâ ði aur sunke chalâ ðiwân ;
 Us larke se ânke karne lagâ bayân :
 "Tere pitâ ne tujhe pâs bulâyâ.
 Le to sab khâu-pâu, chahîye mâyâ.
 Mere tum sâth chalo, abhî âo :
 Châhîye jo bast, sabhî us se páo."

XLV.

Dhrû.

"Jo sanðâsî loh kî, kabhî pânî, kabhî âg,
 Aise jîwan maran meñ phanse raheñ nirbhâg.
 Mujh ko kuchh mâl ðarb nahîñ châhîye :
 Main to ik rang hûâ. Us se kâhîye :
 Mâuûñ nahîñ ik koî terâ kahnâ.
 Duniyâ main tark karê, ban meñ rahnâ."

XLIV.

The Râjâ gave the order, the minister heard it and went,
 And coming to the boy said to him :
 "Thy father calleth thee.
 Take thy fill of food and, if thou desirest, wealth.
 Come with me and come now,
 And obtain from him all thy desire."

XLV.

Dhrû.

"As a blacksmith's pincers are sometimes in water and
 sometimes in fire.
 So are the unfortunate encompassed by life and death.
 I have no need of wealth,
 I have become of one hue.* Say to him, that
 I will not heed a word of his.
 I have given up the world and will dwell in the forest."

* *i.e.*, one given up entirely to meditation.

XLVI.

Tab dîwân wahân se chalâ, sunke us kê gyân.
 Râjâ se kahue lagâ : “ Us se na apne jân.
 Apuâ mat jân putr, Râjâ merâ.
 Duniyâ dî chhor kare ban meñ ñerâ.
 Dil pe koñ nahîn rahe us ke sankâ ;
 Swarran kê chhor dîe terî Lankâ.”

XLVII.

Itñî sun Râjâ chale aur chalâ nagar sab sâth.
 Putr lâ tab god meñ aur pûchhan lâgâ bât :
 “ Mângo kuchh aur, jaisî mansâ terî.
 Itñî ardâs suno, Beṭâ, merî :—
 Râj, pâṭ, mâl, mulk tujh ko châhîye,
 Gaddî, sarb ans, aur mujh se lâîye.”

XLVI.

Then the minister left him, hearing his wisdom.
 He said to the Râjâ : “ Hold him not to be thine.
 Hold him not to be thy son, my King.
 He hath left the world and dwelleth in the woods.
 He hath no doubt in his heart,
 And hath given up thy golden Lankâ.”*

XLVII.

Hearing this the Râjâ went and with him went all the
 city.
 He took his son into his lap and said :
 “ Tell me more of thy desire.
 Hear this much from me, my son :—
 If thou desire rule and goods and lands,
 And throne and all my portion, take them from me.”

* Lankâ was, in the *Râmâyana*, the dwelling of Râvaṇa and is now the conventional home of all wealth.

XLVIII.

Dhrú.

“ Rît rît asthân sabhî raîyat zo dîe :
 Jahân koî bas giâ chhîn us se nahîu lîe.
 Jo Râjâ kî parjâ sabhan ko apnâ kîje :
 Jaisâ kisî kâ bhâg, hânt waisâ hî dîje.
 Jis ghar barhe dharam, dayâ sabhî us ghar âve :
 Ude bhân ho jâe, tabar dekhat miṭ jâve.”

XLIX.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“ Sut bhâgî ho jâe pitâ ko aisâ châhîye,
 Râj, pât, dhan, mâl, sabhî us ko de dîe.
 Jo andhâ ho jâe, jot kar us ko dikhâve.
 Abhî dân kâ pun, ant us kâ nahîu âve.
 Ab chalîye ghar baith, mâu tû kahnî merî.
 Aur kahan kuchh kaho, rahe ab ichhâ terî.”

XLVIII.

Dhrú.

“ Every subject should be given his right :
 Where a man hath settled he should not be taken
 thence.
 A Râjâ should make his subjects his own
 And give to each according to his deserts.
 To the house where right dwelleth the attachment of all
 is attracted :
 There is sunlight and darkness fleeth thence.”

XLIX.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“ When a father hath a duteous son it behoveth him
 To give him all his rule and honour and wealth.
 Give the blind man sight, that he may see.*
 Thus shalt thou win the reward of profuse charity.
 Come home now and hear my words.
 Tell me moreover what of thy desire remaineth.”

* Put me in the right way.

L.

Dhrû.

“ Jaun jaun lohâ kuṭe agin meñ, dhar dhar tâve,
 Man kê rah jâgâ ser, mol meñ bahut bikâve.
 Jab lohâ tap jâ hâth nahîn lâwat koî :
 Jab tap namrat ho jâge sab parmat khoî.
 Jaisâ pâni ik sabhî belan meñ âve,
 Jaisî jis kî zât, so waisâ ho jâve.”

LI.

Beṭe ne mânî nahîn us Râjâ kî bāt.
 Bidâ pâe Râjâ chale aur liâ nagar sab sâth.
 Lînâ sab sâth nagar pûr meñ âyâ :
 Us kê kuchh bhed nahîn Râjâ ko pâyâ.
 Gaddî pe baiṭh hukm kînâ jârî :—
 “ Apne sab dhâm jâo duniyâ sârî.”

L.

Dhrû.

“ When the iron is beaten and burnt in the fire,
 A *man* of it becomes a *ser*,* but is sold for much.
 When the iron is hot none can touch it :
 When it loseth its heat it loseth its value.
 The water put into the pitchers is all one water,
 But it becomes as the caste (of the owner).”†

LI.

His son would not hearken to the Râjâ's words.
 Taking his leave the Râjâ went and took all the city
 with him.
 Taking all the people with him he reached the town,
 And the Râjâ learned nothing of his (son's) secrets.
 Sitting on his throne he gave an order,
 That all the people should return to their homes.

* A *man* is 80 *lbs.* : a *ser* is 2 *lbs.*

† A high caste Hindû will not use the water of one of lower caste.

LII.

Us jage ko chhor gahre ban men jâe :
 Singh, siyâl, mirgân phireñ, bçtâ âsan lâe.
 Âsan ko lâke sûrat Har se lâge.
 Ban men koî päs nahîn us kâ bâgî.
 Us ne sab dûr kare kâyâ mâyâ.
 Darse nahîn aur, dhyân aisâ lâyâ !

LIII.

Nârâd Mun ban men milâ, rastâ dîâ batâe :
 “ Woh Dâtâ tujh ko mile, mat man men ghabarâe !
 Gîdar aur singh siyâl ban men ðoleñ :
 Kandhe pe pair dhareñ aur mukh se boleñ !
 Biptâ ik bâr sabbhî aisî deveñ :
 Choñ-choñ mâs terâ mukh men leveñ !”

LII.

Leaving that place (Dhrû) went into a thiek forest,
 Where were tigers and jackals and deer, and there the
 boy took his seat.
 Taking his seat he meditated on God.
 No friend came near him in the forest.
 He put away body and wealth far from him.*
 So did he meditate that he could not see !

LIII.

Nârâd, the Munî† met him in the forest and showed him
 the way, (saying) :
 “ God will meet thee, be not afraid in thy heart !
 Jaekals and tigers wander in this forest
 And will put their paws on thy shoulders and roar !
 They will all worry thee together,
 Tearing thy flesh with their mouths !”

* *i.e.*, became separated from the world.

† See Vol. II. p. 222.

LIV.

Nārād Mun.

“Āsan padam lagāke mūl bandh ko bāndh ;
 Mīr d̄ṛḍ sīdhā karo, aur surt gagan ko sād̄h !”
 Bistar koī pās nahīn, kāyā nangī :
 Ab to koī nahīn rahā sēh̄t sangī.
 Kūd kūd sher pareñ ūpar āke :
 Rakhtā nahīn ; dhyān aisā lāke !

LV.

Jab woh s̄bit ho gīā mile Āp Bhagwān :
 Assī hazār saniyā dīe aur phaḥkan khare nishān.
 Gaddī sab saump dīe ban meñ, piyāre,
 S̄bā chau taraf khare niyāre niyāre.
 Ran ke jo bīch baje mārō tūrā :
 Baktar pahrā dīe sunke pūā.

LIV.

Nārād, the Muni.

“Sit cross-legged and gird up thy loins.
 Sit straight upright and fix thy gaze above !”
 He had no bed and his body was naked,
 And had no companion with him.
 The tigers leapt upon him,
 But prevented him not : such was his meditation !

LV.

When it was completed he met God Himself,
 Who gave him 80,000 followers and banners to wave.*
 He gave him the rule of the whole forest, my friends,
 And lieutenants on every side.
 Drums of war were beaten in the field,
 And the turban (of war) was duly bound upon him.

* Addressed to the audience.

LVI.

Hâthî biṭhlâ dîâ Dhrû ko Apne hâth.
 Âyâ apne nagar meñ lie fauj sab sâth.
 Utare hain fauj sabhî pûr meñ âke,
 Sun sun log bhâge, achraj khâke.
 Râjâ ko khabar karî sab ne jâke :
 “Sunîyo, Mahârâj, kân nîchhe lâke !”

LVII.

Nagar ke Log.

“Dushman tere râj meñ ûpar garjâ âe !”
 Sab nagar kampe kha:â, badan gae tahrâe.
 Jaisî ik kâlî ghatâ ûpar âi.
 Bhâgeñ kis taraf ? Jagâ nahîñ pâi !
 “Jagaṭ kâ sawâl âp sunîyo, Râjâ ;
 Is jaugal ke bîch bâjen mârû bâjâ !”

LVI.

(God) sat Dhrû on an elephant with His own hands.
 He came to the city with all his forces.
 All the army came into the city,
 And the people hearing it fled astonished.
 They all went and told the news to the Râjâ, (saying) :
 “Hear, my Lord, with attentive ear !”

LVII.

The People of the City.

“An enemy hath come roaring into thy land !”
 All the city was taken with a trembling.
 It was as it were a dark cloud covering them.
 Whither should they fly ? There was no place (to go to) !
 (Said they) : “Râjâ, hear the cry of the world ;
 They are beating the drum of death in the forest !”

LVIII.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“Larne kî satiyâ nahîn, aisâ guzrâ hâl !”
 Jab to Râjâ gale men lâ kubârâ dâl.
 Kanchan muktâ ke bhare Râjâ borî :
 Hâthî gaj bâj lie, do kar jorê.
 Le karke bhinṭ nirp âge âyâ :
 Dekhâ balwân fikar man men khâyâ.

LIX.

Dekh pitâ kî sûrat ko gaddî dîuî tiyâg.
 Mundhâ charnon men parâ : “Barâ tumhârâ bhâg !
 Main to, Mahârâj, putr hongâ terâ !
 Mâne mat khauf ab to, Râjâ, merâ !
 Main to, Mahârâj, saran terî âyâ.
 Mâusî ke kâran main ne ohdâ pâyâ !”

LVIII.

Râjâ Uttânpât.

“I have become unable to fight !”
 Then the Râjâ hung an axe round his neck.
 The Râjâ filled a tray with gold,
 And taking elephants and falcons he went with hands
 joined (in supplication).
 Taking presents the king went on,
 And seeing (the enemy) powerful was distressed at heart.

LIX.

Seeing his father's condition (Dhrû) came off his throne.
 He fell prostrate at his feet (and said) : “Great is thy
 good fortune !
 I am thy son, my Lord !
 Be not afraid of me, Râjâ !
 I am come to salute thee, my Lord.
 It is owing to my (step-)mother that I have attained to
 this estate !”

LX.

Pitâ aur putr donoñ mile aur gun karâ ik bâr :
 Apne mandir meñ gae piclhe râj-dwâr.
 Dînâ sab râj pâṭ sut ko sârâ :
 Râjâ ik taraf hû us se niyârâ.
 Gaddî pe baith giâ chhatardhârî ;
 Jab to Mahârâj kî parjâ kampî sârî.

LXI.

Mâtâ ke charnoñ parâ aur mukh se bolî bol.
 Jo hawâl guzrâ us se, dînâ us se khol.
 Mâtâ se hâl kahâ jitnâ sârâ :
 "Tere partâp hû Har kâ piyârâ !
 Mat na sarmâe ; sunîyo, Mâtâ, merî,
 Yeh to sab mâl mulk jitnâ tere !"

LXII.

Baithâ ûpar takht ke Mâtâ lie bulâe :
 "Main to nipat nadâu thâ, taiñ ne kari sahâi.

LX.

The father and son together left the place,
 And went each to his home and palace.
 (The Râjâ) gave up all his kingdom and honors to his son ;
 And dwelt on one side apart from him.
 The monarch (Dhrû) sat upon the throne,
 And all my Lord's subjects were in awe of him.

LXI.

(Dhrû) fell at his (step-)mother's feet and spake to her
 with his lips.
 He explained to her all that had happened to him.
 He told his mother all that had happened, (saying) :
 "Through thee I became beloved of God !
 Be not ashamed ; hear, my Mother,
 All this wealth and land is through thee !"

LXII.

He sat on the throne and sent for his mother,
 (And said to her) : " When I was altogether ignorant*
 thou didst cherish me.

* i.e., when I was a helpless child.

Tere partâp main ban ko dhâyâ :
 Leke sâman palat ultââyâ.
 Nagarî pârân hûi, Mâtâ, terî :
 Pal men diâ râj, nahîn lâgî derî !”

LXIII.

Dhrû.

“Râj sukhî, parjâ sukhî, bâkî sukhî nadân !
 Sat kâ dhâran kar lie, mujhe mile Bhagwân !
 Mâtâ, main âj karâ aisâ dhâran,
 Âe Bhâgwan Âp mujh ko târan !
 Sat ke partâp hûi pûran âsâ :
 Chhattîs hazâr baras merâ bâsâ !”

Kishan Lâl Shib Kaiwar ko upjâ kewal gyân :
 Jaisâ golâ top kâ, aisâ kare maidân !

Through thee I went to the forest,*
 And bringing the gifts (of God) I have returned.
 Thy city hath been blessed, Mother,
 And without delay (God) at once gave me a kingdom !”

LXIII.

Dhrû.

“Be happy my kingdom, my people and their children !
 I practised virtue and I met God !
 Mother, I so practised virtue
 That God Himself hath saved me !
 Through virtue hath my hope been fulfilled,
 And may I live on for 36,000 years !”

To Kishan Lal and Shib Kaiwar† hath been born the
 flower of knowledge.

As a ball from a cannon it goeth through the field !

* i.e., she urged him to be a *jogî*.

† See Vol. III., p. 125, etc.

No. XLVII.

THE SAINTS OF JĀLANDHAR, AS COLLECTED FROM VARIOUS FAQĪRS OF JĀLANDHAR CITY.

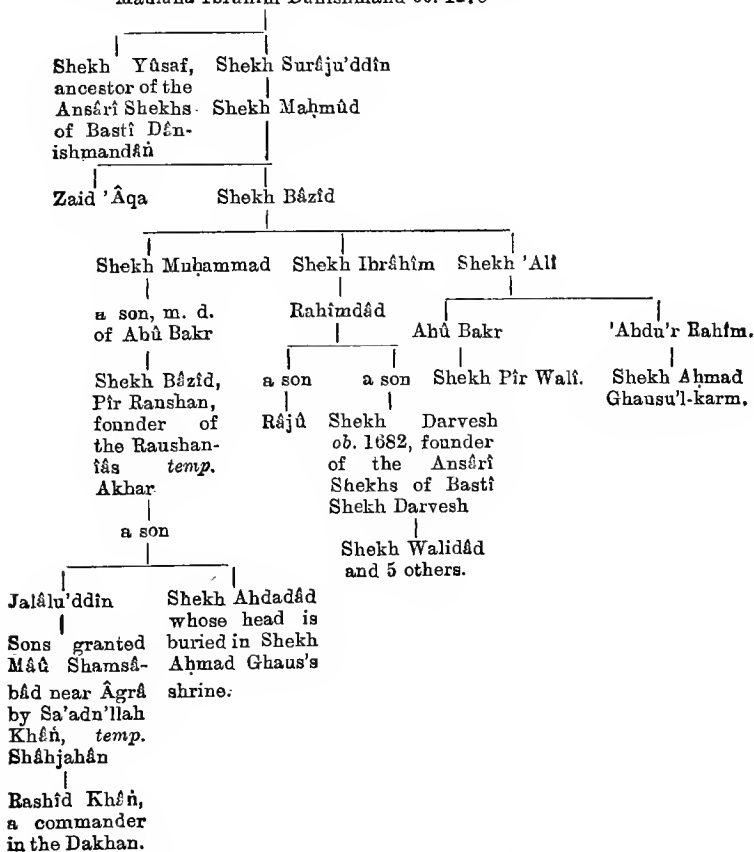
[The present proprietors of the town lands of the ancient City of Jālandhar are largely Afghāns, Sayyids, Shekhs and Mughals, who have, as a rule, acquired their property by purchases during the last three centuries. The environs of the city are occupied by *bastīs* or suburbs belonging chiefly to the Shekhs and Sayyids, and are named after their tribes or founders. Naturally these founders, being of the Muhammadan priestly classes, are 'Saints,' and of them are told many legends, especially of the miracles attributed to them, of which the following are fair samples. They are all on the same lines as those of Indian Saints generally.]

[The ancestors of the Barik Paṭhāns of Jālandhar came over from the Loghār Valley in Afghānistān with Shekh Aḥmad Ghaus, mentioned in the genealogy below, in 1594 A.D. and occupied the wards of Karār Khān and the Ikhwand Road. In this tribe are included the Guzāns, Aliāks and Bābākhels.]

[Mention is made in the following pages of the doings of the chief Jālandhar Saint the Imām Nāsiru'ddīn Shīrānī with the *jogī* Jālandhar. The ancient history of the Jālandhar District carries us back to the days of the *Purāṇas* and the early history of the Kaṭoch Rājapūts, who once held the Jālandhar Doāb, but have since been long confined to the Panjāb Himālayan lands about the Kāngrā District. The original legend of Jālandhara the Asura being overcome by Śiva and hurled down so that parts of his huge body fell over several geographical points extending over the Jālandhar, Hushiārpūr and Kāngrā Districts is related in the *Padma Purāṇa* and has thence been repeated with embellishments in many a more modern work. But there is another and distinct legend which connects the *jogī* Jālandhar Nāth with Gurū Gorakhnāth (see Vol. II., p. 5ff.) and makes him out to be the person who refounded the modern City of Jālandhar in say the 14th or 15th century A.D., in which case, if the surmise that the Imām Nāsiru'ddīn Shīrānī was the contemporary of Nizāmu'ddīn Anliā of Dehlī (1236 to 1325 A.D.: see tale No. X. following) is correct, the saint and the *jogī* were probably contemporaries also. Another local legend is that the *samādih*, or shrine, of this *jogī* Jālandhar was pulled down to make way for the mosque erected to the memory of the Imām Nāsiru'ddīn.]

[Bastī Dānīshmandān and Bastī Shekh Darvesh, (called also shortly Bastī Shekh) suburbs of Jālandhar, were founded by Ansāri Shekhs, who are intimately connected with the Barik or Barikī Paṭhāns of Jālandhar with whom they intermarry. Bastī Dānīshmandān was founded in 1609 A. D. and Bastī Shekh Darvesh in 1617 A. D., the lands in both cases being purchased. The Ansāri Shekhs claim descent from Khalid Ansār of Madīnā, who died in 55 A. H. or 675 A. D., and the eponymous founder of Bastī Dānīshmandān was Maulānā Ibrāhīm Dānīshmand, 15th in descent from Khalid Ansār, who migrated to Multān and died there in 1270 A. D. From Maulānā Ibrāhīm we have a kind of genealogy which will partly explain the relative position of the various 'Saints' of this race.

Maulānā Ibrāhīm Dānīshmand ob. 1270



The whole subject of the genealogy is, however, as usual, very confused.]

I.

Shekh Muḥmūd.

TEXT.

Hâl Miyân Shekh Maḥmūd Sâhib sakna Eastî Shekh Darvesh, ko 40 baras sahrâ-nishânî meñ fuqrâ se milte rahe : jab wâpis âe, majzû-bâna ḥâlat meñ âe, in se bahut sî karâmt zahûr meñ âeh :—wâste takhvîf gâtalân in ke donoñ phaloñ se do sheroñ kâ paidâ ho jânâ ; Sher Shâh kâ markar zinda ho jânâ aur us kâ saḥat-yâb honâ ; aur Walî Muḥammad nânbâî kâ in kî saḥat se sâhib-i-mâl wa aulâd honâ ; aur ik bâfînda ko dafîna milnâ.

Sâhib sijnâda jad te hoe Miyân Shekh Maḥmūd,
Murîdân diân sab âsân puĵiân, shukar kîâ Mabûd.
Jawânî sakht haiwânî nûn hai, har koî jāneû âkil :
Râg sunan nûn Shekh Sâhibjî luk luk hunde mâil.

- 5 Ik rât meñ Shekh Sâhib nûn eh bishârat hoî :—
'Pîr kahâven Soharwardiân, râg nûn rakheñ dhoî!'—
Khwâb yeh dekhâ masjid utte chaḥnâ buh meñ châhiâ :
Châroñ taraf dî baḥ ke kârau rastâ mûl na pâiâ.
Yeh jânâ, ke 'Pînân dî kuchh khafgî mujh par hoî.'
10 Masjid de chau phere, yâro, bâr lagâ de koî !

- Watan chhadḍan dâ dil apne vichh irâdâ kariâ :
Bechan kâran asp kharîde râbi Hind dâ phaḥiâ.
Das vîh manzil râh chalke ubaḥ râstâ pae ;
Naukarân nûn ghoḛe bakhshê Kajalî Ban vichh gae.
15 Châlî warîân uthe rahkar khidmat kî faqîrân :
Ghar-bâr meñ khabar na bhajî ; man liân takdirân.
Mulk mâḥiân, bâghiân utte kabzâ kîâ sharîkân :
Murâa un kâ kisi na bhâve, khabarân maran adîkân.
Allah dî eh kudrat dekho :—âe to matwâle !
20 Shâhnawâz Khâû nâm kahâwan, gallân karan kuchâle.
Sab murîdân jânan dil te : " Eh hai Pîr mukararâ.
Sir sâdâ tâî jûtîân in kîân, is meñ uzar na zarâ."
Ghâsib lokân matâ matâiân : " In ko mâr mukâven.
Bhâî barâdar murîdân ham se milkân chhîn dilâven."

- 25 Ik rât sharîkân nâ-hakk Bastîou bâhir nikâle :
 Chûhṛe jāhil chand zâlimân raste vichh biṭhâ le :
 Kihâ un ko : “ Kamlâ-ramlâ idhar wal jad âve,
 Mâr mukânâ us nî ì ethe, zindâ mûl na jâve.”
 Shekh Sâhib jad rât same meñ do tin koh par gae,
 30 Ghâṭoñ apne sir kaḍh zâlim âkar pae.
 Shekh Sâhib ne pahile âkhiâ : “ Chale jâo, mardûd ;
 Nahîn, tuhâdâ burâ ho jâo, barkat Rabb wadûd.”
 Jad oh dâïoñ bâz na âe, donoñ bânh uṭhâen ;
 Donoñ pâsioñ sher chû nikale, bukan lage oh thâen !
 35 Eh karâmat Shekh dekhkar chûhṛe ghar nûn dhâe.

Shekh Sâhib ne Vîrowâl meñ ðere jâkar lâe.

Bahut murîdân othe jâkar araz kîâ ik bârî :

“ Kyâ majâl ke koî mukhâlîf dekh tarap tumhârî ?

Awal to sab milk tusâḍî un se lekar deveñ :

- 40 Warnâ jitnî milk asâḍî adhî adhi leven.”

Farmâiâ, ke “ Milk dî sânnûn hai parwâh na koî.”

Pîrân dî hun Shahr nûn jânâ eho dil vichh ḍhoî.

Ghaus nûn farmâiâ Hazrat : “ Khânâ kuchh pakâo.

Bhâi âe Bastî waloñ, un ko khûb rajâo.

- 45 Jo khânâ sî shab dâ bachiâ, us vichh pânî pâo.

Chulhe utte us nûn dharke, jhabde âg jalâo.”

Kahinde haiñ, ke rât de vele châwal sî pakwâe :

Kuchh dâná sî kaḍe thale, bâkî rahne pâe.

Barkat hukm Shekh Sâhib te deg hoî bharpûr :

- 50 Sau mardân ne khâiâ : us ko adhî bachî zarûr !

Amritsar phir jâkar Hazrat ethoñ ðerâ kîtâ :

Othe bhî jad hoî shahrat Multân gae tad, mîtâ.

Ik same jo chand murîd ziârat kâran châle,

Sadme ḍhaḍe bâr gajbe de apne ûpar jhâle.

- 55 Sher Shâh de hath sajje par zakhm â gîâ kârî :

Zakhm agarche kaḍe dâ sâ bahutâ kar dîâ ârî.

Multân Shahr vichh pahunchâ us nûn aisâ zakhm sitâiâ,

Kîṛe païke aisâ wadhiâ, jân labân pe lâiâ.

- Kuchh dinân bîmâr rahâ, phir aisâ zakhm oh barhiâ :
- 60 Nabz tamâmî band ho gaîn, sab ne jânâ mariâ.
 Alî Sher barâdar us de kîtâ araz shitâb :
 “ Sher Shâh to mar gîâ : main kithe dîe dâb ? ”
 Yeh bhî nâle araz karî ân Hazrat Bâwâ Jân :
- “ Marne jogâ mar gîâ, hun kariye kî darmiyan ? ”
- 65 Murâkba andar jâkar Hazrat is dam eh farmâiâ ;
 “ Jitne âe sâlim jâo, Allah nûn eh bhâiâ.
 Jânâ tuhâ nûn wâjib haigâ Kauḍe Shâh de ðere.
 Oh nûn jâke âkho : ‘ Âpan hath jâ ūpar phere. ’ ”
 Âkhir eh vî hukm mânkar Kauḍe Shâh wal ḍaure ;
- 70 Oh nûn eh paighâm sunâkar le âe apne ðere.
 Kauḍe Shâh eh boliâ : “ Logo, main oh dâ bardâ ;
 Bâwâ Jân hî zindâ kardâ, sânnûn raswâ kardâ ! ”
 Kauḍe Shâh ne murdâ par jad âkar hath pherâ,
 Murdâ vichh tad jân par gai, ho gîâ bhalâ changerâ.
- 75 Us de pichhe zindâ Sher Shâh châlî barsân rihâ,
 Eh riwâyat us ne kîtî, horân ne bhî kihâ.

Guzriâû haiñ panjâh ik barsân Hazrat kûnch katoî.
 Nazar-niâzân log chahâwan : is men shakk na koî.

- Sher Shâh eh riwâyat kîtî :—“ Mainûn tihâi chahdâ :
- 80 Aisâ aukhâ hoiâ is te, jîwandâ sâ na mardâ.
 Jîne se nâ umed hoiâ, tân dil vich eho dhârâ :
 ‘ Jîwane dî kuchh âs nahîn, hun bajo kuch nakârâ. ’
 Eh tafkar karde karde, ânkh lag gae, yâro ;
 Apne tâin pâiâ main ne Rauzâ de darbâro.
- 85 Shekh Maḥmûd bishârat dittî : ‘ Nân tû hâr ausân :
 Bahutî hai, âjî, umar tumhârî ; Allah dâ farmân ! ’
 Eh bishârat sun jo pâi, tihâiâ hoiâ kâfûr !
 Waliâû de main sadke jâwân, jin kîtâ masûr ! ”

- Khalk marwat eh thî, yâro, jis kûnche vichh jânâ,
 90 Jeh dâ bâlak rondâ hove leke chupkar jânâ.
 Ik rât jo ik kûche vichh un kâ jânâ hoiâ,
 Ik Julâhâ barâ nitânâ Hazrat pâ â roiâ :

“ Eh hâlat hai merî, Hazrat, tangî rizak hamesh ;
Din nûn milâ, to râtin nâhîn ; hoiâ hai dilresh.”

95 Ik rotî châ mänge us te Bâwâ Jân Tanûrî. ‘
Do sîn roṭiân, tin khwândâ, pawe kîkar pûrî ?
Kuchh derî de bād Julâhe roṭi lâkar dînî !
Farmâiâ : “ Kyûn is kâran tûn itnî derî kînî ?

Gaḍhe nûn jâ paṭ le, tainûn milsî itnâ mâl :
100 Allah dî inâyat aisî, ho jâven mâlâ mâl !”
Kahte haiñ ke paṭde paṭde jad sawerâ hoiâ,
Ik degchâ rupâion dâ us nûn châ labhoiâ !
Araz kîâ, ke “ Yâ Hazrat, main hoiâ bah kushhâl :
Der se kyûn miliâ mainûn ? Eho ik sawâl.”

105 Bole : “ Rotî lâwan kâran der na kardâ zarâ,
Tainûn vî eh mâl châ mildâ bahutî jaldî mukararâ.”

Hor karâmat Pîr Sâhib dî araz karângâ pher :
Fursat mainûn kam haigî, ho jâvegî der !

TRANSLATION.

The story of Miyân Shekh Maḥmûd of Bastî Shekh Darvesh, who dwelt with holy men for 40 years in the deserts, and when he returned as an ascetic publicly performed many miracles :—two tigers sprang from both his sides to protect him from † murderers ; he restored Sher Shâh ‡ to life and health ; he gave miraculously wealth and posterity to Walî Muḥammad, a baker ; § and he found a hidden treasure for a weaver.*

When Miyân Shekh Maḥmûd succeeded to the spiritual
chiefship,

He fulfilled the hopes of his followers, who gave thanks
to God.

Youth lives rudely, as all the wise know :

And Shekh (Maḥmûd) was privately fond of music.||

* See Introduction. Shekh Maḥmûd, being an ancestor of Shekh Darvesh, could not have lived in the town founded by the latter.

† *Lit.* to terrify the murderers.

‡ A follower : see line 55.

§ This miracle is not mentioned in the succeeding legends.

|| *i.e.*, of a riotous kind.

- 5 One night Shekh (Maḥmūd) had a warning :—
 ‘ They call thee a Soharwardî* Saint and thou hast
 taken to (riotous) music !’—
 After this dream he wished to leave the *masjid* (he
 was in),
 But could not get out because of the walls all round.
 He considered the Saints to be angry with him,
 10 As some (of them) had (miraculously) put a wall round
 the *masjid*, my friends !†

- He made up his mind to leave his home,
 And started to sell horses in Hindûstân.‡
 After going some ten or twenty miles he came to a
 wild road,
 And so he gave his horses to his servants and dwelt in
 the Kajaî Forest.§
 15 He dwelt there forty years in the service of holy men :
 He sent no news (of himself) to his family and was con-
 tented in his mind.
 His heirs took his property and wasted it and his
 gardens :
 No one expected his return and awaited (news of) his
 death.
 Behold the will of God :—he came back an ascetic !
 20 He called himself Shâhnawâz Khân|| and spake at random.
 All his disciples thought in their hearts, (saying) : “ This
 is our appointed Saint.
 He may place his shoes on our heads and we will not
 object at all.”¶
 (But) the wicked (heirs) made a plan, (saying) : “ Let
 us slay him.

* Followers of Khwâjâ Habîb ‘Ajami one of the Châr Pîr, (ob. 738 A.D.) through Shekh Ziâu’ddîn Abû Najîb Soharwardî.

† To the audience.

‡ Afghâns of all kinds still commonly sell horses in India, visiting it annually for the purpose.

§ See Vol. I. p. 520 and *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. XIV. p. 209.

|| The title of Khân is commonly taken by the Ansârî Shekhs.

¶ Meaning, we will abase ourselves before him.

He is taking the property from us and giving it to his friends and followers.”

25 One night his heirs unlawfully thrust him out of Basti (Shekh Darvesh),*

And some wicked men placed cruel murderers in his path ;

And said to them : “ When the madman comes this way,

Set upon him here that he may not live.”

When Shekh (Maḥmûd) had gone some two or three miles that night,

30 The cruel men came out of their ambush lifting their heads.

At first Shekh (Maḥmûd) said : “ Be off, you murderers, Or by the blessing of the great God it will be the worse for you.”

But when they would not desist he lifted up both his arms,

And a tiger came out of either side and roared !

35 When the murderers saw this miracle of Shekh (Maḥmûd) they ran home.

Shekh (Maḥmûd) then settled at Vîrowâl.†

Many followers at once collected there and said :

“ How can any one look on thee as an enemy ?

We will first take thy property from them and give it thee,

40 Or we will share ours with thee half and half.”

Said he : “ I have no wish for property.”

The Saint now wished to go to (Jâlandhar) City.

And the Saint said to Ghaus‡ : “ Cook some food :

* The bard is here becoming confused in his geography.

† In the Amrîtsar District. This would argue a settlement of the Ansâri Shekhs in India prior to that at Jâlandhar. But see line 77.

‡ His cook.

- My brethren are coming from Bastî (Shekh Darvesh)
and must be well fed.
- 45 Put some water on to the remains of last night's
dinner.
Put it on the hearth and quickly light the fire."
It is said that some rice had been cooked overnight,
And that a few grains remained in the cauldron.
By the blessed order of Shekh (Maḥmûd) the cauldron
was filled full,
- 50 So that a hundred men ate of it and certainly half was
saved !

- The Saint went thence and came to Amṛitsar and stayed
there,
And when he became famous there he went on to
Multân, my friends.*
Once when some followers went to visit him,
They fell into trouble in the great forest.
- 55 (One of them) Sher Shâh was wounded in the right
hand,
And though the wound was a slight one it gave great
pain.
By the time he reached Multân City the wound had so
increased
And maggots had begun to so grow in it, that his life
began to ebb.
For some days he was ill and then the wound became
so bad,
- 60 That his pulse disappeared and all considered him
dead.
Then quickly prayed Alî Sher his brother, (saying)
"Sher Shâh is dead : where shall I bury him ?"
And he also prayed to the Holy Bâwâ Jân, † (saying) :
"The dying ascetic is dead ; what shall I do now ?"
- 65 From out of his contemplation said the Saint :

* To the audience.

† Apparently an alias of Shekh Maḥmûd : see line 95.

“All that came will return sound: it is the word of God.
Ye should all go to Kaude Shâh’s* abode.

Go to him and say: ‘Pass thy hand over him.’”

- At last obeying the order they ran to Kaude Shâh,
70 Gave him the message and brought him to their abode.
Said Kaude Shâh, “My friends, I am his slave,
It is Bâwâ Jân that restores to life and giveth me the
credit!”

When Kaude Shâh passed his hand over the corpse,
Then life came into it and he became quite well!

- 75 Sher Shâh lived on 40 years after this.
He told this tale and others also tell it.

It is about fifty years since the Saint made the march†
(of death).

People give him offerings: there is no doubt in this.

- Sher Shâh tell this story:—“I had tertiary fever,
80 And was so ill with it that I was neither alive nor dead.
I had no hope of life and then I thought,
That there was no hope of life and that the drums for
my march (of death) were being beaten.
Thinking thus my eyes closed, my friends, ‡
And I found myself at the gate of (Shekh Maḥmūd’s
Shrine.

- 85 Shekh Maḥmūd said to me: ‘Be not downcast;
Thou hast much longer to live, sir; it is the order of
God.’

After he had given me this warning the fever disap-
peared like camphor!

I am a worshipper of the Saint that gave me comfort!”

* One of Shekh Maḥmūd’s followers.

† This would make out that the hero of the legend is not the celebrated ancestor of the Ansâri Shekhs, but another worthy. Perhaps the bard is mixing up two personages.

‡ To the audience.

My friends,* the Saint loved the people so much, that
if he went into a street

90 And found a child crying, he hushed it.

One night he went into a street,

Where a very miserable weaver wept (and said) to the
Saint :

“This is my condition, O Saint, that I am ever pressed
for food.

If I get it for the day I get it not for the night,† and
my heart is sad.”

95 Bâwâ Jân Tanûrî‡ demanded a cake of him.

He had two cakes (at home) and three to eat them, and
how could (even) two cakes go round ?

After a delay, (however,) the weaver brought the cake
and gave it.

Said (the Saint) : “Why didst thou delay in this ?

Dig a hole and thou shalt find much treasure :

100 God hath given it and thou shalt be wealthy !”

It is said that he dug all night and when it was dawn,
He found a pitcher full of rupees !

He said : “O Saint, I am very happy,

But why did it come to me after so long ? This is my
say.”

105 Said he : “Hadst thou not delayed in bringing the
cake,

It was appointed for thee to find the treasure very
quickly.”

The Saint worked other miracles which I will relate
later :

I have no leisure now and it will take a long time.

* To the audience.

† Ordinary natives eat at morning and evening only.

‡ This makes the hero into a Tanûrî, for which surname see below,
No. VIII.

II.

Shekh Ahmad Ghaus.

TEXT.

Bayân Karîmat Hazrat Shekh Ahmad Ghaus Walî, jo Akbarî 'ahid meñ Afghânistân se Jâlandhar meñ âkar Râsta Akhûn meñ mutawattan hoe. Sâl rahlat jin ke sanh 999 Hijrî hai. Mazâr amvâr un kâ Mahalla Karâr Khâû meñ mutassil Buland Kheliân hai.

Ahmad Ghaus Wali Jâlandhar jag meñ sî maskhûr.
Kasf karâmat oh dî zâhir: kyâ nere? kyâ dâr?
Sab karâmât bayân meñ karsân, merâ kyâ makdûr?
Mushte az kharwâr par mainûn amal karnâ manzûr.

- 5 Ik sî murîd Shekh dâ safar dâr nûn turîâ:
Râste meñ dariyâ te us nûn langhnâ achânak paṛîâ.
Shâh-mauj meñ beṛî pahunchî, lâgî ghotâ khâwan:
Murîd othe khauf jân te lâgâ Pîr mauâwan.
Nazar muâyan karke othe yûn kîtâ latkârâ:
- 10 “Eh kishtî jo kaṇḍe lâgî, âdbâ mâl tumhârâ!”
Mâl safâmat bâhir lâkar chakiân ja kharîden;
Nafâ sâ miliâ aisâ, yâro, khnshîâi karan murîden.
Pîr Sâhib kafâi hâlat nûn sahat-khâne se gae:
Beṛî de langhâne kâran turt mastâdir hoe.
- 15 Pâ-khâne se bâhir jo nikale retâ uu ke hâth;
Khidmatgâr ne puchiâ us dam: “Eh haigâ kî bât?”
Asal to dasiâ us nûn, par tâkîd eh kî:
“Eh hâl na zâhir karnâ, is meñ hikmat sî.”
Us aurat ne jân-bûjhke zâhir hî kar dâ:
- 20 Jis ke kâran mammâ us dâ jaldî suk ik gîâ.
Kuehh arse de bād murîd jo safar te hokâr âiâ,
Nazar muâyan apnî salâm Hazrat pās lâiâ.
Farmâiâ: “Jo nafâ hai us dâ tû ne hâsil kîtâ:
Woh bhî lâkar pesh karo; hai hakk asâdâ, Mîtâ.”
- 25 Pîrâ natâ le âkar us ne Hazrat âge dhariâ:
Bûṭâ oh de nek nîyat dâ sadâ rahâ sâ hariâ.

TRANSLATION.

The Story of a Miracle by the Holy Shekh Aḥmad Ghaus Walî, who came to Jâlandhar from Afghânistân in the time of Akbar and settled in the Akhûn's† Road. He died in 999 A.H. (1590‡ A.D.) His glorious shrine is in Karâr Khân's Ward§ near the (Quarter of) the Buland Khels.||*

Aḥmad Ghaus Walî of Jâlandhar is known throughout the world.

His miraculous power is known far and wide.

How can I tell of all his miracles ?

But I am willing to relate a little of the great (whole).

- 5 A disciple of Shekh (Aḥmad Ghaus) went on a long journey,
 And unexpectedly had to cross a river on his road.
 His boat was caught in a whirlpool and began to sink,
 And the disciple in fear of his life called on his Saint.
 He thus cried vowing him a present :
- 10 "If this boat gets across half the goods shall be thine!"
 He took his goods across safely and bought up mill-stones,
 And made so much profit, my friends,¶ that the disciple was very pleased.
 The Saint had gone to the privy for a call of nature,
 And had promptly gone thence to save the boat.
- 15 When he came out of the privy his hands were full of sand,
 And his servant then said : "What meaneth this?"
 (The Saint) told him the facts, but warned him, saying :
 "Tell this to no (man) ; there is a secret in this."
 The (servant's) wife knowing told (the story),
- 20 And for this one of her breasts quickly dried up.

* Compare the tale told of Shâh Qumês of Sâdhaurâ, *ante*, p. 96.

† Or Ikhwand.

‡ This is an impossible date : see Introduction.

§ This ward was founded by Barik Pathâns from the Bannûn District, following in the train of Shekh Aḥmad Ghaus.

|| A section of the Barik Pathâns.

¶ To the audience.

After a while the disciple returned from his journey,
And brought the present vowed for his safety to the
Saint,

Who said : " The profit thou madest on this,
Bring that too ; it is my right, Friend."

- 25 He gave the Saint the full profit,
And the tree of his righteousness ever flourished.

III.

Shekh Pîr Walî.

TEXT.

*Zikar hâl murîd hone Hazrat Shekh Pîr Walî Miyân Shekh
Ghaus Walî Jalandharî kâ aur un kî karâmat choroñ kî jamâ'-
yat kâ bhâg jânâ.*

Ik roz eh dil mere vichh aisâ âiâ âhir,
Pîr Walî dâ hâl poshîdâ kar deân kuchh kuchh zâhir.

Pahile-pahil sawârân vichh eh naukar jâkar hoe :
Wch sawâr Burhânpur yâ Aḥmadâbâd khiloe.

- 5 Sher Khân Barik sâ jo Sâbedâr oh thâin :
Oh dî jamîyat Afghânân dî nâmî sî har thâin.
Khwâjâ Khizar dî sohbat meñ jâ kadî kadî sî bahinde :
Darveshân de milne kâran-bah mutalâshî rahinde.

Ik darvesh de milne kâran Pîr Walî jo gae,

- 10 Nâm mubârik puchhan khâtir in ke piehe pae.
Bole : " Merâ nâm wâlid ne Pîr Walî hai rakhâ,
Jis de sir par Shekh lagâû lokâû karke dhakâ."
Tabînan farmâiâ : " Sâin Shekh Pîr Walî,

Ism musammâ honâ châhiye : eh hai ramz jalî."

- 15 Eh makûlâ Sâin dâ sâ aisâ achhâ bhâiâ,
Naukarî dî parwâh na karke Shahr Jâlandhar âiâ.
Rishte meñ jo Ahmad Ghausjî khâl hakîkî sî :
Foran in se âkar, yâro, baiat hî kar li.
Ahmad Ghaus jo pahile un ko baiat kâran kahinde,
20 Talkîn zikar jo Khizar se karke muh idhar na dende.

- Yeh karâmat Ghaus Ahmad ne apnâ zor dikhâiâ ;—
 Pîr Walîjî shauk dilî se baiat hone âiâ !
 Sidak dilî se khidmat kîtî, rutba âlî pâiâ ;
 'Khalîfa Irshad' lakab mil gîâ, Pîr Walî kabliâ.
- 25 Ik ðafâ murîd Shekh de tajârat karne chale :
 Chorân thâiâ mâr azîz, asbâb lût le chale.
 In lokân imdâd Pîr dî âjiz hokar châhe :
 Ik sâtt na guzrî thî ke dekhâ ik sipâhî.
 Ik sawâr siyâh ghore dâ hath vîkhh nezâ tâiâ ;
- 30 Bâre zor se ghorâ apnâ chorân taraf bhijhâiâ.
 Chorân eh dî shân dekhkar jald hazîmat âi :
 Mâl tamânû chhaḍ gae, tân râb salûmat pâi.
 Murîdân salâmî hâl apne par shukar Khudâ dâ kîâ.
 Pîr Walî ne chorân dâ phir akab mûl na liâ.

TRANSLATION.

How the Holy Shekh Pîr Walî became a follower of Miyaḏ
 Shekh Ghaus Walî of Jâlandhâr, and how he miraculously put
 a band of robbers to flight.*

One day a desire came into my head
 To tell the secret tale of Pîr Walî.

First of all he took service in the Cavalry,
 And was in service as a soldier at Burhânpur or
 Aḥmadabad.

- 5 Sher Khâû Barikḡ was Governor of the place,
 And his troops were distinguished among the Afghâns.
 (Pîr Walî) ever was fond of (serving) Khwâjâ Khizar, †
 And eager to find out and be with *darveshes*.

When Pîr Walî went to visit a (certain) *darvesh*,

* Legendarily the cousin and contemporary of Shekh Ahmad Ghaus early in the 17th century A.D.

† Perhaps this is meant for the Rashîd Khân mentioned in the Introduction: but that worthy lived generations after Ahmad Ghaus, who is described as Pîr Walî's cousin and contemporary.

‡ See Vol. I. p. 221.

- 10 (The Saint) pressed him to tell his auspicious name.
Said he : " My father called me Pîr Walî,
On top of which the foolish people have stuck Shekh."
(The Saint) said admonishing him : " My Lord Shekh
Pîr Walî,
One should live up to one's name: it is a good
thing."
- 15 The Saint's admonition so struck him,
That giving up his service he went to Jālandhar City.
He had as own cousin among his relatives, Aḥmad
Ghaus,
And he went at once, friends,* and served him.
Aḥmad Ghaus had previously essayed to win him to
service,
- 20 But believing in (Khwājâ) Khizar, he would not listen to
him.
This mighty miracle did Aḥmad Ghaus work ;—
That Pîr Walî served of his own will !
He served him fervently and obtained a high title
(from him) :
For Pîr Walî was called by the title of Khalifa
Irshâd.†
- 25 Once some followers of Shekh (Pîr Walî) journeyed
to trade,
And robbers fell upon them and seized their goods.
These people in their helplessness asked the aid of the
Saint,
And in a moment thy saw a soldier.
He was a horseman on a black horse poising a spear.
- 30 Great valour did he display towards the thieves :
Seeing his valour all the robbers quickly sought
safety :
They abandoned all the (stolen) goods and thus obtain-
ed safety.

* to the audience.

† The Expounder of the orders of God.

The followers (of the Saint) gave thanks to God for their deliverance.
(But) Pîr Walî did not follow up the thieves.

IV.

SHEKH DARVESH.

TEXT.

Darbâb paidâish Hazrat Shekh Darvesh.

- Sâ Balakh meñ rahindâ ik majzûb ;
 Juz yâd Khudâ na rakhdâ mahbûb.
 Khwâh kitnâ baṛâ amîr âwandâ,
 Parwâh na zarâ dil meñ le ândâ.
- 5 Jad Shekh de dâdâjî se mildâ,
 Tâzîm we kardâ khûb khildâ.
 Puchhiâ, ke “ Sabab batâo, ai Pîr,
 Tâzîm karo ho kyûn ba-tankîr ? ”
 Bolâ, ke “ Yeh haigâ mard yazdân ;
- 10 Hai is par fazal khâs Rahmân.
 Hai pîth meñ is de ik motî,
 Be-sâkbta takrîm mujh te hotî.
 Farmânde haiñ is tarah Walî Pîr :—
 ‘ Wâkif is râz ramz, takrîr. ’ ”
- 15 Jânâ-ke oh durr hai Shekh Ayûb,
 Jo bhâi sâ Shekh dâ bahut khûb.
 Jab ghaur se dekhiâ phir hoîâ zan :
 “ Râjû umzâdâ hogâ pur fan :
 Akmal* bhî na us ko jadke pâiâ. ”
- 20 Darvesh par kaul râst âiâ.

TRANSLATION.

Concerning the Birth of the Holy Shekh Darvesh.

A majzûb† dwelt in Balkh,‡

Who held nothing dearer than the contemplation of
 God.

* For *kâmil*.

† A contemplative ascetic.

‡ There is nothing in history, however, to lead us to suppose that Shekh Darvesh's father was ever in Balkh.

- However many great nobles came to him,
He held them of no account in his mind.
- 5 When he met the grandfather* of Shekh (Darvesh)
He paid him very marked respect.
He was asked: "Explain, O Saint,
Why showest thou him such boundless reverence?"
Said he: "This is a holy man ;
- 10 God Himself hath mercy upon him.
In his back is a pearl,
So I respect without hesitation.
Thus hath spoken Pîr Walî :†—
'Understand this hidden speech.'"
- 15 Know that the pearl was (meant for) Shekh Ayûb,
The dearly loved brother of Shekh (Darvesh).
When (the *majzûb*) had meditated he prophecied :
"His cousin Râjû shall be filled with glory :
Even the wise shall not be able to argue with him."
- 20 It was (Shekh) Darvesh that fulfilled this prophecy.

V.

SHEKH DARVESH.

TEXT.

Payân karámât Hazrat Shekh Darvesh Sâhib, Bânî mubânî Bastî Shekh Darvesh, 'ilâqa Jālandhar, Mauras 'alā Ansâriân sâknâî Bastî mazkûr, asal bâshinda qasba Kāngrām, wāqī'a Zilla' Bannûn.

(1) *Awal Karāmat Shekh Darvesh, ke ik shakhs ká ba-bā'is be-adabî munh tahrâ hûá, phir unheñ kî barkat se tandurust hûá.*

Ik shakhs sâ Kāngrām meñ rahindâ,

Be-adabî se Shekh nâl kahindâ.

Gustâkhî se sahat-sust bole ;

Kalamât zabûn munh se tole.

* Rahîm Dâd by name.

† Apparently meant for the name of the *majzûb* mentioned in the first line. This Pîr Walî may be the hero of No. III., or it may be meant for Bâbâ Walî, the celebrated Saint of Qandahâr, in Timûr's time in the latter part of the 14th century, better known as Ḥasan Abdâl.

- 5 Muñh ñs dâ hûâ kamâl bingâ ;
 Bad-shakal hûâ ; na hove changâ.
 Gall is se hundî sî ba-dushwâr ;
 Akhîân te rowan rahe sâ'lbashâr.
 Is marz meñ nubtilâ jad hoiâ,
 10 Kar uzar hoiâ, muâfi joiâ.
 Jad Shekh ne juram kar diâ muâf,
 Shâfi ne vî sahat ba-khash de sâf.

(2) *Doyam Karâmat Hazrat Shekh Darvesh, ke un ke tasarruf se Faujdâr Kâbil Beg bilâ tâ'urraz khâdim Shekh ke rukhsat kar diâ.*

- Sandrânâ jo mauzâ haigâ mashhûr,
 Bastî de karîb, na ke hai dûr.
 15 Mâlik hoe bechue par tayyâr ;
 Zar de diâ Shekh, ho kharîdâr.
 Ik shakhs amîn sâ Jâlandhar ;
 Sheo Râm sâ nâm us mahindar.
 Chak-bandî kar us grân dî,
 20 Ahmad Rajpût nûn rawâi dî :
 “ Tâ mâlik apne taiñ jâne ;
 Mâlîâ apne zimmâ mâne.”
 Jad Shekh nûn eh mâlûm hoiâ,
 Khâdim nûn us jagah bhijoiâ :
 25 “ Tâ pakkâ makân jâ banâve,
 Tad kazie dî sûrat nikal âve.”
 Ahmad ne aisâ hal pâiâ,
 Fariyâd nûn Faujdâr pâs âiâ.
 Jad talabî hoî naukarân Darvesh,
 30 Oh hoe bechârî lâ daresh :
 “ Ethe na wasîlâ haigâ koî ;
 Bin is de na hogâ koî dhoî.”
 Khâdim nûn jo shab meñ khwâb âiâ,
 Darvesh nûn apne pâs pâiâ :
 35 Farmâiâ : “ Na ho tû dil meñ dilgîr
 Imdâd nûn â grâ hai eh Pîr.”
 Jad khwâb te âukh us ne khole,
 Kanon meñ eh us de âe bole :

Kahindâ hai eh Faujdâr us ko :

40 "Jânde raho, is jagâh te khisko !

Âzurdagî Shekh hai nâ manzâr :

Châhindâ hân ke rahve mujh te masrûr !"

(3) *Soyam Karâmat Hazrat Shekh Darvesh ke yaman uuzâs qadlasi ashâs safed bâl kî jagâh siyâh bâl nikale.*

Us shakhs par fazal hove bârî,

Aulâd ho nek jeh dî sârî.

45 Sî Shekh de panj pût piâre,

Âbad nek-bakht sâre.

Un meñ se waddâ Miyân Walî Dâd :

Sâ chhoṭ-pane se oh Khudâ-yâd.

Jad bâp de sâmhne sâ ândâ,

50 Sajje pâse us se bahândâ.

Aur Shekh de wâlâû dî siâhî

Kâim sî, kamî zarâ na âi :

Beṭe dâ sâ zahad se eh hâl,

Chitṭî hoî bahut sârî sî wâl.

55 Jo Shekh nûn milne ghair ândâ,

Pahile us se masâfa châhandâ :

Aur jândâ, 'haigâ eh hî Darvesh,'

Pîrî dî isâr dekhkar pesh.

Eh dil meñ mûl hondî dirham,

60 Par chârâ na bandâ oh dâ is dam.

Darvesh ne eh shakal jo pâl,

Kurân dî âyat ik batâi :

Farmâiâ, ke "Jad ke âve hajjâm,

Islâh dâ karnâ châhe anjâm :

65 Eh âyat parhde nâl jânâ,

Jo chitṭî hai wâl sab chugânâ.

Barkat se kalâm pâk bârî

Nikalégî siâh wâl sârî."

Beṭe ne jo hukam bâp mâuâ,

70 Pîrî ne uṭhâi apnâ thânâ.

Zâhir hoiâ har ik par eh aḥwâl,—

'Eh Pîr hai aur hai jawân sâl.'

(4) *Chuhâram Karâmat Hazrat Shekh Darvesh ke musalle ke nêche apne farzand arjamañ Miyân Walî Dâd ik khizâne be-bahâ dikhâ dâ.*

- Alî ik sî bahut Paṭhân nâmî,
Ik ik se barâ grâmî ;
75 Bastî meñ oh âke hoe âbâd,
Duniyâ dî niamatân te dilshâd.
Kitne se makân un ke mâmûr,
Alî ik dâ mahallâ hoiâ mashhûr.
Rakhte sî saudâgirî oh kâr,
80 Kahlâte the is lê oh tajjâr.

- Un viçhoñ sâ ik Paṭhân nâmî :
Woh Hazrat Shekh dâ salâmî.
Jad Shekh de sâmbne oh ândâ,
Dast bastâ zabân par lândâ :
85 “ Bandâ ko ghulâm khâs jânîñ :
Merî har chîz apne mânîñ.
Jis chîz dî hove kuchh zarûrat,
Bandâ de makân se mangâvîñ, Hazrat.”
Garche Shekh vî ghanî sî,
90 Imlâk muâfî se dhanî sî,
Sarkârî mutâlibâ jo hoiâ,
Khâdim Alî ik vî wal bhijoiâ :
Aur apne izhâr kar zarûrat,
Mânge mubligh ba-kaid mohlat.
95 Khâdim jad bûhe un de âîâ,
Dastak kîṭî, paighâm vî puchhâîâ,
Laundî ne eh âke kihâ : “ Miyân
Khândâhî de na haigâ inhân.”
Khâdim ne jawâb âke eh sâf,
100 Khidmat meñ bayân kîâ bilâ lâf.
Hâzir sî inhân Miyân Walî Dâd ;
Bole, ke ‘ Miyân, mukâm hai dâd !
Aisân te hai mûngne de kyâ gharaz ?
Irshâd karenî jo mainûñ bilfaraz,

- 105 Zar dī dīwâr wa dar banâwân ;
 Zarâ vî is vichh der ua lâwân.
 Hazrat tân eh sunke ho gae lâl,
 Bole, ke “ Idhar tû â, mere lâl.”
 Ik goshâ musalle dâ uṭhâîâ :
- 110 Ganjînâ be-bahâ dikhâîâ !
 Tâkîd bahut karî mukararâ :—
 “ Hove na eh râz fâsh zarâ !”

TRANSLATION.

The Story of the miracles of the Holy Shekh Darvesh, the Founder of Bastî Shekh Darvesh in Jālandhar and Progenitor of the Ansârîs inhabiting it. He was originally an inhabitant of Kânî Kurâm in the Bannûn District.*

(1) *The First Miracle of Shekh Darvesh. Twisting the face of a man who had treated him with disrespect, and then out of kindness making it straight again.*

- There was a man dwelling in Kânî Kurâm,
 That spake disrespectfully to Shekh (Darvesh).
 He spake evil and arrogant (words),
 And bad words escaped his lips.
- 5 His face became quite crooked ;
 He was horrible to look at and could not get well.
 His speech sounded badly,
 And his eyes continually wept.
 When he suffered thus
- 10 He made apology and begged for pardon.
 When Shekh Darvesh forgave him his fault,
 The Curer (God) made him entirely well.

(2) *The Second Miracle of the Holy Shekh Darvesh. Getting the Governort Kâbil Beg into his power, so that he released his followers without opposition.*

There is a well-known village (called) Sandrânâ
 In the neighbourhood of Bastî (Shekh Darvesh) and not
 far from it.

* So far, that is, as Jālandhar is concerned.

† Apparently of Sarbind.

- 15 The owner wished to sell it,
 And Shekh (Darvesh) bought it with gold.
 There was a land-revenue-assessor at Jâlandhar ;
 Sheo Râm was the name of this great official.
 He measured out the village,
- 20 And recorded it in the name of Aḥmad the Râjpût.
 (And said) : “ Consider yourself the owner,
 And be responsible for the revenue.”
 When Shekh (Darvesh) heard of this
 He sent a disciple to the place,
- 25 (And said) : “ Build a (burnt-) brick house there
 And then a quarrel will arise.”
 When Aḥmad heard of this
 He complained to the Governor.
 When the servants of (Shekh) Darvesh were summoned
 (by the Governor).
- 30 They felt themselves in helpless case.
 (And said) : “ We have no helper here,
 And without one there is no safety.”
 In the evening a dream came to a disciple,
 And he found (Shekh) Darvesh (standing) beside him,
- 35 Saying : “ Be not downcast in thy heart,
 Thy Saint hath come to help thee.”
 When he opened his eyes,
 He heard a voice in his ears speaking,
 And the Governor saying to him :
- 40 “ Go and be off from this place !*
 I have no wish to thwart Shekh (Darvesh) :
 I wish him to be ever favourable to me !”

(3) *The Third Miracle of the Holy Shekh Darvesh. Turning grey hair to black by the effect of the breath of his holy nature†*
 That man is ever blessed
 All of whose children are good.

* The Court.

† *i. e.*, by his prayer.

- 45 Shekh (Darvesh) had five beloved sons,
All upright men.
The eldest was Miyâû Walî Dâd,
Who was God-fearing from his childhood.
When he came to visit his father
- 50 He would seat him on his right hand.*
Shekh (Darvesh's) hair was black
Still, and changed not at all :
His son from his austerities
Had very white hair.
- 55 When strangers came to visit Shekh (Darvesh),
They would first greet (the son),
Thinking that he must be (Shekh) Darvesh,
Because they saw the signs of age.
(Shekh Darvesh) did not at all like this in his heart,
- 60 But could then remedy it.
When (Shekh) Darvesh saw this
He found a passage in the Qurân,
And said (to his son) ; " When the barber comes,
Have thy shaving done in this way.
- 65 While repeating this passage
Have all thy white hair plucked out.
By the blessing of the holy words
It will grow again black."
His son obeyed his father's words
- 70 And the old age left its (accustomed) place.
Every one now understood the facts,
That he was a Saint and a young man.

(4) *The Fourth Miracle of the Holy Shekh Darvesh. Showing his great son Miyâû Walî Dâd a boundless treasure under his praying carpet.*

There are well-known Pathân (families) called 'Alî,†
One as great as the other.

- 75 They have settled in Bastî (Shekh Darvesh)

* Show him great respect.

† Or 'Aliâk Bariks.

And are happy in the (good) gifts of the world.
 They have built many houses,
 And the 'Alî ward is well-known.
 They took to trading
 80 And are called merchants.

Among them was a well-known Paṭhân
 Who was an acquaintance of the Holy Shekh (Darvesh).
 He came to Shekh (Darvesh)
 And said with joined hands :
 85 " Know me for thy own follower,
 And consider every thing I have as thine.
 Whatever is necessary to thee,
 Saint, demand it from my house."
 Though Shekh Darvesh was wealthy
 90 And rich from his rent-free grants (of land),
 When a Government necessity arose*
 He sent a disciple to the 'Alî,
 And explained his need,
 Asking for money as a loan.
 95 When the disciple reached the ('Alî's) door,
 And knocked and gave the message,
 A maid came and said : " The master
 Of the house is not within."
 The disciple returned with this refusal,
 100 And explained it without restraint to his master.
 Miyân Walî Dâd was present there
 And said : " Miyân (Shekh Darvesh), this is a pity !
 What is the use of asking from such men as these ?
 Ask me now,
 105 And I will make a door and wall of gold,
 And make no delay at all about it."
 When the saint heard this he grew red (with anger),
 And said : " Come hither, my son."
 He lifted up a corner of his praying carpet

* To impose a tax on the people.

- 110 And showed him a boundless treasure !
 And he greatly exhorted him,
 “ Let not this matter get abroad !”

VI.

SHEKH DARVESH.

TEXT.

Bākī karāmāt wa ḥālāt Miyān Shekh Darvesh Sāhib, mauras 'aldā Shekh Ansārūdān Bastī Shekh Darvesh 'ilāqa Jālandhar ke, murīd Shekh Jalāl bin Mūsā ke imdād ko foran Bukhārā meñ pahunchkar ba-khūbī khādimān-i-Masjid Mukhāk ko rū ba-rāh farmāyā.

Ik mard Jalāl Shekh nāmî ;
 Hoiā oh Bukhārā meñ mukāmî.

- Rozīān dā mahīnā jād ke āiā,
 Oh shakhs eh dīl vichh apue lāiā :—
- 5 Das rozā ākhirā māh-i-Ramzān
 Masjid Mukhāk meñ guzārān.
 Paṛh karke namāz wahān hī ṭahrā ;
 Ākhan lage khādimān ohān ā :
- “ Rahine nahīn denge ithe tubā nūn !
- 10 Chaldā ho dīkhāke piṭh sānūn !”
 Sūrat koī rahne dī nā pāī :
 Maiñ ne ditte pīr dī dohāī.
 Mahrāb se nikale Shekh filfaur !
 Khādim hoe dekh us nūn kāfūr !
- 15 Phir das din khādimān-i-Masjid
 Karde rahe iltafāt behad.
 Ziāfat karde halwe dī khilāī :
 Kahue lage ; “ Ai Buzurg-jāī,
 Multānī pīr hai tumhārā :
- 20 Zorāwar bahut hai Khudārā.”

Is hāl nūn pīsar-i-Mūse kāī bār
 Tamsīl ke taur kardā izhār :
 “ Yāne mere pīr dī ba-daulat,
 Othe hoī bahut sārī izzat.”

TRANSLATION.

Another miracle and story of *Miyân Shekh Darvesh*, the founder of the *Ansârî Shekhs* of *Bastî Shekh Darvesh* of *Jálandhar*, who, to help his disciple *Shekh Jalâl bîn Músá** at *Bukhârú*, went there in a moment and converted the attendants of the *Mukhâk Masjid*.

Shekh Jalâl was a celebrated man,
Who settled at Bukhârâ.

- During the month of fasting
He took it into his head
5 To spend the last ten days of Ramzân†
In the Mukhâk Masjid.
After saying his (usual) prayers he stayed on,
But the attendants of the place came and said :‡
“ We will not let thee remain here !
10 Be off and show us thy back !”
He could not see any way of remaining on,
And called on his preceptor.§
Shekh (Darvesh) immediately came out of the *mahrâb* !||
And the attendants when they saw him (melted like)
camphor !
15 After this for the ten days the attendants of the *Masjid*
Served them with unbounded courtesy.
They feasted them well with sweets,

* This must be meant for Sayyid Jalâl Bukhârî who flourished 1188-1283 and died at *Uchh* as a disciple of the great Shekh Bahâu'ddîn Zakaria of Multân (1170-1266). He was the grandfather of the celebrated Saint Shekh Jalâl Makhdûm Jahâniân Jahângasht (1308-1384), the founder of the Malang and Jalâliâ Faqirs, and of Sayyid Sadru'ddîn Râjû Qattâl who died in 1403. Jalâl Bukhârî is often confused with the greater Shekh Jalâl the Makhdûm and is no doubt introduced here as the disciple of Shekh Darvesh in order to glorify the latter.

† The Musalmân month of fasting.

‡ Because his being there interfered with their profits from the visitors at the shrine.

§ Observe the use of the first person here.

|| The niche in every mosque which marks the direction of Makkâ.

- And said (to Shekh Jalâl) : “ O son of the Saints,
Thy preceptor* is of Multân,
20 And is a powerful man of God.”

The son of Mûsâ† hath often
Told this tale as a tradition ; (saying) :
“ Through the kindness of my preceptor
He had great honor there.”

VII.

SHEKH WALĪDĀD.

TEXT.

Hâl karāmât Miyân Walîdâd Sâhib, farzand kâlân Miyân Shekh Darvesh Sâhib. Ân Sâhib kâ laqab Nikrâ Miyân hai. In kî tabhîyat par jalâlât bahut thî. Az karāmât Miyân Walîdâd Sâhib billî kâ zindâ honâ aur khâdim nûn sher bankar dikhââ dend aur gabar kâ rauza ke bâkir se andar ho jânâ.

Rakhte the hamesha Shekh Darvesh
Sunnat ke mutâbiat ko dar pesh.
Har Jumâ nûn fâtiḥâ ko jânde ;
Hargiz na sî is meñ nâghâ pânde.

- 5 Ik roz jo chale hasab muatâd, †
Sâth un ke chale Miyân Walîdâd.
Kabarân te jo ghar nûn hoe râhî,
Râste vichh ik billî moî pâî.
Pas boliâ jad ke Nikrâ Miyân,
10 Is murde meñ jân par gaî wahân !
Jad Shekh ne aisâ dekhiâ ahwâl,
Jhirkā unheñ hoke bahut sâ lâl ;
Farmâîâ : “ Na aisâ honâ pâve,
Jis se ke sharâ meñ rakhnâ âve.”
15 Ab haigâ mukâm fikar aur ghaur,

* *i.e.*, Shekh Bahâu'ddîn Zakariâ.

† *i.e.*, Shekh Jalâl, the hero himself.

‡ For 'âdat.

- Nikrâ Miyân kyân gae sî Lâhor.
 Wâlid ne jo kîtâ un ko majbûr :—
 “ Shatabât mushâekhân se rah dâr,”—
 Be azan woh ho gîâ rawânâ,
 20 Lâhor meñ jâ, jaunâiâ thânâ.
 Pîchhe gae us de Shekh Darvesh,
 Lâhor dâ kasad karke dar pesh.
 Othe jad pahunche pattâ lâiâ :—
 Kis kûnche meñ rahindâ merâ jâiâ ?—
 25 Khâdim nûñ kihâ : “ Jhabde jâve,
 Farzand nûñ sâde pâs lâve.”
 Pahilî dafâ jad gîâ oh kbâdim
 Dekhiâ, ke ba-shakal sher âdam !
 Dûjî bârî jo khâdim âiâ,
 30 Sâ sher ghazandâ us nûñ pâiâ !
 Tîjî dafâ jad woh hâzir hoiâ,
 Thâ phârne dâ mutawwar goiâ !
 Khâdim ne eh jâke sârâ ahwâl
 Ik ik bayân kiâ bâ-imsâl.
 35 Sun Shekh ne Mîr nûñ kahâ hâl ;
 “ Is hafte meñ jâû mar merâ lâ !
 Lâsh us de nûñ Bastî vichh puchânâ :
 Is vichh na zarâ vî der lânâ.”
 Us hafte meñ mar gîâ Walîdâd :
 40 Miyân Mîr nûñ kaul Shekh sâ yâd.
 Sandûk meñ dâlkar janâzâ,
 Bastî nûñ rawân kiâ janâzâ.
 Kahte haiû jad ithe lâsh âi,
 Bâhir rauzâ de hî dabâi.
 45 Lokân ne kahâ, ke “ Hazrat Miyân,
 Rauzâ nahîñ jagâh Nikrâ Miyân.”
 Farmâiâ : “ Jo sher hogâ sachâ,
 Khud rauzâ de andar âo, bachâ !”
 Go kabar sî bâhir hî banâi,
 50 Par râñ nûñ rauzâ andar âi !
 Zâhir hoiâ mardamân par filhâl :—
 Yeh Nikrâ Miyân vî haigâ sâhib-i-kamâl !

TRANSLATION.

The Story of the miracles of Miyân Walîdâd, the eldest son of Miyân Shekh Darvesh, who is called the Young Miyân (Nikrâ Miyân). The glory of his might was very great. Miyân Walîdâd miraculously restored to life a dead cat, and showed himself to a follower in the form of a tiger, and removed his tomb from outside to inside the (family shrine).

Shekh Darvesh ever acted
According to the precepts (of Muḥammad).
Every Friday he went to repeat the *fâtihâ*,*
And never failed in this.

- 5 One day when he went as usual (for this),
He took with him (his son) Miyân Walîdâd.
As they were returning home from the graveyard,
They came across a dead cat on the road.
When the Young Miyân spoke to it,
10 Life came into the dead body !
When Shekh (Darvesh) saw this,
His face became very red with anger,
And he said : “ Do nothing
That shall be injurious to the faith.”
- 15 Now is the place to consider and think
Why the young Miyân went to Lâhor.
When his father pressed him, (saying) :—
“ Keep away from fanaticism and miracles,”—
Without asking him he started off,
20 And fixed his abode in Lâhor.
Shekh Darvesh followed him,
Intending to go to Lâhor.
Reaching there he found out
In which street his son dwelt,

* The opening chapter of the *Qurân* repeated over the graves of the dead.

- 25 And said to his follower :* " Go quickly
And bring my son to me."
When his follower went the first time
He found a man looking like a tiger !
The next time the follower went
- 30 He found him like a roaring tiger !
The third time he saw him
He was ready to tear him !
The follower went and all the story
Bit by bit he related.
- 35 When Shekh (Darvesh) heard it he prophecied to
(Miyân) Mîr, † (saying) :
" My son will die this week !
Bring his body to Bastî (Shekh Darvesh),
And make no delay about it."
Walîdâd died that week,
- 40 And Miyân Mîr ‡ remembered the request of Shekh
(Darvesh).
He put the body into a coffin,
And started it (on a camel) to Bastî (Shekh Darvesh).
They say that when the body reached,
It was buried outside the shrine.
- 45 The people said, " O Holy Miyân (Shekh Darvesh) !
There is no place for the Young Miyân in the
shrine."
Said he : " If thou be a true tiger,
Come into the shrine thyself, my son !"
Although the grave was made outside,
- 50 It came into the shrine that night !
Then the people at once knew,
That the Young Miyân is a worker of miracles !

* Miyân Mîr : see below, line 40.

† See line 40.

‡ Probably meant for the great saint of Lâhor, Shekh Muḥammad Shâh Mîr, Miyân Mîr, who flourished in 1550-1635 A.D.

VIII.

SAYYID 'ABDU'LLAH TANŪRĪ.

TEXT.

Hāl karāmat Sayyid 'Abdu'llah 'urf Tanūrī Jālandharī, 'ke lohe ke garm tanūr meñ Nawāb Tuglak Lāhor ne ḍalwāe; Khudā ke fazal wa karm se saḥīḥ sālīm nikale; ik bāl ko ānch na lagē. Sayyid 'Abdu'llah ke wālīd ká nám Sayyid Ibrāhīm Tanūrī hai, jin kē mazār Sarhand meñ hai.

Pāk Sahîfāñ vichh hai likhiā,—is meñ shak na kujh,
Bhale bure ifāl lukāî ādil zālim bujh.

Je bande nek amal kamāwāñ, tad to Allah Sāññ
Hākim munsif adīl bhaje; adal kare har thāññ.

- 5 Je khalku'llah bure kāmōñ par himmat apñī lāe,
Allah Pāk dī khalkat sārī zālim bath vichh phāe.

Sūbedār Lāhor dā baniā ik bandā kamzāt,
Sayyid nūñ oh katal karākar khush hove din rāt.

- Kisī te eh sun līā us ne; ' Jo Sayyid ho asalī,
10 Oh nūñ mutlak āg na lage, saḥīḥ riwāyat nikalī.'
Aur musāhib na-lāik ne eh matlab samjhāiā :

“ Hor kaumāñ ne Sayyid banke mulk lūṭ hai khāiā.

' Shāhjī, Shāhjī' bare kahāwan, murīd bahut banāwan.
Har-bar se fatūhāñ leke, aishāñ khūb uḍāwan.”

- 15 Lāhor Shahar hukm dīā sī: ' Jo koī Sayyid āve,
Chobdār Nawābī us nūñ pakar Kachahrī lāve.'
Jo koī Sayyid āfat-mārā Kachahrī vichh ā jāñdā,
Lohe dā tandūr tapākar oh de vichh saṛwāudā.
Is tarah us zālim mūzī bahut Sayyid jalwāiā.

- 20 Us zālim de dil meñ, yāro, zarā rahim na āiā.

Ākhir Sayyid Abdu'llah Shāh Lāhor Shahar vichh āiā :
Kisī moman de dar par us ne ḍam hukkā dā lāiā.

Hindū dā makāñ sā band-būhā rakhā nīchā ;

Shāh Sāhib farmāne lage : “ Unchā kar, O nīchā !”

- 25 Ghussa hoke Hindū boliā : “ Hāthī sāth na kāi,
Jis ke kārān mainūñ, Sāññ, eh jhīrk farmāi !”
Dūjā boliā ; “ Hazrat Maulā, kī hai zāt tumbhārī ?

- Shekh-zâde, yâ Mughal bachâ ho, yâ Sayyid bikhiârî ?”
 Boliâ Bâbâ : “ Sânnûn Sayyid sarî kahe lukâtî :
- 30 Shabîr dî nasal kahâven : is vichh shak na kât.”
 Is bât nûn sunkar lokân bahut tâsuf kîtâ :
 Piâdâ shâhî Sayyid Sâhib nûn phariâ ; uf nân kîtâ.
 Jad Kachahrî hâzir hoiâ puchhiâ us malzâdâ :
 “ Kî hai zât tuhâdî ? Sânnûn daso, Sâhibzâdâ !”
- 35 Boliâ Bâbâ : “ Zât safât dâ Mâlik haigâ Allah !
 Sayyid Hussainî sânnûn âkhan : is meñ shak na Wallâh !
 Us mâzî ne hukm diâ : “ Eh jald tandûr tapâo :
 Is Sayyid nûn bhâtân-wâlî lazat khûb chukâo !”
 Boliâ Sayyid : “ Uzar nahîn hai ; jo marzî hai Maullâ,
 40 Sir par mannâû ; dam na mârûn : sab te hai eh aulâ.”
 Tadûr lohe dâ jis dam hoiâ umdâ lohâ lâkhâ,
 Sayyid “ B’ismi’llah” parhkar kadam jâ us par râkhâ.
 Sayyid sâhib tandûr garm vichh jis dam jâkar wariâ,
 Naukar shâhî jaldî jâkar chapar us par dhariâ.
- 45 Din tîje us pâpî hâkim bhijiâ ik sipâhî,
 Shâh Sâhib dî râkh le âve, der na lâe kât.
 Naukar shâhî wahân pahunchkar chapar châ uṭhâiâ.
 Shâh Sâhib nûn andar us ne Kalima parhdâ pâiâ !
 Araz kîâ, ke “ Hazrat, hun ithoñ bâhir âo !”
- 50 Bole : “ Kuchh parwâh na, sânnûn Hâkim nûn bulwâo.”
 Hâkim sunkar pâ piâdâ turt wahân par âiâ :
 Muâfi dâ phir khwâhân hoiâ. Shâh ne eh farmâiâ :
 “ Teré kuchh taksîr na, Sâhib, merî eh takdîr.
 Jo âve so sir par dhare : kyâ kîje tadbîr ?
- 55 Phir jo tusî muâfi mângo, main Allah de nâm
 Bakhshî dil se, is shart par ;—chhoḍo eh bûd kâm.”
 Nawâb Sâhib ne Shâh Sâhib nûn khilat aur inâm
 Nazar meñ dekar araz kiâ : “ Ik hâthî lîjo thâm.”
 Shâh Sâhib ne filkhâne se mast hâthî chun liâ :
- 60 Har zanjîr jo pâiâ uthe jhatkî se bhun diâ.
 Sûkhî ghâs dîkhâkar bole : “ Sun, hâthî, ik bât ;
 Yehân bahut mulîde khândâ, sâdî sûkhî pât !”
 Hâthî ne oh saunḍ meñ lekar mathe utte dhariâ :
 Âge âge Shâh chale, tâ pichhe hâthî ṭuriâ.

- 65 Shâh Sâhib jad chalde chalde us jagâh par âe,
 Jithe hukkâ pîtâ sâ aur Hindû tânâ lâe.
 Lokâu uthe araz karî : “ Eh buhe haigâ newân :
 Dûje bûhe chalkar waṛiye : is vichh hikmat eñwân.”
 Bole : “ Yâro, chup raho tum ; jad main hukm karewân
- 70 Hâthî apne rastâ âpe khulâ karegâ eñvân.
 Hâthî de ik ṭakar te oh deoḍhî gir hî gaî ;
 Shâh Sâhib ne pesh-khabarî ithe zahîr kî !
 Eh shohrâ jad Shâh Sâhib dâ âmân ne sun pâiâ,
 ‘ Is jagâh se chal denâ hai,’ Hazrat man vichh dhâiâ.
- 75 Jo Sayyid mukâbir, yâro, Jâlandhar vichh haiñ rahindâ,
 Fakhar ke bâis is Hazrat nûn waḍkâ apnâ kahindâ.
 Mazâr inhâñ dî Bastî aur Jâlandhar dî darmiyân.
 Alî Shâh ne nâi banwâi, chûne gumbaz zi-shân.
 Nau sau âṭh haiñ barsâñ guzreñ duniyâ ton sidhâre.
- 80 Is duniyâñ nûn hech hî jânâ, Allah kâñ sañwâre.
 Sahîh rawâyat yûñ hai Sâhib Sayyid Ibrâhîm,
 Tanûrî Sâhib dâ lakab sâ pâkar, hoe khuld mukîm.
 Châr-dîwârî masjid meñ hai un kî kabar zarûr :
 Jo châhe ziârat karne, is meñ shak nâñ kûr !
- 85 Watan chhod Abdu’llah Sâhib jad Jâlandhar vichh âe
 Lakab âbâi sâth le âe, Tanûrî hai sadâe.
 Asal nâm hai un kâ, bhâto, Dânishman Abdu’llah.
 Walî kâmil haiñ ; un ko mâneñ ithe de ahilu’llah.

TRANSLATION.

Story of a miracle of Sayyid 'Abdu'llah, called the Tanûrî of Jâlandhar, whom Nawâb Tughlaq of Lâhor threw into a hot oven, and who by the grace of God came out therefrom safe and sound with not a hair of his head injured. Sayyid 'Abdu'llah's father, whose shrine is at Sarhand (Sirhind), was named Sayyid Ibrâhîm Tanûrî.*

It is written in the Holy Books, that there is no doubt
 That a people hath kind and harsh rulers according as
 its own actions are good and bad.

* Apparently meant for some member of the Tughlaq family, of which eight held rule over Lâhor from 1321 to 1398 A.D.

If a people do righteousness then doth the Lord God
Send a good and just ruler, that ever doeth justice.

- 5 If a people do evil with all their might,
Then doth the Holy God thrust them into the power of
a tyrant.

A low man was made Governor of Lâhor,
Who delighted day and night to slay the Sayyids.*

- 10 Some one told him that it was a true saying,
That a pure Sayyid could not be hurt by fire.
Then an evil-minded friend said to him :
“Men of other classes pretending to be Sayyids are
ruining the country.

They are saluted as great (personages with the title of)
‘Shâhji’† and have many followers.

They take large gifts and enjoy themselves thus.”

- 15 The order was given in Lâhor City that if any Sayyid
entered it
The Nawâb’s agents were to seize him and to bring him
to Court.

If any unfortunate Sayyid was taken to the Court,

They heated an iron oven and burnt him in it.

In this way this base tyrant burnt many Sayyids.

- 20 My friends,‡ the tyrant had no mercy in his heart.

At last Sayyid ‘Abdu’llah Shâh went to Lâhor City,

And was smoking at the door of some good man.

A Hindû (close by) had built a very low entrance to his
house.

Said the Saint : “Make it higher, O low man !”§

- 25 Said the Hindû angrily : “Thou hast no elephant with
thee

That thou mayest mock me, my Lord !”

* Who are looked upon as peculiarly sacred persons.

† Commonly accorded to Sayyids.

‡ To the audience.

§ Making play on the word *nichâ*, low.

Said another : " Holy Preacher, what is thy caste ?
Art a Shekh, a Mughal or a beggarly Sayyid ?"*

Said the Saint : " All the world calleth us Sayyids.

30 They say we are the seed of Shabîr ; † there is no doubt
in this."

The people were very sorrowful on hearing these words.
The royal messenger seized the Sayyid and had no
mercy.

When he reached the Court said the tyrant :

" What is thy caste ? Tell me, thou son of the Saints !"

35 Said the Saint : " God is the Lord of caste and clan !
We are called Hussainî Sayyids ‡ : there is no doubt by
(the grace of) God !"

The tyrant gave an order : " Quickly heat the oven,
And let this Sayyid have a good taste of his brethren !"

Said the Sayyid : " I make no complaint ; the will of God
40 I take upon me without hesitation : this (duty) is above
all."

When the iron of the oven was thoroughly red hot,
The Sayyid, saying " In the name of God," entered
into it.

As soon as the Sayyid had entered the oven
The royal servants quickly shut down the lid.

45 On the third day (afterwards) that evil tyrant sent an
official

To bring him the Saint's ashes without any delay.

The royal servant went and lifted up the lid.

He found the Saint repeating the Creed inside it !

Said he : " O Saint, come out of it now !"

50 Said (the Saint) : " Never mind, send the Governor to
me."

When the Governor heard of this he came quickly on
foot,

And was anxious to be forgiven. Said the Saint :

* All these are Musalmân ' castes ' or classes.

† *i.e.*, of the Imâm Hussain.

‡ Descendants of the Imâm Hussain.

- “Thou art not in fault, my Lord, it was my fate.
 What is to be must be borne : why máke plans (to
 avoid it) ?
- 55 If thou wouldst have forgiveness, in the name of God,
 I will grant it with my heart on this condition :—that
 thou give up these evil ways.”
 The Nawâb gave the Saint dresses of honor and money
 As gifts and said : “Take an elephant also.”
 The Saint chose a furious elephant from the (royal)
 sheds,
- 60 That would break all the chains put on it.
 (The Saint) showed it some dry grass and said : “Hear,
 O elephant, my say.
 Here thou wert well fed, I have but dry grass !”
 The elephant took (the grass) in his trunk and put it on
 its head.*
 The Saint went first and the elephant followed.
- 65 Then going along the Saint came to the place
 Where he had smoked his pipe and the Hindû had
 abused him.
 Said the people : “This door is low.
 Be pleased to enter by another door : it will be best.”
 Said he : “Silence, my friends, when I order it,
 70 The elephant will himself open up a way.”
 (Thereupon) the doorway fell down from a push by the
 elephant,
 As the Saint had prophecied there !†
 Everybody heard of the doings of the Saint,
 And the Saint judged it best to leave the place.
- 75 The great Sayyids, my friends,‡ that dwell in Jâlandhar,
 Proudly call this Saint their ancestor.
 His shrine is between Bastî (Dânishmandân) and Jâlan-
 dhar.

* *i.e.*, accepted it.

† The prophecy the bard has apparently forgotten to relate.

‡ To the audience.

'Alî Shâh rebuilt it with a magnificent plastered dome.
It is 908 years since (the Saint) left this world.*

80 In doing God's work he deemed this world to be nothing.

It is a true saying that Sayyid Ibrâhîm,
Who obtained the title of Tanûrî† Sâhib, entered
paradise.

It is true (too) that his tomb is in a four-gated *masjid*.
Who wish can visit it: there is no doubt or lie in this!

85 When 'Abdu'llah Shâh leaving his home came to
Jâlandhar

He brought the title with him and was called Tanûrî.
His real name, my friends,† was Dânishmand 'Abdu'llah.
He is a perfect Saint, and the men of God worship him
there (at Jâlandhar).

IX.

SHÂH 'ABDU'L-GHAFFÛR.

TEXT.

*Zikar karâmat Shâh 'Abdu'l-Ghaffûr Sâhib sâkin Bastî Dânish-
mandân 'ilâqa Jâlandhar, ke bandûq golîân un ke châdar par thaṇḍî
hokar zamân par gir parnâ.*

Ik piṇḍ Bhawânîpûr hai mashhûr ;

Majlis othe hove nûr—purnûr.

Othon chale ânde sî jo eh Shâh,

Darvesh kaî sî in de hamrâh.

5 Pahunche jad Badâle de barâbar,

Parne lagîṇ golîân tarâtar.

Sâthî hoe darke bahut bad-hâl :

* This is of course an imaginary date.

† Whoever Sayyid Ibrâhîm Tanûrî may have been it is clear that he takes his name Tanûrî from some place. The title seems to have become a general one in Jâlandhar: see above No. I. The local derivation is from *tanûr*, an oven, in honour of the bero of the red hot oven, *i.e.*, Sayyid 'Abdu'llah, but the fact of this saint's being the son of a Tanûrî upsets this derivation.

‡ To the audience.

- Farmâiâ, ke "Kar lo sabar nûn thâl."
 Jad âge kadam chale woh do châr,
 10 Âi tad goliân dî boehhâr.
 Dhûnḍan lage sâthî, koî ho oṭ :
 Farmâiâ: "Razâ dâ pahino tum koṭ."*
 Jab kuchh chale râh âge hamdam,
 Paṛne lagîn goliân chhamâ-chham.
 15 Sâthî hoe nûhâ kar nîwâlî :
 "Hun jânân de pai gae haiñ lâlî !"
 Châdar dî utâr un ne phir kar :
 "Tum tân lo sâre apne sir par."
 Pahilî sî goliân jo âwan dîn,
 20 Sajje khabbe se nikal jândîn.
 Phir châdar ke barâbar âkar pa. dîn,
 Thaṇḍî zamîn saban girdîn.
 Yeh dekh karâmat hove mashkûr,
 Sâthî jo ho gae se dil chûr !

TRANSLATION.

Account of a miracle of Shâh 'Abdu'l-Ghaffûr† of Eastî Dânishmandân in Jâlandhar :—Making bullets that fell on his sheet fall cold to the ground.

- There is a well-known village (called) Bhawânîpûr,‡
 Where there is a brilliant company (of saints).
 When Shâh ('Abdu'l-Ghaffûr) was coming thence,
 Many *darveshes* followed him.
 5 When they neared Badâlâ§
 Bullets began to fall noisily about them.
 His followers were wretchedly frightened,
 But (the Saint) said: "Put on the shield of patience."
 When they had advanced a few steps,
 10 The bullets came in showers.

* The English word 'coat.'

† This is probably a strictly local saint.

‡ In the Jâlandhar District.

§ Three miles from Jâlandhar.

- His followers began to search for a shelter,
 But he said: "Put on the coat of contentment."
 When the companions advanced a little further,
 The bullets began to fall very quickly.
- 15 The terrified followers began to lament, (saying):
 "Death hath fallen on the way-farers!"
 (The Saint) took off his sheet and said again (to them):
 "Stretch it over all heads."
 The first bullets that came
- 20 Went right and left (of them),
 Then they fell upon the sheet
 And all fell off cold upon the ground.
 Seeing the miracle they were thankful,
 The followers that had been weak of heart!

X.

IMÂM NĀSIRU'DDĪN SĪRĀNĪ.*

TEXT.

Bayān tashrīf ūwarī Imām Nāsiru'ddīn Sahīb Jālandhar meñ, aur Jālandhar nām jogī ko maghlūb karke nikāl denā, aur izhār dīgar karā-māt Hazrat mazkūr.

Awwal hamd Khudā de kahkar ākhān salām Nabbī nūn.
 Merā maksad dilī barāve! Rahmat bhaj Walī nūn!

Nasiru'ddīn Sīrānī Sayyid jad Jālandhar āe,
 Lokān de hidāyat kāran ethe dere lāe.

- 5 Jogī sâ ik badā hankārī is shahr vichh rahindā,
 Jo kuchh chahandā so kuchh kardā, dukh bahut sad-
 aindā.

Fajar de bele nūr de tarke is zālīm te darden,
 Gāfān-wālīān dūdh chūeke is āge lā darden.

- Jo koī is meñ derī karde, yâ nāghāsī pāndī,
 10 Oh de dūdh bigar jāndā sī, yâ gāe mar jāndī.
 Ik same jo Hazrat dekhiā ranān zālān kuṛiān,

* This is the chief Saint in Jālandhar.

- Bahût se bartan dũdh dahĩ de oh nũũ dene tũriũũ ;
 Nũsiru'ddĩn Imũm Sũhib nũũ un par raham jo mũũ,
 Ik Gujareŧĩ dudhwũũ nũũ apnĩ taraf bulũũ.
- 15 Do phũl đaboe dũdh meũ ; farmũũ : “ Le jũo ;
 Jo kuchh hũlat uthe guzre sũnũũ akh sunũo.”
 Jad jogĩ de pũs Gujariũũ pahunchũũ kuchh kar der,
 Puchhan lũgũ, “ Der kyũũ lũũ ? Paŧiũ kyũ andher ?”
 Dũdh jo un kũ dekhũũ jogĩ, haigũ khũnũ rang !
- 20 Teoŧhũ pũkar puchhan lũgũ : “ Kyũũ hai khũnũ rang ?”
 Buđhiũ đardũ, ‘ Har Har ’ kardũ, bolũ : “ Ik fakĩr
 Mere dũdh meũ ungalũ đũbũ : mainũ jũũnũ koĩ pĩr !”
 Panj chhe chele pahile ghalle, nũũ hukm eh kĩtũ :
 “ Jekar tuhũđe nũũ na mũũ, pũũ aphũ kĩtũ.
- 25 Jaldũ jũo, pũkar le mũũ : ho mard fakĩr,
 Jis ne tũũ dũdh mere ko kĩtũ lahũ nazĩr !”
 Pũs Ĥazrat de chhaiũũ akar Kalimũ Ĥakk dũ pariũũ !
 Uthe hũ oh baiŧhe rahe kuchh tazkĩrũ na kariũũ !
 Phir jogĩ ne ghusse khũkar das vũũ chele hor,
- 30 Pũkarũn kũran Imũm Sahib de jaldũ ditte ŧoŧ.
 Oh vũ jũ Musalmũn hoe, nũ mũũkar gũũ koĩ :—
 Jeh de wal ho Sachũ Sũhib, oh de wal har koĩ !—
 Panjũh chele hor bhajkar jogĩ ne eh kihũ :
 “ Kyũ ghazab jo uthe gũũ ? Uthe jogũ rihũ !”
- 35 Bũkũ chele sũth lekar apũ hoiũ rũhũ.
 Imũm Sũhib de neŧe akar eh gall kĩtũ wũhũ :
 “ Yũ karũmũt dekho, Sũhib, yũ kuchh hameũ dikhũo.”
 “ Phir tamũshũ kudrat Rabb dũ. Akkheũ dekhde jũo.
 Pahilũ sũ eh Ĥindũ nagariũ Musalmũnũ hun us jũo.
- 40 Sũhib hath wadũũũũ ; jis deve oh pũũ.”
 Jogĩ eh gall sunke, yũro, wal asmũnũũ chũhiũũ :
 Jũtũ Ĥazrat Imũm Sũhib dũ piche oh de nũ pariũũ !
 Jũtũ ‘ taŧ-taŧ ’ lagdũ sir par, piche mũũ na chhũũũũ :
 Jogĩ akhĩr lukiũ, yũro, nũũ jamũũ dũ kũđhiũũ !
- 45 Ek karũmũt Imũm Sũhib dũ pahilũ hũ mashhũr.
 Bahut zamũne us par guzrũ, koĩ na jũne kũŧ !
 Rũwũ yũn rũwũyat kardũ :—jis eh shalr basũũũ,

- Us ne apne Gurû Sâhib te lakab Jâlandhar pâiâ.
 Phir jo us dî gaddî baiṭhâ ehî lakab us pâiâ.
 50 Usî tarah is jogî tak eh lakab sâ mildâ âiâ.
- Jogî de naṭh jāne dî jad pahunchî khabar chauphere,
 Shâh Sâhib de girde lokân âkar pâe ðere.
 Gawwân-wâliân râzî hokar Kalimâ shukar dâ paṛhiâ.
 Dîn dunî dâ maksad un kâ kadhî na hargiz aṛiâ.
 55 Rauza Ḥazrat Imâm Sâhib dâ baniâ âlîshân ;
 Ziârat kâran lukâî jâveñ Hindû Musalmân.
 Nadaz-niâz charḥâveñ othe Walî murâdeñ pâveñ.
 Hâr mahîne mele hone, âmî dekhan jâveñ.
- Allah de main sidkâ jâwân, jo haigû Kartâr !
 60 Bandiân de gham dûr karaindâ loke woh Ghaffâr !

TRANSLATION.

The Story of the advent of the Imâm Nâsiru'ddîn to Jâlandhar, and of his conquering a jogî called Jâlandhar,† and an account of the other miracles of this Saint.*

First I praise God and then I salute the Prophet (Muhammad).

May he fulfil the desires of my heart! May he send peace to his Saint!

When the Sayyid Nâsiru'ddîn Sîrânî‡ came to Jâlandhar,

He settled there to convert the people.

- 5 A very haughty jogî dwelt in the city,
 Who did as he pleased and gave great trouble.
 Early in the morning through fear of this tyrant,
 The owners of cows milked them and brought (the milk)
 to him.

* He is probably only a local Saint, but may be meant for Nâsiru'ddîn Awadhî, the preceptor of the celebrated Saint Nizâmmu'ddîn Auliâ of Dehlî in the 13th Century. † See introduction.

‡ The Shirânîs are a tribe of Paṭhâns settled all about the Sulaimân Mountains.

- If any one delayed and neglected to do so
- 10 His milk went bad or his cow died.
 One day the Saint saw the women, old and young,
 Going to him with many pails of milk and curds ;
 And the Imâm Nâsiru'ddîn had pity,
 And called a Gûjar woman* to him.
- 15 He put two flowers (into the milk) and said : " Take it
 away,
 And come and tell me all that happens."
 When the Gûjars went to the *jogî* after some delay,
 He asked them, " Why are you late ? What misfortune
 has happened ?"
- When the *jogî* saw their milk it was all bloody !
- 20 He frowned and asked them, " Why is it bloody ?"
 Said an old woman, terrified and calling on God : " A
faqîr
 Put his fingers into my milk : I think he must be a
 saint !" †
- (The *jogî*) sent five or six disciples and gave them an
 order :
 " If he does not come with you bring him by force.
- 25 Go quickly and seize him : he must be a bold *faqîr*
 To make my fresh milk look like blood !"
 The whole six went to the Saint and all repeated the
 Creed of God ! ‡
- They remained there and said nothing (of what they had
 been told to say).
 Then the *jogî* in his wrath sent ten or twenty disciples
 more
- 30 To seize the Imâm quickly.
 They two turned Musalmân and none went back :—
 On whose side the True God is, on his side is every
 one!—
 The *jogî* sent fifty more disciples and said :

* The Gûjars are the cowherd class of the Panjâb.

† And has worked a miracle.

‡ i. e., turned Musalmâns.

“ What magic is there, that the *jogîs* remain there ? ”

35 Then taking the rest of his disciples he started himself.
He came to the Imâm and said these foolish words :

“ Either see my miracles, my Lord, and show me some
(of yours). ”

(Said the Saint): “ Still (the sign of) the power of God
remains. See it with your eyes.

Formerly this was a Hindû city now it is a Musalmân
one.

40 Success is in God's hands ; He obtains to whom He
gives it. ”

Hearing this, my friends,* the *jogî* flew up into the sky:
But the holy Imâm's shoe went up after him !

The shoe kept beating his head ‘ tap-tap ’ and would
not leave off :

At last the *jogî* disappeared, my friends, turned out by
the glorious light of (the Saint ! †)

45 This was the first remarkable miracle of the Imâm.
A long time has passed since and yet no one thinks it
untrue !

Historians relate that he who founded the city
Obtained the title of Jâlandhar from his Gurû.

And then whoever sat on the throne took the same title.

50 In this way the (above-mentioned) *jogî* came by the
title.

When the *jogî* disappeared news of it reached every-
where,

And the people came and settled round the Saint.

The owners of the cows much pleased gladly repeated
the (Musalmân) Creed.

They were never disappointed in their religious or
worldly desires.

* Addressed to the audience.

† This means that he was thoroughly beaten, because to be struck with
a shoe is a most ignominious thing in India.

- 55 A magnificent shrine is built to the Imâm,
 And Hindûs and Musalmâns (alike) worship there.
 They bring their offerings and obtain their desires
 through the Saint.
 There is a fair in June, which all the world attends.
- I worship the God that is the Creator !
- 60 That puts away the sorrows of His servants and is the
 Remover (of Sins) !

XI.

'ÂQIL SHÂH SÎRÂNÎ.

TEXT.

Zikar karâmat 'Âqil Shâh Bukhârî Sâhib Sîrânî, jinhon ne apnâ makân Jauriân-wâle Châh par banâkar, ik mukhtasar baghîcha dil-chasp lagâyâ.*

- Ik shakhs Âshûr Beg sâ Mughal barâi nâmi :
 Hâthî ambâ heth ghorâ banhke soiâ nâl ârâmî.
 Ghorâ chhutkar oh dâ, yâro, wariâ vichh bâghîche ;
 Sâin log dhatkâriâ is nûn, jâ giriâ nîche.
- 5 Mirzâ Sâhib jo jâge nîndon langrâ dekhâ ghorâ :
 Lobâ lâkhâ hoke oh ne hath vichh phariâ korâ ;
 Zor nâl faqîr Sâin nûn do korë jâ mâre.
 Shâh Sâhib ne korë khâe, na kuchh mûl pukâre.
 Bole Mirzâ : " Tainûn golî je lagî vichh tawîron ;
- 10 Jâne apnî karnî pâi, nahîn jâne takdiron."
- Shahr Jâlandhar wardâ sî, jo golî sidhî âi :
 Mathe uthe lagke, oh dî jân labân par âi.
 Aisî golî khâkar, yâro, bachda hai vî koî ?
 Jo takdîr Ilâhî, yâro, so hî pûrî hoî.

Ab mazâr faiz âsar 'Âqil Shâh Bukhârî Sâhib usî makân par maujûd hai. Har sâl wahân par ik mukhtasar melâ hotâ hai. Malang log âksar tahmâl pâte haiñ. Pur-fizâ makân hai, aur Bastî Shekh Darvesh ke ruqba meñ, jâñib Sharaq, Jâlandhar ke pukhta sarak par wâqî'a hai.

* As the Shirânîs are Pathâns this Saint is hardly likely to have really come from Bukhâra.

TRANSLATION.

The Story of a miracle of 'Āqil Shāh Sīrānī of Bukhāra, who built himself a house at the Jauriān Well and made a beautiful little garden.*

There was a well-known Mughal, † called 'Āshūr Beg,

Who tied his elephant and horse under a mango tree ‡ and went to sleep at his ease.

The horse got loose in the garden, my friends; §

The ascetics frightened him away and he fell down. ||

5 When the (Mughal) nobleman awoke he saw that his horse was lame,

Red as a (hot-) iron (with rage) he took a whip in his hand

And twice struck the Saint hard with it.

('Āqil) Shāh received the blows, but said nothing.

Said the nobleman: "If a bullet strike thy forehead,

10 Know it is the reward of thy (evil) deeds, know it not for thy fate."

As he ¶ was going into Jālandhar City a bullet came straight at him,

And struck his forehead and his life departed.

My friends, § from such a bullet (-wound) can any one escape?

My friends, § as God had ordained, so was it fulfilled.

The gracious shrine of 'Āqil Shāh of Bukhāra is still where his house was. There is a small fair there every year, where ascetics perform dances. It is a delightful house in the environs of Bastī Shekh Darvesh, to the East of it on the high road to Jālandhar.

* At Jālandhar.

† A class of Indian Musalmāns.

‡ In the Saint's garden.

§ To the audience.

|| And broke his knees.

¶ Who 'he' is—whether the Saint or the Mughal—is not clear from this story.

XII.

'ÂZAM SHÂH.

TEXT.

Tazkirât Miyân 'Âzam Shâhî Sâhib, 'usalî mutawattan 'Âlâ Pothowâl ya'ne Gujrat, ba'd ash muqayyim Bijwârâ tá âkhiri dam.

Miyân 'Âzam Shâh, pîr Kâdirî, aise ahili kamâl,
Fazal karâmat dekh unhôn dâ mulk hoiâ khushhâl.
Jâgîr muâfî mûl na lainde langar aisâ khulâ,
Darvesh musâfir khâwan uthon, tût na âve, Wâllah !

5 Ik dafâ barât â utarî Bijwârâ vichh bhârî :
Dâwat un de warjî boliâ : “ Â karke, langârî !”
“ Vîh ser hainge châwal, Miyân, vîh ser haigâ ghî !
Un de siwâ ik bakrotâ haigâ, hor na hai kuchh, Jî !
Kitne sau barâtî hainge, sau ik haiñ darvesh :

10 Lukmâ lukmâ milo unhân nûn : ghaur kîjîye khesh !”
Lângrî nûn bole Hazrat : “ Gham na zarâ khâo.
Dohrâ chhândâ tum ne lenâ ; ghî dikhâkar pâo.”
Jad pulâo tayyâr hoiâ, tân pahile janj bulâe,
Har ik nûn tawazzû karke khûb baranj khilâe.

15 Is de pichhe Bûre Shâh nûn dohrâ dittâ chhândâ :
Fukrâ se jo bâkî bachiâ ghurbân nûn jâ bândâ !

Ik dafâ jo Hazrat, yâro, Bastî Shekh men âe,
Sâhib Dâd ne ziâfat karke teh ser châwal pakâe.
Ziâfat khâwan chale Hazrat, aisâ maukiâ hoiâ,

20 Jo koî miliâ nâl ho ehaliâ, jam ghaṭ sau dâ hoiâ.
Sâhib Dâd Mîrâsî boliâ : “ Itnî fauj jo âi,
Sabhân nûn taâm khilâkar ho jâwân karzâi !”

Bole Hazrat : “ Gham na khâ, tûn sânûtu das de pher,
Jo taâm hî tûn pakwâiâ, haigâ kitne ser ?”

25 Araz kîâ, ke “ Teh ser châwal jâ, kuchh kam ziâdâ,
Darveshân dî khâtir maini ne kar rakhe ânâdâ.”

Bole Hazrat : “ Wahî khânâ mere sâmhne lâo.

Allah barkat pâo, us men gham de pâs na jâo !”

Hazrat oh chāwal bahke apne bath bartāe :

30 Sāre log vi raj gaî, yâro, âdhe kharch meñ âe !

Eh dastâr we dekhiâ lokân, nâzâi jo kuchh âwan,

Apne pās woh mûl na rakheñ sabh jâ bartâwan !

TRANSLATION.

The Story of Miyân 'Āzam Shâhî, originally an inhabitant of Great Poṭhowâl or Gujrât, but afterwards a settler in Bijwârâ to the end of his life.*

Miyân 'Āzam Shâh, the Qâdariâ, † was so powerful a man,

That the people were made happy by his kindly miracles.

Although he would not take any free grants of revenue he kept up so large a kitchen,

That *durveshes* and travellers could not eat him out, by (the grace of) God !

5 Once a very large (marriage) procession came to Bijwârâ.

Said his cook (to them) : " Come, O processionists !"

(And said to the Saint) : " Miyân, there are twenty *ser* ‡ of rice and twenty *ser* of *ghî* !

Besides this a young goat and nothing else !

The processionists are several hundreds and there are a hundred *durveshes* :

10 They will only get a morsel each : think over it !"

Said the Saint to the cook : " Have no fear at all.

You shall have a double share ; show me the *ghî*."

When the *pulâo* § was ready he first called the processionists,

Satisfied them all and fed them well.

* Bijwârâ is in the Hushiârpûr District.

† A member of the order of ascetics founded by 'Abdu'l Qâdir Jilânî.

‡ A *ser* is 2 lbs.

§ A spiced dish of rice and meat.

- 15 Then Bâre Shâh the cook took his double share :
And the portion left by the *faqîrs* was given to the
poor !

Once, friends,* when the Saint came to Bastî Shekh
(Darvesh)
Sâhib Dâd (the Minstrel) cooked thirty *sers* of rice for
a feast.

- When the Saint went to eat the feast it so happened,
20 That whoever met him went with him and a crowd of a
hundred was created.

Said Sâhib Dâd the Minstrel : " So great a crowd has
come,

That if I feed them all I shall become indebted !"

Said the Saint : " Have no fear, show me

How many *sers* of food you have had cooked."

- 25 Said he : " Thirty *sers* of rice, more or less,
I have kept ready for the *durveshes*."

Said the Saint : " Bring me the dinner.

God will bless us, have no fear !"

The Saint sat down and distributed the same rice with
his own hands :

- 30 All the people were satisfied, my friends,* and only
half (the rice) was used !

The people saw that (the Saint's) custom was that,
whatever gifts came to him,

He kept nothing at all himself, but gave it all away.

XIII.

SÛFÎ AHMAD.

TEXT.

Zikar kamâliyât zâhirî wa bâtanî Sûfî Ahmad Sâhib, mutawatan khâs Jâlandhar, muhalla Kishn Chand, murîd khâs Shekh Anwar Sâhib, sâkin Bajohâ Khurd, 'ilâqa Nakodar.

Khudâe Pâk de nazar sawallî bande par jad hoe,

Pîr kâmil milâve us nân, sab kadûrat dhoë.

* To the audience.

Sūfi Ahmad Shekh muazzam kasab se rizak kamānde.
Lokān nūn hidāyat karde, pīr par sidkā jānde.

- 5 Khidmat se-hi azmat mildi; samjho ramz jalī.
Anwarjī dī shafkat kārān ho gae mard walī.
Kasaf karāmat Sūfijī dī jo haigī mashhūr;
Budhe budhe mard muabbad karde haiñ mazkūr.
Zuhad o tihārat Sūfijī ne aisī shahrat pāi,
10 Ālim fāzil murīd ban gae; jāne bahut khudāe.

Maulvi Muhammad Khalīl Sāhib ne pīr pakarne khātir,
Bahut justajū kī chauphere, koñ na pāñ māhir.

- Kai dafā Maulvījī de dil meñ hoiā irādā :—
Sūfi nūn main pīr banāwāñ, par hai jāhil sādā !—
15 Khwāb meñ oh nūn hoī ishārat :—Sūfi pīr banāo,
Dīn dunī vichh zāhir bātan fāidā achhā pāo.
Dūje din istikhāre andar, eh ishārat hoiā :—
Sūfi de tnsī baiat karo, juram jāegā dhoiā.—
Tije din jad Maulvījī nūn eh ishārat hoī,
20 Sūfi dā murīd ban gā, uzar na lūā koī.
Barkat sohbat Sūfijī ne eh jalwā dikhāiā;
Har ik madāraj darvesh dā oh nūn sair karāiā.

Hāfiz Muhammad Akbar Sāhib fāzil sī muatbar,
Sāt tafsīrūn Qurān Majīdiān oh nūn haisan azbar.

- 25 Hāfiz ne eh suniā jab shagird rasīd hamārā ;—
Sūfi dā murīd ban gā, karke bahutā chārā :—
Farmāiā, ke “ Zāhir meñ bahu aukhā haigā kār !
Jāhil dā ho ālim pairā ; banā samjhad bichār !”
Hāfiz Sāhib Sūfijī de milne khātir āe ;
30 Sūfi Ahmad Akbarjī nūn yāñ irshād farmāe.
“ Allah de main sidkā jāwāñ, bahutā fazal farmāiā,
Fāzilkārī jamī mard nūn mere ghar bhijwāiā.
Araz asādī eho ik hai ; ho jāve manzūr :—
Fātihā de tafsīr farmākar sānūñ karo masrūr.”
35 Hāfizjī ne bād tāmīl aisā kahā rukararā :
“ Sab kuchh hun main bhūl gā hāñ, rawāñ na āve zarā !”
Farmāiā, ke “ Hāfiz Sāhib, fukrā log nimāne

- Nazar hikârat nâl na dekho, karke hik thigâne.
 Allah Sâhib jis bande nûn ilm bâtauî deve,
 40 Us de âge sab sukhâlâ ilm zâhirî hove.”
 Phir farmâiâ : “ Hâfiz Sâhib, shafkat karke tâm,*
 Kuchh musâil âkh sunâvîn, dil pâve ârâm.”
 Us wakt phir Hâfiz Sâhib aisâ wa'iz farmâiâ :
 Bahutiân nûn taughash â gîân, bâkiâi nûn rulwâiâ!
- 45 Maulvî ne jad Sûfi talkeñ, zikar dî pât.
 Ik roz tân oh nûn yâro, eh gall farmâi :
 “ Wa'iz kîâ karo har Jume nûn, khalkat fâidâ pâve ;
 Gumrâhî nûn chhad chhodke sîdhî râh wal âve.”
 Pîr dî itâat kare, ke mumbar par jâ bahe ;
 50 Ik tân maslibâ mûl na kitâ : ronde ronde rahe !
 Eh hikâyat sunke Sûfi, eh kalima farmâiâ :
 “ Ilm tân pahîâ ; fukar na âiâ ; âiâ tân ki âiâ ?”
 Farmâiâ, ke “ Dûje Jume nûn main howângâ hâzir ;
 Mere sâmhne mumbar bahke wa'iz âkhe nâzir.”
- 55 Dûje Jume nûn Sûfi Sâhib masjid â khilove ;
 Maulvî Sâhib wa'iz farmâkar âp zarâ na rove :
 Lokân dâ eh hâl sâ hoiâ, sab karde sî zârî.
 Maulvî Sâhib wa'iz karainde, jûn dariyâ ho zârî !
- Maulvî Sâhib hajj karne nûn jad hoe âmâdâ,
 60 Sûfi Sâhib ijâzat bakhshê ; bole : “ Wâh irâdâ !
 Mûlk Arab vichh dost mere dâ ghâtî utte derâ ;
 Oh nûn salâm âkhnâ ; mûl na kariye derâ.
 Maulvî Sâhib Baitu'llah de hajj te fârighe hoe ;
 Us pahâr par jâe upre, jithon fakîr labhoe.”
- 65 Sâmhne hunde ik bârî woh boliâ mard âzâdâ :
 “ Salâm-alaik, Muhammad Khalîlâ, Sûfi dâ dil shâdâ ?”
 Burkâposh sâ mard Khudâ dâ, khâtir se pesh âiâ,
 Râtî rakhiâ khidmat kîî, tarke in farmâiâ :
 “ Ithe rahân, to ghar tusâdâ jânâ ho, nahîn zor.”
- 70 Maulvî âkhiâ ; “ Mihr tusâde, sânuñ deo tor.”

- Mard Khudâ dâ hâth pakaṛke sâth sâth ho chaliâ :
 Thoṛâ chalkar daldal âiâ, miṭṭhî pânî raliâ :
 Us de pichhe khâi âi, pânî se māmûr.
 Farmâiâ : “ ethon lāngh mārke, langhnâ hai zarûr.”
- 75 Chhâl mārke khâi uthon asî jad langh gae.
 Farmâiâ, ke “ Bas, Sâhib, asî aggon chalan rahe.
 Paṛhne dâ hun velâ âiâ, kyûn main karân taksîr ?
 Tusîn Sûfi nûn salâm âkhnâ jaldî be-tâkhîr.”
 Eh gall fakîr akhke kahîn chhîn ho gae,
- 80 Hâjîjî do kadam chalke kholiân vichh âe.
 Eh kholî Lâhor Shahr dî dekhî sî kae bâr !
 Painḍâ dhâdâ muk giâ ! Phir shukar kîâ Ghaffâr !
 Sûfijî dî khidmat vichh salâm-alaik pahunchâiâ.
 Sûfijî jawâb âkhkar yûn irshâd farmâiâ :
- 85 “ Pânî dî jo khâi dekhî samundar sâ zakhâr !
 Daldal jo sî pahilî âi kaṇḍâsâ us pār !
 Itnâ rastâ dûr dâ jo jaldî hoiâ tai,
 Faqîrî eh nân jamnân ; darveshî hor hai shai !
 Aise karshamâ dikhâue nahîn hai kuchh chîz :
- 90 Pahchân Allah Pâk de niâmat barî azîz !”

Maskan Sûfi Sâhib dâ Kishn Chand dâ Kot.
 Asheshân* uthon disdâ, nâ hove koî oṭ !

TRANSLATION.

Story of the open and secret miracles of Sûfi Ahmad of Jālandhar, dwelling in the ward of Kishn Chand, a follower of Shekh Anwar of Lesser Bajohā in Nakodar.†

When the Holy God casts His benign glance upon His
 servant,
 He brings to him a perfect Saint‡ and washes away all
 his wickedness.

* This is the English word (Railway) Station.

† Both these worthies are probably strictly local saints.

‡ In the sense of spiritual guide.

The great Shekh Sûfi Aḥmad earned his living by work.
He exhorted the people and served his preceptor well.

- 5 Service leads to greatness; understand this great secret.
He became a saintly personage through the favor of
(Shekh) Anwar.

The miraculous powers of the Sûfi are well known,
And his old worshippers can tell it.

- The devotion and sincerity of the Sûfi became so famous,
10 That the wise and learned became his followers, as all
the world knows.

The Maulvî Muḥammad Khalîl to obtain a preceptor
Had made great search everywhere and had found no
one competent (to guide him).

Many a time had the Maulvî made up his mind
To make the Sûfi his preceptor, but he was entirely
illiterate !*

- 15 He had a sign in a dream to make the Sûfi his preceptor,
And thus obtain much open and secret advantage in
both worlds.

Next day as a good omen he (again) had a sign (in a
dream)

To follow the Sûfi and have his sins washed away.

- On the third day the Maulvî again had a sign,
20 And became a disciple of the Sûfi and made no excuses.
The Sûfi blessed his disciple with his company,
And initiated him into all the paths of a *durvesh*. †

The very learned Hâfiz ‡ Muḥammad Akbar
Had by heart the seven chapters § of the Holy *Qurân*.

- 25 The Hâfiz heard that his own disciple ||
Had become a disciple of the Sûfi with all his heart,

* And that made the difficulty. † Religionist or ascetic.

‡ A person who has the *Qurân* by heart.

§ Should be 114 chapters.

|| i.e., the Maulvî Muḥammad Khalîl.

And said : " This is apparently a truly wondrous affair !
The learned become the disciple of the illiterate ; it is
beyond comprehension ! "

The Ḥâfiz went to see the Sûfi,

30 And thus spake his ideas to the Sûfi Aḥmad Akbar.

(Said the Sûfi) : " I worship God and He hath greatly
favored me,

That he hath sent a wise and learned man to my house.

I have a request ; pray, accept it :—

Repeat the *Fâtîha** chapter and gratify me."

35 The Ḥâfiz tried and said over and over again :

" I have forgotten it all now, none of it comes to me at
all ! "

Said (the Sûfi) : " Ḥâfiz, though we *faqîrs* are poor
people,

Look not upon us with contempt and disdain.

To whom God gives hidden knowledge,

40 He granteth the open knowledge of all kindness."

Again he said : " Ḥâfiz, with great kindness

Teach me some (moral) precepts, that my heart may be
at rest."

This time the Ḥâfiz preached so well,

That many swooned away and many more wept !

45 It is said that the Sûfi then became the Maulvî's preceptor.

One day, my friends,† he said to him :

" Preach every Friday‡ that the people may be benefited,
And the lost leave their ways and come into the straight
path."

O obeying the Saint he went into the pulpit,

50 But could not deliver even one precept and stood
weeping !

Hearing the tale the Sûfi said to him :

* The first chapter of the *Qurân*. † To the audience.
‡ The Musalmân ' Sunday.'

“Thou art learned, but not ascetic, so what hast thou gained?”

And he said: “I will be present next Friday ;
Ascend the pulpit before me and preach openly.”

- 55 The next Friday the Sûfi came and stood in the mosque,
The Maulvî preached and wept not at all himself :
This happened to the people, who wept continuously.
The Maulvî went on preaching as (easily as) a river
flows !

When the Maulvî prepared to make the pilgrimage (to
Makka)

- 60 The Sûfi gave him leave and said: “Well is thy
intention !

A friend of mine hath his dwelling on a hill in the
Arabs' land ;

Give him my greeting and make no delay.”

The Maulvî completed his pilgrimage to the Temple of
God,*

And went to the hill on which the *faqîr*† dwelt.

- 65 As soon as he reached him the free-thinker said :
“Greeting to thee, Muḥammad Khalîl, is the Sûfi well ?”
The roughly-clad man of God came forward with
courtesy,
And served him during the night and in the morning
said :

“Remain here or return home, as thou wilt.”

- 70 Said the Maulvî: “With thy permission I will go
(home.)”

The man of God took him by the hand and they went
together.

After a short while they came to a lake full of sweet
water,

And afterwards to a ditch full of water.

Said they : “Let us jump this, as we must cross it.”

* At Makka.

† i.e., the Sûfi's friend.

- 75 Leaping the ditch they* crossed it.
Said (the saint) : “ Enough, friend, I can go no further.
It is time for prayer and why should I commit a fault ? †
Give my greeting to the Sūfi without any delay.”
Saying this the *faqīr* disappeared,
- 80 And the pilgrim going on a few paces came to a ruin. ‡
And saw that it was a ruin in the City of Lāhor,
which he had often seen !
The long journey was accomplished ! And he again gave
thanks to the Deliverer !
He brought (his friend’s) salutation to the Sūfi.
Thus spake the Sūfi in reply :
- 85 “ The ditch of water that thou sawest was the boundless
ocean !
The lake that thou didst first reach was the ocean beyond
it !
To quickly accomplish so long a journey
Is not to be a *faqīr* ; a *durvesh* is another being ! §
It is nothing to exhibit such miracles.
- 90 To know God is the most blessed gift ! ”
- The dwelling of the Sūfi was in Koṭ Kishn Chand.
The Railway Station is clearly visible from it !

XIV.

SAYYID KABĪR.

TEXT.

*Karāmat Hazrat Sayyid Kabīr Sahīb Jālandharī mutawakkilī
guzārā karnā, zakhīra na jama’ karnā, aur kulukh-khet ko sonā
banā dikhānā, aur tāmi’ mīl na honā.*

Hazrat Sāyyid Kabīr Sahībji Walī hoe haiñ kāmīl :
Yād Khudā ton fāriḡ hokar dris meñ rahinda shāghīl.

* Observe the *first* person in the text as if the Maulvī was now telling the story to the Sūfi.

† By not praying. ‡ Narrative again in the third person.

§ The meaning is that a miracle like this is a mere trifle and that much more is expected of *faqīrs* and *durveshes*.

- Khudâi Pak dî mihr karm te âmad si ba-tahât,
 Ik wakt dâ kharach sî rakhde, bâkî karan khairât.
- 5 Mul na lende kadî bazâron do vele dâ kût :
 Do waktân do bâr mangânde, ho karke mazbût.
- Ik murîd jo âkar vekhiâ sa jag guzârâ pîrân,
 Dil vichh sochiâ :—is kam dî kariye kuchh tadbîrân.
 Âkhir bil nazarânâ dekar araz kitâ : “ Yâ Pîr,
 10 Lakh rupae dî chândî bansî haigî eh aksîr ?”
 Hazrat ne farmâiâ : “ Taiuûn je eho hî châh,
 Us tâk par rakhke eh nûn apne ghar nûn jâh.”
 Oh tâu apne ghar nûn turiâ, phir na littî sujh :—
 Haigâ vî bil de andar, yâ na haigâ kujh.
- 15 Kuchh arse de bād oh bandâ Hazrat kol jo âiâ,
 Jihâ guzârâ chhand gîâ sâ, ohâ-jihâ hun pâiâ.
 Araz kitâ, ke “ Hazratjî, merâ ik sawâl :—
 Tang guzârâ hun kyûn rahinde, nahîn hoe khushhâl ?”
 Farmâiâ, ke “ Chak le â tûn ik wâhan ton dhîm :
 20 Qudrat sâdî dekh lewângâ tarfon Rabb Rahim.”
 Hazrat ne jad hath lagâiâ ban gîâ oh senâ !
 Bele : “ Rabb ne sab kuchh dittâ, mutawakkil wâjib
 honâ !”
 Phir farmâiâ : “ Bil tusâdâ othe haigâ dhariâ ;
 Sânuûn kuchh parwâh na oh dî, le le othon ariâ.”
- 25 Murîd ne jo jâkar dekhâ, pâiâ hasab dastûr !
 Gustâkhî di muâfi mangî, apnî jân kasûr.

TRANSLATION.

A miracle of the Holy Sayyid Kabîr of Jâlandhar, who lived in dependence (on God) and kept no stores (of food), and who turned a clod of earth into gold and was free from avarice.*

The Holy Sayyid Kabîr was a perfect Saint,
 And when he had finished his prayers to God was
 busied with the scriptures.
 By the mercy and blessing of the Holy God he had a
 boundless income,

* A small local Saint.

But kept only enough for one meal and gave the rest
away in charity.

- 5 He never took from the *bāzār** more food than
(sufficed) for one meal,
And throve by begging for each meal.

A disciple came (to him) and saw the trustful (on God)
life of the Saint,
And thought in his heart that (his method) should be
tested in some way.

- At last he brought a *bil*† as a gift and said: "O Saint,
10 Canst thou turn this fruit into a *lākh* of rupees?"
Said the Saint: "If thou wishest this,
Place it on that shelf and go home."
(The disciple) went home and (the Saint) thought no
more about it:—

Whether anything had come into the *bil* or not.

- 15 After a while the disciple came again to the Saint,
And found him living in the same poor way as before.
He said: "Sir Saint, I have a question:—
Why dost dwell poorly *now*, and art not happy?"
Said (the Saint): "Pick me up a clod from the field,
20 And behold my power (granted) by the God of Mercy."
When the Saint put his hand (on the clod) it became
golden!
Said he: "God hath granted me all things, (but) it
behoves me (still) to be dependent (on Him!)"
And again he said: "Thy *bil* is placed there;
It is of no use to me: throw it away."
25 When the disciple looked at it he found it as he had left it!
Then he saw his fault and craved pardon for his pre-
sumption.

* By begging.

† The *bil* is a kind of receptacle used by *faqirs* and consists of the
hard rind of the *bel* (*ægle marmelos*) fruit, the pulp within being scooped
out so as to form a hollow cup.

XV.

MUHAMMAD SAFÂ.

TEXT.

Hâl karâmat Muḥammad Safâ Sâhib ke, mahînâ kâmil Marâṭhe ke kaid meñ rahâ, aur is 'arse meñ na kuchh khâyâ aur na pîa jîtâ rahâ, aur tawânî meñ faraq na âyâ. Mazâr in kî Bastî Shekh Darvesh meñ wâq'ia hai.

- Allâh dâ jo hove hai piârâ,
 Maullâ oh dâ kâr sâz sârâ.
 Kahinde haiñ Marâṭhe jad ke âiâ,
 Dehât par ðaḍ oh ne lâiâ.
- 5 Jeh ne dîâ hadiâ hoiâ khushhâl ;
 Bâkî rahe jis meñ kîtâ pâ-mâl.
 Bakî-wâle piḍ se oh zâlim
 Lejândâ sâ, phaṛke chand âdam.
 Bastî Shekh se oh bad-kho
- 10 Do tan nûñ phaṛke le gîâ wo.
 Do shakhs se sâhib zar-o-mâl :
 Ik Miyân Safâ fakîr tamsâl.
 Douân ne to zar mukararâ dittâ ;
 Rukhsat hoe, rastâ ghar dâ littâ.
- 15 Par eh âjiz wa bechârâ
 Kaî manzil kaid rahiâ, yârâ.
 Ghoṛoñ par jo marz pie bhârî ;
 Is te hoe fauj bahut ârî.
 Sardâr ne puchhiâ : “ Kyâ sabab hai,
- 20 Ghoṛiân par jo âiâ eh ghazab hai ?”
 Umrâ ne kahâ : “ Mahînâ bitâ,
 Kaidî ne na khâiâ hai na pîtâ.”
 Oh ne eh sunke mâre ðar ke
 Rukhsat kî in nûñ suboh taṛke.
- 25 Aswârî we apuñ dittî hamrâh,
 Pahunchâiâ watan meñ be-khalash râh.

TRANSLATION.

The Story of a Miracle of Muhammad Safâ, who was detained a prisoner for a whole month by the Marâthâs, during which interval he neither ate nor drank and lived without showing any bodily change. His tomb is in Bastî Shekh Darvesh.*

- For him that is beloved of God,
 God prospereth all his work.
 They say that when the Marâthâs came,†
 They fixed a contribution on the villages.
- 5 Whoever gave his contribution was happy :
 The remainder were they that refused.
 The tyrants took the defaulters from their villages,
 And (thus) seized several men.
 In Bastî Shekh (Darvesh) the scoundrels
- 10 Took away two men.
 These two men were rich :
 (But a third that was taken) was Miyân Safâ, a poor
faqîr.
 The two gave up the fixed contribution
 And were dismissed to their homes.
- 15 But the poor and helpless (Safâ)
 Was kept a prisoner for several stages, O friends,‡
 The horses (of his guard) became very ill
 And rendered the guard helpless.
 Said the Commander : " What is the cause
- 20 Of the calamity which has befallen our horses ?"
 Said the (Saint's) custodians : " A month has passed
 And our prisoner hath neither eaten nor drunk."
 When (the Commander) heard this, through fear
 He released him in the early morning.
- 25 Sent him away upon his own horse
 And had him escorted safely home.

* A local Saint.

† At the end of the last century.

‡ To the audience.

No. XLVIII.

TWO SONGS ABOUT RĀJĀ RASĀLŪ,

AS SUNG AT FIROZPŪR AND GENERALLY THROUGHOUT
THE CHIEF CITIES OF THE PANJĀB.

[These songs are good specimens of their kind and well exhibit the fragmentary and enigmatical way in which the Panjābīs relate in song subjects, the details of which are well known to them.]

[The first song alludes to the well-known tale of Rājā Rasālū and his wife Kokilāñ. It has been already given in detail in Vol. I. p. 50ff., but I will here give an outline of it again in order to render the following pages intelligible.]

[Rājā Rasālū played with Rājā Sirkap at *chaupur*, the stake being the head of the loser. Rasālū won the game, and instead of taking Sirkap's head, took his infant daughter Kokilāñ as his future wife. With her was given a young mango tree, and whenever that tree should bear fruit Kokilāñ would be fit to be a wife. This is alluded to in the song. On attaining puberty Kokilāñ went hunting with Rasālū and caught the deer Hirā, which aroused the jealousy of Rasālū, and he cut off its ears and tail, and thus caused it to be cast out of the herd. Hirā the deer in revenge went over to Rasālū's rival Rājā Hoḍī and induced him to chase him, leading him to Rasālū's garden. There Hoḍī met Kokilāñ, on which an intrigue followed. Kokilāñ's guardians were a *mainā* and a parrot, and the latter apprised Rasālū of what was going on. Rasālū finding out what had happened from the state of Kokilāñ's palace managed in revenge to make her cook and eat her lover's heart. The words of the verses, if compared with those previously given, will show that the poetical treatment of the legend is practically the same throughout the Panjāb.]

[The enigma of the second song is not so easily solved. It evidently relates to some *amour* of Rājā Rasālū with a gardener's wife and the consequent wrath of his legitimate Queen. I have not yet seen the full tale to which the song alludes. It will be observed that there is an allusion to a certain wet night, and all through the long legend of Rājā Rasālū given at the commencement of this work there are like mysterious allusions brought into the story in the most inappropriate manner. It would be interesting to unearth the original tale of this "wet night."]

TEXT.

I

Gît Râjâ Rasâlû.

“ Amb sukh sukh dâliân, tarsegâ terâ te sâdâ jî, Râjâjî ?
 Amb pakke, rase chû pie, chaupnewâlâ rasiâ dûr !
 Bharjoban dî khârîân hokâ shahr bâzâr !
 Jinhân de palle mul hai, we Râjîâ ; ân chukâve sâdâ
 bhâo, Râjâjî !”

5 Râjâ te Rânî jid pie : “ Âsân jangal jânâ shikâr, Râjâjî.”
 Pahilâ tîr mâriâ Rânî ne, we Râjîâ : Hîre hiran nûn lâdî
 sûlîk, Râjâjî.

“ Ranâû dâ mâriâ mirg, nî Rânîe, mardâû nûn khânâ
 param, nî Rânîe.”

Hirnî mâran bôliân : “ We Hîriâ ; âiâ kan te puchhal
 wadhâ, Hîriâ Râjâjî !”

“ Sâde tîn sau hirniân, we Râjîâ ; Hîrâ ohnâû dâ Sardâr,
 Râjâjî.”

10 Jândâ tân jândâ Hîrâ boldâ : “ Mainûn tân Hîrâ hiran tad
 âkhîn, we Râjîâ, tere mahilân nûn lâwângâ chor,
 Râjâjî !”

“ Mahilân heṭh phirandiân, we Râjîâ, chor phire ke sâdh,
 Râjâjî ?”

“ Chorân maile kapre, nî Rânîe, sâdhân dî chittî poshâk,
 Rânîjî.”

“ Andar andar paufîân, we Râjîâ, pair dhare dhar â,
 Râjâjî.”

“ Dhanlar terâ kich dâ, nî Rânîe ; ṭhuk ṭuṭ jâ, Rânîjî.”

15 “ Dhanlar terâ kach* dâ, we Râjîâ ; tû ghorê sane charḥ â,
 Râjâjî.”

“ Pahilî paufî charḥdâ, nî Rânîe : merâ ghorâ giâ sarkâr,
 Rânîjî.”

“Kanân dî wechân wâlîân, we Râjiâ, terâ ghorâ lîngâ
chhudâ, Râjâjî.”

“Wâlîân orak châlîân diân, nî Rânîe : merâ ghorâ tân
deṛh hâzâr, Rânîjî.”

“Mainân tân totâ laṛ pie, we Râjiâ : mainân ne khoân
paṭlîân, we Râjiâ : totâ ne chananhâr, Râjâjî.”

20 “Kuṭ kuṭ pâwân chûriân, we totiâ : terî nimak harâmî dî
zât, totâjî.”

Totâ ne jâ pukâriâ ; “We Râjiâ, tere mahilân nûn lage
chor, Râjâjî.”

“Aṭh tote, nauñ shârakân, totiâ merâ ; bârî bârî vich baiṭhâ
mor : ehniân pahriân baiṭhiân ; kis nidh mahilân
nûn lage chor ? ”

“Râjâ tân Hoḍî chaḥ piâ, Râjiâ, ân lathe bâghân heṭh,
Râjâjî.”

“Kin merâ khûâ geṛiâ, nî Rânîe ? Mere khûe dî gilṛî
nisâr, Rânîjî ! ”

25 “Teh marandî geṛiâ, we Râjiâ : tere khûe dî gilṛî nisâr,
Râjâjî ! ”

“Kin merî chaupî ambalî, nî Rânîe ? Sajre pe chaupâk,
Rânîjî ! ”

“Mûlan dhoiâ ândâ, we Râjiâ, khilṛî painî chaupâk, we
Râjiâ ! ”

“Kaun merî chaukî nâbiâ, nî Rânîe ? Dûr gîâ chhankar,
Rânîjî ! ”

“Tân maran dî main nâṭî hân, we Râjiâ : dûr gîâ chhankâr,
Râjâjî ! ”

30 “Kaun mere palang letîâ, nî Rânîe ? Merî palang dî ḍhîlî
niwâr, Rânîjî ! ”

“Sûl marandî letî hân, we Râjiâ ; tere palang dî ḍhîlî
niwâr, Râjâjî ! ”

“Bhawar kalî daliâ, we Râjiâ, ṭharṭhar kyûn kâmpe ?
Velân chare pâṭiân, hun mantoñ kyûn ḍare, we Râjiâ ? ”

- “ Baiṭhân dindâ gâlîâu, hun we Râjiâ : sânûn khalân nân tâne na de, Râjâjî.
- 35 Jinhân dâ sânûn mînâ, we Râjâ, sâḍâ maran unḥân de mâl, Râjâjî.”
- Andar waṛke pîchhdî ; “ We Râjiâ, terî bahin lagân ke dhî, Râjâjî ?”
- “ Sirkap Râjâ dî beṛrî, Râjâ Rasâlû dî nâr : bâjî tûn jît ândî, nî Rânîe : na bahin lagî na dhî, Rânîjî.
- Kaḍhke giṛde rakṛî, nî Rânîe, tainûn bhunke dewân kabâb, Rânîjî.
- Jîwandiân shâhû mâniâu, nî Rânîe, hun moiân dâ khâdâ hai mâs, Rânîjî !”
- 40 “ Ak dî na khâiye kakṛî, we Râjiâ ; sap dâ na khâiye mâs, Râjâjî.
- Chhâ parâi pîtiâ, we Râjiâ, pânî wargâ sawâd, Râjâjî.
- Ag parâi sîkiân, we Râjiâ, uḍh uḍh paindî khâk, Râjâjî.
- Put bagânâ chumiâ, we Râjiâ, lâli bhariâ gât, Râjâjî.
- Nâr bagânî sevîâu, we Râjiâ, kadhî na hundî apnî, Râjâjî.
- 45 Khaḍâ, ghoṛâ, istrî, we Râjiâ ; tînoṅ jât kujât.
- Khaḍâ waḍe sir khasam dâ ; ghoṛâ de piṛ vich hâr : istrî jithe wekhî war sohnâ, uthe rahindî din te rât.
- Makhî, machhî, istrî, : tînoṅ jât kujât.
- Jithe wekhan hoṭ wage, uthe rahinde din te rât.”

II.

Râg Râjâ wa Mâlan kâ.

- “ Kin kin dî weṛî, Râjâ, phulân keoṛâ ?”
- “ Rânî dî weṛî, Râjâ, nîbnâ : Mâlan dî weṛî phulân keoṛâ.”
- “ Kaun to chaupe nîbnâ ? Kaun haḍâve phulân keoṛâ ?”
- “ Rânî to chaupe nîbnâ : Mâlan haḍâve phulân keoṛâ.”
- 5 “ Thaḍâ tân pânî garm karâiâ ; âo, Râjâ, tusîn nahâ lo.
- Nahâve tân nahâve sâḍî Rânî.”
- “ Râjâ nahâve ghar Mâlan de.” “ Tatî rasoî thaḍî hoî : âo, Râjâ, tusîn jîwan lo.”
- “ Jîvîn ghar dî Rânî, mainî jîwân ghar Mâlan de.”

“Unche mâre palang vichhâiâ : rattâ palang, safed nihâlî;
âo, Râjâ, tusîu leṭ lo.”

“Leṭiû ghar dî Rânî: main leṭiû ghar Mâlan de.”

10 Adhî tân râṭî miuh barsâiâ. “ Mâlan dî jhugî, Rabbâ,
dheh pie !

Dhe tân dhe terî mâri Mâlan dî !” “ Mâlan dî jhugî,
Rabbâ, sukh dise !”

Adhî tân râṭî miuh barsâiâ. “ Mâlan dî jhugî, Rabbâ,
chû pie !”

Age Râjâ, piche Mâlan : Râjâ âiâ ghar apne. “ Uṭhîe,
nî Rânî, bûhâ khole.

Bhijîâ tân Râjâ tere dar kharâ : uṭhîe nî haiûsarî Rânî :
âven pairân dî sardî mere sir charhe.”

15 “ Uṭhîe nî golîe, bûhâ khole : Râjâ âiâ ghar apne.

Korâ gharâ, thaṇḍâ pânî : nṭho, Râjâ, tusîu nahâ lo.

Bâi to roṭî, amb âchârî : uṭho, Râjâ, tusîu khâ lo.

Ṭuttî manjî, vâṇ purânâ : âo, Râjâ, tusîu dhe raho.

Sâḍe tân mârie, Râjâ, machhar : kuchhar dâ bâlak ronân !”

TRANSLATION.

I.

A Song about Râjâ Rasâlî.

(Sang Rânî Kokilî): “ The mango ripens on the bough,
and our hearts are longing for each other, Râjâ !

The ripe mango drips, and the loved gatherer is far !]

The basket of my youth crieth out in the *bâzâr* !

Who hath a full pocket, Râjâ, shall settle my price,
Râjâ !”*

5 The Râjâ and Rânî spake eagerly, (said she): “ Let us
go hunting in the wilds, Râjâ.”

* All this means that the Rânî has now reached a marriageable age.

The Rânî at her first (arrow) shot, disfigured the deer Hîrâ,* Râjâ.

“Deer slain by a woman, Rânî, cannot be eaten by a man, Rânî.”

The deer wanted to slay (Hîrâ, saying) : “ O Hîrâ, thou hast come to us shorn of ears and tail, Râjâ Hîrâ !”
(Said Hîrâ to Râjâ Rasâlû) : “ I have three hundred does, Râjâ, and I, Hîrâ, am their Lord.”

10 As he was going said Hîrâ : “ Thou shalt know me for Hîrâ the deer, Râjâ, when I bring a thief to thy palace, Râjâ !”

(Said Rânî Kokilân to Râjâ Hođî :) “ Wandering under the palace, Râjâ, art a thief or a holy man, Râjâ ?”

(Said Râjâ Hođî) : “ Thieves have dirty clothes, Rânî, holy men have white clothing, Rânî.”

“ The steps are inside, Râjâ, put thy feet on them and come up, Râjâ.”

“ Thy palace is of mud, Rânî, and a blow will break it down, Rânî.”

15 “ Thy palace is of glass, Râjâ ; thou canst come up horse and all, Râjâ.”

“ I have climbed the first steps, Rânî, and my horse has gone to its master, Rânî.”

“ I will sell my ear-rings, Râjâ, and release thy horse, Râjâ.”

“ Thy ear-rings are worth but forty rupees, Rânî, and my horse a thousand and a half, Rânî.”

(Said the parrot to Râjâ Rasâlû) : “ The *mainâ* and parrot fell out, Râjâ : the *mainâ* lost her feathers and the parrot his necklace, Râjâ.”

20 (Said the Râjâ) : “ I have given thee the best of food, parrot : thine is a faithless race, parrot.”

* Allusion to her leading to its ears and tail being cropped: see introduction to the tale.

The parrot called out: "Râjâ, a thief hath come into thy palace, Râjâ."

"There are eight parrots, nine *mainâs*, my parrot, and a peacock on each window: with so many guards how comes a thief into my palace?"

"Râjâ Hođî hath come, Rajâ, and hath pitched (his tent) in thy garden, Râjâ."

(Said Râjâ Rasâlû to Rânî Kokilân): "Who hath used (the bucket of) my well, Rânî? The brim of my well is wet, Rânî!"

25 "I was dying of thirst, Râjâ: and thus the brim of thy well is wet, Râjâ!"

"Who hath eaten my mangoes, Rânî? The rinds are fresh, Rânî!"

"The gardener's wife brought them, Râjâ, and so the rinds are fresh, Râjâ!"

"Who hath bathed on my stool, Rânî? The splashing hath spread afar, Rânî!"

"I was hot and bathed, Râjâ, and the splashing spread afar, Râjâ!"

30 "Who hath lain on my bed, Rânî? the cords of my bed are loosened, Rânî!"

"I was in great pain and lay on it, Râjâ: and so the cords of thy bed are loosened, Râjâ!"

(Said Râjâ Rasâlû to Râjâ Hođî): "Hiding behind the screen, Râjâ, why art trembling?"

Thou hast eaten of another's fruit, why dost thou now fear death, Râjâ?"

(Said Rânî Kokilân to Râjâ Rasâlû): "Sitting thou dost abuse me, Râjâ: abuse me not standing, Râjâ."

35 For whose sake thou dost taunt me, Râjâ, with him will I die, Râjâ."

Going within she asked him: "Râjâ, am I thy sister or thy daughter, Râjâ?"*

* Hinting thus that she had never been treated as a wife.

- “Thou art Râjâ Sirkap’s daughter, and Râjâ Rasâlû’s wife : I won thee for a wager, Rânî: thou art not sister nor daughter to me, Rânî.
I will take out his heart, Rânî, and cook and give it to thee, Rânî.
Whom thou didst enjoy as a husband, Rânî, thou shalt eat of his flesh dead, Rânî !”
- 40 (Said Rânî Kokilân to Râjâ Rasâlû) : “ Eat not the fruit of the *âk*,* Râjâ : eat not the flesh of snakes, Râjâ. Drink not another’s milk, Râjâ, or it will taste like water, Râjâ.
Warm thyself not at another’s fire, Râjâ, or the ashes will fly up at thee, Râjâ.
Kiss not another’s son, Râjâ, or his spittle will stick to thee, Râjâ.
Follow another’s wife, Râjâ, and she will never be thine, Râjâ.
- 45 Sword, horse and woman, Râjâ ; these three are a low lot. The sword will cut off its master’s head : the horse turn in the battle field : where a woman meets her loved one, there will she remain day and night.
Fly, fish and woman : these three are a low lot.
Where they see enjoyment, there will they remain day and night.”

II.

The Song of the Râjâ and the Gardener’s Wife.

- “ In whose house does the *keorâ*† bloom, Râjâ ? ”
“ In the Rânî’s house is the lime, Râjâ : in the house of the Gardener’s wife is the *keorâ*.”
“ Who sucks the lime ? Who hath the flowers of the *keorâ* ? ”
“ The Rânî sucks the lime : the Gardener’s wife hath flowers of the *keorâ*.”

* *Asclepias gigantea* : a poisonous plant. These are well known rhapsodical lines put in for the occasion.

† The sweet scented *Pandanus odoratissimus*.

5 (Said the Rânî): "The cold water hath been warmed : come, Râjâ, and bathe in it. Thy Rânî doth bathe."

"The Râjâ will bathe in the house of the Gardener's wife." "The boiling-hot food hath cooled: come, Râjâ, and eat it."

"Do thou eat it, Rânî: I will eat in the house of the Gardener's wife."

"Thy bed is laid in the lofty room: red the bed and white the sheets; come, Râjâ, and lie on it."

"Lie thou on it, Rânî: I will lie at the house of the Gardener's wife."

10 At midnight the rain fell. (Prayed the Rânî): "O God, let fall the hut of the Gardener's wife!

May thy hut fall, thou Gardener's wife!" (Prayed the Râjâ): "O God, preserve the hut of the Gardener's wife!"

At midnight the rain fell. (Prayed the Rânî): "O God: may the hut leak that belongs to the Gardener's wife!"

First the Râjâ, and next the Gardener's wife, came to the Râjâ's house. (Said the Râjâ): "Up, Rânî, and open the door.

The Râjâ stands wetted at thy door: up, cruel Rânî, the cold is spreading from my feet to my head."

15 (Said the Rânî): "Up, my maid, and open the door: the Râjâ hath come home.

There is a fresh pitcher and cold water: up, Râjâ, and bathe.

There is stale bread and pickled mango: up, Râjâ, and eat.

There is a rickety bed, and old rope cords: come, Râjâ, and lie on it.

There are mosquitoes in my house, Râjâ: and a crying child in my lap!"*

* All this is sarcastic, levelled at the Râjâ for deserting her for the Gardener's wife.

No. XLIX.

THE LEGEND OF RÂNÎ KOKILÂN.

AS TOLD BY A BARD FROM THE HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

[This variant of this very celebrated Legend, which in itself is as fragmentary and unsatisfactory as the rest, is of considerable help in filling up the gaps left in the versions previously given. It should be read specially in connection with pp. 50-65, Vol. I., and with the two preceding legends.]

[The only new point that turns up is that Râjâ Hoḍî here calls himself the son of Râjâ Haṭiâ of Badnâ. In Vol. I., p. 54, he calls himself the son of Râjâ Aṭkî Mall of Aṭak. There are two districts of the Panjâb which specially claim to be the scene of Râjâ Rasâlû's exploits—Rawalpiṇḍî and Siâlkoṭ—and the story of Kokilân and Hoḍî is usually placed in the former. Every thing, however, connected with Rasâlû is equally placed by some bards in Siâlkoṭ and the neighbourhood, and it is quite possible that this Hoshiarpûr bard, belonging to the Chhaṭṭâs, a tribe of the Gujranwâlâ district, may be referring to the Siâlkoṭ district throughout and by Badnâ means Badiânâ in that district. The whole question of the identity of Râjâ Hoḍî is involved in the greatest obscurity, but it seems pretty certain that his home should be referred to the Rawalpiṇḍî and Peshâwar districts.]

TEXT.

Jis din Kokilâ jamî aur na jamâ ko !

Bich darpan de mukh vekhe behre vich kharo.

Rânî Kokilân.

“Gahne âp de lâh lîe, mainî nâ pîle ḍho.
Asîjjoban bechnâ, jo koî gâhak ho !”

Râjâ Rasâlû.

5 “Je taiñ joban bechnâ, pakhî ghat bajâr:
Munh di banâi kothrî lâvîn jâke bajâr.
Thorâ kajlâ pâke nainî kare bapâr.
Kanân dî kar le takrî, julfoñ dî bat le dor.
Jhukdî pâlfî tol de, tere gâhak lakh kharo !”

Rânî Kokilân.

- 10 “ Je tûn chalâ shikâr nûn, le chal mainûn nâl.
 Nîle ghorê tûn charhûn, mainûn tule lê charhâ.
 Aho, dekh, chugde mirgê sang parbat dî oṭ !
 Utarke ghoron choṭ kar, dekhûn terî choṭ.
 Pûchh khaṇḍrû baḍh le, honṭh na chhaḍî nâl.
 15 Tere mâre mirgale chhalân karan châh châr :
 Sâde mâre mirgale khaṛe bûhe de bâr ! ”

Hâr sanghâr lâke bah gai ; mirg patî bahndâ â.
 Hâr Rânî ne kholke dîtâ mirg de gal pâ.
 Râjâ Rasâlû saddâ.

Râjâ Rasâlû.

- “ Hîre, mere kol âvîn jâ.
 20 Jûh main de dûn chugan nûn, khûâ deân liwâ.”

Baḍhe kan pûchh, te buchhâ dîtâ banâ !

Hîrâ Mirg.

- “ Mirg main kâlî dhâr dâ, charhke âiâ utâr.
 Tere khû dâ main pânî na pî lîâ, nâ jûh nâ chariâ ghâh.
 Andosî de baḍhe kan pûchh, te jimme na kaḍhâ gunâh.
 25 Hîrâ nâm mirgalâ tân kahûn, tere mahileûn pâ deven dhâr.”

Uthon mirg tân tur piâ ; âiâ mirgân de pâs.

Mirgân.

- “ Kithe baṛiâe kan pûchh ? Taiû lîâ mirgon nûn lâj !
 Jehrî chaukion pûlî nikalî, ralâne dâ kí sawâd ? ”

Âge Hîrâ boldâ :

Hîrâ Mirg.

- “ Suno merâ jabâb,
 30 Bâgh Râje Hoḍî dá chalke karîye birân.”

Bich bâgh de ânke mirgân de ðere lathe ân.

Mâlî.

- “ Râjâ, tere bâgh meñ paî mirgân dî dhâr :
 Aisâ tufânî mirgalâ kîtâ bâgh birân.
 Marwâ, chambâ khâ liâ, toṛe amb, anâr.
 35 Aisâ tufânî mirgalâ âiâ đâr de nâl:
 Peđe ʔakar kahar de mâre sitiâ zamîn de nâl.
 Akhîn chalke dekh le ; kîtâ bâgh birân.”

Hîrâ Mirg.

- “ Tûñ Râjâ ʔhanṭhor dâ, khaṇḍâ terâ pargâs !
 Sone bargî Rânî Kokilân taiuṭû oh de pâven dâs.”

Râjâ Hođî.

- 40 “ Jhûṭe kaul karendiâ, kanî baithâ gaiwâ !
 Buḍhe dî na jâve gâu kharî ; chor bîrthâ jâ ! ”

Hîrâ Mirg.

- “ Âs pujâdiân heriân, main mirg na mârâ jâ !
 Uṭhke ghorâ chher le, tur par mere nâl.”

Râjâ Hođî.

- “ Parbat basdiâ totiâ, basdâ kâlî dhâr,
 45 Kithe dâ janambhon hai ? Kehrâ shahr grânw ?
 Kis Râjâ dâ tûñ hai janwar ? Kî hai terâ nân ?
 Kaun dendâ khân pîwan nûñ ? Kaun hai parbasgâr ?*
 Asî piâse jal de ; sânûñ bharke pilâ de đol.
 Dûron âge chalke, sunke terâ sû ! ”

Totâ.

- 50 “ Parbat totâ main basûñ, basdâ kâlî dhâr,
 Gorakh ʔibbe janamiân, oh bhârî thâñ.
 Sâhib dendâ khân pîwan nûñ ; Oh hai parbasgâr !*
 Sirkap Râjâ dî beṭṛî chhaḍî dhaurî charḥ.
 Bhalâ chahen ʔaṭṭû nûñ moṛṛye, tainûñ karegâ khwâr.
 55 Hath banhke kahindâ, main ne sach deân sunâ ! ”

* For *parwardigâr*.

Rânî Kokilân.

“Mahilen tale phirandiâ, sâdh phire ke chor?
Kî taiñ ne gañwâ le mâñsân? Kî gañwâe ðhor?”

Râjâ Hoðî.

“Nâ gañwâ le mâñsân, asî nâ gañwâ le ðhor.
Lañðâ buchâ mirgalâ tere mahile bar gae chor.
60 Nahîn to chor phaṛâ de, nahîn phaṛâ de pair.
Chorân de maile kapṛe; santân dî pat aur.
Lâkh ðake de âdmî taiñ banâ lie chor!
Asî piâse jal de, sâñtân bharke pilâ de ðol.”

Rânî Kokilân.

“Pânî pî lie, sidhâr :—nâ ankhîn dekh, na bhul!
65 Jis rasiâ dî nâr hûñ, oh de pânân dâ nahîn mul!”

Râjâ Hoðî.

“Pânân dâ mul chhah ðake, orak âne châr :
Ghar chalke vekh le mere, chaudâh saṭh panihâr!”

Rânî Kokilân.

“Merî bargî sohanî jangal hirñî hog!”

Râjâ Hoðî.

“Hirñî dâ kî sulâhunâ, jhâr paṭaindî jâ?
70 Je bas pe jâ herñiân, jân ujâñ jâ!
Khal terî kaḍhange herî, lainge heth bichhâ!”

Rânî Kokilân.

“Kehṛâ terâ parganâ? Kehṛâ shahr grâñ?
Kis Râjâ dâ beṛâ? Kî hai terâ nâñ?”

Râjâ Hoðî.

“Badnâ Nagari parganâ, oho shahr grâñ.
75 Haṭiâ Râjâ dâ beṛâ, Hoðî merâ nâñ.”

Rânî Kokilân.

“Mahilen sâde â jâ, terî aisî levenge sâr.
Ghorâ bânðh nâl amb de, sobane bâghon de nâl.”

Râjâ Hođi.

“Nârân bhariân gandalân bih diân, khâin samblâl sambhâl.

Mahilen sâde â jâ, asî levenge sâr.”

Rânî Kokilân.

80 “Sâman barse meghlâ, barse jhîmbar lâ.
Rukh đûbe san kombalî, hâthî mal mal nhâ.
Gharâ dúbâ san chapnî, chirî tihâi jâ !
Baniâ âsî maṭ kuṭiâ, kapre liṭe lâ.
Eh pahelî bujh le, mere chhej par â !”

Râjâ Hođi.

85 “Eh pahelî ‘ôs’ dî : hor navîn koî pâ !”

Rânî Kokilân.

“Jamî thî saṭh gaj : bharjoban gaj châr !
Bâp beṭe ram lî karke iko nâr !”

Râjâ Hođi.

“Eh pahelî ‘chhâin’ dî : hor navîn koî pâ !
Je tere bîch hai dharam, chhejî apnî charhâ.”

Rânî Kokilân

90 “Ambar bel, agâs phal ; jo seve so khâ !
Mân kuârî, pitâ dhḍ put biyâhwan jâ !
Eh pahelî bujh le, tân tainûn chhejî charhâ.”

Râjâ Hođi.

“Maiñ te nahîn bujhî jândî !”

Rânî Kokilân.

“Tû meri chhejî â !”

“Chûrî kûtân phut khând dî, bahke dastî khâ.
95 Mûi mainâ mar jân de, tere biyâh karâ dîn châr.
Mainâ dâ ki mârnâ ? Oh de bich sarîr jind nâ !
Mârân tere bargiân, kharî karke bich madân !”

Mahilon se totâ uṛ giâ, uṛâ pankh sambhâl.

Totâ.

- “Mainûn Dhart najar na âwandî, pahunchâ tere pâs,
 100 Mahile tere dhâr lag gaî, tainûn sujhde shikâr !
 Akhiû chalke dekh le, tere mandir kîte khwâr !”

Râjâ Rasâlu.

- “Aṭh khûf, nau bârifân, bârî bârî mor :
 Itnî pâhrû hundiân, Totâ ; mahile kidâ lâge chor ?”

Totâ.

- “Ik jo â gîâ Râjpût, mâr karaindâ mâr,
 105 Terâ dhuniâ ṭamak pâriâ, ṭukre kîte châr.
 Ik kamand siṭiâ Rânî Kokilân, mahile liâ chaṛhâ.
 Ohneñ kheḍe bâjî sâr dî, badhî bhâr uṭhâ.”

Râjâ Rasâlu.

- “Kis ne khûâ geriâ ? Kaun phirâ bich bâr ?
 Kis ne pâri dântan ? Kis ne siṭî khungâr ?
 110 Kis ne khâḍî ambalî ? Phûṭak siṭâ bûhe bâr !
 Kis ne chhejâ mâniân ? Dhilî paṛî niwâr !”

Age Kokilân boldi :

Rânî Kokilân.

- “Sun le merâ jabâb.
 Main âpe khûâ geriâ : totâ shâmi phirâ bich bâr :
 Main âpe pâri dântan, âpe siṭî khungâr :
 115 Bhûkî ne khâḍî ambalî, phûṭak bûhe bâr :
 Main ûnandî ne chhejân mâniân, dhilî paṛî niwâr.
 Sikar do-pahrá â gîâ, â gaî totân dî ḍâr.
 Mainâ totâ laṛ mare, main hî chhudâwanhâr.
 Tote ne paṭiân menḍhiân, mainâ torâ hâr.
 120 Bharte jinhân de mar gae, bure unhân de hâl :
 Mainûn kallî nûn chhaḍ gîâ, mere kîne na paî sâr.”

Rânî jâdûkhorî Râjâ liâ bharmâ :

- Hodî Râjâ lakû ditiâ, ditiâ saf bich pâ.
 Râjâ thâṇḍâ kar liâ, chhejî liâ bahâ.
 125 Khânâ kaṭṭhâ khânde, dâru liâ piâ.
 Tote ne Hodî kaḍhî, ijat chhodî nâ.

Totâ.

“Ghar âiâ na marîye, lage sagâ bharâ.”

Râjâ Rasâlû te Hođî tur pie, gae bich ujâp ;
Lagâ tîr ghazab dâ Râjâ Hođî siñiâ mâr.

130 Mâs oh dâ kađh lâ, Rânî Kokilân khândi âp :
Mâs yârân de khândi, khâke pûchhe suwâd.

Khaṇḍâ, ghoṛâ, istrî ; tînon be-îmân.

Khaṇḍâ na rakhîye mânjke, muṛke pawe kapâl.

Ghoṛâ mahelâ na pâ lîye, oh madân bich dindâ hâr.

135 Ran na karîye lâđlî, jad kad kare khwâr.

Mâs yârân de khâđiân, khâke puchhan suwâd !

Chhattâ Qâdir Yâr eh banâiâ, âp pâ Bhagwân !

TRANSLATION.

On the day that Kokilân was born may no one else be born.*

She stood in her courtyard looking at her face in a mirror.

Rânî Kokilân. †

“Take back thy jewels, I have not let them soil. †

I will sell my youth to the first purchaser !” §

Râjâ Rasâlû.

5 “If thou wouldst sell thy youth take a hut in the *bâzâr* :

Thy beautiful face will get thee a place in the *bâzâr*.

Putting on a little lampblack drive a trade with thy eyes.

Make thy ears into a balance and thy locks into strings.

Weigh out with unbalanced scales and thy customers shall be in hundreds and thousands !”

Rânî Kokilân||.

10 “When thou goest a hunting take me with thee.

Mount thy dark grey horse and take me up behind thee.

* It was so inauspicious.

† To Râjâ Rasâlû.

‡ i.e., hardly worn them.

§ Because Rasâlû neglected her.

|| Scene changes : to Râjâ Rasâlû.

Look, the deer are grazing under the shade of the hills!
Dismount from the horse and shoot and let me see thee
shoot.

(Thy shot) pierceth from hoof to lip !

- 15 The deer thou strikest runneth forward four paces :
The deer that I strike* stand at my door !”

Putting on her necklace she sat down and the lord of
the deer came up to her .

Rânî (Kokilân) took off her necklace and put it on the
deer's neck.

Râjâ Rasâlû (then) called him up (and said) :

Râjâ Rasâlû.

“ Hîrâ, † come up to me.

- 20 I will give thee a pasture to graze, and sink for thee a
well.”

He then cut off his ears and tail and made him tailless ! ‡

Hîrâ, the Deer.

“ I am a deer of the dark mountain and have come down
from it.

I have not drunk the water of thy well, nor have I eaten
the grass of thy pasture.

Without fault hast thou shorn ears and tail, for no fault
is proved against me.

- 25 Thou shalt know my name to be Hîrâ, the deer, when I
bring a robber to thy palace.”

Then the deer went thence and came to his herd.

* By attracting them by my beauty.

† The name of the deer.

‡ Treacherously out of jealousy.

Herd.

“Whither have gone thy ears and tail? Thou hast shamed
the herd!

When bread is cast out of the hearth, can it be taken
back?”*

Then spake Hîrâ:

Hîrâ, the Deer.

“Hear my say:

30 Let us go into the garden of Râjâ Hođî and lay it waste.”

Going into the garden the herd took up its abode there.

The Gardener.†

“Râjâ, a (robber) herd of deer is in thy garden:

And a destructive deer is laying waste thy garden.

The *marwâ*‡ and the jasmine he has eaten and ruined
the mangoes and pomegranates.

35 A most destructive deer is in the herd:

Strong trees in the garden is he destroying and throw-
ing to the ground.

Come and see with thy own eyes; he hath laid waste
the garden.”

Hîrâ, the Deer.

“Thou art Râjâ of Than̄thor§ and thy sword is bright!

I will bring thee to Rânî Kokilân, (bright) as gold.”

Râjâ Hođî.

40 “O maker of false promises, that hath lost thy ears!

A (wise) old man does not lose his cow, and the thief
goes disappointed away!”

* Allusion to the Hindû custom of cooking and eating only within a fixed spot (*chawkâ*) made temporarily sacred for the purpose.

† To Râjâ Hođî.

‡ The sweet-scented *artemisia elegans*.

§ See below, line 74.

Hirâ, the Deer.

“The huntsman cometh full of hope, but I, the deer, am not to be caught!

Up and spur on thy horse and come with me.”

*Râjâ Hoḍî.**

“O parrot of the mountains, that dwellest on the dark hills,

- 45 Where was thy birth-place? Where thy city and home?
 What Râjâ's parrot art thou? What is thy name?
 Who giveth thee to eat and drink? Who is thy protector?

I thirst for water; give me a bucket to drink from.

I am come from afar, hearing thy praises!”

Parrot.

- 50 “I, the parrot, dwell in the mountains, in the dark hills:
 I was born on Gorakh's hill, † which is a steep place.
 God giveth me to eat and drink; He is my protector!
 The daughter of Râjâ Sirkap is left in this palace.
 If thou wishest thy good, turn thy horse home, or (Râjâ
 Rasâlû) will bring thee to trouble.

- 55 With joined hands I say it, and I tell thee truth!”

Rânî Kokilân. ‡

“O wanderer beneath the palace, art a true man or a thief?

Hast thou lost men? or hast thou lost cattle?”

Râjâ Hoḍî.

“I have not lost men, nor have I lost cattle.

A thief of a tailless earless deer hath entered thy palace:

- 60 Either catch me the thief, or show me his tracks.
 Thieves wear dirty clothes; true men are otherwise.
 Thou hast turned a wealthy man into a thief!
 I thirst for water, give me a bucket to drink from.”

* To Râjâ Rasâlû's parrot: he has now reached Kokilân's palace.

† See Vol. II. p. 546. Better known as Gorakhnâth's Tîllâ.

‡ From the palace, seeing Râjâ Hoḍî below.

Rânî Kokilân.

- “Drink thy water and be off: nor look with thy eyes (at me) nor forget thyself!
65 Whose wife I am, his very shoes are beyond thy value !”

Râjâ Hođî.

- “The price of a pair of shoes is six half-pence or four pence at the outside :
Come and see my house, where there are fourteen sixties of water-bearers !”

Rânî Kokilân.

- “There *may* be a doe as beautiful as I in the forest !”*

Râjâ Hođî.

- “Why praise the doe that jumps about the bushes ?
70 If she fall into the hands of the huntsman her life is gone !
(Verily) the huntsman shall take thy skin and spread it under him !”

Rânî Kokilân.

- “Where is thy country ? Where thy city and home ?
What Râjâ's son art thou ? What is thy name ?”

Râjâ Hođî.

- “Badnâ City is my home, that is my city and home.
75 I am Râjâ Hađiâ's son, and Hođî is my name.”

Rânî Kokilân.

- “Come to my palace, that I may hear about thee.
Tie thy horse to the mango tree in the beautiful garden.”

Râjâ Hođî.

- “Women are (sugar-)stalks full of poison, one should eat them carefully.
Come to *my* palace, that I may hear about thee.”

* But nowhere else.

*Rânî Kokilân.**

- 80 "The August clouds are raining, raining in torrents.
Trees and their branches are sunk (in the flood) and the
elephants are bathing themselves.
The pot and its cover are sunk (in the flood), but the
bird still thirsts!
The shopman is robbed in his house and his clothes
taken from him.
Solve me this riddle and then come to my couch!"

Râjâ Hođî.

- 85 "This riddle means 'dew': give me a newer one!"

Rânî Kokilân.

- "At birth she was of sixty yards: at full age of four
yards!
Father and son both enjoyed the same wife!"

Râja Hođî.†

- "This riddle means 'shade': give me a newer one!
And if thou art honest, admit me to thy coach."

Rânî Kokilân.

- 90 "The stalk in the earth, the fruit in the sky; who follows
shall eat.
The mother a virgin, the father the womb, and the son
present at the wedding!
Solve me this riddle, and I will admit thee to my
couch."

Râjâ Hođî.

- "I cannot solve it!"‡

Rânî Kokilân.

- "(Nevertheless) come to my couch!"

* She now commences to ply him with riddles: see Vol. I. p. 42 and Vol. II. p. 335.

† Compare the riddles about Râjâ Rasâlû at p. 307, Vol. XII. of the *Indian Antiquary*.

‡ The stock answer to this riddle is *Kusum* or safflower.

“ I will give thee sugared cakes to eat, sit on my hand and eat them.*

95 Let the dead *mainâ* go, I will give the four to wife,
What use is there in kicking the *mainâ* ? She hath no
life in her body !

I would strike such as thee in the open plain !”

The parrot flew from the palace, flying with careful wings.

Parrot †.

“ Without seeing the earth (very quickly) have I come to meet thee.

100 Robbers are in thy palace and thou art a hunting !
Come and see with thine own eyes, they are ruining
thy palace !”

Râjâ Rasâlî.

“ Eight wells, nine windows, and a peacock at each window :

So many guards, Parrot ; how can thieves have entered the palace ?”

Parrot.

“ A mighty Râjpût warior came

105 And broke thy (challenge) drums ‡ and made them
into four pieces.

Rânî Kokilân threw down a rope and brought him up
into the palace.

They played at *chaupur* together.”

Râjâ Rasâlî. §

“ Who threw down my well-bucket ? Who came in at my
door ?

Who used a tooth-brush here ? Who spat about the
place ?

* Rânî Kokilân says this to the parrot. For explanation : see Vol. I. p. 54ff.

† To Râjâ Rasâlî who is out hunting. ‡ See Vol. I. p. 44.

§ He has now reached home and is questioning Kokilân.

110 Who ate these mangoes? The stones are thrown down
by the door!

Who lay on my bed? The strings are loose!"

Then said Kokilân:

Rânî Kokilân.

"Hear my answer.

I threw down the well-bucket: the parrot and *mainâ*
wandered in at the door.

I used a tooth-brush, and spat about the place:

115 I was hungry and ate mangoes, and threw the stones
about the door:

I was sleepy and lay on thy bed, and so the strings are
loose.

At midday there came a flight of parrots:

And the parrot and *mainâ* fought together and I simply
separated them.

The parrot dishevelled my locks and the *mainâ* broke
my necklace.

120 Whose husbands are dead are in sad case:

'Thou didst leave me alone and no news came to me."

The bewitching Râuf deceived Râjâ (Rasâlû),

And put Râja Hođî into a mat and set him up in a
corner.

She cooled down Râjâ (Rasâlû's rage) and sat him on
her couch.

125 They ate together and drank wine.

(But) the parrot discovered Hođî, and (destroyed his
honour).

*Parrot.**

"Slay not thy guest, he is as thy own brother."†

So Râjâ Rasâlû and (Râjâ) Hođî went into the wilds,

And there wounded by an arrow Râjâ Hođî was slain.

* To Râjâ Rasâlû.

† Allusion to the custom of granting sanctuary to any person who
has eaten of the householder's food.

130 (Râjâ Rasâlâ) took of his flesh and gave Rânî Kokilân to eat:

Eating her lover's flesh, she remarked on its taste.

“ Sword, horse and woman ; these three are faithless.*

Keep not thy sword sharp lest it return on thy head.

Feed not thy horse on *mahelâ* beans† or he will turn on the battlefield.

135 Make not thy wife a darling or she will some day bring thee to sorrow.”

Eating her lover's flesh (Rânî Kokilân) remarked on its taste !

Qâdir Yâr Chhattâ made this poem, by the help of God †

* See Vol. III. p. 225.

† *Phasiolus radiatus*: said to be the most heating of all kinds of pulse.

‡ The name of the Bard: note that by his name he is a Musalmân, while he invokes the Hindû God Bhagwân.

No. L.

AMAR SINGH OF GARH MERTĀ,

AS TOLD BY A BARD FROM THE KAPURTHALĀ STATE.

[The following is the bardic version of a startling incident at the Court of the Emperor Shāhjahān, which once created an immense sensation.]

[In A.D. 1638 the celebrated Rāṭhor Rājā Gaj of Mārwaṛ or Jodhpūr died, leaving two sons—the elder Amar Singh, the hero of this tale, and the younger Jaswant Singh, who succeeded him and became famous in the days of the Emperor Aurangzeb. The turbulent and impracticable temperament of Amar Singh induced the assembled nobles of Mārwaṛ to exclude him from the succession even during the lifetime of his father by the ceremony of *deswātā* or banishment. Tod, in his *Rājasthān*, describes this as consisting of mounting the victim on a black horse, clothed in black with black accoutrements, and turning him out of the State as a perpetual exile. Amar Singh after this betook himself with the following that always hangs on to a Rājput chief to the Mughal Court at Āgrā, where he was taken into favor, granted Nāgaur in Bikāner, a Rāṭhor feof,—but never apparently Mertā as the bards think—and made a commander of 3,000. On one occasion he had absented himself from duty and was called to task and fined by the Emperor Shāhjahān. The Mir Bakhshī (Controller of Military Accounts) Sayyid Salābat Khān was sent to recover the fine, but was told by Amar Singh to go away. On this the Emperor sent for Amar Singh to his presence in the *Darwān-i-khās*, (Hall of Private Audience) at Āgrā, where the irritated Rājput stabbed Salābat Khān before the assembled Court. He was thereupon pursued and cut to pieces with many of his retainers near a gate of the fort known to this day as Amar Singh's Gate. This tragic event occurred on the evening of Thursday the 30th of Jumādīu'l-awwal 1054 A.H. or 25th July 1644 A.D.]

[Tod states that the feof of Nāgaur was nevertheless continued by Shāhjahān to Rāi Singh, Amar Singh's son, after whom it devolved successively on Hāthi Singh, Anṭp Singh and Indar Singh, which last was dispossessed by the then head of the Rāṭhors, and Nāgaur once again annexed to the Jodhpūr State. The descendant of Amar Singh, the head of the Rāṭhors by right of birth, after this became and is still but a petty *ṭhākūr* or baron of the Mārwaṛ feudal system.]

TEXT.

RĀG RĀJĀ AMAR SĪNGH SAKNA GARH MEṬĀ 'ILĀQA BĪKĀNER.

Shāhjahān Bādshāh se ahilkāron ne chughalī khāī, ke ' Rājā Amar Singh muddat se āp ke salām ko nahīn āyā,' jis par Shāhjahān ne hukm dīyā, ke ' sāt lākh ke dastak jāve.' Rājā Amar Singh Shāh-jahān Bādshāh ke salām ke wāste chalā. Rānī ne kahā, ke ' Rājā mat jāo ?' Is par Rājā Amar Singh Rānī par ghussa hūā.

Bhaṛkā Rājā Amar Singh mānge hathiār :

“ Rānī, merā tarkash lā de zarri dā, geṇḍā dī ḍhār.”

Uthī jo Rānī Hādīā, phaṛ lindi bāg :

“ Kaun wakt Darbār dā ? Gāī adhī rāt !

5 Shīsh bharūn sharāb de, piālā merā hāth.

Bhar bhar piālā piāwandī, kartī mushtāk.

Pi le, Rājā Amar Singh, nā hove udās.

Rang mahiloṅ sej bichhāwandī ; kar le do bāt.

Piū de main chihṭṭī bhej dūn, āven nau lākh :

10 Gal kā hār jo bech dūn, kaṭ jān chhab mās.

Āj baso rang mahil meṅ, Bādshāh ko milnā parbhāt.”

Ghussā hoke Rānī ne ik araz sunāī :

“ Mar jā merī mātā, jinhen Hādī jāī !

Mar jān tāī aur chachiān, jiuhen god khilāī !

15 Mar jān nāī Brahmanān, jine ne karī sagāī !

Main beṭī Rajpūt dī chākar gal lāī !

Chākar ho te naukarān le pallā pāī !

Beṛā rah gāī bīch meṅ, nā pār langhāī.

Haṭke ḍolā phir do bābal ghar tāin :

20 Ab dī jāwan phir piū de, dewān Rām duhāī.

Adh-purush Rāṭhor de nā koī kare sagāī !

Pānān jihā rang thā, phir gal zardaī.

Kyā tujhe dukhrā māl dā ? Kyā zahmat āī ?

Barjūn, Rājā Amar Singh, milnā nā jāe :

25 Āge zulmī Bādshāh degā marwāe :

Pairon beṛī, hāthon thokrī, gal tauk pahināe !”

Barjā Rājā nā rahā, ghorī chalāī.

Khushī ho Rājā Amar Singh chalā Darbāre :

Moharān liān pesh kar le panj aur chāre ;

- 30 Hâzir leke râkhiân Shâhjahân Darbâre.
 Dekhkar Shâhjahân Bâdshâh bhartâ hankâre :
 Kahâ Salâbat Khân nûn : “ Kâm karo hamâre.
 Âge âunâ nâ do, Râjpût râkho atkâre.”
 Salâbat Khân un Bakhshî dîdâ târe :
- 35 “ Adab mânke kharâ raho, Râjpût bichâre !
 Terî bāt ñigî Darbâr meñ, main kharâ sidhâre.”
 “ Merî tû kyâ bāt sañwârdâ ? Kartâr sañwâre !”
 Amar Singh ñigîâ, nâ ñige, jaisâ parbat bhârî.
 “ Hatke kharâ, gañwâriâr ! Kyâ kare gañwârî ?”
- 40 ‘ Gañwâr’ kahe se khijtâ bhartâ hankâre :
 “ Âj kahâ gañwâriâr, kal degâ gârî !
 Parson uñ bânih pakaṛke kaḍh de Kachahri bârî !”
 Jabbal kâḍhî misrî nikalî do dhârî :
 Mâre Salâbat Khân dî jâ khîlî pârî :
- 45 Lagî mard de hâth dî nâ rahî wo dhârî.
 “ Eh læ apne sât lākḥ, Salâbat piâre !
 Kânṭe dharke jânch le, hor ghât hamâre !”
 Kharṇe pukâreñ umre Bâdshâh de piâre :
 “ Bhalâ kîâ, re Amar Singh, Salâbat mâre !
- 50 Bhale bure dâ chughal thâ, taiñ âj guzâre !
 Derâ pakarṇ, Râjpût, mere mît piâre ;
 Mansab likhiâ suber nûn pakkâ sât hazâre !”
 Charḥ bolâ Shâhjahân Bâdshâh : “ Sun, umro, mere :
 Khûnî jâne na pâve, mâre tum ghere.
- 55 Sab meñ sher kahâute, tum mard baḍhere !
 Hindû mâr Salâbat Khân nûn jâ legâ ñere.”
 Râo dî ujaṛ tale na âiâ, ho giâ parere.
 Dûr jâ bolâ : “ Dillî de Bâdshâh, ab darwâjâ kyûn bhere ?
 Kaul deke Rabb de â ñhokâ nere.”
- 60 Arjun, duhe Bûṛâ, sâtî shamshere ;
 Tan lâ de Amar Singh dî, tan gañ udhere :
 Paṛoñ Râjâ Amar Singh lie jaundhar phere.
 Sât amîroñ nûn mârke Râjâ surgdhârî.
 Oṛak Amar Singh de larḍe kahârân :
- 65 Ikkî amîrâû nûn mârke, jûjhe chhah kahârân.
 Râjâ dâ Brahman Râî Gokal Dâs :

- Gokal ne sûtî misrî, chokhî Gujrât :
 Mârî Mallûko jo ânke jâ kâtâ mâs :
 Chandan rukh kaṭke talwârôn ghâiâ.
- 70 Râjâ dâ nimak halâl kar Brahman Baikunṭh nûn dhâiâ.
 Kishan Dâs Masalchî ran pherâ changâ :
 Mîr Khân de tan nûn lâ dîâ kuwat kar jhaṇḍâ.
 Dûje mâriâ Hasat Khân dil kar lââ changâ.
 Umre yûn lîṭe Darbâr meñ, jûn paṛe Malangâ.
- 75 Phuâre* ghâû yûn paṛe bhakâbhak, jûn bahe Gangâ.
 Khâ lî bhajiâ bhâng, yâr, jûn chârhe tarangâ :
 Pachîs amîrân nûn mârke nâi dâ ban chalâ sarangâ.

- Laṛkâ pûchhe Râm Singh : “ Sun, Kishan Dâs,
 Tum gae Darbâr meñ châchâ de nâl.
- 80 Mere kyâ châchâ se namṛe ? Kyâ milâ inâm ?”
 “ Kyâ kahûn, mere Kanwarjî ? Nâ pûchhe bāt !
 Râjâ Amar Singh nûn us ne kahâ ‘ gañwâr ’ !
 Loth paṛî, Kanwarjî, Kachahrî pâs.
 Ṭhokar mâreñ Mughal, yâr, gal kaṭeñ mâs !”
- 85 Sun sun bātâi Râm Singh ho gîâ udâs.
 “ Merî dharî rahin do pâlkî, ghar jâo, kahâr :
 Apne mahalôn so raho, jis se piârî nâr.
 Mere dhore woh rahe bândhe talwâr.”
 Ghoṛe kâzâ kar dîe kîleṭ de bâr.
- 90 Darwâze toṛe kîle de kuhâre nâl.
 Kîle de andar jâ baṛâ pân sau jawân.
 Misrî bajî kîle meñ paṛte jhankâr ;
 Saudâ tole sarohôn nar kare bampâr.
 Kesrânî jâmâ ho gaî, jihâ khendâ gulâl.
- 95 Pân sau meñ se laṛkâ Râm Singh láiâ do sau sâṭh.

Kahe Rânî Hâḍiâ : “ Merî bândî, daur ;
 Mahilon sej bichhâ de, thoṛî post ghol.
 Âge Râjâ Amar Singh â gae Râṭhor !”
 Unche charhke dekhdi bândî nâdân.

* For *fawâre*, a jet, spring of water.

† For *gîla*.

100 "Rânî, nâ Domân dî jorîân, nâ lâl rabâb !
Khâlî tarkash bājđî, dal geṇḍâ ḍhâl!"

Jad bândî ne Rânî se kihâ, ke "Sab chîzân dikhlâi dindî haiñ, magar Râjâ nahîñ dikhđâ." Rânî ne eh bāt sunke apne man meñ ghussa karke kihâ, ke "Merâ Râjâ barâ bahâdur hai." Jad sabh mardmân mahil meñ âkar jamâ hoe, tân Rânî ne puchhiâ, ke, "Hamârâ Râjâ kahân rihâ?" Tân sipâhîân ne jawâb dîâ, ke "Râjâ tân Surg sidhâre!" Itnî sunke Rânî zâr zâr rone lagî, aur tamâm mahil meñ shor ghul hoiâ. Rânî ne bândî se kihâ, ke "solâh singâr merâ utâr lo, sârî khushî Râjâ de nâl gai!" Rânî ne solâh singâr battîs abran, sabh utâr lîâ aur kihâ ke "sîṭ katâiâ lâo, main khâkar mar jâûñ. Râjâ merâ mar giâ, Pâdshâh mainûñ pakarke dîn se be-dîn karegâ, aur chakkî piswâkar dâñâ dilwâ degâ. Us biptâ se bihtar hai, ke âp hî mar jâûñ." Itnî kahkar Rânî ne apne hâth se gale meñ talwâr mârî aur foran mar gai. Jad Bâdshâh ne eh hâl sunâ, nihâyat afsos kîâ, aur jo kuchh ke jâgîr Râjâ Amar Singh dî thî, us dî fanj nûñ bakhsh dî.

TRANSLATION.

THE SONG OF RÂJÂ AMAR SINGH OF GARH MERTÂ IN BÎKÂNER.

His courtiers told tales to Shâhjahân, the Emperor, saying that Amar Singh had not been to pay his respects for a long while, on which Shâhjahân issued an order that a demand for seven lākhs (of rupees) was to be made upon him. So Râjâ Amar Singh went to Shâhjahân, the Emperor, to pay his respects. His Rânî, however, said to him, 'Go not, Râjâ,' on which Râjâ Amar Singh became angry with his Rânî.

At once Râjâ Amar Singh ordered his arms, (saying) :

"Rânî, bring me my jewelled quiver and my golden shield."

Up got Rânî Hâđiâ and seized his reins, (and said) :

"Is this a time for the Court? It is past midnight!

5 I fill thee a flask of wine, the cup is in my hand.

I fill the eup for thee to drink and make merry.

Drink it, Râjâ Amar Singh, and be not sorrowful.

I spread a bed in the painted palace, let us talk together there.

I will send a letter to my father* and he will send nine *lâkhs* (of rupees).

10 And I will sell my necklace from my neck, on which we can live for six months.

Stay to-day in the painted palace and go the King in the morning."

In her anger prayed the Râni :

"May the mother die, that bore me Hâdiâ !

May the aunt and uncle die, that brought me up !

15 May the barber and the Brâhman die, that arranged my marriage !

For I the Râjpût's daughter have embraced a servant ! †

Have been given to the servant of a slave !

My boat hath remained in the midst (of the stream) and hath not crossed over. ‡

Send me back to my father's house.

20 Now would I return to my father, and claim the protection of God.

No one should marry into the Râthors, the first of men !

Thy hue was fresh as betel leaves and has now become pale.

What loss is there in property ? What evil hath come ?

I entreat thee, Râjâ Amar Singh, go not (to the King) :

25 For the cruel King will slay thee :

He will put fetters on thy feet, handcuffs on thy hands and a weight round thy neck !"

The Râjâ would not listen to her entreaty and urged on his mare.

With pleasure Râjâ Amar Singh went to the Court :

And presented four or five gold *mohars*,

* She was the daughter of the Râjâ of Bândi.

† A taunt levelled at her husband for coming under the power of the Musalmâns.

‡ Idiom : I am in great trouble.

- 30 And laid them before Shâhjahân in Court.
 As soon as he saw him Shâhjahân the King called out,
 And said to Salâbat Khân: "Do my bidding.
 Let not the Râjpût come forward, keep him back."
 Salâbat Khân, the Controller, cast his eyes on him,
- 35 (And said): "Stand and be respectful, thou wretched
 Râjpût!
 Thy fame hath fallen in the Court, and I keep watch
 (over thee)."
 "How can'st thou watch over me? God shall watch!"
 Amar Singh, like a great mountain, was not to be kept
 back.
 (Said Salâbat Khân): "Stand back, thou boor! What
 wilt thou with thy boorishness?"
- 40 Incensed at the word 'boor' (Amar Singh) called out!
 "To-day he calls me a boor to-morrow he will abuse me!
 Next day he will take me by the arm and put me out of
 Court!"
 In his wrath he drew his dagger and struck twice:
 He struck Salâbat Khân and went through him:
- 45 Struck by a warrior's hand the blow stayed not.
 "Take this for thy seven *lâkhs*, friend Salâbat!
 Take thy scales and weigh them out!"
 Called out a trusty noble of the King:*
- 50 "Well hast thou done, Amar Singh, to slay Salâbat!
 To-day hast thou slain a tale-bearer!
 Go home, Râjpût, my beloved friend,
 I will have thee made in the morning commander of a
 good 7,000!"
 Up came the King Shâhjahân and spake: "Hear, my
 nobles:
 Let not the murderer escape, surround him and slay him.
- 55 Ye are lions among all men, and great warriors!
 The Hindû hath slain Salâbat Khân and hath gone
 home."

* Arjun Ghor according to Tod's account: he was Amar Singh's brother-in-law. This was said to quiet down Amar Singh.

The Râjâ's (Amar Singh's) blow did not reach (the King)
and he went within.

From a distance (Amar Singh) exclaimed: "King of
Dillî, why hast shut thy gates ?

I came to thee deceived by the oath in God."

60 Arjun* and Burâ drew their swords,
Struck at Amar Singh and pierced his body,
And Râjâ Amar Singh lay stretched (upon the ground).
After slaying seven nobles Râjâ (Amar Singh) went to
heaven.

65 Afterwards Amar Singh's litter-bearers took up the fight,
And slew twenty-one nobles with the loss of six bearers.
The Râjâ's priest was Râi Gokal Dâs,
And Gokal drew his sword, forged in Gujrat. †
And struck Mallûko, ‡ who came up, and cut into his
flesh,
And having cut down this splendid tree he was destroy-
ed by swords.

70 True to the salt of the Râjâ the Brâhman entered Heaven,
Then Kishan Dâs the Torch-bearer rushed into the fray
And inflicted a mighty blow on Mir Khân,
And next he struck Hasat Khân with a brave heart. §
The nobles strewed the Court, as fall Malangs. ||

75 Blood gushed forth in a bubbling stream, as flows the
Ganges.
Like one who is filled with *blang*, my friends, ¶ when the
intoxication rises,
After slaying twenty-five nobles, the barber became
famous.

Said the youth Râm Singh : " Hear, Kishan Dâs,**

* See above, line 48.

† Meaning Gujrat in the Panjâb, famous for its cutlery.

‡ A noble of the Court according to the bard.

§ Door-keeper of the palace according to the bard.

|| Malangs are militant Muhammadan fanatics.

¶ To the audience.

** Amar Singh's Torch-bearer: See above, line 71.

- Thou wentest to the Court with my uncle.
 80 How fared my unclo there? What reward obtained he?"
 "What shall I say, my Prince? Ask me not!
 Râjâ Amar Singh was called a boor!
 And his body lies, Sir Prince, near the Court.
 The Mughals spurn it, my friend, and cut its flesh!"
 85 Hearing these words, Râm Singh became sorrowful.
 (Said he): "Put down my litter, and go you home, my
 bearers:
 Let them stay at home that have cherished wives.
 Let those stay with me that fasten on swords."
 They rested their horses at the fort gate,
 90 And broke open the fort gate with axes.
 Five hundred warriors entered the fort.
 Swords flashed in exchange in the fort;
 And dauntless warriors struck bargains with their
 swords.
 Their robes became red, as if they were playing with
gulâl.*
 95 Out of five hundred the youth Râm Singh brought back
 two hundred and sixty.

- Said Rânî Hâdiâ: "Run, my maid;
 Spread the couch in the palace, and mix a little opium.
 For Râjâ Amar Singh the Râthor cometh!"
 The silly maid went up to the roof to see (and said):
 100 "Rânî, I see not the drums of the musicians, nor the red
 lutes!
 The quiver rattles empty and the yellow shield is in the
 crowd!"

When the maid said to the Rânî that she could see everything except the Râjâ, the Rânî heard her and became angry, saying, "My Râjâ is a great warrior!" And when all the warriors collected in the palace the Rânî asked them, "Where hath my Râjâ

* A red powder thrown over each other by the revellers at the Holi festival.

stayed ?” Then the men answered, “Thy Râjâ hath gone to Heaven !” Hearing this she wept bitterly and there was a cry through all the palace. Said the Rânî to the maid ; “Take off my sixteen ornaments, for all my joy hath gone with the Râjâ !” The Rânî took off all her sixteen ornaments and her thirty-two jewels* and said, “Bring me a dagger that I may stab myself and die. My Râjâ is dead and the King will seize me and despoil me of my faith† and giving me a hand-mill to grind will make me live on it. To kill myself is better than such misfortune.” Saying this the Rânî struck her own neck with a sword and died at once.‡ When the King heard of this he was very sorrowful and gave to Râjâ Amar Singh’s following all the lands he had held.

* See Vol. I. p. 452.

† Several Râjput princesses had before this been forced into marriage with the Musalmân Emperors.

‡ Tod says that Amar Singh’s body was removed by his wife and burnt.

No. LI.

RĀJĀ PIRTHĪ SINGH OF JODHPŪR,

AS TOLD BY A BARD AT AMBĀLĀ.

[The following legend is the Panjābī bardic version or rather distortion of the tale of the tragic death of Pṛithivī Singh, son of Rājā Jaswant Singh of Jodhpūr and nephew of the Amar Singh whose story has just been related. As usual the bard has managed to confuse the history he has undertaken to preserve, and perhaps the best way to account for what he has recorded is to give a plain version of the historical facts as they really occurred.]

[Rājā Gaj Singh of Jodhpūr left two sons Amar Singh and Jaswant Singh, of whom the younger, Jaswant Singh, succeeded him in 1638 A.D., under circumstances explained in page 242 *ante*. Rājā Jaswant Singh's son and heir was Pṛithivī Singh, the hero of this tale, who died in so sudden and startling a manner in 1680 A.D., that his death has caused a deep impression on the native mind of having been occasioned by the treachery of the Emperor Aurangzeb—a monarch who has left behind him an unenviable reputation for unscrupulous guile.]

[Rājā Jaswant Singh bitterly opposed Aurangzeb when the latter was striving for the throne of his father Shāhjahān, and was moreover a friend and officer of Aurangzeb's opponent and elder brother Dārā Shikoh. He also soon after the accession of Aurangzeb, at the battle of Kajwā in 1658 treacherously seized the Royal camp and carried off its treasure to Jodhpūr. The story of the subsequent relations of Aurangzeb and his powerful vassal is that of a succession of mutual intrigues, during which they were ostensible friends, the Rājput holding several governments in succession from the Crown, ending with the mission of keeping the turbulent Pathāns of Kābul in proper check. On this expedition Jaswant Singh started in 1670, leaving behind him, as his representative, his son and heir Pṛithivī Singh. In 1680 Aurangzeb sent for Pṛithivī Singh and received him with much courtesy, giving him a *khila't* or robe of honour, which by etiquette he was obliged to wear on leaving the Court. On reaching his house he died suddenly in great pain that same evening, and from that day to this his death has been attributed to the poison in the robe. There is, however, of course, no evidence to show that the robe was poisoned and how it came to affect his health so rapidly. Jaswant Singh died soon afterwards in 1681 at Kābul heart-broken, it is said, at the news of the death of Pṛithivī Singh, which came on top of that of his two other sons, Jagat Singh and Dalthamnā Singh, at Kābul. He was succeeded by a posthumous son, Ajit Singh, who afterwards became famous and was finally murdered in 1725 by his own son Bakht Singh. This crime was the cause of the break-up of the Rājputs from the intestine strife it gave rise to.]

[While Ajit Singh was still a babe, Aurangzeb made an attempt to seize his person, but was foiled by the fidelity of Durgâ Dâs, a servant, who carried him safely to Mârwaḥ in a basket of sweetmeats. Durgâ Dâs is alluded to in the following legend, though wrongly.]

[In line 29 of the legend the version told by Tod of the last interview between Aurangzeb and Prithivî Singh seems to be alluded to. The bardic story of the lions is naturally pure tall talk. Tod's story is this. When Prithivî Singh went to see Aurangzeb in Court the great Emperor took him firmly by both his folded hands and said, "It is told me that you possess as nervous an arm as your father: what can you do now?" "God preserve Your Majesty," he replied, "when the Sovereign of mankind lays the hand of protection on the meanest of his subjects, all his hopes are realized; but when he condescends to take both mine I feel as if I could conquer the world!" His vehement and animated gesture after this speech gave full force to his words and Aurangzeb quickly exclaimed: "Ah, here is another *khutân* (villain)"—a term he always used towards Jaswant Singh. However, out of policy he gave him a *khila't* and honoured him as above stated.]

[Two other persons of note are alluded to in the legend.—Sarbuland Khân and Dârâ Shikoh. Sarbuland Khân belongs to times posterior to those of the legend and so the allusion to him is wrong. He was Governor of Gujarât under the Emperor Muḥammad Shâh and was dismissed; Râjâ Abhai Singh, son of Ajit Singh and so grandson of Jaswant Singh and nephew of Prithivî Singh, being appointed his successor. They had a fight in 1727 in which Sarbuland Khân was defeated. That is all the connection he really has with the house of Jodhpûr.]

[Dârâ Shikoh's defeat, capture and execution in 1659 are well known matters of history and there is nothing to show that Jaswant Singh had any concern in them, as the legend presumes.]

QISSA RÂJÂ PIRTHÎ SINGH PISAR RÂJÂ GAJJÂ SINGH WÂLÎ JODHPÛR.

*Bayân kiâ gâ hai, ke Râjâ Pirthî Singh, birâdar Jaswant Singh,
Naurang Shâh Khândân Shâhân Dehlî ke 'ahad meñ hûâ, jis se is ne
jarâî kî, magar maghlûb hûâ.*

Simrûn Sâhib apnâ, bhaj Nandî Mâi.

Bakhshî Sher Buland Khân ne chughlî khâi.
Khojâ ne hukam dîâ: "De jâ chilam tarâe."

Misrî sûtî miyân se khojâ ke bâhen:

5 Do dhar nâchen dharan par Kachahrî mâih.

- Dekhe Bâdshâh chambhe ho jâe.
 Baith takht par Bâdshâh Jaswant bulâe :
 “Tumhâre baghal meñ Râjpût, Rânî kâ jâe :—
 Tumhâre is bîran kâ nâm kyâ ? Do hameñ batâe.”
- 10 “Mâñ bap ne kî châû, nâññ barâ badhâyâ.
 Mere bîran kâ nâññ Pirthî Singh Gobind kâ pâyâ :
 Chhoṭe kâ Partâp Singh, sûrat kâ sâyâ.”
 Itnî sunke Bâdshâh man meñ khunsâyâ :
 “Tum Pirthî Singh ke yâr, maiñ kaun kahâyâ ?
- 15 Mere bâñs sher âe ; umukte ikkehrî âyâ !
 Pirthî Singh ko do jatâ : ‘ Bâdshâh ne farmâyâ ! ’ ”
 Itnî sunke Jaswant man meñ ghabarâyâ ;
 Apnâ ghorâ chherkar bhâñ pe âyâ :
 “Bhalâ kî, re Pirthî Singh, Bâdshâh ne bulâyâ,
 20 Bâdshâh ne sher kâ tere gail jang karwâyâ.”
 Itnî sunke Pirthî Singh man meñ ghabarâyâ :
 “Abhî kaho Bâdshâh ko, sher ko le âve.”
 Sher Kachahrî Bâdshâh âyâ, âm tamâshâ.
 Pirthî Singh, sûrat sohnâ, bhariâron sâchâ,
 25 Ik hâth meñ lîe tegh, dîjâ dhulwâsâ ;
 Dîâ pukârâ sher ko, talwâr nikâsâ.
 Kehri âyâ zor meñ ; toṛ dîo dhulwâsâ.
 Dîjâ kehri bâhwâ ; bhar zor nikâsâ.
 Punje pakare hâth meñ, kar sîdhâ rakhâ ;
- 30 Mârî bagothî sher ko, gai kalam tarâshî :
 Ik sher ke do kare, jaise patar nâche.
 Dekhke Naurang Bâdshâh chambhe ho jatâ :
 “Âj mârâ merâ kehri sher, kal hameñ binâse !
 Pirthî Singh ko deññ siropâ sunerî.”
- 35 Uṭh chalâ thâ Bâdshâh, saug chalî Kachahrî.

- Râjpûtân se karî bād Naurang Shâh bairî :
 Bholâ Kaiwar jâue nahîñ siropâ jo pahri :
 • Jaise amlî ghûme amal meñ, dang lîe giâ zahri ;
 Kul chhote Râjpût kî kâyâ ho gai dharî.
- 40 Khidmatgâr lagâe do sewâ kario gahrî.
 “Bîran bîran,” kûkiâ, “mera” ; bîr ne bolâ.

- Dhore kharâ Partâp Singh ; muñh kholâ pallâ :
 “ Merî tût gaî bâñh dârî, main rah gîâ akelâ.
 Maut nimâñî bag gaî, ghâû do gaî jholâ.”
- 45 Dhore kharâ Partâp Singh, bhar âñsâ royâ :
 “ Mere bare bîran Pirthî Singh kis nindra soyâ ?
 Merâ ran mañdal, kul kâ singâr, kahân ân chhipâyâ ?”
 Jamnâjî ke nikaṭ ghât lo chandan dhoyâ ;
 Pirthî Singh ko diâ dâgh ; Râjpûtân ne nabân rachâyâ.
- 50 Itñî sunko Bâdshâh parwânâ mangwâyâ ;
 Jabhî to Naurang Bâdshâh likhkar bhajî fardî :
 “ Jis din kâ mar gîâ Pirthî Singh bâdshâhî merî adhî.
 Merî dil kî dil meñ rah gaî, man hûâ bairâgî.”
 Fardî bânchî Jaswant Singh ; jhaṭ fardî phâṭ :
- 55 “ Tum aisi bâteñ likheñ ; kiâ kaptî be-dardî ?
 Log dikhâwâ karo, kiâ matbal ke garjî !
 Pirthî Singh ke marân te nau kûñṭî larzî !”
- Âskaran ke Durg Dâs ne Kachahrî lâi.
 “ Hai koî dil meñ sûrmâ mukh bîrâ khâve ?”
- 60 Jis ke tan meñ lag rahî, nâ bujhan bujhâe :
 Bîrâ uthâyâ Partâp Singh ne ; bhâñyân nûñ jhukke sis
 niwâe.
 Nau kûṭî charḥ gaî Mârwar, ayânâ syânâ,
 Shekhû Shâhzâdâ ke sis par bâh diâ tang tânâ.
 Haude se nichhe diâ ger, jaise burj purânâ.
- 65 Dekhke Naurang Bâdshâh dil meñ ghabarâyâ :
 “ Tum, bhâi, haṭ jâo, je Rabb ne châhâ !”
 Itñî sunke Jaswant Singh ghorâ mangwâyâ ;
 Begameñ lûṭeñ kile meñ, khizânâ luṭwâyâ.
 Bâdshâh kâ Khizânâ luṭkar nukârâ bajwâyâ.
- 70 Râjâ chale gharân nûñ ṭamak bajwâyâ.
 Manzilon manzilon chalke Jodhpûr meñ âyâ.
 Rânân chârôn bhâñôn kî chaukiân bichhwâyâ :
 Râjâ charḥ gae chaukiân, hâth thâl diwâi.
 Bolî Rânî Ranrûp Kanwar, bhar araj lagâi :
- 75 “ Râjâ Pirthî Singh nâ dekhtî, tumhâre bhâi.

Yâ bîran ko marwâe ? Sach deo batâe !”
 Itnî sunke Jaswant Singh mukh âüsâ lâyâ :
 “ Pirthî Singh mar gîâ, kile meñ Dillî jalâyâ.”
 Itnî sunke Rânî ne bolî lîe :
 80 “ Aise Râjâ Pirthî Singh hâth na âe !”
 Itnî sunke Rânî ko de dîâ duhâg ;
 Chandar Kañwar Rânî ko dîâ suhâg.

THE STORY OF RÂJÂ PIRTHÎ SINGH, SON* OF RÂJÂ GAJJÂ
 SINGH, LORD OF JODHPÛR.

It is said that Râjâ Pirthî Singh, brother† of (Râjâ) Jaswant Singh, lived in the days of Royal House of Naurang Shâh (Aurangzeb) of Dehlî, with whom he fought and by whom he was defeated.

I (first) worship my Lord‡ and praise Mother Nandî.§

Sher Buland Khân|| the Commander told tales.

Said the (Royal) eunuch (to Râjâ Pirthî Sing) : “ Do thou light the (Royal) pipe.”

(The Râjâ) drew his sword and thrust it through the eunuch,

5 And the two halves leapt upon the ground in the open Court.

The King saw it and was astonished.

Sitting on his throne the King sent for (Râjâ) Jaswant, (And said) : “ The Râjpût by thy side, the son of a Queen :—

What is the name of this thy brother ?¶ Tell me.”

10 “ His father and mother for love of him gave him a great name.**

* Properly grandson. † Really son. ‡ Krishna in this case.

§ *i.e.* Yasodâ, the wife of Nanda, the foster-father of Krishna.

|| For Sarbuland Khân : see introduction to the tale.

¶ Prithivî Singh was the son, not the brother, of Jaswant Singh, as this legend makes him out.

** Prithivî Singh means Lion of the Earth, and the name moreover was very famous as being that of the celebrated Râi Pithaurâ of Dehlî in the 12th Century A.D.

My brother's name is Pirthî Singh, granted him by
Gobind ;*

The younger one is Partapt Singh, the pride of beauty."

Hearing this the king grew furious in his heart,

(And said) : " You would be a partisan of Pirthî Singh ;
what do you think of me ?

15 I have two and twenty lions just arrived, one stands
roaring now !

Go and warn Pirthî Singh that the King hath said
this !"

Hearing this Jaswant was anxious in his heart

And galloping his horse to his brother, (he said) :

"The King hath done well to call thee, Pirthî Singh.

20 The King hath made up a battle between thee and a
lion."

Hearing this Pirthî Singh became anxious in his heart,
(and said) :

"Tell the King to have the lion ready at once."

The lion came to the King's Court and (there was) a
public show.

Pirthî Sing, beautiful of form and true to his master,

25 Took his sword in one hand and in the other his shield,
And calling out to the lion drew his sword.

The lion came on with great force and broke the shield.

But the other lion † confronted him in his strength.

He seized his paws in his hand and stood him up
straight,

30 And he struck the lion a blow, which went through him ;
And the two parts of the lion danced (apart) like leaves.

When Naurang Shâh § saw this he was astonished,

(And said to himself) : " To-day he hath slain my lion,
to-morrow he will ruin me !

* *i.e.* Krishna, *i.e.* God.

† This hero does not seem to be otherwise known to history. He was
really a younger brother of Jaswant Singh.

‡ *i.e.* Prithivî Singh, the hero.

§ The usual bardic and vulgar form of the name of Aurangzeb.

I will give Pirthî Singh a golden robe.”

35 Up gat the King and his Court followed him.

Naurang Shâh had henceforth a great enmity with the Râjpûts.

The foolish prince knew not the robe he wore,
And the poison of it entered him, as drunkenness encom-
passes the drunkard,

And all the body of the young Râjpût fell down.

40 His attendants did him all service.

His brother (Partâp Singh) called out “my brother, my brother.”

Partâp Singh stood by and removed the sheet from his face, (and said) :

“My other arm is broken,* and I am left alone.

Cruel death hath wounded me, and the bag (of life) is burst.”

45 Partâp Singh stood by and wept tears, (saying) :

“With what sleep doth my elder brother Pirthî Singh sleep ?

Where hath my hero in the field and the glory of my house hidden himself?”

They placed his sandal-wood pyre by the banks of the Jamnâ,

And burning Firthî Singh, the Râjpûts bathed.

50 Hearing of this the King sent for paper,

And Naurang the King sent a letter at once:—

“My kingdom is injured from the day Pirthî Singh died.
My heart is sad† and my soul bereaved.”

Jaswant Singh read the letter and tore it up at once
(saying) :

55 “You that write such words have acted in cruel hypocrisy!

You deceive the people, and have done your desire !

* Conventional phrase for “my brother is dead.”

† *lit.*, (the desires of) my heart have remained in my heart.

At the death of Pirthî Singh the nine divisions (of Mârwâr) tremble !”

Durg Dâs,* the son of Âskaran, held a Court,
(And said): “ Is there any hero at heart here that will
put the betel leaves to his lips ?” †

60 He in whose body rage (the heroic fires) that cannot be
put out,

Partâp Singh took up the betel leaf and bowed his head
to the brethren.

All the nine divisions of Mârwâr advanced, old and
young,

And struck off the head of Prince Shekhû ‡ and hung
it up.

They threw him down from his elephant-litter as (one
would) an old tower.

65 When Naurang Shâh saw this he was agitated in his
heart,

And said: “ Do you, my brethren, retreat ; it is the will
of God !”

Hearing this Jaswant Singh sent for his horse,

And robbed the ladies in the fort and the treasury.

Robbing the Royal Treasury he sounded his drums (of
victory).

70 The Râjâ returned home sounding his drums.

Stage by stage he travelled and came to Jodhpûr. §

The Queens of the four brothers || spread seats for them,

And when the Râjâ sat thereon, they put a platter into
his hand.

Spake Rânî Ranrûp Kânwar, ¶ saying :

75 “ I do not see thy brother Râjâ Pirthî Singh.

* The uncle of Jaswant Singh according to the bard, but see introduction.

† See Vol. I. p. 43, etc. ‡ Dârâ Shikoh : see introduction.

§ All this is a mistake. Jaswant Singh died at Kâbul, and never returned home after his son's death.

|| i.e. of Jaswant, Amar, Pirthî and Partâp.

¶ The chief of Jaswant Singh's Queens according to the bard.

Hast had thy brother killed? Tell me the truth!"

Hearing this Jaswant Singh wept:

"Pirthî Singh died and was burnt in the fort at Dehlî."

Hearing this said the Rânî:

80 "Such an one as Râjâ Pirthî Singh shall never be again!"

Hearing this (Jaswant Singh) made this Rânî a widow,*

And made Rânî Chandar Kañwar into a wife."

* *i.e.* Being displeased at this speech, he displaced Rânî Ranrûp from being his chief Queen and set up Rânî Chandar Kañwar in her place. This is the bard's story.

No. LII.

THE SONG OF GŪGĀ,

AS RECORDED BY MIRZĀ ḤUSSAIN OF DEHLĪ FROM A
LOCAL BARD.

[This important variant of the Legend of Gurū Gūgā has been most carefully taken down, and represents faithfully all the vagaries of the local bardic dialect. It should, of course, be read with the version given at pp. 121-209, Vol. I.]

[The chief point about this poem is that it brings the story of Gūgā into history in the usual bardic fashion of Rājputānā, divesting it, as far as possible, of the miraculous and giving it a specific date *St.* 1369 or 1312 A.D. The history is naturally a little 'mixed,' but not more so than is ordinarily the case of such compositions when meant to be historical.]

[The usual version of Gūgā's story—so far as it may be called historical—is that he died defending his country against Maḥmūd of Ghaznī in the latter's last expedition into India in 1024 A.D.; whereas this legend makes him out to have conquered Fīroz Shāh of Dehlī, when that monarch took the part of the Saint's twin half-brothers Arjun and Sarjun in a characteristic quarrel over the division of the ancestral property, and to have died afterwards in 1312 A.D.]

[The Fīroz Shāh of Dehlī, who, according to the bard, was thus defeated by Gūgā, would chronologically be Fīroz Shāh Khiljī, who reigned 1282-1296, but the indications contained as to the bard's meaning in verse 27ff point to his intending Fīroz Shāh Tughlaq (Bārbak), who reigned 1351-1388, to be his hero. As to the other prominent persons mentioned in the tale by name, those who figure as partisans of the Dehlī king do not need mention here, the bard having, so far as the names can be identified, apparently drawn on Indian Musalmān history generally; but those on Gūgā's side are very interesting. Bālā Ghāzī *alias* Sālār Ghāzī, the well-known hero of the ballad given at pp. 99-120 of Vol. I., appears as Gūgā's partisan and nephew (sister's son), though beyond all doubt he was really the nephew of Maḥmūd of Ghaznī. He was most probably, however, a contemporary of Gūgā. Nar Singh the family priest of Gūgā and a Brāhmaṇ, Bhajjū his household scavenger, and Fatteḥ Singh Chauhān his kinsman, also appear as partisans. Now at the shrines of Gūgā in the Panjāb are commonly to be seen associated with him figures of Nar Singh, Bhūre Singh and Kāle Singh, the last two being identified by the bard with Bhajjū and Fatteḥ Singh. This poem, therefore, is valuable as explaining who these personages are in the popular estimation. Fatteḥ Singh is called by the bard the *pagar-badal bhāt* of Gūgā, *i.e.*, a man who, by exchange of *pagar*'s or turbans, had sworn a close, offensive and defensive alliance with him.]

TEXT.

GÎT GÛGE KÂ.

Joye.

“ Mâtâ kaheñ ki Mâusi? Tû lage Dharam kî Mâ.
 Yâ Dadrere gâm meñ thorâ biswâ ham ko diwâ ;
 Âdhâ kûhâ bâorî;* âdhâ khet aur kiyâr;
 Âdhâ taṭṭû ṭâirî ; âdhâ dhan aur mâr.”

Rânî Bâchhal.

5 “ Âwan do ghar Pîr ko ; âdhâ lo dhan mâr ;
 Âdhâ lo taṭṭû ṭâirî ; lo âdhâ khet kiyâr.”

TRANSLATION.

THE SONG OF GÛGÂ.

The Twins.†

“ Shall we call thee Mother or Aunt? Thou art our
 sworn mother.

Get us a small share in this village of Dadreṭâ.
 Half the wells and reservoirs ; half the fields and beds ;
 Half the horses and mares ; half the wealth and goods.”

Queen Bâchhal.

5 “ Let the Saint‡ come home, and then take half the
 wealth and goods,
 Half the horses and mares, and half the fields and
 beds.”

* For *bâolî*: *l* is frequently interchanged with *r* throughout this poem.

† To their aunt Bâchhal and mother of Gûgâ: See *Legend of Gurâ Gûgâ* in Vol. I., which also see as to Arjun and Sarjun, the twin half-brothers of Gûgâ.

‡ *i.e.* Gûgâ and so on throughout the poem.

Joye.

“Tû Mâtâ, tû Mâusî; ham âe tere dwâr.
Purjâ* ham ko lekh dîe; tirâ likhâ rahe parwâr.”

Haraph† shiâhî‡ dâlne, kalam dawât mangâe.

- 10 Kahren§ Sitâbî:—se dhanî kismat gaî palṭâ khâe.
Khabar hûi us Auliâ; le Lîlî bâg uṭhâe.
Âwat dekhâ Pîrjî, purjâ liâ lukâe.

Rânî Bâchhal.

“Gûgâ, ye mausîr haii, bhum-bhâi kar le:
Yâ Dadreṭe gâm meñ biswâ in ko de.”

The Twins.

“Thou art our Mother and thou art our Aunt; we are
come to thy door (as suppliants).
Give us a document: thy writing will ever avail.”

For (writing) the letters in ink, they sent for pen and
ink.

- 10 Saith Shitâbî:—the fate of the wealthy changed at
once.

The Saint heard of it and gave rein to Lîlî.¶
(When the Twins) saw the Saint coming they hid the
document.

Queen Bâchhal.

“Gûgâ, these are my nephews,** make them brethren††
in the land.
Give them a share in this village of Dadreṭâ.”

* For *purza*: *z* and *j* are frequently interchanged throughout the poem.

† For *harf*, *f* and *ph* is also a constant interchange.

‡ So is *s* for *sh*: here *shiâhî* is for *siâhî*.

§ For *Shitâbî*: see preceding line.

¶ *Shitâbî*, a bard, is the author of the poem.

¶¶ The dark-grey mare identified with Gûgâ and with Rasâlû and Sarwar as well.

** *i.e.* sons of her sister Kâchhal.

†† *i.e.* shareholders.

Gûgâ.

- 15 "Kâkâ ke, na tâû ke; gotî bhâf nâe.
 Sun, he Mâtâ bâwarî, tû biswâ kaise diwâe?
 Biswe baṭen kupût ke : hînâ ho so de!
 Ye biswe Chauhân ke koî tarwâran bal le!"

Jore.

- "Jâhir, toe mâren jîû se, len Dadrerê chhîn!
 20 Ham Jore âṛ ke dhanî: tire Bâgar baseñ amîn."

Gûgâ.

- "Jâte raho, re Jorîyo : nâhakk na audas lûn.
 Hukm nahîn gur pîr kâ. Kahâ binâson dûn?"

Gûgâ.

- 15 "They are not sons of my father's elder or younger
 brother: they are not brethren of my family
 (name).
 Hear, foolish Mother, how can you give them a share?*
- A bastard might give a share, or the conquered!
 Let them take the share of the Chauhân by the power
 of the sword!"

The Twins.

- "Zâhir,† we will slay thee and seize Dadrerâ!
 20 We twins are strong of purpose: we will dwell in thy
 Bâgar as officers (of the king of Dehlî)."

Gûgâ.

- "Go, you Twins: I would not be a sinner‡ for nothing.
 It is against the orders of (religious) teachers and
 saints. Why should I slay you?"

* *i.e.* Under Hindû notions they could not possibly have a claim.

† *i.e.* Gûgâ and so throughout the poem. Zâhir Pîr is a common name for him.

‡ By having to kill them for attacking him.

- Bhagwân kînî kâ kapre, lîe masâl jagâe,
 Majil majil ke châlne pahunche Mâdîpur âe.
 25 Gau charâveñ gawâlie apne hi ban mâne.

Jore.

“Dillî kitnâ phâsilâ ? Deo nidân batâe.”

Gawâlie.

- “Dillî kos pânch ik hai : Killâ Purânâ tîn.
 Âge Tuklâbâd hai, jahâñ baseñ haiñ amîn ;
 Jûrbâg, Makbara Humâyûn, Sâh Najâmuddîn.
 30 Âge kâ bewarâ nahîn ; wahâñ Gûjar lete chhîn.”

(The Twins) put on red (*jogî's*) clothing and lighted torches.

Going stage by stage they reached Mâdîpur.*

- 25 Cowherds where tending their cows in the forest.

The Twins.

“How far is Dehlî ? Tell the ignorant.”

The Cowherds.

“Dehlî is about five miles off and the Old Fort three.
 Then comes Tughlaqâbâd, where the officials dwell ;
 And Jûrbâgh and the tombs of Humâyûn and Nizam-
 u'ddîn Shâh.

- 30 Beyond we have no knowledge, as Gûjars rob there.”†

* A village near Dehlî.

† This local geography clearly shows that the bard is well acquainted with *modern* Dehlî, but very little with history. The Qila' Purânâ (or Indrapat) was Humâyûn's capital and was commenced about 1530 A.D. Tughlaqâbâd was the capital of Ghiâsu'ddîn Tughlaq and was founded 1321-1325 A.D. Jûrbâgh is a village close by Humâyûn's Tomb, which itself was not commenced till 1565 A.D. The tomb of Nizâmuddîn Auliâ, the celebrated saint of Dehlî, is not very far from this in the village of Ghiâspûr, and he died in 1325 A.D. The next reference is apparently to the modern Gûjar villages in the Qila' Purânâ and Firozâbâd, Firoz Shâh Tughlaq's (Bârbak's) town. Now if this Firoz Shâh was the king with whom Gûgâ fought in this poem, and as he reigned in Firozâbâd from 1351 to 1388, it is clear that the Qila' Purânâ, as *now* known, did not then exist, nor did Humâyûn's Tomb, nor could the Twins have *gone on* to Dehlî, which, in its modern position, was built by Shâh Jahân between 1638-1658. If Firoz Shâh Khiljî was the king meant as Gûgâ's opponent then none of this geography is correct, as he reigned 1282-1296.

Kadam uthâe Jorê kar Dillî kâ dhyân :
Râjghât par âeke, kîe Jamnâ ashnân.
Arjun se Sarjun kabe :

Sarjun.

“Pakar chalo samser.

Âm khâs men baithkar, rang ko deo bakher.
35 Araj karo : ‘He Bâssâh*!, bhum diwâo beg.’
Jo Bâssâh mâne nahîn, rosan kar do teg.”

Jorê.

“Dadrerâ âkhî hûâ, aur Bâgar chale na râh.
Bhum dâbî Chauhân, Bâssâh, chalkar bhum diwâh !”

With uplifted foot the Twins made for Dehlî,
And going to the Râjghât† they bathed in the Jamnâ.
Said Sarjun to Arjun :

Sarjun.

“Seize thy sword.

Let us mix with the people and take off our (*jogêt*)
coloured robes.
35 Let us say : ‘O King! Give us the land quickly.’
If the King heed us not, let use our swords (upon him).”

The Twins.‡

“Dadrerâ § is a robber, and the high-way to Bâgar is
stopped.

The Chauhân (Gûgâ) has usurped the land: go and give
us back our land !”

* For *Bâdshâh*.

† This probably means merely large bathing place.

‡ They have now reached the Court and are addressing the King.

§ *i.e.* Gûgâ: the name of his property is here given to the owner.
Dadrerâ is in the Sirsâ District.

Fīroz Shāh Bādshāh.

“Kaun kaun ākhî hūâ ? Kin lînî bhum chhîn ?
40 Thârî bhum diwâe de ; mire le jâ sang amîn.”

Jore.

“Nagar dînî phûnk ; mâr* sâhon ke lûte ;
Biswe lê dabâe ; dirib dîe, Râjâ, chhûte.
Arab-kharab dal jor, dinon din hoe bhârî.
Chîto, Pirossâh ; † takhat kî kare tayyârî.
45 Naubat bâje bâr ; kîe bâssâhî ðere.
Takhat-rawân par baiṭh, yahîn gaj sikkâ phere !”

Fīroz Shāh Bādshāh.

“What tribe hath robbed you ? Who hath taken your
land ?
40 I will give you back your land : take my officer with
you.”

The Twins.

“He hath burnt the cities and robbed the merchant’s
goods.
He hath taken our shares ; give money, O King, and
release them.
He hath collected a countless host and it increaseth day
by day.
Hear, O Fīroz Shāh ; he is preparing for (the capture
of) thy throne.
45 Drums are beaten at his gate, ‡ and he hath a royal
camp.
He sitteth on a throne, and is minded to strike (his
own) coins !”

* For *mâl*.† For *Fīroz Shāh*.

‡ A sign of royalty.

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

“Joṛo, yeh kâ jhak lagî ? Mire kyâ Kachahrî sor ?
Jamîndâr jag ik hai : main dekhûû wâ kâ jor !”

Jore.

“Bâgar dal pûre jire jire singhânî bân.
50 Dillî par dâwe dhare, kop rahâ Chauhân.”

Bâdshâh kâ Khatt.

“Kyûû, Rânghar, Bâgar sajâtîû ? Kyâ pakaṛî yeh bân ?
Jar* lekar jo na milâ, tire ulaṭ dharûû Hindwân !
Kyûû, Rânghar, Bâgar sajâtîû ? Baṛâ machâyâ sor.
Jamîndâr jag ik hai : toen dekhûû kittâ jor.
55 Kyûû, Rânghar, Bâgar sajâtîû ? Baṛâ machâyâ dhand.
Hâth bândh jor na milâ, mirî Dillî hove band.”

King Firoz Shâh.

“O Twins, what is this noise ? What this cry in my Court ?
He is only a farmer : I will see what he can do !”

The Twins.

“Bâgar is full of armies armed with powerful arrows.
50 They will attack Dehlî : the Chanhân is wrathful.”

The King's Letter.†

“O Rânghar,‡ wilt thou lose Bâgar ? Why dost thou act
thus ?

If thou do not bring money and visit me I will overturn
thy Hindwânâ.§

O Rânghar, wilt thou lose Bâgar ? Great is the cry
(against thee).

Thou art but a farmer, and I will test thy power.

55 O Rânghar, wilt thou lose Bâgar ? Great is the cry
(against thee).

If thou meet me not with joined hands, I will imprison
thee in Dehlî.”

* For zar.

† To Gûgâ.

‡ i.e., inhabitant of Bâgar : the name implies an insult to a true Râjpât,
as the Rânghars are of bastard origin.

§ i.e., Râjpâtânâ.

Jawābnāma.

- “ Jar nahîû to â milûû, aur bhâjat lâgî lâj.
 Main tere sir kâ nahîû, Phirossâh Mahârâj.
 Niyâû kare, to na chârhe : jor kare, chârhe âo.
 60 Pâsâ Rabb ke bâth hai ; pare kaun kâ dâo ?
 Gharê chârphantâ pal chârho ; man kî man mat râkh.
 Jo, Bâssâh, mâne nahîû, likh de tîn talâkh.*”

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

- “ Kaisâ Bâgar des ? Kaisâ jag Hindwânâ ?
 Kaisâ Jâhir Jindâ ? Kaisâ Râthorî Rânâ ?”
Qâsid.
 65 “ Dhan mâyâ dekhî nahîû : apne ðilon bhûp.
 Woh nar ko bharî nahîû, dekhe sâdh surûp.”

The Reply.

- “ I have no money or I would visit thee, and I feel ashamed to fly from thee.
 I am not thy equal, O King Firoz Shâh.
 If thou art just thou wilt not attack me : if thou art tyrannical thou wilt attack.
 60 The dice are in the hands of God ; who can (of a certainty) win ?
 If thou wilt attack, attack quickly, and hesitate not.
 If thou heed not, O King, I will dismiss thee.”

King Firoz Shâh.†

- “ What is the land of Bâgar like ? What is Hindwânâ like ?
 What is Jâhir Jindâ‡ like ? What is the Chief of the Râthors§ like ?”

The Messenger.

- 65 “ I saw no wealth nor goods, but he appears to be a king.
 He is no enemy to mankind and looks like a saint.”

* The expression *tîn talâq* is borrowed from the Muhammadan law of divorce and is commonly used to mean an irrevocable vow or oath.

† To the messengers who brought the answer.

‡ For Zâhir Zinda : two titles of Gûgâ inferring that he still lives.

§ Meant for Gûgâ, but incorrectly.

- Chaṛhe saḥansar bân ; chaṛhe haude ambârî ;
 Chaṛhe ṭiḍḍî dal phauj ; chaṛhe sab darbârî ;
 Châṛhe amîr umrâo ; chaṛhe râjoñ kî râî ;
 70 Mugal chaṛhe dal joṛ ; chaṛhe Joṛoñ se bhâî.
 Sâth saḥansar bân, jarb woh chhak hajârî ;
 Sâth piyâde pâûñ ; ittâ dal chaṛhiân bhârî !
 Sutar saḥansar assî, kurang sâre lâkh châr !
 Kabeñ Sitâbî :—ik jîû par, ittâ chaṛhâ lâkh bhâr !
 75 Barsan ko badrâ chaṛhe, rahe ind jûñ chhât.
 Bhân gagan meñ chhup gae, din se ho gaî râṭ.
 Nau-mahile Siriyal kharî ; kharî sukhâve kes.
-

- A thousand archers advanced, and so did elephants
 with litters.
- An army (as numerous) as grasshoppers advanced and
 so did all the nobles.
- (Muhammadan) nobles and chiefs advanced and so did
 (Hindû) chiefs and nobles.
- 70 The Mughal (King) advanced with his army together
 with the Twin brethren.
- Sixty thousand archers and six thousand guns,
 And sixty foot armies : so great an host advanced !
 Eighty thousand camels and four hundred and fifty
 thousand horses !
 Saith Shitâbî :—So many hundreds of thousands to ad-
 vance against one man !
- 75 The clouds gathered for rain as when they cover the-
 sky.
- The sun was hidden in the heavens and the day turned
 into night.
- Siriyal* was on the top of the palace, standing and
 drying her hair.
-

* Gûgâ's wife : see the version in Vol. I.

Rânî Siriyal.

“ Sâso, phirke dekhîyo, tirâ luttâ âve des !”

Nau-mahile se utarî Siriyal nân nân kare awâj :

Rânî Siriyal.

80 “ Bhaunre sove pîtam merâ ; kyâ main karûn ilâj ?”

Rânî Bâchhal.

“ Sâîn âp soe raheñ : wahî hamâre Râo.

Beñ Râjâ Sanjhâ kî, mirâ Jâhir Pîr jagâo.”

Rânî Siriyal.

“ Bâgar bâje ranjhane ; paurañ meñ heñsâ târ !

Uth, Sañyân, hathiyâr le ; toe kaise nind bahâr ?

*Rânî Siriyal.**

“ Come and see, mother-in-law, thy land is being pillaged !”

And Siriyal came down from the palace roof with a great cry.

Rânî Siriyal.†

80 “ My husband sleepeth beneath the palace‡ : what shall I do ?”

Rânî Bâchhal.

“ Thy Lord sleepeth : he is our King.

Daughter of Râjâ Sanjhâ,§ wake up my Zâhir Pîr (Gûgâ).”

Rânî Siriyal.||

“ There is a tumult in Bâgar, and the horses are neighing at the (palace) steps !

Up, my Lord, and arm : how heavily thou sleepest !

* To Bâchhal, Gûgâ's mother. † To Rânî Bâchhal.

‡ A *bhaunrâ* is a pit or sunken chamber used for coolness.

§ Râjâ Sanjhâ was the father of Siriyal : see the version in Vol. I.

|| Going to wake up Gûgâ.

- 85 Surhî khedî sât sau, aur Mohan Jaimal gawâr.
 Khaṛe pukâreñ gawâlie tire dâdâ Amar ke bâr !
 Khûñte turâwañ bâchhaṛû phaujoñ rânheñ gâe.
 Mûndhe pare balone, phir phir jâeñ chhachhâe !

Aisâ putr tain janâ anr baṛhke nâm dharâ !

- 90 Ham kâheko lâjte ? Tirâ hotâ kyûñ na marâ ?”

Rânî Bâchhal.

“Mario pâpî dâliddarî ; mario pâpî sûm !
 Merâ to Jâhir balî, jis par ðal âe jhâm.
 Jâhir ke sir sehrâ ; use laṛan kâ chhâo.
 Beṭî Râjâ Sanjhâ kî, ab ke pher jagâo.”

- 85 Seven hundred cattle have been captured and Mohan
 and Jaimal the herdsmen.
 The herdsmen are wailing at thy grandfather Amar
 (Singh's) gate !
 The calves are restless at their tethers, and the cows are
 lowing in the midst of the host.
 The churns are overset, and the milkmen are returning
 (empty) !

Such a son hast thou* borne and given so great a
 name !

- 90 Why am I thus shamed ? Why was he not slain at his
 birth ?”

Rânî Bâchhal.

“Let the wicked sinner die : let the wicked miser die !
 But my Zâhir is strong, against whom a great army hath
 come.
 On Zâhir's head is a chaplet, and his delight is in the
 fight.
 Daughter of Râjâ Sanjhâ, wake him again.”

* Having failed to wake up Gûgâ she runs back to his mother.

Rânî Siriyal.

95 " Bhum bhâton dî nahîn aur bhâ dîc bidâr.
 Kâil ho, kone luke ; ab chaphiân kaun pukâr ?
 Woh mosas ke Jore lâc phauj chaphâc.
 Uth, Saiyân, hathiâr le : ab kyân jân chhipâc ?

Aisâ putr taiñ janâjâyâ pût kupût.

100 Lakh khoî Chauhân kî : in kyân bândhâ sir sût ?"

Rânî Bâchhal.

" Aisâ putr main janâ, Gorakh sâ jis kâ pîr !
 Lakh râkhe Chauhân kî ; in yân bândhâ sir chîr !
 Merâ to pût supût hai ! Merâ to Jâhir Râo !
 Betî Râjâ Sanjhâ kî, mirâ Jâhir phor jagâo."

*Rânî Siriyal.**

95 " Thou gavest not thy brethren the land and sent thy
 brethren away.

If thou be a coward hide in a corner ; and who will meet
 them now ?

The pilfering Twins have brought an army against thee.
 Up my Lord and arm : why hide thyself now ?

Such a son hast thou† borne ; a worthless son is thine.

100 He is losing the honour of the Chauhâns : why is a
 turban‡ wound round his head ?"

Rânî Bâchhal.

" Such a son have I borne that he is a saint like Gorakh
 (Nâth) !

He will uphold the honour of the Chauhâns and thus is
 the turban bound round his head !

A worthy son is mine ! mine is the Zâhir Râo !

Daughter of Râjâ Sanjhâ, wake up my Zâhir again."

* To Gûgâ again.

† Back to Bâchhal again.

‡ The turban is often synonymous with honour and valour.

Rânî Siriyal.

- 105 "Sâng gharâî shân kî, aur bândhî gajgâo :
Yâ bândhe kî birg baho ; nahîû jogî ho ramjâo.

De moe pânchoi kâpre ; de pânchoi hathiyâr.
Maiû palî pî ke larûû ; mirî Sâsur, karo sahâr !"

Rânî Bachhal.

- "Sânwant bin sâkhâ nahîû, aur nârî sahe na ghâo.
110 Betî Râjâ Sanjhâ kî, mire Jâhir ab ke jagâo."

Rânî Siriyal.

"Chûrî pahro, Sâiyâû, aur karo janânâ bhes !
Apne pâkh moe de ; mirâ kharâ tamâsâ des !"

*Rânî Siriyal.**

- 105 "Thou hast a staff of (royal) dignity, and turban bound
upon thee.

Preserve the honour of thy turban, or become a *jogî*.

Give† me the five (mauly) garments : give me the five
arms.

I will fight for my husband : Mother-in-law, do thou
support me !"

Rânî Bâchhal.

"It wants a brave man to be brave, and a woman cannot
brook a wound.

- 110 Daughter of Râjâ Sanjhâ, wake up my Zâhir now."

Rânî Siriyal.‡

"Put on bracelets, my Lord, and a woman's robes !
Give me thy armour and see what I shall do !"

* Again to Gûgâ.

† Back to Rânî Bâchhal.

‡ Back to Gûgâ again.

- Lagà kalijà bol ; uṭhe woh singh sanî.
 Girwar kampehâr, mahil kî chhuṭ gaî rî.
 115 Tûṭe sâl palang, balî kî phûlî dî.

Gūgā.

- “Kahân gaî woh nâr, kharî moe tânâ dî ?
 Kahân karûn hathiyâr ? Suno tâ nûr kî beṭî.
 Lâ mirâ tel phulel ; bîg mirâ lâve nâî.
 Ghuṛlâ lâo sanwâr ; kharî kyâ deve tâuâ ?
 120 Lâo pânchoî hathiyâr ; sahîdî palṭûn bânâ !
 Chandan chaukî, butṭnâ âke rang lagâe.
 Duddh-hil morâ kare, merî mân ko bîg bulâe.”

The taunt entered his heart and the ferocious lion was
 up.

The mountains shook and the palace trembled.

- 115 The bed broke down as the warrior's (body) swelled
 (in his wrath).

Gūgā.

- “Where hath the woman gone that taunted me ?
 Where shall I use my arms ? Hear, thou daughter of a
 wretch.
 Bring my oil and scents and quickly call my barber.
 Make ready my horse : why dost stand taunting me ?
 120 Bring my five arms ; I will put on the martyr's robes !
 (Bring) a sandal-wood stool and anoint me with
 cosmetics.
 Give me some (mother's) milk and quickly call my
 mother.”*

* This is a Muhammadan ceremony performed on departure to battle. The warrior sucks three times at his mother's breast, while she says “I grant thee the milk thou hast sucked of me.” She thus releases him from his obligation to serve her all his life in return for the milk granted him in childhood.

Râni Siriyâl.

“Jâgâ kul-rosan hûâ; uṭhâ munâ ke tant.

Dal moran birî-dhant uṭhâ tant meñ kant.

125 Chandan chaukî butṭnâ chalkar rang lagâi.

Duddh-hil us kê karo, big bulâe, Mâi.”

Gugâ.

“Mâtâ, merî madat karo; terî sût pîc battîs.

Ṭek bandhâo diu kê; mirâ duddh karo baksîs.”

Dâd lagî Dargâhî meñ: gaibî chaḥî pukâr:

Gugâ kî Dâd.

130 “Na jânûn ib kyâ karen; in Jorôn ṭhâi râr.”

Râni Siriyâl.

“The glory of the house is awake; in a twinkling he is up.

My husband is up in a moment, the slayer of enemies,
to turn back the army.

125 (Bring) the sandal-wood stool and anoint him with cosmetics.

Give him of thy milk; he calleth thee quickly, Mother.”

Gugâ.

“Mother, aid me; I put my thirty-two (teeth) to thy breast.

Be true to the faith and give me of thy milk.”

His prayer reached to the Court (of God): his cry to the hidden (heights).

Gugâ's Prayer.

130 “I know not what they will do: the Twins have begun the quarrel.”

Rānī Bāchhal.

“Yāhī dinā ke kārne sat sahiā Darbār !
Saran Gurū Gobind ke, tum Singh, charho lalkār.”

Jab nar kinā nahān, aras* se utarī pîrī.
Mukh parhā kalām, charhe dolā ko sîrī. †
135 Hîr lagāven butnā, parī charhāven tel :
Jab dūlhā dal ko charhā, sākhi ārtā kel.
Khūb banā aswār, banā kesariyā bâgā :
Jis kī madat Imām gaib kâ charhā chirāgā.

Rānī Bāchhal.

“I prayed to the true Court (of God) for this day !
Under the protection of Gurū Gobind (Singh), † go my
Lion, shouting (to the fight).”

When the hero had bathed the saintship descended on
him from heaven.
He spake prayers with his lips and ecstasy entered the
bridegroom.
135 *Hîris* put on the cosmetics and fairies rubbed in the oil.
When the bridegroom went to the army the maidens
brought the *ārtā*. §
Handsomely was he dressed in saffron garments. ||
To whom the Imām ¶ gives help his lamp is in the
hidden (heavens).

* For 'arash.

† For *shîrīn*.

‡ This great Sikh hero flourished 1675-1708 and is by the bard placed anterior to Gūgā!

§ Reference to a ceremony for receiving the bridegroom at the bride's house.

|| These are all metaphors drawn from the marriage ceremony : Gūgā the hero going to join the army being likened to a bridegroom going to his bride's house.

¶ Probably meant for 'Ali, the successor of Muḥammad.

Jab dal ke dâhan chhuṭe balî bhare hankâr.

- 140 Kâheñ Sitâbî se :—dhanî phauj lîe lalkâr.
 Bâveñ ko lakh dâhne, aur dahine chhatr amîr.
 Lakh bâis Bâssâh charḥe, pânch pach Pîr.
 Hâth joṛ Jâhir kahe :

Gûgâ lî 'Arzî.

“ Arjî hamârî mân !

Tû Bârî Tâlâ mirâ ; tu mirâ Pâk Subhân !

- 145 Kadhî na dekhâ jang ; kadhî na bhâyâ bhâlâ !
 Main bâlak nâdân : râṛ na jânûû lâlâ.
 Hâth kangan, sir sehrâ, gal muttîñ kî mâlâ.
 Ab kê jang jitâc de ; tu dhan mirâ Bârî Tâlâ !”
 Dal umage dariyâo, jîñ âte jaṛc aswâr.

When the hero, the slayer of armies, went out he raised
 a great cry.

- 140 Saith Shitâbî :—the hero challenged the army.
 On the left were a hundred thousand men and on the
 right the (royal) umbrella-bearing chief.
 Twenty-two *lâkhs* had the king: about five had the
 Saint.
 With joined hands prayed Zâhir :

Gûgâ's Prayer.

“ Hear my prayer !

Thou art my God Most Holy ; Thou art my Wise and
 Holy One !

- 145 Never have I seen a fight : never have I used a lance !
 I am but an ignorant child : knowing nought of bloody
 quarrels.
 On my wrists are bracelets, round my head a chaplet,
 and on my neck a garland of pearls.*
 Win me this fight ; and glory to Thee, my God Most
 Holy !”

When the warriors collected the army surged like the sea.

* *i.e.*, a child's dress.

Gūgā.

150 " Choṭ chhatar par kījīyo: pahilī kī terī wār."

Bâlâ kînâ bal, jâdī jâ bâg uthâî.

Kâd paṛâ dal bîch, phaṭī jîṭ jâl se kâî.

Jâ mârâ Sultân tek* mastak par bhâî.

Dekhat rahc amir aur sârâ Turkâî.

155 Kaṛhâ pukâre dal Bâlâ, aur dhîrî dhare na ko.

Bâlâ Ghâzî.

" Palṭâ le Sultân kâ, koî terâ jo dal ho !"

Gūgâ.†

150 " Strike down the umbrella-bearer :‡ thine is the first
(turn to) attack."

Bâlâ (Ghâzî) took up his reins and used his strength.

When he leapt into the army, it scattered like the scum
on the waters.

He struck the forehead of the Prince§ with his sword.

All the nobles and the Turks (Mughals) saw it.

155 Bâlâ (Ghâzî) cried out to the army, and none had cour-
age (to face him).

Bâlâ Ghâzî.||

" Be revenged on the Prince, if thou have an army !"

* For *tegh*.

† Speaking to Bâlâ Ghâzî: see introduction.

‡ *i.e.*, the King.

§ *i.e.*, the son of Firoz Shâh. Sultân was the title of the Dehli Royal Princes.

|| To the King.

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

“ Bhîm, Bhiwânî ke dhânî, chet Jâtû Bhân,
Iklâ dal Bâlâ laç, mirâ mâr liâ Sultân.”

- Chetû Jâtû Bhân Miyân se sanmukh diyâyâ,
160 Giyâsî linî hath tabal* ghorâ chhaṭkâyâ.
Nek na lâyâ dhîl, hankâ Bâlâ par âyâ.
Kewar se dîno kât, bân âtak dikhâyâ.
Âbhî kaisî bijlî bah gaî ik hî sâth :
Phaljhar to mayyar girc, kabje rah gae hâth.
165 Phenk die kabje mayyar nn donoñ aswâr.
Kaheñ Sitâbî :—paṛ gaî donoñ ke khâlî wâr !

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

“ Up Jâtû Bhân, lord of Bhiwânî† strong as Bhîma,‡
Bâlâ (Ghâzî) fights my army and hath slain my (son)
Sultân.”

- Jâtû Bhân the hero faced the Miyân (Bâlâ Ghâzî),
160 And took a spear and an axe in his hand and galloped
his horse.
He lost no time and rushed on Bâlâ (Ghâzî).
Split on his bracelet the arrow seemed as nothing.
And then (the swords) flashed all at once like lightning.
The blades fell to the ground and the handles remained
in their hands.
165 Both horsemen threw the handles on the ground.
Saith Shitâbî :—The attack of each came to nought !

* For *tabar*.

† Bhiwânî is an old town in the Hissâr district, which district was formerly called Hissâr Firoza after Firoz Shâh, with whom it is intimately connected both by history and tradition.

‡ Reference to Bhîma the Paudava, the conventional strong man of Indian fable.

Bâlâ Ghâzî.

“ Man men dhubdâ mat karo : dil bich rakho karâr.
 Â, Jâtû, donoñ laṛen, kamaroñ bich katâr.”

Jâtû Bhân.

“ Sîle palṭo dal men aur bano dîn ke yâr.
 170 Âkbakhat* ham tum mileñ, yahî kalam galî Kartâr.”

Gúgá.

“ Kaho, Bâlâ, kaisî banî ? Kyûñ khâlî paṛ gaî wâr ?
 Bhûp laṛe, man ghâ gae, toe dagâ dañ tarwâr !
 Woh Dillî kâ Bâssâh ; main ugđî Chauhân.

Bâlâ Ghâzî.

“ Have no hesitation in thy mind, but keep courage in
 thy heart.
 Come, Jâtû (Bhân), let us fight with the daggers at our
 waists.”

Jâtû Bhân.

“ Change sides in the army and become the friend of thy
 slave.
 170 We two shall meet at the Last Day, as hath been
 ordained of God.”†

Gúgá.‡

“ Say, Bâlâ, what hath happened ? Why was thy attack
 fruitless ?
 Kings fight and hearts tremble when thy sword de-
 ceives thee !
 He is King of Dehlî, and I a true Chauhân.

* For 'aqibat.

† According to the bard at this point the fight was brought to an end for the day by the darkness, under cover of which Jâtû Bhân fled altogether.

‡ To Bâlâ Ghâzî on his return to the camp.

Bare larenge sûrmâ, bare pareñ ghumsân.

- 175 Chûrá pahrí dânt kâ ; kaun us kâ uṭhe sarâp ?
Jâ, Bâlâ, ghar apne, Rânghar kî kartî jâp !”

Bâlâ Ghâzî.

“Mâmâ, man merâ bujh giâ, bîch katak amboh.
Pher madat merî karo, moe dagâ dikhâyâ loh.”

‘Bismillah’ kar teg lî, râkh Dhanî se dhyân.

Bâlî Ghâzî.

- 180 “Aj bakhat îmâu kâ ; bakhat shahîdî jâu !”

Paṛhke nek salâh Pîr kâ hûâ isârâ :
Charhiâ bâlâ bhûp ; hâth men lîe dudhârâ.

Great warriors shall fight and terrible shall be the
trouble.

- 175 She weareth ivory bracelets, and who can bear her
curse.*
Go, Bâlâ, home, the Rânghar’s† daughter awaiteth thee.”

Bâlâ Ghâzî.

“Uncle, my heart was agitated in the midst of the army.
Help me again, for my aim failed me.”

‘In the name of God’ he seized his sword, and put his
trust in God.

Bâlâ Ghâzî.

- 180 “To-day is a day for the faith ; a time for martyrdom !”

Saying the prayers for safety the Saint gave the sign,
And the young king‡ advanced with a two-edged sword
in his hand.

* i.e., thy wife at home will curse thee for not winning the fight.

† See line 51.

‡ i.e., Bâlâ Ghâzî.

- Kûd paṛâ dal bîch, paṛâ lâkhoñ par bhârâ.
 Bagad uṭhâe bâg, kîa lothoñ ambârâ.
 185 Haude kî hadd toṛke Adalî liâ Paṭhân.
 Dal bich Sâh Piroj ke Bâlâ dâlâ ghân.

Bâlâ Ghâzî.

“Woh nar to jag meñ sahe, suno, Pirohaj Sâh!
 Ikle dal Bâlâ larûñ : tere dekhe lâkh sipâh !”

- Phire Bukhârâ Pîr Bâssâh tânâ mârâ.
 190 Khotâ-khânî hâth, kamar se jare nidân.
 Sahaj gañ samser, gagan jûñ tîṭâ târâ.

- He leapt into the army, into the hundreds of thousands.
 Taking the reins he made a heap of corpses.
 185 He threw down 'Adalî the Paṭhân* from his (elephant)
haudâ.
 Bâlâ caused a massacre in the army of Firoz Shâh.

Bâlâ Ghâzî.

“Hear, Firoz Shâh, that man has distinguished himself
 in the world !
 I, Bâlâ, fight the army alone : behold thou hast a
 hundred thousand soldiers !”

- Then the king taunted the Saint of Bukhâra.†
 190 He took a large spear in his hand and fastened a dagger
 to his waist.
 His sword flashed like a star shooting through the
 heavens.

* This probably represents Muhammad 'Âdil Sbâh Sâr of Dehlî, who played a prominent part in India about the time of Akbar's accession and who reigned 1554-1556. He is generally known as 'Adalî.

† *i.e.* Bâlâ Ghâzî : see introduction. But it should be remembered that to the bards Bukhâra, like Balkh, stands for all the lands west of India.

Pakar pakar bhujle, paṛe khanjar ik sârá.
 Bhîm bhîm tan ho gae donon jere ân.
 Hûr piyâlâ de gaîn, done kî le gaîn jân.

Gûgâ.

195 "Bare bære kunjar khare, âge khare harel.
 Nar Singh, terâ jâng hai; tum pûre kar de kol.*"

Singh chaṛhe Nar Singh : singh kar dîno belâ.
 Bamman chaṛhe bakâr, Bhûp dhâr lâ ruhelâ.
 Chaukî paltî châr laṛe sânwant akelâ.

200 Kunjar dîe girâe : lîe bâssâhî chelâ.
 Muṇḍ ḍhule; ghînwar gire; chele lînî mâr.

Seizing each other's arms, they thrust their daggers at
 the same moment.

Their bodies went apart when the pair came (together)
Hûrîs gave them the cup (of death) † and took the lives
 of both.

Gûgâ. ‡

195 "Huge elephants are standing (there) and before them
 the standard-bearers.
 Nar Singh, it is for thee to fight, and fulfil thy promise." §

Forward went the lion Nar Singh : the lion did valiantly.
 The Brâhman went forward shouting and attacked the
 king.

Against four divisions the warrior fought alone !
 200 The elephants fell down and the royal followers took him.
 Headless he fell to the ground and the followers slew him.

* For *gaul*.

† Muhammadan warriors who die on the battle-field are presented
 just before death with a cup of *âb-i-Kausar*, water of Paradise, by
hûrîs to enable them to enter heaven at once.

‡ To Nar Singh Brâhman, who now joins the fight.

§ This according to the bard refers to a promise to *Gûgâ* made by
 Nar Singh that he would on this occasion make an exhibition of great
 strength.

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

“Tumhen balî ke ans ho, mirâ phiro, Sayad Jauhâr.”

Phire Sayad Jauhâr Bâssâh mârâ tânâ.

Turkî saje kumet, turt dhar lâ nisânâ.

205 Teg Sayad Jauhâr, kar dîâ sahîdî bânâ.

Nar Singh sâng chalâe : laṛe bin sir kâ dâñâ.

Jab Nar Singh khanjar ghâ, ulaṛ gîâ tan chîr.

Bâhen gal meñ bâhke, hûe jîûte pîr !

Gûgâ.

“Teg gaho, Bhajjû balî : uṭho balî ke ser.

210 Mutâ ḍhalen ; ghînwar giren ; dal ko deo bakher.”

Firoz Shâh the King.

“Thou art a son of mighty warriors, now charge, my
Sayyid Jawâhir.”

Then the King taunted Sayyid Jawâhir.

Mounting his bay Turkish (horse) he quickly upraised
his standard.

205 Sword (in hand) Sayyid Jawâhir put on the robes of
martyrdom.

Nar Singh hurled his javelin, for headless he fought on.

Then Nar Singh thrust his dagger, and it entered his
body.

It fell into his arms and they became living saints !

Gûgâ.

“Seize thy sword, O warrior Bhajjû* : up thou warrior
lion.

210 Let heads fall off and fall to the ground, and disperse
the army.”

* Bhajjû Chamâr : see introduction.

Bhajjû uṭhe bhunjag teg bândhe baldhârî.
 Kûd paṛâ dal bîch ; phauj Mugalon kî bhârî.
 Sîs dhare thâ khud Turk kî takî ambârî :
 Bâûhon gerâ, bân lâ Dâûd Hajârî.

- 215 Bhâl dâ bapkârke, aur girwar kampehâr.
 Mugalon meñ halchal paṛî is Mirzâ lâ Kamâr.
 Gir gae kâl Kamâr Khân ; dhale kit ik namûd.

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

“Phiro, Sayad Brahîmjî, mirâ mâr lâ Dâûd.”

- Phire Sayad Brahîm dekh Mugalon kâ khârâ.
 220 Khotâ-khânî hâth, kamar se jaṛâ kaṭârâ.

Up gat Bhajjû hastily and fastened on his mighty sword.
 He leapt into the army, the mighty army of the Mughals.
 He aimed at the head and quilted (elephant) litter of
 the Turk.

He encompassed (Sayyid) Dâûd, the Hazârî,* with his
 arms and seized him.

- 215 He shouted the war cry and the mountains shook.
 There was confusion among the Mughals when Mirzâ
 Kamâl was captured.
 Death fell upon (Mirzâ) Kamâl Khân and many of his
 companions.

Firoz Shâh the King.

“Come up, Sayyid Ibrâhîm, they have slain my (Sayyid)
 Dâûd.”

Then Sayyid Ibrâhîm viewed the Mughal forces.

- 220 He took a large spear in his hand and fastened a dagger
 to his waist.

* Probably a vague reminiscence of Dâûd Khân Pannî, a celebrated warrior of the last century whose exploits are still fresh in the popular mind.

Mall laṛeṅ bhuj-bang, mall jūn muṇḍhā akhârâ.
 Jhapat ik ko ik lage, aur pal meṅ dukh bâṛhâ.
 Bagad bagad bâhe balî : khurag khâ gae ang.
 Kaheṅ Sitâbî :—se dhanî do gire ik hî sang.

Gūgā.

225 “Dekh, surkh yeh pâlki ; âge khare harol !
 Fatteh Singh, yâ dal meṅ tî bhale nibhâo kol !”

Fatteh Singh Chauhân baṛâ dil bhûp gumânî.
 Bastar palte kos Râjâ kî phauj amâû.
 Singh chalâi sang : pâlki bhî utânî.

230 Liâ bair se jodh, arth* meṅ kûkî Rânî.

The warriors wrestled, as wrestlers in the field.
 They seized each other at once and then the trouble in-
 creased.
 The warriors fought together and the bodies were
 wounded.
 Saith Shitâbî :—both the warriors fell together.

Gūgā.†

225 “Behold, yon red (royal) litter with the standard-bearers
 in front !
 Fatteh Singh, it is well that thou fulfil thy promise in
 this field !”‡

Fatteh Singh was a great and proud king.
 He changed his dress and entered the Râjâ's§ army.
 The lion hurled his lance and the litter was broken.
 230 The warrior seized the enemy and the Queen|| cried out
 in her chariot.

* For *rath*. † To Fatteh Singh Chauhân : see introduction.

‡ Compare line 196.

§ Apparently meant here for the Mughal King's army.

|| *i.e.* the Mughal Queen.

Jâjire sirohi sîs jab kîâ Fattedh Singh wâr.
 “Paṛ gae dal meñ tît Fattedh Singh liâ mirâ itbâr.”*
 Jodhâ liâ bapkârke aur dal kâ ghaṭâ gumân.

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

“Tumhen balî ke ans ho, mire phiro Sayad Burhân !”

- 235 Phire Sayad Burhân ; uṭhe be-jân sipâhî.
 Uṭhe balî ke ser sût lî miyânâ sâhî.
 Bhûp laṛe maidân, daloñ meñ rahî nâ kâhî :
 Jodhâ sakal bahû bîr gire gire iklâhî.
 Bagad bagad bâhe balî, khurag khâ gaî ang.
 240 Kahren Sitâbî : se dhanî do gire ik hî sang.

When Fattedh Singh attacked the enemy's head trembled.
 “There was trouble in the army when Fattedh Singh
 seized my pride.”*
 The warrior gave the war cry and the courage of the
 army failed.

Firoz Shâh the King.

“Come, my Sayyid Burhân, thou art a descendant of
 warriors.”

- 235 Up came Sayyid Burhân and the lifeless soldiers stood
 up.
 The lion warrior came up and drew the sword from the
 royal scabbard.
 The King† fought in the field and none remained in the
 army (to fight him),
 For all the warriors, and many heroes fell together.
 The warriors fought together and their bodies were
 wounded.
 240 Saith Shitâbî :—the two warriors fell together.

* Said by the Mughal mentioned in line 230.

† That is Fattedh Singh.

- Aisâ jag men kon nâ hai mâyâ ko châhe ?
 Bin mudh lâlach kâm kon barâhe ?
 Woh birle sansâr jîû parmârat khoen :
 Har dam râkhen dhyân jatî woh dil ko dhoen.
 245 Jin ke jîû hirde nahîn, ândhî ginen na dhûp.
 Kahen Sitâbî :—He Dhanî, tain bhale banâe bhûp !

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

- “Kahân woh dâyedâr ?* Kahân mâyâ kê lâhâ ?
 Sote singh jagâe : aulion kînâ bâhâ !
 Kahân woh khân amîr ? Kahân woh lashkar merâ ?
 250 Kahân woh lâl nisân ? Kahân bâssâhî ðerâ ?
 Merâ to châyâ nahîn : woh thârâ upgâr !
 Jâhir karo piyân, nahîn to jî se ðârûn mâr.”

Who is there in the world that desireth not riches ?
 Without greed of wealth who is there that worketh ?
 Few are they in the world that would give their lives for
 others :

That every moment give their hearts to contemplation
 and holiness.

- 245 Who feareth not for his life heedeth not storm nor sun.
 Saith Shitâbî :—it is well that God hath made kings !

Firoz Shâh the King.†

- “Where are the claimants ? Where the lusty after wealth ?
 Ye have waked the sleeping lion : roused the saint !
 Where are the *khâns* and the nobles ? Where my army ?
 250 Where my (royal) red standard ? Where my royal camp ?
 I had no desire for this : it is your doing !
 Slay ye Zâhir, or I will slay you.”

* For *da'wedâr*.

† To the Twins.

Jore.

“ Jo Jâhir ham mâr len, Bâgar dîjo moe :
 Jâhir jo ham mâr le, lâj kuṭam kî toe !”

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

255 “ Bâgar tumhârî ho chukî: lo, Joro, tarwâr.
 Jo Jâhir ko mâr lo, to biswe likh dūn châr.”

Sârat* kînî Sâh ; chaṛhe gînwar hat tânkâ.
 Bâje turhe bam : chaṛhe Ainat Khân bânkâ.
 Châr aur chaunkî chaṛhe, bîch Jore bapkâr :

Jore.

260 “ Ab chetû Jâhir Jatî, tire âe dâyedâr !”

The Twins.

“ If we slay Zâhir, give us the Bâgar land :
 If Zâhir slay us, the duty of (supporting) our families is
 on thee !”

Firoz Shâh the King.

255 “ Yours is Bâgar : seize your swords, O Twins,
 If you slay Zâhir, I will give you four† shares.”

The King gave the signal, and they drove forward their
 chariots.

Drums were beaten and the noble 'Inâyat Khân went
 with them.

Four divisions also came up and in the midst shouted
 the Twins :

The Twins.

260 “ Have a care, Holy Zâhir, the claimants against you are
 come !”

* For *ishârat*.

† *i.e.*, a double share each.

Gūgā.

“ Suno, bhâi mausîr, tum kaise kirpâc !
 Dillî kâ dal jor bhale milne ko âe !
 Bhale dikhâe daur ; kîâ Mugalou kâ châyâ !
 Kahâ mile jâgîr ? Kahâ kuchh mansab pâyâ ?
 265 Merâ to châyâ nahîn, woh thâre upgâr.
 Man dhokâ rah jâegâ ; tum karo pahil kâ wâr !”

Sarjun lînî sâng, sŭrmâ sanmukh chhûtâ.
 Jâe lâ Dâvîd, tang tâjî kâ phûtâ.
 Dŭj wâr so bhan gîâ khainch khainch man sâe :
 270 Kar le châbuk Pîr, tîr dîno gagan urâc.
 Kabje dhare kumân gor Arjun lalkârâ :

Gūgā.

“ Hear, O sons of my aunt ; ye have done me a kindness !
 In that ye have collected the armies of Dehlî in order to
 visit me !
 A good disposition have ye shown in urging on the
 Mughals !
 What lands have you received ? What rank have ye
 attained ?
 265 I had no desire for this : it is your doing.
 The deceit will remain in your hearts : make ye the first
 attack !”

The warrior Sarjun seized a spear and rushed forward.
 He seized Dâvîd, and the girths of his horse broke.
 His next aim failed when he drew :
 270 For the Saint sent the arrow to the heavens with his
 whip.
 The warrior Arjun adjusted his bow and cried out :

Arjun.

“Âjon hi bhum bant : mân le kahâ hamârâ.”

- Sir se bândhâ tîr, khainch Lîlî ko mârâ.
 Surkhî âi na ang, dudh kî chhûtî phawârâ.
 275 Dûjâ bân so bhan giâ khainch khainch man sâe.
 Kar le châbuk Pîr, tîr dîno gagan urâe.
 Jâb kopke Dâvid kamar se lînâ khândâ.
 Lîne jor girâe, dhalâ nâhakk we tândâ.
 Sîs katē Jorē gire, ran bâje tarwâr!
 280 Ainat Khân bânkâ liâ, aur chaunkî bach lî châr.
 Bhak bhak nain balen Jorôn ke, mûchhe rahe bal khâe.
 Donon sîs uṭhâe, Pîr lîe hâne laṭkâe.
-

Arjun.

“Give us the land to-day : hear my say.”

- He drew the bow to his head and struck Lîlî.
 No blood came from her body, a fountain of milk
 gushed forth.
 275 His next aim failed when he drew :
 For the Saint sent the arrow to the heavens with his
 whip.
 Then Dâvid in his wrath drew his sword from his waist,
 And with force threw him down, and so the family was
 broken up for nothing.
 With severed heads the Twins fell and swords were
 used in the field.
 280 'Inâyat Khân the brave was slain, but the four divisions
 escaped.
 The eyes of the Twins were wide open and their
 moustaches stiff.
 Lifting up both their heads he hung them to his saddle.

Nautankî Multân, bhâu sobhan sâ dhyâyâ.

Hâthî dînî hûl, sabhî umrâo jhukâyâ.

285 Le le misrî hâth chhuṭe Sayadâne jâyâ.

Sîl, tabil, bandûk, bân, ghoron garmâyâ.

Lakh bâr Arjun kharâ kûk pahârî bân.

Sâin, Sitâbî, sak nahîn rakhanhâr Subhân.

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

“Main Dillî Bâssâh ; jag men phire dohâi.

290 Terî kyûn kînâ jûjh ? Tirâ kyûn sâmât âi ?

Hâth bândhke na milâ, aur na pûchhî salâe.*

Dal ke bândhe â phaîsâ : ab kahân bhâjkar jâe ?”

Taking his bow of Multân† he sped like the sun's rays.

Goaded on the elephants all the (Mughal) nobles were conquered.

285 Sword in hand the son of the Sayyids went forth (to the fight)

With battle-axe and spear and gun and arrow he galloped his horse.

A thousand times Arjun cried out, and sent forth his arrows.

Of a truth, saith Shitâbî, the Lord was not with him.

Firoz Shâh the King.‡

“I am King of Dehlî and my power is throughout the world.

290 Why hast thou opposed me ? Why hath (the time of) thy trouble come ?

With joined hands thou hast not come to me, nor asked my advice.

Thou art caught in the net of my army : whither shalt thou flee now ?”

* For *salâh*. † *i.e.* one of special excellence. ‡ To Gûgâ.

Gûgâ.

- “Takht dîâ Kartâr : kaisâ tû niyâo chukâve ?
 Bâgar bâlû ret ; yehân kyâ mâyâ pâve ?
 295 Kare pîr se jûjh : tîre kyûn sâmat âve ?
 Ulaṭ ab bhî pher : hon ko mat kaṭwâve.
 Bâg kûd ghînwar karûn : mirâ aur pâs lakh châr.
 Man dhokâ rah jâegâ ; tu kar le pahilî wâr.”

- Nautankî Multân karaṭ khainchî hankârî.
 300 Pîṭâ paṭke kâṭ kamar kî urî kaṭârî.
 Dûjî wâr Wajîr kâ khainch khainch man sâe ;
 Kare châbuk Pîr, tîr dîno gagan urâe.
 Kînî chet kumet kamad se kînâ jhaṭkâ :
 Sagan pat sânwant jâe ghinwar se aṭkâ.
 305 Mastak bâje paura, Pîr ko âwâ laṭkâ.

Gûgâ.

- “God gave thee a throne and how hast thou dealt justice?
 Bâgar is a land of dust ; what riches wilt thou find here?
 295 Opposing the saints : why hath (the time of) thy trouble
 come ?
 Better turn back now and cut not short thy fate.
 I will leap upon thee and throw thee down, for I have
 four *lâkhs* more (of men).
 The deceit will remain in thy heart : do thou make the
 first attack.”
- The owner of the bow of Multân drew it and shouted ;
 300 Taking off his belt he drew the dagger at his waist.
 The (Mughal) Minister made the next attack with
 drawn bow,
 But the Saint with his whip sent the arrow to the
 heavens.
 Galloping his bay horse he hurled his lasso,
 And threw his opponent suddenly to the ground.
 305 His face beamed and the Saint was pleased.

- Gall men ger kamân chaṭ haude se patkâ.
 Bhujâ tor Paṭhân kî, bichal gae umrâo.
 Champe charhîân sîs pîth de bhâje kunjarâo.
 Jatî jagâe jot kîâ, kîâ Jâhir ne jhanjar.
 310 Jâ pakarâ Dâvid, hâth men le lîâ khanjar.
 Lakh bâis bhaj gae aur bhaj gae woh lakh khân.
 Dekh sakal Jagdîs ke larjâ man Chauhân.

Gūgā.

- “Mujh ko nibâlâ jânke tû charhîân sah jor.
 Sâin gat jâne nahîn : bitâ gae kuchh hor.
 315 Lâ mirî surhî sât sau ; Mohan Jaimal mat râkh.
 Jab chhorûngâ, Bâssâh, moe likh die tîn talâkh.”

Putting the lasso round his neck he threw him from the
 (elephant) litter.

The arms of the Paṭhân were broken and his nobles dis-
 persed.

There being trouble on their backs the elephants fled.

The Saint awakened the goddess (Jatî)* and Zâhir.

- 310 They seized Dâvid and took their swords in their hands.
 Twenty-two *lâkhs* of men and a *lâkh* of nobles fled.
 The Chauhân's heart wondered seeing the doings of
 God.

Gūgā.†

- “Knowing me to be alone thou hast come up in force.
 Thou dost not heed the Lord, thinking something else.
 315 Bring me my 700 cows and retain not Mohan and
 Jaimal.‡
 Then will I release thee, O King, when thou dost give
 me thy oath.”§

* Observe that she also was on his side.

† To Firoz Shâh.

‡ His herdsmen.

§ See line 62.

Firoz Shâh Bâdshâh.

“ Le le surhî sât sau ; Mohan Jaimal mat râkh.
 Jân bakhsh, mire Auliâ, toe likh dîn tîn talâkh.
 Sikh sunî thî Joṛ kî : dhoke dâbâ âe.

- 320 Ab kî gunâ bakhsh de, Jâhir : tû Bâmhan, mainî gâe.”
 Dhartî to dehlâ parî, lakhtar râche ang.
 Kahan Sitâbî :—se dhani pâi Auliâ jang !

Harî bâg kî waî par kamtâ Gorakhnâth manâe.
 Mahil charhî Kâchhal dekhî thî ; woh Joṛon kî mâc.

Rânî Kâchhal.

- 325 “ Gûgâ re, Joṛe bhî dekhe ? bewar un kâ â batâ.”

Firoz Shâh the King.

“ Take thy 700 cows : I keep not thy Mohan and Jaimal.
 Spare my life, my Saint, and I will give thee my oath.
 I listened to the teaching of the Twins and have been
 undone by deceit.

- 320 Forgive my fault, Zâhir : thou art as Brâhmaṇ, I as thy
 cow.*”

The Earth shook and was dyed with blood.

Saith Shitâbî :—(thus) the noble Saint took the field !

He went round the garden green and worshipped
 Gorakhnâth.†

Kâchhal‡ went up the palace and looked around : she,
 the mother of the Twins.

Rânî Kâchhal.

- 325 “ O Gûgâ, hast seen the Twins ? Tell me news of them.”

* A common Hindû expression in asking forgiveness, meaning—
 treat me as well as a Brâhmaṇ would treat his cow. See Vol. II. p.
 103.

† The scene completely changes here and Gûgâ has returned home.

‡ The mother of the Twins : see the story in Vol. I.

Gūgā.

“Mausī, main kal to dekhe the : āj kâ bewarâ nâ.”

Rânî Kâchhal.

“Main jāntū tain Jore mâre, chele Gorakhnâth.
Dohâi Gorakhnâth kî, moe sâneh batâ de bāt !”

Lîlî ke hânî sîs lîe mausî ko dikhlâe.

330 Bhak bhak nain balen Jorôn ke, mûchh raheñ bal khâe.

Rânî Kâchhal.

“Charhte kâte bel ; tain Jorôn ko mâr lîâ.
Dohâi Gorakhnâth kî, mâtâ ko mukh nâ dikhâ !”

Gūgā.

“Aunt, I saw them yesterday : to-day I have no news.”

Rânî Kâchhal.

“I think thou hast slain the Twins, thou disciple of
Gorakhnâth.
By the justice of Gorakhnâth, do thou tell me the truth”

He showed the heads on Lîlî's saddle to his aunt.

330 The eyes of the Twins were wide-awake and their
moustaches stiff.

Rânî Kâchhal.

“Thou hast cut the growing shoots ; thou hast slain the
Twins.
By the justice of Gorakhnâth, show not thy face to thy
mother !”

Gûgâ.

“Burî karî; tain dohâî dînî: phir âungâ nâ !
Jâ Dhartî main soungâ; pachtâvegî mâ.”

335 Bâg pakar Siriyal kharî kahe :

Rânî Siriyal.

“Sunô, Jangal ke Râo !
Mâi-bâp tû man se bisâre : merâ kaun niyâo ?
Tumbî bin râwal nahîû : binâ birch nahîû chhâe.
Tum châlê pardes, sâth main chhorungî nâe.”

Gûgâ.

“Mahil jude banwâe le, tire mahilon âve Pîr.
340 Mâtâ bolî bolnî : mire lagî kalîjâ tîr.

Gûgâ.

“Thou hast done evil and hast claimed justice (from
Gorakhnâth), and I come no more !
I will go and sleep in the earth and my mother will
grieve.”

335 Siriyal seized his reins and said :

Rânî Siriyal.

“Hear, thou Lord of the Wilds !
Thou hast put away thy father and mother from thy
mind, who will do me justice ?
A mendicant is nothing without his begging bowl : a
tree is nought without shade.
Thou goest abroad and I will not be left behind.”

Gûgâ.

“Take a separate palace and thy Saint will come to thee
there.*
340 My mother† hath spoken evil and the arrow hath entered
my heart.

* *i.e.* miraculously. There is a well-known story in which Gûgâ visited his wife, after “sleeping in the Earth,” by night for 12 years: See *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. XI., p. 34. † *i.e.*, aunt.

He, Dharti Mâtâ Jagat, yeh thârâ bastâr.
Kirpâ kare, Karîmjî, bistar ham ko darkâr.”

Dhartî Mâtâ.

“ Kol* bhare main Rasûl se ; Hindû jhilân nâ !
Jât janam Hindû tirâ : Kâlîma bharkar â !”

345 Phar phar Kâlîma bharâ ; Dhartî hûî udâo.
Kirpâ kare Karîmjî : son Lîlî gae samâe.
Pariyân lâîn achrâ, aur hûrîn lâîn hâr.

O Earth, Mother of the World, this (body) is (of) thy
bulk.

Have mercy, O Thou that art merciful, I have need of
rest.”

Mother Earth.

“ I have given my word to the Prephet (Muhammad) that
I will not tolerate a Hindû !
Thou art a Hindû by birth : fulfil the (Muhammadan)
Creed and come !”

345 He learnt the Creed† and the Earth opened.
The Merciful had mercy and he went to sleep with
Lîlî.
Fairies brought him a chaplet and *hûrîs* brought him a
necklace.

* For *qaul*.

† This bard says that it was Gorakhnâth that taught Gûgâ the Muham-
madan Creed ! A very clear instance of the manner in which Islâm
and Hinduism are now mixed up in the vulgar Indian mind.

Húr Part.

“Pahro, Jâhir Auliâ, Bahist kî bâg bahâr.”

Sammat terâ sau unhattarân yeh sâkhâ Chauhân.

350 Kahte Sîtâbî:—Meo kê jag jag jio gawân.

Hurîs and Fairies.

“Don them, O Saint Zâhir, (and enjoy) the spring garden
of Heaven.”

It was in *Samvat* 1369* that the Chauhân died.

350 Saith Shitâbî:—May the hearers of the Meo† live for
ever.

* 1312 A.D.

† *i.e.*, the bard is a Meo by caste.

No. LIII.

THE MIRACLES OF SAKHÎ SARWAR, AS RELATED BY BARDS IN THE JÂLANDHAR DISTRICT.

[These three short ballads each have their own interest and play a part in the elucidation of the story of this great Saint.]

[The first is remarkable for the specific date it gives to Sakhî Sarwar's death, *viz.*, 1174 A.D., and also for the reasonable account it gives of his doings and of the causes that led to his death;—a family squabble over land. The Khors, so often mentioned in these Sarwar legends as his 'brethren,' are probably the Khokhars, into which tribe the Saint's father married (see Vol. II., p. 118), and the quarrel seems to have risen thus. The headman of the Khokhars at Shâkhot, near Multân, had two daughters, one of whom he married to the Sayyid, Zainu'l-'âbidîn, Sarwar's father, probably for the social position thus gained, and the other as usual into his own tribe. On his death a dispute must have arisen over the division of the property inherited through these two daughters: the Sayyids and the Khokhars both claiming a share. This feud ended in the murder of the Sayyids and in the extirpation of their line.]

[The second, while repeating in other words much that is to be found in the first, gives a fairly full account of the matters hinted at in the fragments about Sarwar in Vol. I., p. 91 ff.]

[The third is a 'mixed' legend, and while purporting to give the story of Pherû the Brâhman given in full in Vol. II., p. 104 ff, it repeats mainly that of Dâni Jattî, (Vol. I., p. 66 ff.), who here appears as Devî the wife of Pherû. As might be expected in an incomplete and obviously muddled legend such as this, portions of more than even two stories have found their way into it. Thus, part of the well-known tale of 'Îsâ, the restorer of Sarwâr's shine at Nigâhâ, re-appears (Vol. I., p. 210 ff.), especially that portion (Vol. I., p. 214) which relates to the three invalids cured at the springs there, from whom the present *mujawirs*, or shrine attendants, claim descent. Again, in the name Bhâi Pherû, and in the fact of his marrying among the Sikhs, there is an allusion to quite a distinct story. Bhâi is a common title of the holy men among the Sikhs and there was in the beginning of this Century a Bhâi Pherû, whose tomb or shrine is at Miânke, near Chûniân, in the Lâhor District, and who is frequently invoked in the well-known sentence "*Bhâi Pherû terî kâr*, may Bhâi Pherû protect thee," used as a charm on seeing one of the small whirlwinds so common in the Panjâb. For an explanation of this phrase see *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. XI., pp. 31, 32.]

I.

TEXT.

- Khâlak sab dâ Allah haigâ Rabb, Karîm, Ghaffâr.
 Rasûl Nabbî se is ne bheje bandon men har bâr :
 Fazal, inâyat, bhakhshish-bârî sabhnân nûn jâ dasan ;
 Kahir-kahârî, Jabar-jabbârî, lokân nûn â dasan.
- 5 Bande oh de amar nahî nûn khûb tarah se janeî :
 Jo koî us tou muñh nûn moḡe Dozakh kareñ ðhikâne !
 Khalkat gunâ-gûn banâe, sab jâ hoe pukâr !
 Rizak sab nûn rozî dendâ oh Walî Kartâr !
- Pâñch Sadî de awal, yâ ki Châr Sadî de âkhir,
 10 Mulk Arab men fitna uḡkar, kâim ho gâi âkhir.
 Khûnrezî dî hoî sî kasrat ; mâr lûḡ chaupherâ :
 Aman, salâmat, sukhchain ne apnâ paḡ lâ ðerâ.
 Zainâbdîn,* bâp Sayyid Ahmad, tarak watan tad kîtâ :
 Arab chhaḡ Panjâb men Shaikoḡ sâñh sâ lîtâ.
- 15 Sayyid hone in Sâhib men shubah na shakk hai mûl :
 Sayyid Hussainî in ko jâno ; mâno âl Rasûl.
 Mukaddam Pîrâ Shaikoḡ ne sidak yakîn de nâl,
 Laḡkî baḡî biyâñke, Shâh se hoîâ khushhâl.
 Chhotî laḡkî Pîrâ ne châ Khorân† vichh biyâñhi :
- 20 Us gâun men rahinde sî, aur karde sî oh bâñhi.
 Pîrâ dî aulâd te bâkî donon sî eh dhîân :
 Apne apne hisse par eh donon kâbiz thiân.
- Shâh Sâhib de ghar de andar Sayyid Ahmad jad jâiâ,
 Khâlâzâd bhâñân dâ tad hasad hoîâ sawâiâ.
- 25 Sakhî Sarwar to bhâñân nâle khulak marwat karde :
 Bughz wa adâwat dil apne vichh har vele oh bharde.
 Lâchârî nûn watan chhaḡ Baghdâd Shahr wal chale :
 Barkat sohbat Pîr Pîrân te bhar bhar lite palle.
 Shahâbu'ddîn Soharwardî, Shekh wakat kahâve,—

* For Zainu'l-'âbidîn.

† This throws light on the word *khorân* in Vol. I., p. 91, translated, no doubt wrongly, as "enemies" in p. 94.

- 30 Un kî sohbat bâ barkat se bahut fâida pâve.
Maudûd Chishtî us vele sâ, Jagat-pîr kahâwandâ ;—
Un kî khidmat bâ azmat se faiz bâtanî pâvandâ.

Hubb watan dî Sayyid Ahmad dil meñ bahut jo âi,
Baghdâd Shahr chhod-chhadke Dhaunkal jhuggî pâl.

- 35 Kashf karâmât Pîr Sâhib dî jag meñ hoî mashhûr :
Bahut khalâik faiz bâtanî pâkar hoe bharpûr.
Shaikoṭ jad âe Sarwar bhâîân kahir machâîâ :
Hasad jabilî nn lokân dâ pher josh par âîâ.
Khorân milkar us jâge par matâ eh pakâîâ :

- 40 “ Sarjâ mâran in ko bhajo : khud mûâ yâ mâr âîâ.”
Dhâdâ Pîr kahre nûn mârke sarjâ jind gañwâî !
Bhâîân dî tad âg darûnî dûnî hoî sawâî.
Khorân Hâkim pâs jâeke kîtâ yûn pukârâ :

“ Sayyid Ahmad nûn kaid kar lo, tân sâḍâ ho chhutkâîâ.”

- 45 Hâkim Shahr Multân kol jad eh gâl galâîâ,
Hazrat de pakaîâwan kâran ahdi turt bhijwâîâ.
Sayyid ne jad had Shahr meñ apnâ kadam ṭakâîâ,
Hâkim nûn tad shauk milan dâ jî meñ bahut samâîâ :
Kyûnke Hâkim wakat nûn eh bishârat hoî :—

- 50 ‘ Sayyid dî be-adabî kâran sharûrat jâû khoî.’
Pîr Sâhib Darbar meñ âkar dâkhil jis dam hoî,
Darbârî lokân, adnâ âlâ, sir kadamân par dhoî !
Hâkim wakat ne azmat karke gale turt lagâîâ :
Ghorâ Tâzî, jorâ shâhî, nazarâne dâ lâîâ.

- 55 Pîr Sâhib ne nazar lene meñ nzar bahut sâ kîtâ :
Hâkim ne az râh khushâmad is de gal maḥ dîtâ.
Sakhî Sarwar ne izzat pâl : Khor hoe sharminde.
Khorân de ghar mâtam hoî ; Sayyidân de ghar chande.

Râste meñ ik tolâ fakîrân oh nûn âkar miliâ,

- 60 Darbâron jad, rukhsât hoke, Sayyid apne gâun nûn
chaliâ.

Sawâl kîâ ; “ Ham bhûke hainge ; sânûn kuchh khilâ !
Nahîñ, asâḍâ jîwanâ haigâ sakht baîâ.”

Pîr boliâ : “ Jangal bârhî ; nân kardâ main paj ;

- Nâl mere Shaikoṭ chalo, aur khânâ khâo raj.”
- 65 “Lakhdâtâ terâ nâm hai, Chau Kûntân vichh mashhûr :
Ghorâ joṛâ bakhshke sânnûn kar masrûr.”
Mânga un kê de dîâ, aur ghar de jânib ṭuriâ.
Fakîrân ghorâ zibah kar chulhiân utte dhariâ.
Laham ghorê dâ khâkar, joṛâ lîrân kariâ :
- 70 Kalima shukar Sayyid Ahmad Sâin us vele jâ parhiâ.
Khorân eh dekhkar Darbâre bhânî mâri :
“ Sayyid tusâde bakhsh dî zarâ kadar na jânî.
Ghorâ terâ dîâ hoiâ fakîrân nûn khilwâiâ.
Âge ham kyâ kaheñ, jo kiâ Sayyid jâiâ ?”
- 75 Shâh* ne ahdi bhajke Sayyid Ahmad bulwâiâ.
“ Ghorâ Tâzî nâl lâ !,” eh Sâhib* farmâiâ.
Pîr Sâhib ne jis gharî eh hukm sun pâiâ,
Donon hâth uthâke boliâ bâr : “ Khudâ yâ,
Tûn Kâdir Karîm hai, maiñ miskîn nimânâ.
- 80 Is ghorê nûn zindâ kar, kuchh merâ nahîñ ṭhikânâ !”
Ghorâ zindâ ho giâ ; Sayyid hoiâ kushhâl.
Shukar Khudâ dâ bhajiâ hoke bahut nihâl.
Tâzî ghorâ leke jad Darbâr jâ wariâ,
Sûbadâr Multan ne kadar bahut sâ kariâ.
- 85 Eh karâmât dekhke, aur nâ kuchh ban âi,
Apnî beṭî Bâi dî us se karî sagâi !

- Sayyidzâdâ biyâhke Shaikoṭ meñ âiâ,
Khorân ral mil baiṭhke eho matâ jad lâiâ :
“ Jad tak eh hai jîwandâ sânnûn nahîñ ârâm.”
- 90 Âo, is nûn mâr deñ, te hove achhâ kâm.”
Abdu'l-Ghanî bhâi thâ Hazrat dâ ik khûb :
Surâju'ddîn nân laṛke dâ, oh har ik dâ mahbûb.
Sarwar jân de khauf ton watanon se hath dhoe ;
Makâm Nigâhe jâke kheme zan phir hoe.
- 95 Khorân pichhiâ chhadîâ othe bhî nân mûl :
Sane kabîle Shâh nûn kitâ jâ maktûl.

* Observe that *Shâh* and *Sâhib* here mean the Governor, elsewhere in this poem they mean the Saint.

San shahâdat Pîr dâ haigâ panj sau satar.
Sahîh is nûn mân le, ua kar tûn kuchh chalitar.

- 100 Makâm Nigâhâ piñd hai pahâre par âbâd :
Andar us de kabar hai ; Sayyid Ahmad ne yâd.
Niche oh de khaḍ hai barsâtî be-kâl.
Melâ us meñ hondâ hai Baisâkhî nûn har sâl.
Pânî wahân kam yâb sâ ; tihâñ kîṭî zârî :
Hazrat dî doâ te chashmâ ho gaî jârî.
- 105 Sidak wa yakîn se jo koî jâkar is meñ nahâve,
Fazal Ilahî, yaman Walî te, jald shifâ un pâve.

- Ik same ik ghâr jâ Hazrat majlis kî.
Dhig phaṭkar sir utte jhab girne nûn thî ;
Hath apnâ Pîr Sâhib ne niche se jâ dhariâ,
110 Shikâf wahân dâ jitnâ hoî sâ, utnâ hi rah ghariâ.
Shakal musallis ab hai ghâṭî men maujûd :
Uparonî bahut farâkh hâi, âkhir jâ mafkûd.
Panjâ dâ nishân hai is dâ khûb ayân.
Jo châhe, so dekh le, hor shak ua ân.

- 115 Sayyid Ahmad nâm âp dâ wâlidain ne rakhiâ ;
Lakhdâtâ, Lâlânwâlâ, lakab hûâ hai achhâ !
Sakhî Sarwar bhî âkhde jag vichbânî log :
Sarwar Sultân kah mânde Jatt Chamâr har log.
Bhaṭân eh dē Sayyid dî jân se karan kabûl :
120 Wâlî apnâ jânde eh firka majhûl.

'Abdu'llah eh hî nazm banâi : oh hundâ hai âsî.
Allah oh de hâl par rahmat bhajeñ khâsî !

TRANSLATION.

The God of all creatures is the Lord, Merciful and
Forgiving.

He hath sent His prophets to His servants at all times,
To show to all His grace and gifts and kindness,
To show them that He is Almighty and Omnipotent.

- 5 His servants know well His orders and interdicts,

And he that turneth his face from Him shall dwell in
Hell!

He made His creatures of different kinds that all might
call on Him!

The Lord, the Creator, giveth their daily food to all!

In the beginning of the Fifth Century, or at the end of
the Fourth,*

- 10 Disturbances arose in Arabia and afterwards became
general.†

There was much bloodshed and robbery on all sides,
And peace, security and happiness struck their tents.
So Zainu'l'âbidîn, the father of Sayyid Aḥmad, left his
country,

And leaving Arabia settled‡ at Shaikoṭ§.

- 15 There is no doubt nor suspicion at all as to the Saint
having been a Sayyid :

Know him to be a Hussainî Sayyid, and of the female
line from the Prophet.||

Pîrâ, the head-man of Shaikoṭ, in his faith and assur-
ance,

Gave his elder daughter in marriage to the Saint (Zai-
nu'l-'âbidîn) with gladness.

* *i. e.* A. H. ; this gives us the beginning of the XIIth Century A. D. ;
See Vol. I., p. 66.

† This reference is intelligible : A. H. 467 to 512, or A. D. 1075 to
1118, the period covered by the reigns, more or less nominal, of the
'Abbâsî Khalifas of Baghdâd, Al Muqtadî B'illah and Al Mustazahir
B'illah, under the real sway of the powerful Saljûqs, Jalâlu'ddîn Malik
Shâh (1072-1092) and Sultân Barkayâraq (1092-1104), was indeed a
period of disturbance. It saw the rise of the Crusades in Syria owing
to the excesses of Malik Shâh at Jerusalem, the struggles there under
the Fâtimî Khâlifa of Egypt, Musta'alî B'illah Abû'l-Qâsim Aḥmad
(1094-1100), the decline of the great Saljûqî Empire on the death of
Malik Shâh, and the rise and power of the Assassins or Ismaïlias under
Hasan Sabbâh, the Old Man of the Mountain (1089-1124).

‡ *Lit.*, drew breath.

§ Should be Shâhkoṭ ; see Vol. II., p. 118.

|| *i. e.* a descendant of Hussain, son of 'Alî, and grandson of Muḥam-
mad through his daughter Fâtima ; see Vol. II., p. 154.

His younger daughter Pîrâ gave in marriage to the
Khors.*

- 20 (The Saint) dwelt in the village and took to ploughing.
Pîrâ's only descendants were through those two daughters,

And they all took their shares through those two.

When Sayyid Aḥmad was born in the Saints' house,
The jealousy of the cousins increased apace.

- 25 Sakhî Sarwar had kindly feelings towards his brethren,
But they continually kept enmity in their hearts.

In despair (the Saint Sarwar) left his home and went
to the City of Baghdâd,

And was filled with the blessing and communion of the
Saints.

Shahâbu'ddîn Soharwardî, whom they call the Saint of
the day,

- 30 Benefited him much with his blessing and companion-
ship.

Maudûd Chishtî lived then, whom they call the World-
saint;—

From serving and honoring him he obtained grace in
his heart.†

When an eager desire for his home came into his heart
Sayyid Aḥmad

Left the City of Baghdâd and pitched his tent at Dhaun-
kal.‡

- 35 The miracles and mysteries of the Saint became known
to the world,

And the hearts of many people were filled full of grace.

When the Saint went to Shaikoṭ his brethren raised up
a disturbance,

* See introduction.

† Shahâbu'ddîn Soharwardî of Baghdâd, flourished A.D. 1145-1232.
Khwâja Maudûd Chishtî died at Chisht in 1153.

‡ Near Wazîrâbâd in the Gujrânwâlâ district.

And the natural jealousy of those people again gathered strength.

The Khors assembled at that place and made a plan,
40 (Saying): "Send him to slay a lion: he will slay or be slain."

The great Saint slew the lion with his slipper!*

Then the inward fire of the brethren increased doubly.

The Khors went to the Governor and thus cried out:

"Put Sayyid Aḥmad into prison, that we may be rid of him."

45 The Governor of the City of Multân, on hearing these words,

Sent a messenger quickly to seize the Saint.

As soon as the Sayyid put his foot within the boundary of the City,

The Governor was seized with a great desire to meet him:

Because a sign had been given to that Governor of the day,

50 That he would lose his prosperity if he showed any disrespect to the Sayyid.

When the Saint put his foot in the Court,

The courtiers, great and small, laid their heads at his feet!

The Governor of the day honoured him and quickly embraced him,

And brought him as a gift an Arab horse and royal robes.

55 The Saint greatly objected to taking a gift,

But the Governor persuaded him with sweet words.

Sakhî Sarwar was honoured and the Khors ashamed.

There was weeping in the house of the Khors and joy in the house of the Sayyids.

On the road a band of *faqîrs* met him,

60 As the Sayyid was returning home from the Court.

* Cf. Vol. I., p. 95.

They begged (of him, saying) : “ We are hungry, give us something to eat !

Else it will be very hard for us to live.”

Said the saint : “ It is the wide jungle, but I hesitate not ;

Come with me to Shaikoṭ and eat your fill.”

65 “ Thy name is Lakhdâtâ, known to the Four Quarters (of the Earth),

Grant us thy horse and robes and make us happy.”

He gave what they desired and went homewards.

The *faqîrs* slew the horse and put it on their hearths (to cook it).

They ate the flesh of the horse, and made themselves breeches of the clothes :

70 And then they repeated the prayers for thanks to the Lord Sayyid Aḥmad.

When the Khors saw this they went and told tales to the Court (saying) :

“ The Sayyid did not at all value the (Governor’s) gifts.

He has given the horse to *faqîrs* to eat.

What more can we say of the doings of the Sayyid’s son ?”

75 The Governor sent a messenger to fetch the Sayyid.

And the Governor said : “ Let him bring the Arab horse with him !”

When the Saint heard the order,

He raised his hands and said again and again :

“ O God,

Thou art Mighty and Merciful, I am but poor and miserable :

80 Raise this horse to life ; I have no resources (but in thee) !”

The horse became alive and the Saint was happy.

Giving thanks to God he became very happy.

When he entered the Court with the Arab horse,

The Governor of Multân greatly honoured him.

85 Seeing this miracle, he had no alternative

But to give him his own daughter Bâi in marriage !*

After the Sayyid's son had married he came to Shaikoṭ,
And the Khors met together and made this plan :

“ As long as he is alive we shall have no peace.

90 Come, let us slay him and we shall prosper.”

The Saint had a good brother 'Abdu'l-Ghani,
And Surâju'ddîn was the name of his Son, beloved
of all.

Sarwar from fear of his life washed his hands of his
house,

And went and pitched his tent at Nigâhâ.

95 Even there the Khors did not cease to follow him,

And slew the Saint with his family.

The date of the Saint's martyrdom is five hundred and
seventy.†

Know this for truth and doubt it not.

Nigâhâ is a village in the hills :‡

100 In it is his tomb :remember, Sayyid Aḥmad's.

Beneath it is a ravine in the rains.

Every year in Baisâkh a fair is held there.

There was a scarcity of water and the thirsty (pilgrims)
cried out ;

And a spring arose by the prayer of the Saint.

105 Who goes and bathes there in faith and assurance,

By the grace of God and the favour of the Saint, will
quickly be cured.

Once the Saint held an assembly in a ravine,
And (the rocks) were ready to fall on his head ;
When the Saint placed his hand beneath them,

110 The ravine remained as it was made.

The triangular appearance of the pass still remains ;

* See Vol. I., p. 95 ; Vol. II. p. 116ff. and 131.

† *i.e.* 570 A.H. or 1174 A.D.

‡ See Vol. I., p. 66.

Wide at the top and narrow at the bottom.
The mark of the (Saint's) hand is clearly visible.
Those that wish can see it and have no doubts.

- 115 Thy parents called thee Sayyid Aḥmad,*
Lakhdâtâ and Lâlânwâlâ are thy noble titles!
The people, too, call thee Sakhî Sarwar in the world,
And all the Jatt̄s and Chamârs worship thee as Sarwar
Sultân.
The bards acknowledge thee for a Sayyid with their lives,
120 The poor bards knowing thee for their patron.

'Abd'ullah made these verses, thy sinful servant.
May God have special mercy on him !

II.

TEXT.

- Awal gâwân Sache Allah :
Hazrat lendâ Bahisht muhalla :
Maullâ mâneñ jeh dî gallân :
Oh Pîr main phariâ.
5 Sarwar Dhoḍâ donoñ bhâi
Nâl Khorân de sânj rachâi ;
Nadî kinâre kanak bijâi.
Viyâh Nadî de utte rahinde.
Khet Pîrân dâ hariâ.
10 Kanakân pakîân Chet Basâkhî.
Khorân Pîrân ghalle râkhe.
Khorân de sab râkhe mâre ;
Sarjâ zor kariâ.
Khorân milke matâ matâiâ :
15 "Râkh ghallo Sayyid jâiâ ;
Sarjâ us nûñ mâr mukâve :
Sâḍâ mantar phuriâ !"
Pîr kharâwân, hath musallâ,
Pîrân pahrâ kariâ.

* The bard now invokes Sakhî Sarwar.

- 20 Kar 'B'ismi'llah' kharâû ik mare ;
 Sarjâ dhère kariâ.
 Kanak pakiân; hâle paindi :
 Khorân Pîrân de pâs jânde :
 " Bâdshâhân de daftar bharnî! "
- 25 Shâh dâ pallâ phariâ.
 Ralke Khorân dittâ tânâ :
 " Nâl sâde chalo, Sultânâ ;
 Bâdshâhân dâ bharo khazânâ ;
 Dastak sânuî phariâ! "
- 30 * Âbî, Jodhâ, Sânuwan, Kakkû,
 Chauhân bâr, uṭhâiâ Makkû :
 Pîr nûn pharke nâl le chale.
 Eh kî auguu kariâ ?
 Garh Multânôn Pîr chale ;
- 35 Chham chham barsan nûr tajale.
 Bâhlâû Khorân dâû na chale :
 Maullâ hondâ jeh de Walî.
 Nâl Khorân de ṭuriâ.
 Darbâr vichh jad rakhiâ pair :
- 40 Jithe pair te ohte khair.
 Nahânî nazarôn Ghanân Paṭhânâ :
 " Gajjâ Pîr hai, raṭak sadânâ.
 Barâ karam kîṭâ, Sultânâ. "
- 45 Uṭhke Bâdshâh bhî miliâ.
 Ghan Pîr bahen barâbar :
 Hor rahan sab khariâ !
 Bol Khorân dâ raddî paindâ :
 Sayyid ghore charhiâ.
 Tâzî ghorâ te nâl jorâ
- 50 Pîrân age dhariâ.
 Sayyid kahindâ : " Suno, Bâdshâhâ,
 Mainûn Maullâ de parwâhâ.
 Main kî jânâ ṭṭṭâ lâhâ ?
 Tâzî Allah bakhshe :

* This line explains the allusions at p. 95, Vol. I., and at Vol. II., p. 118.

- 55 Kam Sâîn dâ kariâ !”
 Fakîrâû ghatte ân sawâlân :
 “Ghorâ deh Bâdshâhanwâlâ.”
 Tâzî ghorâ te nâl jorâ
 Pîr te Malangân phariâ.
- 60 Sakhî Sarwar dî ‘dhan dhan’ hoî :
 Malangân mile muñh mangî dhoî.
 Shukar Khudâ dâ karke Sarwar
 Watan des nûn tûriâ.
 Kar ‘B’ismi’llah,’ paḥ takbîrâû,
- 65 Fukrâ hukm Sharâ dâ kariâ.
 Degân bhariân uṭhe jawâne :
 “Sar-mukh tere dûheñ jahâne !”
 Langân liân phar dîwâne ;
 Rajje fakîr den doân :
- 70 Darûd Nabbî par parhiâ.
 Khor chughal Darbâre âiâ :
 “Tâzî terâ Pîr khilâiâ.
 Terâ dittâ yâd na lâiâ :
 Chit kisî na dhariâ.”
- 75 Sayyid utte âhdî thâve :
 Sayyid Râo nûn Bâdshâh bulâve.
 Kakkî chaḥkar Pîr phir âve ;
 Oho ghorâ tân ban âve :
 Nîlâ Tâzî hariâ !
- 80 Ralke Sayyid karan pukârâ :
 “Sunîye, Muhammad, Châron Yârâ,
 Eho ghorâ hoe sârâ,
 Nîlâ Tâzî hariâ !”
 Haḍ cham chun kîta dherâ :
- 85 Jânde kalam Malâik morâ.
 Azrâil phir ândî jindrî :
 Sâbit ghorâ baniâ !
 Oh ghorâ le âiâ :
 Bâdshâh kahe : “ O Khudâ yâ !”
- 90 Ghaniâû wazîrân Shâh nûu samjhâiâ :
 Bâdshâh ne ḍolâ dekar,

Niyat khair phir paṛhiâ.

Bol Khorân dâ raddî paindâ :

Sayyid ghoṛe charhiâ.

95 Shakar waṇḍî, hoî shâdî ;

Niyat khair paṛhiâ Pîrzâde,

Bâi bakhshî kaul zabânî.

Sayyidzâde Bâi dî banî joṛî,

Jo rang sabhî baniâ !

100 Lâl, jawâhir, motî, hîre,

Lâgîân nûn pahinâe chîre.

Sayyid dî jad shâdî hoî,

Ḍhol damâmâ dhariâ.

Shâdâ bharâîn nazam banâi :

105 Bhâîân vichhon hurmat pâî.

Nau nidh, bârân sidh ho gaiân :

Har sâl Nigâhe ṭuriâ !

TRANSLATION.

First I sing the True God :

(Secondly) the Prophet* that dwelleth in Heaven :

(Thirdly) whose prayers God heeds,

I worship that Saint.†

5 Sarwar and Dhoḍâ,‡ these two brothers,

Made a partnership with the Khors,

And planted wheat by the river bank.

They dwelt on the banks of the River Biyâs.§

The field of the Saints prospered.

10 The wheat ripened in Chet and Baisâkh.||

The Khors and the Saints sent their field-watchmen.

The watchmen of the Khors were all slain,

For the lions were furious.

The Khors met and made a plan, (saying) :

* *i. e.*, Muḥammad.

† *i. e.*, Sakhî Sarwar.

‡ Dhoḍâ was own brother to Sarwar : see Vol. I., p. 75, &c.

§ A gratuitous assumption on the part of the Jâlandhar bard, who seems to know of no other important river.

|| *i. e.*, in March and April.

- 15 "Let us send the Sayyid's son as a field-watchmen,
That the lion may slay him,
And our charm prosper!"
The Saint with his sandals on and his praying-carpet
in his hand,
Kept the watch.
- 20 Saying, 'In the name of God,' with one blow of his
sandal
He overthrew the lion.
The wheat ripened and the tax was due,
And the Khors went to the Saint (saying):
"Pay (the taxes) to the King's office!"
- 25 And they seized the Saint's skirt.*
Together the Khors reproached him, (saying):
"Come with us, (Sakhî Sarwar) Sultân,
And pay into the King's treasury,
For the summons has reached us!"
- 30 Âbî, Jodhâ, Sânwân, Kakkû,
The four brethren, took Makkû (with them), †
And seizing the Saint took him (also) with them.
How great a sin they committed!
The Saint went to Multân fort, and
- 35 Heavenly glory shone upon him.
The plan of the wicked Khors did not flourish
Against him whose Lord was God.
He went with the Khors.
Wherever in the Court (the Saint) placed
- 40 His feet, there was blessing.
Ghanâ the Paḥhân cast a side-look at him saying:
"The Saint is a warrior and hath called up a host.
O Sultân, thou hast done me a great kindness."
And the King got up to greet him.
- 45 Ghan and the Saint sat down together,
While all the rest remained standing!

* *i.e.*, pressed him to make all the payment.

† These five were the Khors and cousins of Sakhî Sarwar.

- The words of the Khors were thrown away,
 And the Sayyid mounted a horse,
 An Arab horse and a suit of apparel
 50 Were brought before the Saint.
 Said the Sayyid: "Hear, O King,
 I heed (only) God.
 What know I of loss or gain?
 God hath granted this Arab horse:
 55 It is God's doing!"
 A crowd of *faqîrs* came and begged (of Sarwar, saying):
 "Give us the Royal horse."
 The Arab horse and the suit of apparel
 The Malangs* took from the Saint.
 60 They spake well of Sakhî Sarwar,
 And the Malangs obtained what they asked.
 Giving thanks to God, Sarwar
 Returned to his native land.
 Saying 'In the name of God' and the (proper prayers)
 65 The *faqîrs* acted according to the Law.†
 Filling the cauldrons they stood up, (saying):
 "Mayest thou be honored in both worlds (O Sarwar)!"
 The estatics tore up the raiment,
 And being satiated the *faqîrs* gave thanks,
 70 And prayed to the Prophet.
 The Khors told tales in the Court, (saying):
 "The Saint hath eaten thy Arab horse.
 He hath not remembered thy gift,
 Nor valued it at all."
 75 Messengers were sent to the Saint,
 And the King sent for the Lord Saint.
 The Saint came back on (his mare) Kakki‡
 And then the horse was restored;
 The grey Arab was flourishing!

* Properly a sect of mendicants who, through one Jaman Jati, are followers of Badiu'ddîn Shâh Madâr of Makkanpûr (1350-1433 A.D.)

† *i.e.*, they killed the horse for food in the orthodox way.

‡ See *ante* in all the legends of Sarwar, *passim*.

- 80 The Sayyids had met and called out :
 " Hear O Muḥammad, and ye his Four Friends,*
 May this horse be made whole,
 And the grey Arab flourish !"
 They collected the bones and skin into a heap,
 85 And the pen of the Angel (of Death) turned back.
 Azrâîl † gave him back life,
 And the horse was made whole !
 (The Saint) brought the horse :
 Said the King : " O my God !"
- 90 The ministers together explained to the King (what
 he should do),
 And the King gave him (his daughter) in marriage,
 And married her to him lawfully.
 The speech of the Khors came to naught,
 And the Sayyid mounted the horse.
- 95 The sugar was distributed‡ and the marriage com-
 pleted,
 And the descendant of Saints performed it lawfully.
 (The King gave his daughter) Bâi§ according to his
 spoken promise.
 A match was made between Bâi and the Sayyid's son,
 The fairest match of all !
- 100 Rubies, jewels, pearls and diamonds,
 And bright turbans were given to the hangers on.
 When the Sayyid was married
 The great and small drums were sounded.
 Shâdâ the bard made this poem,
 105 And obtained honor among his brethren.
 He obtains the nine riches and the twelve enjoyments,
 That goes yearly to Nigâhâ !

* See Vol. II., p. 502.

† The Muhammadan Angel of Death.

‡ In token of the completion of a marriage it is usual to hold a feast, but when this for any reason is not practicable, sugar or dates are distributed among the relatives and guests instead.

§ See former stories of Sarwar, *passim*.

III.

TEXT.

- Bhât Pherû Bahman thiâ ;
 Na oh dâ put, na oh dî dhîâ.
 Kangâl kalâneh ho jâne kâran,
 Man vichh nazar manâwandâ : —
- 5 “Je Mere ghar dhan put hove,
 Terî jag vichh, Pirâ, ‘dhan dhan’ hove.
 Makâm banâwân :
 Nit dîve jalâwân :
 Eh mere mau âwandâ.”
- 10 Jad Allah oh dî âs puchhâî,
 Pîr Sâhib ne hurmat pâî.
 Jhaṇḍâ gaḍîâ : makâm banâîâ :
 Sohle nit oh gâwandâ.
 Bare put dâ biyâh rachâîâ :
- 15 Sikhân de ghar biyâhan âîâ.
 Kurmân oh nûn tânâ mârî :—
 “Bâjh Sat Gur kyûn sîs niwâwandâ ?”
 Daulat dî gharûr se
 Na sũjhî oh nûn dũr dî.
- 20 Dhîmân gârâ dhuwâke,
 Makâm dâ bũhâ chanwâwandâ.
 Ghar vichh Devî nâr, jî :*
 Deve matân tân kari pukâr, jî.
 “Oh tân jodhâ Pîr hai,
 25 Jeh dî tũn kâr miṭâwandâ !”
 Muṇḍe kahinde : “Bâpũâ !
 Kâh nũn kandân piṭeñ, pâpîâ ?”
 Dhodâ châbuk mârke,
 Pherû nũn chit âwandâ.
- 30 Bahman dî akal mârî gaî :
 Har dam oh nũn phatkâr pâî.
 Jad oh dî dehî phatḡ gaî ;
 Kâyâ dâ rang batâwandâ.

* *Jî*, Sir, addressed to audience has not been translated : see in many previous legends.

- Raḍdâ pairon gîâ, jî :
 35 Ujâre jâke piâ, jî.
 Jânde sang dekhkar,
 Sangân dî wal oh âwandâ.
 Âiâ mâh sujâl, jî :
 Sangân dî paindî châl, jî.
 40 Tobâ kîtî badkâr te :
 Sharm âiâ bahut phaṭkâr te :
 Darbâre sîs niwâwandâ.
 Âwâz âî : “ Bâhmanân,
 Nâ pâpî honde jâwanân.
 45 Chashme jâke nahâ tûn :
 Kâyâ dâ rang banâ tûn :
 Apne karne dâ phâl pâwandâ.”
 Jâd Bahman achchhâ hoiâ,
 Phir zârî karke roiâ :
 50 “ Main khwâr hondâ bahut sâ, jî ;
 Tuhâ nûn raham hun âwandâ.”
 Phir jab tak rahiâ jîû dâ,
 Pîr dî sifat karnîû dâ.
 Oh dî sev karan bahir na thîûdâ :
 55 Har sâl Darbâr meñ jâwandâ.
 Nihâlâ, khûb banwâiâ makâm, jî :
 Âve mulk jahân, jî.
 Tîrath baniâ is dâ thân, jî :
 Lâhor ilâkâ jâwandâ.

TRANSLATION.

- Bhâi Pherû was a Brâhman,
 That had nor son nor daughter.
 As he was poor and hungry,
 He made a vow in his heart :—
 5 “ If a good son be born in my house,*
 Thy praises shall resound in the earth, O Saint
 I will build thee a shrine,
 And light thee perpetual lamps :
 This is in my heart.”

* Prayer addressed to Sarwar.

- 10 When God granted his desire,
 There was honor to the Saint.
 He raised up a standard and built a shrine,
 And songs of praise were perpetually sung.
 He arranged for the marriage of his elder son,
- 15 And married him among the Sikhs.
 His brother-in-law reproached him (saying):
 “Why bowest thy head to any but the True
 Gurû.”*
 In pride of wealth,
 He could not see ahead.
- 20 Collecting bricks and mortar
 He closed up the door of the shrine.†
 He had a wife at home called Devi,
 And she called out to him advisedly:
 “He is a valiant Saint,
 25 Whose worship thou art blotting out !”
 Said his boys: “Father !
 Why dost pull down the (shrine) walls, O sinner ?”
 Dhoḍâ beat him with a whip,‡
 And made Pherû remember (his vow).
- 30 The Brâhman lost his senses,
 And was cursed at every breath.
 Then his body broke out (into sores),
 And his body changed color.§
 He crawled on his feet,
- 35 And went into the wilds.
 He saw a party going (to Sarwar’s shrine)
 And he joined the party.
 It was the cold season,
 And the party went on their way.
- 40 He repented of his sin,
 And was much ashamed of the curse (upon him),
 And bowed his head in the shrine.

* *i.e.*, Gurû Govind Singh, the founder of the modern Sikhs.

† That he had built to Sarwar, *i.e.*, he became a Sikh.

‡ *Cf.*, Vol. I., p. 76.

§ *i.e.* he became a leper.

- There came a voice, (saying): "O Brāhman,
 Be no longer a sinner.
- 45 Go and bathe in the fountain,*
 And the color of thy body shall be restored,
 And thou shalt win the fruit of thy deed;"
 When the Brāhman became well
 He again wept bitterly (saying):
- 50 "I was a great sinner,
 And now thou (O Saint) hast had mercy.
 And now as long as I live,
 Will I praise the Saint.
 I will do nought but serve him,
 55 Going yearly to his Shrine."
 O Nihâlâ,† well did he build the shrine,
 Whither all the world goes.
 The (Saint's) home he made into a place of pilgrimage
 Whither the people of Lâhor‡ go.

* Cf., Vol. II., p. 214. The bard explains that to the North-west of Nigâhâ are two or three small springs rising out of the water made by the Saint's horse!!

† The bard addressing himself; see Vol. I., p. 66.

‡ *i.e.*, of the Panjâb.

No. LIV.

THE FOUNDING OF BASTÎ SHEKH DARVESH, AS RELATED BY A BARD FROM JÂLANDHAR.

[This is a typical legend of local history and serves to confirm much that has been already said at pp. 158-159 and p. 175ff of this volume as to the history of the Saints of Jâlandhar. It is to be noted that the date of the foundation of Bastî Shekh Darvesh is here given as A.H. 1026 or A.D. 1617, and that this agrees with the usual historical date.]

[The poem also gives a list of the Jâlandhar Bastîs past and present, which is worthy of note.]

TEXT.

KAIFIYAT ÂBÂDÎ BASTÎ SHEKH DARVESH.

Awal hamd Khudâwand dâ, lâkh darûd Nabbî nûn ;
Hâl âbâdî Bastî Shekhân pher sunâwâû tainûn.

- Shekh Darvesh, Pîr Paṭhânân, Kânîyûn hoe udâsî ;
Pîr Walî te rukhsat le Jâlandhar hoe bâsî.
- 5 Hazîra Bijlî Khân de pâs jo jangal sâ ghanerâ,
Ethe âke Shekh Sâhib ne apnâ kitâ ḍerâ.
Loḍî log, sharîr âdmî, un se laṛne lâge :
Shekh Sâhib ne apne ḍerâ rawân karde âge.
Theh Lohârî, jis jâ utte hun haigî âbâdî,
- 10 Malikân pâson mol leke dil meñ kitî shâdî.
Malikân log sharârat-peshâ aisâ kahir machâiâ,
Jitnâ makân din nûn baudâ, râṭî âke ḍuhâiâ.
Shekh Sâhib kî naubat nâlîsh hâkim tak jab âî,
Siâsat shâhî pâkar Malikân akal ṭhikâni âî.
- 15 Jahângîr dâ ahad sî, aur san sâ das sau chhabbî :
Târîkh âbâdî Bastî Shekh dî Tazkira vichhoñ labhî.

Jahângîr dâ baṛâ shahzâdâ jo sâ Shâh Jahân,
Wazîr Âzam sâ us dâ, yâro, Miyân Sâdu'llah Khân.
Murîd sachâ sâ Hazrat dâ eh baudâ Musalmân :

- 20 Bâdshâh kî khidmat vichh yûn kîtâ us bayân :
 “Murshid kâmil merâ haigâ Hazrat Shekh Darvesh ;
 Jâlandhar de ilâke vich rahindâ oh hamesh.”
 Bâdshâh fakir-dost ne us vele farmâiâ :
 “Shauk milan kê un kê mere dil vich bahut samâiâ.”
- 25 Derâ shâhî jin dinon Jâlandhar âiâ neḡe,
 Wazîr Âzam ne araz karî, jâ Hazrat wakt sawere.
 Bâdshâh ne hukm hazûrî Shekh Sâhib nûn bhejâ :
 Shekh Sâhib ne araz kiâ ki, “ânâ merâ be-jâ.
 Manne hukm Hazûr Anwar te sânnûn nahîn inkâr :
- 30 Darbâr Khudâ da chhadnâ buh haigâ dushwâr.”
 Nuktâ mauzûn fakîr dâ jo suniâ Shâhanshâh,
 Jâgîr muâfi bakhshish kîfî us dam khâtirkhwâh.
 Mughalân shâhî ahad tak ba-hâl muâfi rahî :
 Sikhân shâhî daur men muâfi jâtî rahî !
- 35 Rauza masjid Shekh dî umdâ hai tâwîr :
 Zâir log âkhde : “ Hainge be-nazîr.”
- Pahile Hazrat âe the sane kabîle âp :
 Murîd barâdar â gae, karke bahut shitâb.
 Bastî Hazrat Shekh vich jad na rahî sarmâi,
 40 Bâhir nikal har ik ne, Bastî nai basâi.
 Bârâh Bastîân gird Jâlandhar jâg vich haiñ mashhûr.
 Tîn dâ kujh nishân nahîn, nau maujûd zarûr.
 Bâbâkhel te Dânishmandân, Bastî Ghazân pachhân :
 Bastî Nai te Shâh Kulî, Pîr Dâd dî jân :
- 45 Satvîñ Bastî Bahrâm Khân ne apne se basâi :
 Matthû Sâhib dî aṡhvîñ, navîñ Shekh dî âhî.
- Sarbuland ne nazm banâi, Sâhib hukm sâ kariâ.
 Rabbâ us nûn jînudâ rakhâ hazaron wariâ !
 Eh mere deâ hai : ‘ Ai Miyân Shekh Darvesh,
- 50 Sidkâ jiviâ us dâ kâim rahe hamesh !’

TRANSLATION.

STORY OF THE FOUNDATION OF BASTĪ SHEKH DARVESH.

First praise to the Lord and a thousand prayers to the
 Prophet (Muḡammad),

And then I will tell you the story of the foundation of Bastî Shekh (Darvesh).

- Shekh Darvesh, the Pathân Saint, wearied of Kânfyûn,*
 So he took leave of Pîr Walî † and settled at Jâlandhar.
- 5 There was a great jungle near the tomb of Bijlî Khân,
 And going there the Saint pitched his camp.
 The wicked Lođis began quarrelling with him, ‡
 And the Saint started onward with his camp.
 The ruins of Lohârî, § which are now populated,
- 10 He bought from the Maliks, || and was happy in his heart.
 The quarrelsome Maliks raised such a disturbance,
 That they threw down at night as much as he built up
 in the day.
 An opportunity of complaint to the ruler came to the
 Saint,
 And the Maliks owing to his punishment came to their
 senses.
- 15 This was in the days of Jahângîr, in the year one thou-
 sand and twenty-six. ¶
 The date of the foundation of Bastî Shekh (Darvesh) is
 written in the Annals.**
 Jahângîr's elder son was Shâh Jahân,

* *i.e.*, Kânî Kurâm: see Vol. III., p. 179.

† For this saint see Vol. III., p. 175.

‡ By "the tomb of Bijlî Khân" is probably meant the ruined mosque at Koṭ Bûre Khân, a deserted suburb of Jâlandhar, formerly belonging to the Lođis in the District. The Lođî Pathâns of the Jâlandhar District were formerly a family of much importance and undoubtedly did sell lands to the present proprietors of those parts.

§ Meaning the lands of the Lohârî Pathâns.

|| The Maliks are Muhammadans claiming Râjpût descent and belonging to Jâlandhar town. ¶ *i.e.* A.D. 1617.

** The book meant is the *Tazkirât-i-Raushanîd*, translated in the *Journal* of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for 1878. This book, however, refers to the doings of another branch of the Ansârî Shekhs, to which family Shekh Darvesh belonged. See the genealogy at p. 159 *ante*.

And his Chief Minister, friends*, was Miyân Sa'adu'llah
Khân.†

He was a true follower of the Saint, was this Musalmân
servant (of God),

20 And he thus spake to the King :

“ My perfect guide is the Saint Shekh Darvesh,
That ever dwelleth in the Jâlandhar District.”

The King, the friend of *faqîrs*, said at once :

“ I have a great desire to meet him in my heart.”

25 On the day that the royal camp approached Jâlandhar,
The Chief Minister came early to the Saint to talk with
him.‡

The King sent a command of invitation to the Saint,
And the Saint answered : “ It would be wrong for me
to come.

I have no intention of disobeying the commands of
Your Illustrious Highness,

30 But it is an evil thing to leave the Court of God.”

When the Emperor heard the appropriate reply of the
Saint,

He at once became his supporter and gave him a free
grant (of land).

During the Mughal rule the grant remained free,
But under the Sikh rule it went in a raid !

35 There is a fine mosque and tomb built to the Saint,
And visitors say that it is unequalled.

First the Saint himself came (to Jâlandhar, only) with
his family ;

- * Addressed to the audience.

† Sa'adu'llah Khân is otherwise said to have been a follower of Shekh Bazîd, or Pîr Raushan, a relative in the previous generation of Shekh Darvesh and much better known : see genealogy, at p. 159 *ante*. For Pîr Raushan's descendants he procured a fief near Agrâ, and one of them restored much later the shrine of Shekh Darvesh. That is all the historical connection there really appears to be between Shekh Darvesh and Shâh Jahân's great minister.

‡ This means that he paid him special honor according to eastern custom.

Then his relatives and supporters quickly followed.

When the Bastî of the Holy Saint could not hold
them,

40 They all went away and founded new Bastîs.

There are twelve (such) Bastîs round Jâlandhar famous
in the world.

Three have disappeared, but nine remain.

Bâbâkhel, and Dânishmandân, and Bastî Ghazân,
Bastî Naî and Shâh Qulî's, and Pir Dâd's;

45 The seventh Bastî Bahrâm Khân himself founded;

The eighth is Matthû Sâhib's, and the ninth is the
Saint's.

Sarbuland * made this poem, as the Saint directed him.

May God keep him alive for a thousand years !

This is his prayer ! " O Miyân Shekh Darvesh,

50 Mayest thou ever remain in prosperity !"

* The name of the bard.

No. LV.

SAYYID ÂSMŪN OF BÂRHÂ BÂVIN, AS RELATED BY A BARD FROM THE KAPURTHALA STATE.

[This legend evidently has reference to the doings of some member of the celebrated Bârhâ Sâdât, or Sayyids of Bârhâ, but which particular Sayyid is here meant I have been unable to find out. It is more than probable that the bard has mixed up several stories.]

[The story in this legend is shortly as follows: Sayyid Âsmûn, son of Sayyid Akbar Shâh, Governor of Sarhand (Sirhind), who appears with the *alias* of Mîrîñ or Mîr Sayyid Bukhârî, was summoned to Court by his master, the Emperor Shâh Jahân (1628—1658 A.D.), on account of his having been absent therefrom for 12 years. A courtier named Qutb Shâh was sent to fetch him, and on the road managed to make him believe that the Emperor was about to imprison him for contumacy. This resulted in a disturbance being created at the Court at Dehli, and ending in the death of Sayyid Âsmûn. The hero is described by the bard as coming from Bârhâ Bâvin near Sarhand.]

[This tale in its general outline is one told properly of Khân-i-'Âzim or 'Âzim Khân, otherwise Mirzâ 'Aziz Muhammad Kokâ, or Kokaltâsh, the foster-brother and friend of the Emperor Akbar. 'Âzim Khân was Governor of Gujarât, and after he had been 10 years absent from Court, Akbar sent for him in 1592, but on his way thither he was persuaded that the Emperor was unfriendly, so instead of proceeding onwards he went to Makka. After a while he returned and was received back into favour, and on the death of Akbar opposed the succession of Jahângîr in favour of the latter's son Khusrav. In 1623 Jahângîr had him imprisoned at Gwâlior, but he died eventually at peace at Ahmadâbâd in his old Government of Gujarât in 1624.]

[Historically Sayyid Mîrîñ Bukhârî was a scion of the Bukhârîs, a quite distinct family to that of the Bârhâs, being the son of Sayyid Muhârik. His son Sayyid Hâmid was a firm supporter of 'Âzim Khân, and his grandson Sayyid Kamâl supported the Sayyids of Bârhâ, and in fact helped to save them from destruction, when they attacked Khusrav at Bhairon-wâl near Jâlandhar in 1605 on behalf of Jahângîr. This is the fight which is apparently alluded to by the bard, the chief hero of which was Shekh Farid Bukhârî Mortaza Khân. The Bârhâ Sayyids in command that day were Sayyid 'Alî Asghar Saif Khân and Sayyid Jalâl. Sayyid Jalâl was killed.]

[The mention of Qutb Shâh as the deceiver of Sayyid Âsmûn takes us to another story of the sametime. Qutb'uddin Khân Chisti Shekh Khûbû, the foster-brother of Jahângîr, was sent in 1607 by the Emperor to induce 'Alî Qulî Istaljû Sher Afkan Khân to come to Court from Bardwân, so that the Emperor might seize his wife, Nûr Jahân, whom he coveted. It was intended to murder Sher Afkan, but a mistake was made in the plan, and Sher Afkan made a thrust at Shekh Khûbû and cut open his stomach (see legend, line 16). Both Sher Afkan and Shekh Khûbû were killed and the Emperor obtained Nûr Jahân.]

[Reading between the lines of the confused tale presented in this Legend of Sayyid Âsmûn we seem to find allusions to all the above facts.]

*The Insurrection (Juddh) of Sayyid Âsmûn of
Bârhâ Bâvîn in Sarhand.*

Sayyid Âsmûn's father, Sayyid Akbar Shâh, was appointed Governor of Sarhand (Sirhind) by Shâh Jahân, King of Dehlî, and when Sayyid Akbar Shâh died, Sayyid Âsmûn was appointed in his place, though only twelve years of age.

For twelve years he did not go to the King to pay his respects. At the Royal Court there was a Nawâb, Qutb Shâh by name, who told the King that Sayyid Âsmûn had not come to pay his respects from the date of his accession twelve years since: nor had he paid any tribute. The King thereupon ordered him by some means to arrest the Sayyid. Qutb Shâh accordingly went to Sarhand and after a while induced Sayyid Asmûn to visit him, and told him that out of friendship for his father he warned him that certain persons were speaking ill of him to the King for not having visited the Royal Court from the day that his father had died.

On Qutb Shâh's advising him to accompany him to the Court, Sayyid Âsmûn asked him: "Suppose I go there and there is a disturbance, what then?" On this he swore an oath on the *Qurân* that no harm should come to him. But a pigeon's egg had been put into the *Qurân*, so that the oath was rendered valueless.*

Sayyid Âsmûn took 500 horse with him and set out for Dehlî with Qutb Shâh, and when he had reached Karnâl Qutb

* This is a noteworthy superstition.

Shâh became faithless to his oath. He placed a pair of silver fetters on a china platter (*chînî kî rikâbî*) before the Sayyid and said to him: "You had better put these on when you appear before the King."

"No," said Sayyid Âsmûn, "I will not put on the fetters. You must let me go on, even as you induced me by your promises to come so far."

"You have been in fault," said Qutb Shâh, "and without the fetters you will never have audience."

Said Sayyid Âsmûn: "If you had said this at my house I would have shown you that there are other kings (than Shâh Jahân), but by the grace of God I have still 500 horse by me."

So he went on towards Dehlî and had a fight with the Royal forces; but they were many, and, despite his bravery, Sayyid Âsmûn became a martyr.

KABIT.

Rûkhe tain lāj jab sakal Sahadūd kî, ūp raushan hûe, Mirān
Sayyid Bukhārî.*

*Āp raushan hûe, kalas sab ko dîe; kare târif, Mirān, khalk
sārî.*

*Āe Paṭhān; Qurān āge dhare; khāṭi hai kasam, mil Chūr
Yārî.*

*Dîn aur duniā meñ sách Qurān hai: bandhkar kamar kînî
tayyārî:*

5 *Sāje jawān Darbār ke chalan ko dekhe hai bûṭ mardoñ
thārî:*

*Jurā sanjāe, aur rāg, bakhtar jhūleñ, morichā lapeñ sipdhê sūre.
Kot dākhil hoie: samajh man meñ; parî karam kî rekh nā
ṭale târî!*

*Sayyid Âsmûn kahe: "Sunō, Nawābjî, aur mat karo ham
se ar bichārî.*

*Ham āle Rasūl, aulād haiñ Alî kî: aṭal nā ṭalenge Sayyid
Bukhārî.*

* For *Sādāt* (!)

- 10 *Tegh kî dhâr par mál bhar dũngá, hovegí sou jo honhárá.*
Chhú Sayyid kú Alí ne bar dídá ; 'kamar se kádh, lie kar
kaḡárá.
Diên do chár jab karak Nawáb pe, hûe hai hayatí, aur lagí
kárá.
Khalkat dekh kharí : Sayyid aisí karí ; bhágo Nawáb le
ján piárá !
Jahán bahut thî bhîr, tákán chhîr-chhîn meñ karí kyú : ná
le sakí ánc̄h thárá.
- 15 *Pinjárá phú! aur chhot súrê paré húi ; Darbár meñ mâr*
bhárá.
Sanmukh lieñ aur diên mil, áran ke khul gae peḡ, jaise pitáre.
Shahíd hûe Mírân Sayyid Ásmûñ : balí káb kî sifāt dhádh
saiwárá.

VERSES.

When thou didst preserve the honor of all the Sayyids,
 thou becamest thyself honored, O Mírân Sayyid
 Bukhári.

Thou wert honored and gavest gifts to all, and all the
 people praise thee, O Mírân.

Came the Pathân, and placed the *Qurân* before him, and
 swore an oath (by it and) the Four Friends.*

The *Qurân* (makes an oath) true in both worlds (and so
 the Sayyid) fastening on his sword made ready (for
 the journey),

- 5 And the people gazed at the great warrior going to the
 Court,

With chained falcons and music and flags flying and all
 the soldiers with their guns.

They entered the fort : and understand in your minds
 that the lines of fate cannot be blotted out !

Said Sayyid Ásmûñ : "Hear, my Lord, make no more
 plans with me.

* See Vol. II, p. 377.

I am of the house of the Prophet (Muḥammad) and of the line of 'Alî: the powerful Sayyid Bukhârî draws never back.

- 10 I will fulfil my tribute on the edge of my sword, happen what may."

'Alî favoured the Sayyid, and drawing his dagger from his waist he took it in his hand.

He gave the Nawâb four or five blows, which endangered his life.

The people saw that the Sayyid so fought, that the Nawâb fled for dear life.

The crowd quickly fled from where it had collected, for it could not stand the (Sayyid's) attack.

- 15 The fort was broken and the warriors fell wounded, and there was a great fight at the Court.

They met and mixed and warriors' bellies were broken open like boxes.

Mîrân Sayyid Âsmûn became a martyr, and the bard sings his prowess in verse.

No. LVI.

SISPĀL AND PARDUMAN,

AS TOLD BY A WELL-KNOWN BARD OF BHARAṬ
IN THE MERĀṬH DISTRICT.

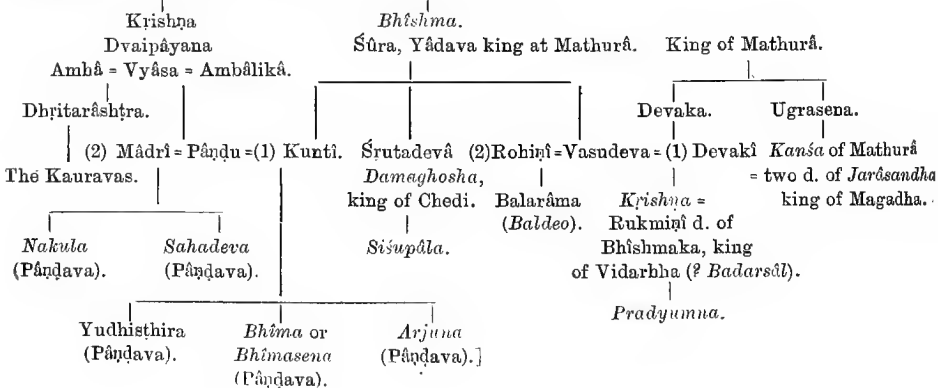
[This and the two following legends belong to the Kṛishṇa cycle. This one purports to relate a fight between Pradyumna, the son of Kṛishṇa by Rukmiṇi, and his kinsman Siśupāla, king of Chedi, resulting in the defeat of the latter. I do not know that this particular incident has the support of the classics in any way].

[Rukmiṇi, the daughter of Bhīshmaka, king of Vidarbha (Berār), was betrothed to Siśupāla, and was carried off by Kṛishṇa; hence the life-long enmity between Siśupāla and Kṛishṇa. Kṛishṇa was the son of Vasudeva, a Yādava, and Siśupāla was the son of Damaghosha by Śrutadevā, sister of Vasudeva.]

[Dwārakā on the coast of Kāṭhiāwār, and now in the territories of the Gāikwār of Barodā, was in Kṛishṇa's possession at the time of his escapade with Rukmiṇi, and is or should be the scene of all these legends.]

[The following genealogy will show the relationship between the principal actors in the two Kṛishṇa legends about to be given, and it will also help to explain the sides they took in the family quarrels. It will further help to prove that the tendency of Indian legendary heroes to become related by blood as time goes on, explained in the preface to Vol. II. (p. ix.), is no new matter. The names in the genealogy which actually occur in the legend are marked in italics.]

1) Rishi Parāsara = Satyavatī = (2) Śāntanu = Gangā.



TEXT.

QISSA LAṘÂI RÂJÂ SISPÂL WA RÂJÂ PARDUMAN.

Sau jojan meñ Dwârkâ, kile banâe tîn.

Parduman Râjâ hûâ, khel kare parbîn.

Sone ke mandir bane, hîrâ lâe :

Muktâ aur ratan jaṛe âge pâe.

5 Swarrañ ke kalas chaṛhe niyâre niyâre,

Ambar ke bîch, jaise chamakte târe.

Sau jojan meñ Dwârkâ; darwâza haiñ châre.

Sangal lâgeñ sâr ke : kaṭhan kile ke bâr.

Râjâ to jît lê jinne sâre :

10 Sab kê bal chhîn, hûâ kaid meñ ḍâre.

Bâkî Sispâl rahâ iko Râjâ,

Jis ke Darbâr bâje mârû bâjâ.

Parduman ne pâtî likhî: bâkî likhâ hawâl.

Khatt Râjâ Parduman kâ.

“Jor zulam karnâ nahîñ; rît bhânt se châl !

15 Rît rît bhânt karo jitnî sârî.

Terî kyûñ âj gañ akal mârî ?

Bâkî hushiyâr adab karke rahnâ.

Râjâ Sispâl, mân merâ kahnâ.”

Kâsid le pâtî chalâ, Chanderî meñ jâe :

20 Parduman Mahârâj kî kathâ kahe samjhâe.

Kathâ kathâ samjhât, bêt jitnî sârî :

Qâsid.

“Râjâ ne bayân likhî niyârî niyârî.

Chalnâ hai sâth âp, Râjâ, mere.

Âge kis taur rahe marzî terî ?”

25 Pâtî dekhî Râo ne, bandan giâ gabharâe.

Jawâb Râjâ Sispâl kâ.

“Jo karnâ Mahârâj kâ dîngâ use dikhâe.

Tû to balwân hûâ kab kê, bhayyâ ?

Acharaj kî bêt! Suniye, merî dayyâ !

Zât kê Ahîr aur nâche gâve :

30 Râjâ kî rît bhânt kaise pâve ?”

Râjâ Sispâl.

- “Kahnâ us ko jâke mere man kî bât.
 Mârûngâ maidân meñ ; din se karûn rât.
 Din se main rât karûn ; aisî mâyâ.
 Mujhe bhî shikâr ik ban meñ pâyâ ;
 35 Ki tû, Mahârâj, âp chaṛhke ào.
 Rahnâ hoshiyâr ; nahîn jâne pào.”

Bidâ lie, kâsid chalâ ; khatt likh diâ nidân.

Khatt Râjâ Sispâl kâ.

- “Tû bhûlâ kis rît meñ ? dekhe nahîn maidân.
 Sone ke mandir dekh bal ko tole.
 40 Tiktâ hî bachan aur mukh se bole.”

Kâsid ko kahâ :

Râjâ Sispâl.

“Jâke gero arzî :
 Sunke sawâl merî kâyâ larzî.”

Dwârâpûr meñ â ṭakâ ; kâsid kahe banâe :

Qâsid.

- “Râjâ, châhiye jang ko, haṭke kabhî na jâe.
 45 Bahut hai samân ; nahîn bas meñ âve.
 Pânî ke bîch âg baithâ lâve.
 Sankâ nahîn ik kare, Râjâ gyânî.
 Kah rahe anek, nahîn us ne mânî.”

- Parduman Râjâ uṭhe ; sâj lie gaj bâj.
 50 Hukm diâ sab phauj ko milke karnâ kâj.

Râjâ Parduman.

- “Mil-milke kâj karo ; sat ko jâno.
 Sab kâ ik rang rahe ; merî mâno.
 Milne ko anr koî tum se âo,
 Mâro bar wakt : nâm aisâ pào.”
 55 Châr bhânt ki phauj ko karâ balbîr.

Râjâ Parduman.

- “ Merî mansâ kîjo, jûṭak bândho dhîr.
 Bândho sab dhîr aur sir pe bânâ.
 Rahnâ hoshiyâr ; nahîn haṭke jânâ.
 Dakhan ke des karo jaldî tayyârî :
 60 Larne kî rît karo jitnî sârî.”

- Tab Râjâ ran pe chaṛhâ, nikat bahe nishân.
 Sakal des kâmpê khaṛâ, aise mârû bân.
 Assî hazâr phauj kînî jârî :
 Jitne balwân chaṛhe iko bârî.
 65 Râjâ to Sabar milâ, sarnâ lînâ.
 Pahile sab bhîṭ balî âge dînâ ;
 Tabhî sâth Râjâ chaṛhâ kampû* ek lînâ.
 Chanderî meñ jâ ṭake bâje bajeñ anek.
 Phaujân to ân paṛe ḍerâ kînâ ;
 70 Jab to Mahârâj hukm aisâ dînâ :

Râjâ Parduman.

- “ Dushman kâ des ; nahîn koî bas kâ :
 Mil-milke kâmp karo, jitnâ bas kâ.”

Khabar hûî Sispâl ko ‘ Râjâ chaṛhe anek ! ’

Râjâ Sispâl.

- “ Mârûngâ, chhoṛûñ nahîñ : kahe lakh kî ek.”
 75 Pingal aur Rang pâs us ke âe :
 Dekhî sab phauj fikar man meñ khâe.
 Râjâ se kahan lage jitnî sarî :

Pingal aur Rang.

- “ Ab to, Mahârâj, karo ran pe tayyârî.”

Râjâ Sispâl.

- “ Kaho tû ; maiñ uṭhke milûñ ? Kaho tû ; karnâ jang ?
 80 Jo tum karo sahâî, tâ sunîyo, Pingal wa Rang.
 Pingal aur Rang, mere dil ke piyâre,

* For the English word *camp*.

Dushman ne jor kare jitne sâre ;
 Kîjo samân aur dârû golâ.
 Râjâ Sispâl hukm mukh se bolâ.”

85 Pingal aur Rang kahue lage :

Pingal aur Rang.

“ Jang karo, Mahârâj,

Yeh Râjôn kâ dhârm : ab kuchh kar na lâj.

Lâj kî jo bât karo, Râjâ mere,

Kile ko chhoṛ, karo bâhir dère.

Bandobast khûb karo jitnâ sârâ.

90 Bhâi aur band, dekho apnâ piyârâ.

Mâl khizânâ bahut se bâhir dîe nikâl.

Jîne kâ shak hai nahîn ; âj mâro, châ kâl.”

Phaujân to nikal bâhir pûr se âi,

Bâdal kî ghor ghatâ jaise chhâi.

95 Garje chhaun aur baje mârû tûrâ :

Sanmukh se choṛ karo sâdat sûrâ.

Parduman Mahârâj se kahan lage Sispâl.

Râjâ Sispâl.

“ Tû to pût Ahîr kâ, Râjôn kî châlî châl !

Râjôn kî châl-châlî aisâ karnâ ?

100 Nâ-hakk, Mahârâj, tujhe âyâ marnâ.

Bânjenge bân, paṛe bhârat bhârî.

Terî to âj kabâû akal mârî ? ”

Râjâ Parduman.

“ Haṭke jânâ nahîn : ab kuchh karnâ lâj.

Kâl achânak mâre, jûn tîtar ko bâj.

105 Tîtar pe bâj paṛe bal ko dhâre :

Dushman kî choṛ khaiâ sanmukh mâre.

Mere ab hâth dekh iko bârî.

Rahnâ hoshiyâr : kahî tujhe sârî.”

Râjâ Sispâl.

“ Din bîtâ, rajnî hûi ; hone de parbhât :

110 Mahân jang tum se karûn ; dekh hamâre hâth.

Mere to hâth dekh iko bârî :
 Karnâ nahîn der ; sâjo phaujân sârî.
 Dekho maidân ; dharo dhîraj man meñ.
 Bâkî nahîn ik rahî mere tan meñ."

- 115 Battîs hazâr phaujân saji ; charh gae Pingal Rang.
 Do dal kharî barâbarî ; hone lâgâ jang.
 Hone lâgâ jang ; Rang charhke âyâ.
 Pingal ne katal karî sab kî kâyâ.
 Kaṭ-kaṭke sîs kare, sanmukh dhâveñ :
- 120 Sanmukh se choṭ karen, sobhâ paven.
 Uṭhâ Giddh jab kopke, gadâ sambhâle bâth.
 Mahâ ghor ran meñ hûâ ; din se sūjhî râṭ.
 Din se to râṭ hûî, jodhâ mâre ;
 Kâṭ kâṭ sîs mahî ûpar dâre.
- 125 Pingal aur Rang bândh lîâ bânâ.
 Bâje hathiyâr, nahîn haṭke jânâ.
 Kitne ek mâre ? Wâ bas kare aur sînt raho talwâr.
 Nâlî chal gaî rûdhar kî, sanmukh kare parhâr.
 Sanmukh se choṭ karen, ûpar dhâveñ.
- 130 Bânjen hathiyâr baṛî sobhâ paven.
 Pingal aur Rang Giddh ne donân mâre.
 'Hâ hâ' to kâr parâ ran meñ, piyâre.
 Baḍî debal Râjâ karî, mâre Pingal Rang.

Râjâ Sispâl.

- " Ab to merî bâṭ meñ ân parâ hai bhang.
 135 Ân parâ bhang ; sîs de de mâre.
 Dushman ke hâth kaun ûpar dâre ?"
- Jab to Sispâl charh mâyâdhârî.
 Bajat haiñ bân, parâ bhârat bhârî.
 Parduman Mahârâj ne bândh lîe hathiyâr ;
- 140 Jab Râjâ Sispâl ke sanmukh karâ parhâr.
 Mârâ ik bân, jaisâ bâdal garje.
 Chau taraf shor hûâ, duniyâ larze ;
- ' Jab to Sispâl hosh bhûlâ sârî.

Râjâ Sispâl.

“Achraj kî bât ! Gae sanîân mâre !”

145 Mahâ ghor bhârat hûâ ; kahan lagâ Sispâl :

Râjâ Sispâl.

“Parduman Mahârâj ke sanmukh darsâ kâl !”

Jab to Sispâl bân aisâ lâyâ,
Toṛ dîâ dhans. Lagî Har kî mâyâ !
Tûṭe hî dharan paṛâ, murcha khâî.

150 Jab to yeh kâl gharî sir par âî !
Agin bân aisâ dîâ, jwâlâ baḍhî apâr !
Bhujâ sîs kaṭke giren barseñ bâram bâr.
Sanmukh se choṭ karen, ûpar dhâven :
Mâre bar wakt nahîn jâne pâven.

155 Jab to Sispâl chaṛhâ iko bârî.

Râjâ Sispâl.

“Achraj kî bât ! Gae sanîân sâre !”

Parduman Mahârâj ne sûnt lê talwâr ;
Us Râjâ Sispâl ke sir par rahâ ubhâr.
Mârî talwâr, lagî us ke tan men.
160 Bhûl giâ hosh ; paṛâ mundhâ ran men ;
Bhûl giâ rît bhânt jîtnî sârî.
Ho giâ behosh, mân us kî mârî.
Das hazâr phaujân paṛe pûr men ik bâr.
Mahâ ghor biyâpak hûâ ; sûnt rahe talwâr.

165 Darwâzâ toṛ dîâ pûr men dhâe :
Lâkhoñ ke mâl luṭe mâre khâe.
Garjen ik bâr, khaṛe aggyâ-kârî.
Kâṭ kâṭ sîs zamîn ûpar ḍârî.
Kuchh mâre, kuchh bas kare, dînâ hukm ‘biḍâr.’

170 Mahâ ghor bhârat paṛâ, pâve nahîn shumâr.
Bhûl gaî rît bhânt jodhâ sârî.
Râjâ kî mân gaî aisî mârî !

- Chhâtî sab dhâm ! Same aisî âi !
 Râjâ liâ jît ; fateh âge pâi.
 175 Ratan padârath bhar lîe, swarran ke lîe thâl :
 Hâthî, ghorâ, khachrâ aur lakhîne mâl :
 Bharke sab mâl pûre bâhir âyâ.
 Dekhâ sangrâm, lagî kampni kâyâ ;
 Râjâ ke pâs gîâ mintî kîni :

Râjâ Dhamgos.

- 180 " Main to, Mahârâj, saran teri lîni.
 Tum to âp mahâbalî, yeh larîkâ nidân.
 Kah rahâ main, mânâ nahîni ; ab do us ko jân.
 Jâne do âj, saran tere âyâ.
 Is ne, Mahârâj, so hî pâyâ,
 185 Jitnâ yeh râj pât, sagrâ lîje.
 Bakhsho taksîr un se, jâne dîje.
 Hâthî, ghorâ, rath, gahne, bhûkan basan apâr."

- Dâs dîe, dâsî dîe, mintî karî nihâr.
 Âdar sat kâr aisâ bhârî,
 190 Ho gîâ nidân, khapî phaujân niyârî !
 Kahtâ Dhamgos ik mukh se bânî :

Râjâ Dhamgos.

" Ab to yeh bêt gaî mulkon jânî ! "

- Râj pât us ko diâ, karnâ karî nisang.
 Sabhî jît Râjâ lîe, rahâ na iko ang.
 195 Râj pât sab diâ, sobhâ dîni !
 Râjâ Dhamgos sâth aisî kîni.
 Jît liâ jang ; chale mâyâdhârî :
 Dwârkâ ke bîch gae iko bârî.

- Gangâ Jamnâ mudh men Bharatkhand hai nâm !
 200 Kishn Lâl Shib Kanwar sang atî pavitr nijdhâm !

TRANSLATION.

STORY OF THE FIGHT BETWEEN RÂJÂ SISPÂL AND RÂJÂ PARDUMAN.

Dwârkâ occupies a hundred leagues* and has three forts in it.

Its Râjâ was Parduman, who was very glorious.
He built palaces of gold, studded with diamonds,
And set with pearls and gems.

5 He mounted golden pinnacles on each,
Shining like stars in the sky.

Dwârkâ occupies a hundred leagues, and has four gates,
Fastened with chains of iron; and strong are the fort gates.
He had defeated all the Râjâs (of the neighbourhood),

10 And taken away their power, and put them in prison!
But one, Râjâ Sispâl, remained,

Who beat the drums of victory in his Court.

Parduman sent him a letter, and after writing the salutations (he said):

Râjâ Parduman's Letter.

"Thou shouldst not exercise tyranny and force, but walk according to the (royal) customs.

15 Perform all the (royal) customs.

Why hast thou lost thy senses to-day?

For the rest be careful and respectful (to me).

Râjâ Sispâl, mind my words."

A messenger took the letter and arrived at Chanderî, †

20 And explained the message of Mahârâjâ Parduman.

He explained all that there was to explain.

The Messenger.

"The Râjâ has written each point of his meaning.

Come with me thyself, Râjâ.

For the rest, what is thy pleasure?"

25 The King read the letter and his body became agitated.

* *Jojan* for *yojana*: a space of 8 miles.

† This ancient site is now in the territories of Mahârâjâ Sindhiâ.

Râjâ Sispâl's Answer.

- “ I will show him what the King can do.
 Since when hast thou become powerful, friend ?
 This is a wonderful thing. Hear it, my nurse !*
 Ahîr by caste, † a dancer and a singer ;
 30 How shall he know the ways of Kings ?”

Râjâ Sispâl. †

- “ Go and tell him the desire of my heart.
 I will slay him in the field, and turn day into night. §
 I will turn day into night ; such is my power.
 I, too, have found a quarry in the forest :
 35 Do thou, my Lord, come with me.
 Be careful ; I will not let thee go.”

Taking leave, the messenger went, and the fool wrote a letter.

Râjâ Sispâl's letter.

- “ Why hast thou forgotten thyself ? Thou hast never
 seen a (battle) field.
 Seeing thy golden palace thou wouldst try thy strength,
 40 And hast spoken evil words with thy lips.”

And he said to the messenger :

Rajâ Sispâl.

“ Go and throw him my letter.
 Hearing his request, my body trembles (with rage).”

Stopping at Dwârâpûr || the messenger told his tale :

* Idiom : something very unexpected.

† A sneer at Kṛishna, for having been brought up as a cowherd, *i.e.*, of the Ahîr caste, by his foster-mother Yasodhâ.

‡ To the messenger.

§ Idiom : create a very great disturbance.

|| *i.e.* Dwârâkâ.

The Messenger.

- “Râjâ, it must be war; he will never draw back.
 45 He has made much preparation, and comes not under
 authority.
 He sits in water and sets it on fire.*
 Have no doubt, my wise Râjâ.
 I tried to explain the right, but he would not hearken.”
- Up gat Râjâ Parduman with his elephants and his hawks.
 50 And he gave an order to all his army to collect.

Râjâ Parduman.†

- “Work all together, and be mindful of your honor.
 Be all of one colour : † hearken to my words.
 If any one (of the enemy) approach you,
 Slay him at once and so obtain a great name.”
- 55 The hero collected an army of four arms.

Râjâ Parduman.§

- “Do my desire and fasten on courage as a yoke.
 Fasten on courage and the (war) turbans on your heads ;
 Be careful and turn not back.
 Make ready quickly for the Southern land,
 60 And make all preparations for war.”

- Then the Râjâ took the field and his banners ever float-
 ed (in the air).
 All the country stood trembling at his murderous arrows.
 He went forward with eighty thousand men,
 And all the heroes advanced together.
 65 Râjâ Sabar|| met him on the way and did homage.

* Idiom : professes to be most powerful.

† Proclamation to the army.

‡ *i.e.*, work together.

§ Proclamation to the army.

|| Râjâ of Kachh according to the bard.

First he placed all the gifts before the hero,

And then he joined him with a camp.

They went to Chanderî and beat well the drums (of defiance).

The army arrived and made a halt,

70 And thus the Mahârâjâ gave an order to all :

Râjâ Parduman.

“It is the enemy’s land ; you have no power here :

So work together with all your might.”

Sispâl got news that the Râjâ had advanced !

Râjâ Sispâl.

“I will beat him, and I will not let him escape : one word will do for thousands.”

75 Pingal and Rang came to him,*

And seeing all the army became anxious in their hearts.

They spake to the Râjâ all that was in their hearts :

Pingal and Rang.

“Be ready now, my Lord, to take the field.”

Râjâ Sispâl.

“Say you : shall I up and meet him ? Say you : shall I fight ?

80 If you would help me then listen, Pingal and Rang.

Pingal and Rang, beloved of my heart,

The enemy hath brought all his force ;

So make ready preparations and powder and shot.

Râjâ Sispâl hath given the order with his lips.”

85 Said Pingal and Rang :

* Ministers of Sispâl.

Pingal and Rang.

“ Fight him, my Lord.

This is the way of Kings ; bring no shame upon thyself
now.

If thou wouldst bring shame upon thyself, our King,
Then leave the fort and take up thy abode outside.
Make well all the arrangements.

- 90 Behold, thy brethren are thy beloved (friends).
Bring out much store and money.
Life is uncertain : we die to-day or to-morrow.”

The army came out of the city,
As the thunderous clouds cover the sky.

- 95 They roared on all sides and the battle drums were
beaten,
And heroes and warriors were wounded in front.
Said Sispâl to Parduman the Mahârâjâ.

Râjâ Sispâl.

“ Thou art an Ahîr* and wouldst tread the ways of Kings !
Should the ways of Kings be trodden thus ?

- 100 Thou hast come to thy death for nothing, my Lord.
Arrows will fly and there will be a hard fight.
Why are thy senses gone to-day ? ”

Râjâ Parduman.

“ I will not go back, and I must do honourable deeds.
Death strikes suddenly as doth the hawk the partridge.

- 105 The hawk falls on the partridge with great force,
And an enemy should strike in front.
Thou shalt see my power to-day once for all.
Be careful : I have told thee all.”

Râjâ Sispâl.

- “ The day is spent and night hath come : wait till dawn,
110 And I will fight thee hard, and thou shalt see my power.

* See above, line 29.

Thou shalt see my power once for all.
 Make no delay and prepare all thy army.
 Behold the field and have courage in thy heart.
 I have no other desire in my heart."

115 With an army of thirty-two thousand Pingal and Rang
 advanced.

The two armies confronted and began to fight.

The fight began and Rang advanced.

Pingal slew everybody (that came in his way).

Cutting off heads he rushed forward,

120 And giving wounds in front he obtained glory.

Then up gat Giddh* in wrath with a bludgeon in his
 hand.

There was a great disturbance in the field, and day was
 turned into night.†

Day was turned into night, as the warrior slew,

And cutting off heads threw them on the ground.

125 Pingal and Rang drew their arrows.

Arms clashed and there was no giving way.

How many they slew! They used their might and they
 drew their swords.

Streams of blood ran, and faces were not turned.

Giving wounds in front they rushed forward.

130 Clashing their swords they obtained great glory.

Giddh slew both Pingal and Rang.

There were cries of grief in the field, my friends.

Râjâ (Sispâl) was greatly grieved at the death of
 Pingal and Rang.

Râjâ Sispâl.

"Ruin hath now fallen on my fortunes.

135 Ruin hath fallen on me and I dash my head (in grief).

Who will now lay hands on the enemy?"

* Minister of Kishn. In the classics Gada is the younger brother of
 Krishna.

† A common idiom in 'battle pieces,' meaning:—it was a terrible
 time.

Then the powerful Sispâl advanced.

Arrows hurtled and there was a great fight.

Pardumân, the Mahârâjâ, fastened on his arms,

140 And confronting Râjâ Sispâl struck him.

He struck him with an arrow like a thundering cloud.

On all sides there was a roar and the earth trembled,

And Sispâl lost his senses.

Râjâ Sispâl.

“It is wonderful! my heroes are slain!”

145 There was a great roaring fight and spake Sispâl:

Râjâ Sispâl.

“It is death to be in front of Parduman, the Mahârâjâ!”

Then Sispâl drew an arrow,

So that he broke his bow. It was the work of Hari
(God)!

It fell upon the ground in pieces.

150 Then the hour of death* came upon him.

(Then Parduman) shot an arrow, a fiery arrow whose
flames burst forth greatly!

Heads and arms were cut off and fell one after the
other like rain.

Giving wounds in front he advanced.

He slew them at once and did not let them escape.

155 Then Sispâl suddenly advanced.

Râjâ Sispâl.

“It is wonderful! all my heroes are gone!”

Parduman, the Mahârâjâ, drew his sword,

And sprang at the head of Râjâ Sispâl.

The blow of his sword struck his body.

* This is here a bardic exaggeration: Sispâl was not killed on this occasion.

- 160 He lost his senses and fell on his face in the field,
 And forgot all that he ought to have done.
 Losing his senses he lost his honor.
 Ten thousand men suddenly entered the city.
 There was a great disturbance and swords remained
 drawn.
- 165 They broke open the gates and entered the city,
 And robbed and destroyed *lákhs* (worth) of goods.
 Roaring together they waited for orders.
 Heads were cut off and thrown on the ground.
 Some they slew, some they overcame; and orders
 were given to drive out (the enemy).
- 170 A roaring fight took place beyond computation.
 All the warriors forgot their customs.
 So greatly was Râjâ (Sispâl's) glory destroyed !
 They left their homes! Such a time had come upon them !
 Râjâ (Parduman) won and gained a victory.
- 175 (Râjâ Dhamgos*) took jewels and presents in a golden
 platter :
 Elephants, horses, mules and valuable goods :
 And taking all the goods he went out of the city.
 Seeing the fight his body trembled,
 And he went to Râjâ (Parduman) and besought him.

Râjâ Dhamgos.

- 180 " I am come to pay thee homage, my Lord.
 Thou art a great warrior, he is a foolish boy.
 I warned him and he would not listen : let him live now.
 Let him go to-day, I am come to do thee homage.
 He hath had his deserts, my Lord.
- 185 Take all this realm and this empire.
 Forgive him his fault and let him go.
 (Here are) elephants, horses, chariots, jewels and clothes
 beyond telling."

* For Damaghosha, the father of Sisúpâla.

Slaves he gave him, maids he gave him, and besought
him much.

So great honor and respect,

190 And all his forces (Sispâl) lost by being a fool!

Spake Dhamgos a speech with his lips:

Râjâ Dhamgos.

“This matter hath now gone through (all) the lands!”

(Râjâ Parduman) gave him back land and rule, and did
an uselfish act.

He conquered all the Râjâs, leaving not one remaining.

195 He gave him all his land, and rule, and gave him honor!

Thus did he treat Râjâ Dhamgos.

He won the fight and went on in glory,

Returning at once to Dwârkâ.

The land of Bharatkhand* is between the Ganges and the
Jamnâ.

200 Kishn Lâl and Shibkanwar† dwell together in their
glorious home.

* Bharatavarsha in the classics meant India generally, as being the kingdom of Bharata, the common ancestor of the heroes of the Mahâbhârata. It was divided into nine divisions or *khandas*. The bard here probably makes a confused allusion to this and means merely to say that the ‘Holy Land’ of India lies between the Ganges and the Jamnâ. This, however, is not the fact.

† See *ante*, Vol. III. p. 157.

No. LVII.

SISPÁL AND KISHN,

AS TOLD BY A WELL-KNOWN BARD OF BHARAUT
IN THE MERATH DISTRICT.

[This legend, closely related to the last, purports to relate a story well known in the classics as *Sisupála-badhā*, the Slaying of Sisupála, which is the title of a separate poem by Māgha, called also the *Māghakāvya*, and of a portion of the *Sabhaparva* of the *Mahābhārata*. The present version, however, takes a line of its own.]

[Chedi, the home of Sisupála in the classics, is the modern land of the Chandel Rājapūts or Bāghelkhaṇḍ. Chanderî, as the bard calls it, is a town in Sindhiâ's territories.]

[Bhîshma in this poem turns up as the minister of Sisupála and the enemy of Kṛishṇa. In the *Mahābhārata* Bhîshma brought up his relatives, the Kauravas or the sons of Dhritarāshṭra and the Pāṇḍavas or the sons of Pāṇḍu, and when these fell out and fought, he took the side of the Kauravas. Kṛishṇa took that of the Pāṇḍavas, and hence probably the appearance of Bhîshma in this legend and the portion assigned to him. See genealogy at p. 332, *ante*.]

[All the Pāṇḍavas are frequently mentioned in the legend, and the scene of it is laid at Mathurâ. In the *Mahābhārata* the scene is the great royal sacrifice (*râjasūya*) held by Yudhisṭhira at Indraprastha (Dehli). Sahadeva offers the first *arghya* or oblation to Kṛishṇa, which action Sisupála strongly resents. This brings on a disturbance, in the course of which Sisupála becomes abusive to Kṛishṇa about their old quarrel over Rukmîṇî. Kṛishṇa thereupon much enraged strikes off Sisupála's head in the assembly with his *chakra* or quoit, a weapon well calculated for such a purpose. It will be seen that the classical story is a far better one than the bard's.]

TEXT.

QISSA RÂJÂ SISPÂL DAR BAYÂN LAṘÂÎ RÂJÂ KISHN.

Shahr Chanderî bîch meṅ Râjâ bhae Sispâl :

Sab desoṅ ke garhpatî us se charhâveṅ mâl.

Mâne sab âdab Râjâ jîte :

Hâzir har wakt hukm us se lîte.

5 Mulkoṅ meṅ nâm hûâ us kâ jârî :

Mâneṅ sab adab : raheṅ agyâ-kârî.

Wazîr Bhîkham.

- “Ik Mathurâ meñ Kans hai, mahâ-balî balwân.
 Us se ûpar Kishn hai : tum se karûñ bayân.
 Râjâ, sab nazar tere âge deveñ :
 10 Mâneñ sab adab aur âge raheñ.
 Jâdoñ ke bans hûâ Kishn Ghanayyâ :*
 Ik hai Baldeo pâs us kâ bhayyâ.”

Râjâ Sispâl.

- “Us ne chhorâ âwanâ, bal bhar gîâ gharûr.
 Bhikham, us ko jâeke lão mere hazûr.
 15 Us ko samjhâeke pâs mere lânâ :
 Karnâ nahîñ der aur jaldî ânâ.
 Bharte nahîñ rît bhânt jitnî sârî.
 Rahtâ behosh ; badî kartâ niyârî.”

- Hukm mân Bhîkham chalâ, Mathurâjî† meñ jûe :
 20 Jab to us ko jâeke, kathâ kahî samjhâe :

Wazîr Bhîkham.

- “Râjâ Sispâl ne tujhe beg bulâyâ :
 Tere lene kî kâj main Mathurâ meñ âyâ.
 Bhayyâ Baldeo sâth apne lenâ.
 Sab suno hawâl aur utar denâ.”

Râjâ Kishn.

- 25 “Main us ko jânûñ nahîñ. Kaun des kâ râj ?
 Ham se lâgâ bolnâ use na âî lâj ?
 Âi nahîñ lâj ? Karam kâran niyârâ !
 Kar le woh sab jatan : kaun kahanhârâ ?
 Ham to mahsûl use nahîñ dête.
 30 Aise Sispâl phireñ jag meñ kete ?”

Itnî sun Bhîkham chalâ : karî Râjâ se ardâs :

* For Kanhayya.

† The anthropomorphism here is interesting.

Wazîr Bhîkham.

- “ Bal bhar gîâ gharûr se : woh nahîn âve pâs.
 De nahîn mahsûl, na woh kuns mâne.
 Kartâ hai mân ; nahîn tujh ko jâne.
 35 Karnâ, Mahârâj, jaise dil pe tere.
 Jang kê sâman karo : bândho ðere.”

Itnî sun Sispâl ne man meñ karî bichâr :
 Aisâ magrâ ho gîâ, dîâ lâj ðar ðâr.

Râjâ Sispâl.

- “ Bhikham, tum hukm suno : aisâ karnâ ;
 40 Phauj kê samân चाहिये ham ko bharnâ.
 Kîjo sâman aur khânâ dâna :
 Le lo hathiyâr aur bândho bânâ.”

- Sunâ hukm Mahârâj kê bhartî bharî âpâr :
 Hâthî, ghorâ, rath ghane ; pâve nahîn shumâr.
 45 Hât aur bâzâr bhare jitne sâre :
 Chhattîs hazâr jawân bhare niyâre niyâre.
 Lînî sab bast, aur apne piyâre,
 Chandâ ke gird jaise hoveñ târe.
 Bâkî to kuchh na rahî : sabhî bharî samân.
 50 Ik lâkh sanîyân चाहो, tan ke pûre jawân.

Râjâ Sispâl.

- “ Barchhi, bandûk, tîr, sabhî lîjo.
 Mat karo abîr ; kahan merî kîjo.
 Ghankâ to sâth karo jaldî tayyârî.
 Le lo sab phauj, haigî jitnî sârî.”
 55 Itnî sîn Bhîkham uṭhâ, bândh lîe hathiyâr.
 Ik lâkh phaujân चाहî ; dîâ sabau ðar ðâr.
 Hâthî aswâr hûâ Râjâ aisâ,
 Abar ke bîch garje bâdal jaisâ.
 Kampû* aur bikiṭ† saje phaujân dhât :

* For the English word *camp*.

† For the English word *picket*.

- 60 Mathurâ ke nikaṭ chalke jaldî âî.
 Jagah jagah tambû tane aur pharkeñ khaṛe nishân.
 Jagah jagah jodhâ khaṛe, bândhe dhans aur bân.
 Garje sab sûr, bîr bal ko toleñ:
 Tursh ho, bâr bâr mukh se bolen :

Phauj Râjâ Sispâl kî.

- 65 “ Ab to, Mahârâjâ, hukm ham ko dije:
 Dushman ke sâth jang hanske kije.”

Kâsid ko bulwâ lîâ aur karne lagâ bichâr.

Râjâ Sispâl kâ khatt.

- “ Kîkar jang samâlke ab nahîñ kije wâr ?
 Yâ nahîñ, mahsûl âj ham ko denâ ?
 70 Yâ yeh juddh paṛe tujh ko lenâ ?
 Bâjegî talwâr ; paṛegâ bhârat bhâri.
 Taine be-adab hayyâ kaise dâri ?”

Pâtî le kâsid chalâ, Mathurâjî meñ jâe :
 Jo kahnâ Sispâl kâ jâke dîâ sunâe.

- 75 Arjun balwâu, Bhîm jodhe bhârî,
 Nakul, aur Sahdeo, aur agyâ-kârî,
 Dehlî meñ chhatr phire jin kâ kârî,
 Baithe balwân aur Bed-âchârî.

Arjun.

- “ Jâ, Kâsid, apne gharoñ, aise mârûñ mekh,
 80 Râjâ ko chhorûñ nahîñ : kahî lâkh kî ek.
 Lâkhoñ kî ek kahî maiñ ne tujhe.
 ‘ Dete nahîñ kharâj,’ jâke kahnâ us se.
 Karnâ bai jang, nahîñ haṭke jânâ:
 Ūpar dushman ke paṛâ mujh ko ânâ.”

- 85 Bachan sun kâsid chalâ; Râjâ se karî jawâhir:

Qâsid.

- “ Larne ko mustâid hai, sanîyân khaṛe tayyâr
 Ab to mat der kare, Chhatrdhârî ;

Phaujôn ko hukm karo, hove tayyârî.
 Chaṛhke Mathurâ ko katal karnâ châhîye.

90 Main to hûn âdhîn; araz mere leiye."

Sunte hî Sispâl ke lagi badan meñ âg :
 Honî to hoke rahe : âge sab ke bhâg :
 Râjâ ne hukm dîâ :

Râjâ Sispâl.

" Sajke âo :

Dushman ke ik bâr ûpar dhâo.

95 Karke kamar band chalo milke sâre :
 Pahilî karo wâr, sabhî mere piyâre !"

Sanîyân châle kopke aur Jamnâjî ke tîr.
 Jûn pargâs sûrij kare sab sânwat balbîr.
 Bândho hathiyâr, kharî phaujân jangî :

100 Lâkhoñ talwâr lie ûpar nangî.

Lag rahî umeḍ ;—koî dushman âve,
 Mâre ik bâr, jabhî sobhâ pâve.

Assî hazâr jodhâ chaṛhe Arjûn linî sâth.

Kishn chaṛhe, bhayyâ chaṛhâ aur din se kînî rât.

105 Chalke Jâmnâ ke nikaṭ Arjûn âyâ :

Tab to ik bân us ne aisâ lâyâ ;

Aguñ se khel gañ phûṭîñ kâyâ.

Dusrâ phir wâr karâ Arjun dhâyâ.

Dantbakar Jarâsandh ne gajjâ sambhâlî hâth :

110 Kop chale Baldeojî larne un ke sâth.

Mârâ Baldeo bân un ke tan meñ :

Dantbakar donoñ gire âge ran meñ.

Das hazâr aur us ne jodhâ mâre :

Kaṭ kaṭ sîs un ke nîche dâre.

115 Jarâsandh dhâwâ karâ, sûnt lie talwâr :

Ûpar us Baldeojî ke sir par kînî wâr.

Lagtoñ talwâr, khabar na rahî tan kî.¹

Dekho, us wakt kaun jâne man kî?

Ik hazâr jawân Zarâsand* ne mâre :

* For Jarâsandh.

- 120 Ghoron ke sawâr paṭak niche ḍāre.
 Dhans bân dhāran kare Kishn uṭhâ ghanghor :
 Jarāsandh ke bhujâ ko dîâ bân se ṭor.
 Pānch bân aur dîe iko bârî :
 Tijî talwâr ik aisî mârî,
- 125 Jarāsandh mâr lîe, bal ko tole.
 Jodhâ ik bâr nahîn mukh se bole.
 Jarāsandh marnâ hîâ aur paṛâ phauj meṅ shor.
 Badarsâl dhâwâ kîâ ; aisâ kîâ zor,
 Golî bandûk chalen, ghankâ* garjeṅ.
- 130 Sunke ghanghor phauj sârî larzeṅ.
 Loṭheṅ par loṭh paṛe, loṭheṅ ḍholeṅ.
 Sîdhi hîi nazar, nahîn mukh se boleṅ.
 Bân lagâyâ Kishnjî aur dhajâ chhatr dîâ ṭor.
 Jaisî bijlî karaktî hîi dhans kî ghor.
- 135 Leke talwâr Kishn ûpar dhâyâ :
 Mârâ Badarsâl : kari chhedan kâyâ.
 Do hazâr jawân aur us ne mâre :
 Kâṭ kâṭ sis mahi ûpar ḍāre.
 Madan† bân kar meṅ lîâ aur jwâlâ uṭhî apâr :
- 140 Jaise bâdal Indar ke barsen mûsaldhâr.
 Hâthî gajbâj aur ghorē mâre :
 Dînî das bân aur badan sab jhâṛe.
 Jojan meṅ khet paṛâ aisâ bhârî :
 Barchhî, bandûk, bân, tan meṅ mâre.
- 145 Gajjâ sambhâlî hâth meṅ uṭhâ Bhîm balwân :
 Mârâ Madan ṭarak de, wahân se dîâ na jân.
 Gajjâ ko jo hâth lîâ aisî mârî,
 Bhâgî‡ ik bâr gire jitne sâre.

Bhîm.

“ Chhatrî kâ dharm nahîn haṭke jânâ :

150 Â koî aur, sis bândho bânâ !”

* Cf. line 53.

† Probably meant for Mada, the monster whose exploits are detailed in the *Mahābhārata*.

‡ For *bāghî*.

- Dekho tamâshâ jang kâ rath men hûâ sawâr :
 Tab Râjâ Sispâl ne karâ Kishn pe wâr.
 Mârâ ik bân dhajâ niche dârf :
 Kaṭe haiñ turang donoñ iko bârî.
- 155 Rath kâ jo chakar karâ chhedan ran men.
 Dûjî ik bân dîâ us ke tan men.
 Dûjâ rath mangwâke hûâ Kishn aswâr.
 Mahâbân bâjan lage pâve kuchh na shumâr.
 Sarkar ik bâr ureñ ; bhûtal larzen :
- 160 Ran ke jo bîch jaise kahrî garjen.
 Chhorâ ik chakar agin ran men jârî ;
 Jab to Sispâl hûâ jînâ bhârî.
 Sabhâ dhyân Sispâl hûâ ; rath ko dîâ phirâ :
 Paṭkaṭ dîâ jab medanî bhû, bal kahân jâe ?
- 165 Ik jojan pe rath paṛâ us kâ jâke.
 Mârâ hai kharak, phir ultâ âke ;
 Pakarî hai bânñ, chakar us ko dînâ ;
 Jojan pe phenk dîâ : aisâ kîñâ.
 Bhûtal pe loṭe paṛâ ; aisâ ho gîâ hâl.
- 170 Sab kâyâ kâmpne lagî, pâve nahîu sambhâl.
 Rath men sawâr hûâ, sanmukh âyâ :
 Tab to ik bân joṛ us ne lâyâ.
 Torâ hai dhans bân chhedan kîñâ !
 Kâmp sab badan hûâ mushkil jînâ.
- 175 Chakar phirâyâ Kishn ne, dînâ sîs udâ.
 Jeh parbat kundrâ paṛî, gaî phauj ḍhulâ.
 Bhâgî chau taraf rahî senâ sârî :
 Râjâ kî phauj gaî ran men mârî.
 Padmon ke mâl luṭe, kampû sâre,
- 180 Jab ke Sispâl gae ran men mâre.
 Arjun jîtâ, Bhîm Sen aur bhâî Baldeo :
 Jîte ran ko Nakul bhî aur jîtâ Sahdeo.
 Mathurâ ke bîch Kishn kîñâ bâsâ :
 Mârâ Sispâl, hûî pûran âsâ.
- 185 Pânchoñ Pânḍoñ ne gawan Dehlî ko kîñâ :
 Jitnâ sab râj paṭ us kâ lînâ.

Kishn Lâl Shib Kaiwar ne kînâ ân bhî g yân ;
Sukh bilâs anand karen ; aisâ upjâ gyân !

TRANSLATION.

THE STORY OF THE FIGHT BETWEEN RÂJÂ SISPÂL
AND RÂJÂ KISHN.

Sispâl was Râjâ of the City of Chanderî,
And the owners of forts* in all the land brought him
tribute.

The Râjâs obeyed all his orders with respect,
And always held themselves ready to take his com-
mands.

- 5 His name ran throughout the land :
All obeyed him with respect, and were obedient to his
commands.

Wazîr Bhîkham.†

“There was one Kans in Mathurâ, a very powerful warrior ;
After him is Kishn, I tell thee.‡

Râjâ, all bring tribute to thee ;

- 10 All obey thee with respect and remain in thy presence.
Kishn Kanhayya§ is born of the Jâdû house,
And he hath a brother by name Baldeo.”||

Râjâ Sispâl.

“He hath left off coming (to Court), proud of his might.
Bhîkham, go and bring him to my presence.

- 15 Make him understand and bring him to me :
Make no delay and return quickly.
He carries out none of the (royal) customs.
He remains without his senses, and does evil every day.”

* *i.e.*, Râjâs.

† To Sispâl.

‡ Kanśa, King of Mathurâ, cousin of Kṛishṇa, (see *ante*, p.332), tried to destroy Kṛishṇa soon after his birth by a general massacre of infants. Kṛishṇa afterwards slew him.

§ Kanhayya is a common title for Kṛishṇa.

|| For Balarâma: See p. 332, *ante*.

Obeying the command Bhîkham started and reached
Mathurâ ;

- 20 And there going to him (Kishn), explained all the
message to him.

Wazîr Bhîkham.

“ Râjâ Sispâl hath sent for thee early,
And I am come to fetch thee from Mathurâ.
Thy brother Baldeo is also to come with thee.
Listen to the whole story and make a start.”

Râjâ Kishn.

- 25 “ I go not to him. What land does he rule ?
Hath he no shame that he should speak to *me* ?
Hath he no shame ? Doing a strange thing !
Let him make all his plans : who is to stay him ?
I at least will give him no tribute.
30 How many such Sispâls are there wandering in the
world ?”

Hearing this Bhîkham said to Râjâ (Sispâl) :

Wazîr Bhîkham.

- “ He is proud in his might, and will not come.
He gives no tribute, nor recognizes (thy) authority.
He is proud and will not come to thee.
35 Thou must do, my Lord, as thy mind desires.
Make preparations for war and pitch thy camp.”

Hearing this Sispâl thought in his heart,
And became so haughty that he laid aside shame.*

Râjâ Sispâl.

- “ Bhîkham, hear my order : thus must thou do ;
40 Thou must prepare for me necessaries for the army.
Make ready the necessaries, the food and fodder :
Take up the arms and fasten on the arrows.”

* To wage war against Kṛishṇa is, of course, in bardic eyes downright sacrilege.

- Hearing the king's orders he made vast preparations ;
 Elephants, horses, innumerable chariots without number.
- 45 He filled all the shops and *bâzârs*,
 And got together 36,000 men, each and all.
 He provided all the arrangements, and even his own
 favourite (troops),
 Like stars surrounding the moon.
 There remained nothing, for he prepared all the
 necessaries.
- 50 A *lâkh* of warriors advanced ; fully grown men.
*Râjâ Sispâl.**
 "Take spears, guns, and arrows and all.
 Make no delay and obey my command.
 Make cannons also quickly ready.
 Take all the army, all that you have."
- 55 Hearing this up gat Bhîkham and fastened on his arms.
 A *lâkh* of men advanced, all of whom laid fear aside.
 The Râjâ rode his elephant,
 Like a thunderous cloud in the heavens.
 Placing camps and pickets the army advanced,
- 60 And quickly came near to Mathurâ.
 The tents were pitched in their places and the standards
 floated (in the air).
 The warriors stood in their places with bows and arrows
 fastened on.
 The warriors shouted and the heroes vaunted their
 strength.
 In their excitement they continually shouted with their
 lips :
- Râjâ Sispâl's Army.*
- 65 "Give us the order now, Mahârâjâ,
 And we will gladly fight the enemy."

(Râjâ Sispâl) sent for a messenger and began to think.

* To Bhîkham.

Râjâ Sispâl's letter.

- “ Being prepared for war why dost thou not attack me ?
 Or else pay me thy tribute to-day ?
 70 Or go through with the fight that hath fallen on thee ?
 Swords will clash, and there will be a hard fight.
 How camest thou so disrespectfully to challenge me ?”

- The messenger took the letter and went into Mathurâ,
 And explained what Sispâl had said.
 75 Arjun the hero, Bhîm the great warrior,
 Nakul and Sahdeo and the obeyers of orders,
 Whose umbrella* was powerful in Dehlî,
 Heroes and expounders of the *Vedas* were sitting (in
 the Court).

Arjun.

- “ Go, Messenger, to thy home, I will so strike the nail, †
 80 That I will not leave thy Râjâ (alive) : one word is as
 thousands.
 I have told thee one word that will do for thousands.
 Go and tell him that we give no tribute.
 There will be a fight and no turning back,
 And I will fall upon our enemy.”

- 85 Hearing this the messenger went and made obeisance
 to Râjâ Sispâl :

Messenger.

- “ They are ready to fight and the warriors stand prepared.
 Make no delay, O thou bearer of the (royal) umbrella,
 And give the order to thy army to make ready.
 Thou must go and spread death in Mathurâ.
 90 I make obeisance; listen to my say.”

As soon as he heard this the fire (of wrath) burned in
 Sispâl's body.

* *i.e.*, symbol of royal authority. † Idiom : to put to death.

What is to be will be: fate is before (us) all.
The Râjâ gave the order :

*Râjâ Sispâl.**

“ Be ready :

Spring suddenly on the enemy.

- 95 Girding your loins advance all together,
And make the first attack, all ye who are my friends !”

The warriors (of Sispâl) went wrathfully along the banks
of the Jamnâ.

- All the brave warriors shone like the glorious sun.
The warlike army stood with arms fastened on,
100 And drew its thousands of naked swords on high.
They were in hopes that the enemy would come,
That they might slay them at once and obtain glory.
(On the other side) Arjun had with him 80,000 warriors.
Kishn advanced and his brother† advanced, turning day
into night.

- 105 Arjun approached the Jamnâ,
And drew such an arrow,
That its fire‡ destroyed bodies.
And making a second attack on went Arjun.
Dantbakar§ and Jarâsandh took clubs in their hands,
110 And Baldeo in his wrath advanced to fight them.
Baldeo hurled an arrow into their bodies,
And (Jarâsandh)|| and Dantbakar both fell in the field.
He also slew 10,000 other warriors,
And cutting off their heads threw them down.
115 Jarâsandh advanced with drawn sword,
And made an attack at Baldeo’s head.

* Proclamation to his army.

† Most likely meant for Baldeo or Balarâma. See genealogy at p. 332,
ante.

‡ Compare preceding legend, line 151.

§ Dantavakra was classically a king of Karûsha (Mâlhwâ) who was
killed by Kṛishṇa in a fight.

|| The bard anticipates a little here : see line 115ff.

- The blow fell and no sense remained in him.*
Behold, at such a time who knows what his mind was ?
Jarâsandh slew a thousand braves,
120 Throwing down horsemen instantly.
Preparing his bow and arrows up gat Kishn roaring,
And broke Jarâsandh's arm with an arrow.
He shot five more arrows at once ;
And next he dealt such a (blow with his) sword,
125 That he slew Jarâsandh, showing his might ; and
Suddenly the warrior said nothing with his lips.†
Jarâsandh was dead and there was a cry in the army.‡
Badarsâl§ made an attack with such force,
That gun bullets flew and cannons roared.
130 Hearing the noise all the army trembled.
Corpse fell on corpse, and corpses writhed about.
Their eyes were open, but no word was spoken with
their lips.||
Kishn shot an arrow and broke the umbrella standard
(of Badarsâl)
The noise of the bow was like crackling lightning.
135 Taking his sword Kishn rushed forward,
Slew Badarsâl and pierced his body.
He slew two thousand other warriors,
And cutting off their heads cast them on the ground.
Madan took an arrow in his hand and its flames spread
afar,
140 As when Indra's¶ clouds rain down pestles,**
He slew elephants and falcons and horses.
He shot ten arrows and pierced the bodies of all.

* *Lit.* he had no knowledge of his body. † *i.e.* he died.

‡ Jarâsandh, King of Magadha, (South Bihâr), was father-in-law to Kanśa, in revenge for whose murder by Krishṇa, he drove the latter to Dwâarakâ from Mathurâ. He was killed eventually by Bhîma (*not* Balarâma) over a quarrel arising out of Yudhisthira's great sacrifice.

§ Meant apparently for Bhîshmaka, King of Vidarbha, (Berâr) and father of Rukminî.

|| *i.e.* they met with a sudden death. ¶ As god of the sky.

** Metaphor from the heavy rain of a thunderstorm, like the English 'raining cats and dogs.' For Madan, see note to p. 354, *ante*.

- So great was the battle-field that it spread for a *jojan*,*
 And he slew bodies with spears, guns and arrows.
 145 Then up gat the hero Bhîm with a club in his hand,
 Slew Madan incontinently and let him not go thence.
 With his club in his hand he struck so,
 That all the rebels fell.

Bhîm. †

- “ It is the duty of the Chhatrî never to retreat ;
 150 Come on, any one who will fasten a turban on his head !”

- Seeing the condition of the fight (Sispâl) entered a
 chariot,
 And then Râjâ Sispâl attacked Kishn.
 With one arrow he hurled down his standard,
 And his horse was cut down at the same time.
 155 He (also) pierced the chariot careering in the field.
 Next he shot an arrow into his body.
 Kishn sending for another chariot entered it.
 Great arrows began to hurtle beyond counting,
 Suddenly straws arose (in the air), and the earth
 trembled ;
 160 It was as if lions were roaring in the field.
 (Kishn) hurled a fiery quoit ‡ in the field,
 And then Sispâl found it hard to live.
 Sispâl recovered himself and turned Kishn’s chariot.
 He threw it over on the ground with great force.
 165 The chariot fell at the distance of a *jojan* § away.
 (But) coming back (Kishn) gave (Sispâl) a sword cut,
 And seizing him by the arm whirled him round,
 And threw him a *jojan* away : thus did he.
 He fell as a corpse on the ground ; thus it happened to
 him.

* See *ante*, p. 340.

† This is a general challenge to Sispâl’s side.

‡ Allusion to the *vajranâbha* or magic discus of Kṛishṇa.

§ See above, line 144.

- 170 All his body trembled and he could not control it.
 (But) mounting his chariot he (again) came to the front,
 And drew an arrow with force.
 His bow broke and the arrow was pierced !
 His body trembled and he found it hard to live.
- 175 Kishn (then) hurled his quoit and struck off Sispâl's head.
 As a hill slips away, so (Sispâl's) army dispersed.
 All the army rushed away on all sides,
 And Râjâ (Sispâl's) force was beaten in the field.
 Millions (worth) of goods were robbed and all the
 camp,
- 180 When Sispâl was slain in the field.
 Arjun and Bhîm Sen, and (Kishn's) brother Baldeo won,
 And so did Nakul and Sahdeo.
 Kishn dwelt in Mathurâ,
 And when Sispâl was slain, his hopes were accomplished.
- 185 The five Pâṇḍavas started for Dehlî,
 And took over all the kingdom and power.

Kishn Lâl and Shib Kaṅwar,* having obtained know-
 ledge (unto salvation),
 Dwell in happiness and joy: so greatly hath their know-
 ledge prospered them !

* See *ante*, p. 157.

No. LVIII.

THE LEGEND OF BÂNÂSUR,

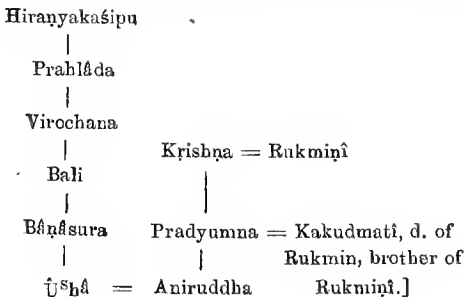
AS TOLD BY A CELEBRATED BARD OF BHARAṬ IN
THE MERATH DISTRICT.

[This legend is a bardic version of one of the most celebrated stories of the Kṛishṇa cycle, which has been dramatized over and over again. The outline of the tale is that Aniruddha, the grandson of Kṛishṇa, of course a Vaishṇava hero, falls in love with Ūshâ, the daughter of the Śaiva King Bâṇa or Bâṇâsura, whom he carries off from her home at Sonitapura to Dwâarakâ, after defeating her father. The celebrity of the story is no doubt due to the sectarian struggle it relates, and the interest in it to the oft-repeated incident of the love of a girl of one party for a member of the other.]

[It is never easy to fix the locality of a Kṛishṇa legend, as places both in Southern and Northern India claim to have been the homes of the heroes of the cycle, and in the present instance the familiar names occur in their usually garbled form. The scene of the legend as told by the bard is, however, clearly meant to be somewhere in the Himâlayas, probably the neighbourhood of Nâdaun in the Kângrâ District. It is to be noted here that the Râjâs of the Bashahr State in the Simlâ District claim to be descended from Pradyumna, father of Aniruddha, whom Kṛishṇa is said to have left in the Himâlayas as ruler after the defeat of Bâṇâsura.]

[As in the former legends of this cycle the Pâṇḍavas are found helping their kinsman Aniruddha against Bâṇâsura.]

[It will be as well, for the sake of general clearness, to supplement the genealogy given at p. 332, Vol. III., by the following :—



TEXT.

QISSÂ RÂJÂ BÂNÂSUR WA ÛKHÂ KÂ.

Sunantpûr woh shahr hai aur Badram woh des.

Bânâsur Râjâ mângê jang hamesh.

Mângtâ hai jang.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Suno, Kartâ merâ,

Râjâ koî aur nahîn kul meñ terâ,

5 Aisâ balwân bhujâ de de mâre ?

Aisâ koî balî bhâr merâ tãre ?

Udayast kahne lagâ :

Râjâ Udayast.

“Bholâ hove diyâl.

Chalo, araz us se kare ; pal meñ kare nihâl.

Pal meñ nihâl kare mâyâdhârî.

TRANSLATION.

THE STORY OF RÂJÂ BÂNÂSUR AND ÛKHÂ.

Sunantpûr was his city and Badram his land.

Râjâ Bânâsur ever wished for war :

(Ever) wished for war.

*Râjâ Bânâsur.**

“Hear, my Creator,

Is there no Râjâ, in thy family, †

5 So strong as to break my arms ?

No warrior to withstand my might ?”

Udayast ‡ said :

Prince Udayast.

“Bholâ§ will be kind.

Come and pray to him and he will favour thee in a moment,

The wondrous one will favour thee in a moment.

* Prayer to Śiva.

† *i.e.*, among thy followers.

‡ Second son of Bânâsur : see below line 229. § A name for Śiva.

- 10 Mânge soî degâ : gatî us kî hai niyârî.
Karegâ nihâl merâ Shambhû Bholâ :
Nâdiyâ sawâr bail us ke dholâ !”

Sunke itnî bât ko Râjâ kîâ yakîn :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “ Is wakt chalnâ wahân, kahtâ ho âdhîn.
15 Kahtâ âdhîn, dekh us kî mâyâ.”

Tab to Mahârâj pâs us ke dhâyâ :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “ Râj, pât, mâl main ne tujh se lînâ :
Mujh ko, Mahârâj, jang koî na dînâ !”

Mahâdeo.

- “ Betî tere mahil meñ, Ûkhâ us kê nâm :
20 Jo mânge soî degî, karo âp bisrâm.

- 10 He will give what thou askest ; he hath special favour
(towards thee).

He will favour thee, will my Shambhû* Bholâ,
That wandereth riding on his bull Nâdiyâ !”

Hearing this Râjâ (Bânâsur) believed in it, and said :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “ Let us go to him now and beseech him humbly :
15 Beseech him humbly and see his power.”

So the Mahârâjâ went (to Śiva, and said) :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “ Kingdom, rule and goods hast thou given me,
But thou hast not granted me a war, my Lord !”

*Mahâdeo.**

- “ There is a daughter in thy palace, whose name is
Ûkhâ ;
20 She will grant what thou askest, so be at rest.

* Names for Śiva.

Kîje bisrâm, dhîr dharko rahnâ.
 Itnâ sawâl jâke us se kahnâ.
 Mat kare andesh, mere chhatrdhârî,
 Taiñ ne barbâd kare nagarî sârî.”

25 Bânâsur ne ânke beṭî se kîâ sawâl :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Mahâdeo mujh se kahe, mile jang tatkâl.
 Mujh ko to jang mile, sobhâ pâûñ.
 Bândhûñ hathiyâr aur larne jâûñ.
 Beṭî, yeh araz merî suniye, bînâ ;
 30 Karne ko jang merâ taraphe sînâ.”

Rânî Ūkhâ.

“Jâe, pitâ, ghar baiṭh le ; jatan karûñ, Mahârâj.
 Pâjûñ Bholânâth ko, bane tumhârâ kâj.”

Be at rest and keep patience.
 Go and tell her what I say.
 Be not anxious, my (royal) umbrella-bearer :
 Thou shalt destroy a whole city.”

25 Bânâsur went and said to his daughter :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Mahâdeo told me that I should obtain a war presently :
 That I should obtain a war and become glorious.
 I will arm myself and go to the fight.
 My wise daughter, hear my say ;
 30 My heart trembles (with excitement) for a fight.”

Princess Ūkhâ.

“Go, father, and rest at home : I have a plan, my Lord :
 I will pray to Bholânâth* that thy desire be fulfilled.”

* A name for Śiva.

Sunke sawâl chalî Ûkhâ piyârî :
Shankar ke pâs gaî, sundar nârî.

Râñî Ûkhâ.

35 "Pitâ ko jang mile; mujh ko piâ,
Tain ne, Mahârâj, nahîn mujh ko diâ!"

Mahâdeo.

"Sahans lâkh das jojanân, nikaṭ samundar tîr,
Tujhe terâ piâ mile; ṭuk ik bândho dhîr.
Mâgh mahîne, badî dwâdas hoî,
40 Tujh ko bardân milâ, betî soî.
Râjâ to phâr bhujâ niche ḍâre :
Sukh jâe tâlâo; mân us kê mâre."

Khushî mân Ûkhâ chalî :

Hearing (her father's) say the lovely Ûkhâ went (away),
And the beautiful girl went to Shankar.*

Princess Ûkhâṭ.

35 "My father hath obtained his war, but a lover to me,
My Lord, thou hast not given!"

Mahâdeo.

"At a thousand and ten *lâkhs* of *jojans*† on the sea-shore,
Wilt thou meet thy love : (so) be patient awhile.
It will be on the 12th of the waning moon of Mâgh§
40 That thou wilt meet my boon (of a lover), my daughter
(He will be a) Râjâ that will break arms and throw them
down,
And dry up the (very) ponds|| and (at last) his pride
shall be destroyed."¶

Ûkhâ went away joyfully :

* A name for Śiva.

† Prayer to Śiva.

‡ See *ante*, p. 340. This merely means a very long way off.

§ January-February. This date would be at the end of January.

|| Conventional phrase, meaning that he will be so powerful as to dry up the very ponds through fear.

¶ All this is a kind of prophecy relating to the tale that follows.

Rānī Ūkhā.

“ Chirinjio, Mahārāj !

Tum samān dūjā nahīu parmārat ke kāj !

45 Kīnān parmārat taiū, Nāth, hamārā !

Sobas basiyo, Ji, Kailās tumhārā.

Aisā bardān sadā mujh ko deiyo :

Nādiyā sawār sadā lote rahīyo !”

Bachan māng Ūkhā chalī; āī apne dhām.

Rānī Ūkhā.

50 “ Mere Bholānāth ne pūran kar diē kām !

Pūran yeh kām karā, sobhā dīni !

Pitā ko jang diā; aise kīnī !

Mujh ko bardān diā Shambū Bholā :

Māyā, dhan, māl, diā sundar dōlā !”

Princess Ūkhā.

“ Blessings on thee, my Lord !

Thou hast no second in blessing !

45 Thou hast given us the blessing, Lord, (that we
sought) !

Be happy, Lord, in thy Kailas.*

Mayest thou ever bless me thus,

And mayest thou ever ride thy (bull) Nādiyā !”

Having got her oracle Ūkhā went home.

Princess Ūkhā.

50 “ My Bholānāth hath fulfilled my desire !

He hath fulfilled my desire and honored me !

He hath granted my father a war, thus hath he done !

He hath granted me a gift (also), hath Shambhū Bholā :

Wealth, goods and riches, and a beautiful (marriage)
palanquin !”

* Mount Kailāsa in the Himālayas is the peculiar home of Śiva.

- 55 Kushi guzârî Râo ne, faujân kâ kîâ samân.
Jang milâ, sobhâ milî. Dînâ gâḍ nishân :
Sûboṅ ko hukm dîâ :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“ Bhartî kîje :

Bândho hathiyâr : jang haṅske lîje.

Shankar ne hukm dîâ aisâ bhârî :

- 60 ‘ Bhânt bhânt bhed karo iko bârî ? ’”

Adhî rât ke wakt meṅ sove thî parbîn.

Larkâ âyâ khwâb meṅ : kahtî hûî âdhîn.

Kahtî âdhîn hûî :

Rânî Ūkhâ.

“ Bândî merî,

Pûran kar kâm, jaisî marzî terî.

- 55 The King was very pleased and got ready his army.
He obtained a war and he obtained honor. He planted
his standard,
And gave orders to his generals :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“ Collect (your forces) :

Fasten on your arms and go gaily to the war.

Shankar hath given me this strict order :

- 60 ‘ Make up your divisions at once.’ ”

The wise (Ūkhâ) was sleeping at midnight.*

She dreamt of a youth, and spake bashfully,

And said bashfully :

Princess Ūkhâ.

“ My Maid,

Fulfil my desire† in what way thou canst.

* Scene altogether changes.

† To meet the youth she had dreamt of.

- 65 Chande mahtâb jawân mujh ko pâyâ.
Dil pe afsos khwâb aisâ âyâ !”

Kalamdân lââ hâth meñ aur kahan lagî sat bhâî :

Bândî Chitrlekhâ.

“Sât dîp nau khañd kî rachnâ rachî banâî.”

- Rachnâ rachî banâî Chitrlekhâ piyârî.
70 Jitne khalak tumâm, sûrat sab ke târî.
Bharatkhañd Pâñdûn, Srî Kishn apârâ,
Jâdûn kâ bans, likhâ niyârâ niyârâ.
Naksha âge rakh lââ, dekh rahî man lâ :
Martlok meñ Dwârkâ pahunchî, us meñ jâ.
75 Dekhî chau taraf baiñh Ūkhâ piyârî :

- 65 I have met a youth (as beautiful) as the moon (in my dream).

I grieve that such a dream came (to me) !”

(The Maid) took a pen in her hand and spoke truthfully (saying) :

Chitrlekhâ, the Maid.

“I draw the picture of the seven worlds and the nine divisions.”*

The lovely Chitrlekhâ drew the picture.

- 70 She drew the portraits of all the world :
The Pâñdûs of Bharatkhañd, the glorious Srî Kishn,
The race of the Jâdûs, † she drew each separately.
She laid the picture before (the princess), who examined it carefully.
Through it she reached Dwârkâ, (situate) in the mortal world.

- 75 The lovely Ūkhâ sat looking all over it,

* Of the whole world.

† See *ante*, p. 356.

Kartî pahchânî sûrat niyârî niyârî.

Dekhâ jab Kamwar, lâj dil pe âi.

Rânî Ūkhâ.

“Bândî, sun bât ; jagah mujh ko pâi !”

Bândî Chîtrlekhâ.

“Burî karî yo pakariyân ! Âyâ kâl pukâr !

80 Chhappan karõ Jâdûn badhe ; dal kê ant na pâr.

Dâl kê na pâr ; parjâ kâmpê sârî.

Râjâ mahbûb,* bare Chhatrdhârî,

Arjun anr Nakul, Bhîm jodhâ bhârî :

Khâk meñ milegî terî nagarî sarî !”

Rânî Ūkhâ.

85 “Bândî, us ko lâ de, na to gae prân !

Houñ ho, to hovegî : yeh niche kar jân.

Jaldî se lâo ; karo kêraj merâ :

Examining each portrart separately.

When she saw the Prince (of her dream) shame came into her mind.

Princess Ūkhâ.

“My Maid, hear me ; I have found the place !”

Chîtrlekhâ the Maid.

“It is not well that thou hast taken this one ! Death cometh roaring !

80 The Jâdûs have increased to 56 karõs and their armies are innumerable.

Their armies are innumerable and their people tremble (at them).

Their Râjâ is brave, and a great King.

Arjun and Nakul and Bhîm are mighty warriors,

And all thy city will meet the dust !”

Princess Ūkhâ.

85 “My Maid, bring him (to me), or I shall die !

What will be will be ; know this for certain.

Bring him quickly and do my bidding :

* The sense of this word in this poem seems to be brave.

- Itnâ ahsâu bhalâ hove terâ.
 Merî surt lagî, Bândî, aisî,
 90 Chand kî chakor châh kartâ jaisî !”

- Kar juhâr bândî chalî, aur gagan-panth meñ jâî ;
 Martlok meñ Dwârkâ utarî hî wahân âî.
 Utarî hî âî, ik darsan pahchânâ.
 Dekhî tadbîr, nahîn khâyâ khânâ.
 95 Bhûk piyâs dîr hûî bândî tan kî.
 Yeh to pardes, kaun jâne man kî ?
 Mâlan âî bâgh meñ, dekhî parî nidân.

Mâlan.

- “Kauu des se ânâ hîâ ? Kahan hamâre mân.
 Kaunsâ hai des ? Kyâ hai maksad terâ ?
 100 Kahnâ bayân : mân kahnâ merâ.”

- And thus lay me under a great obligation to thee.
 I so love him, my Maid,
 90 As the partridge desires the moon* !”

- Making obeisance the Maid went and took the path of
 the sky,†
 And descended to the land of mortals at Dwârkâ.
 She descended and made an inspection.
 Making her plans she ate not her food.
 95 Hunger and thirst were far from the maiden's body.
 This was a foreign land and who knew the desires of her
 heart ?
 The gardener's wife came into her garden and found
 her lying helpless (there).

Gardener's Wife.

- “From what land hast thou come ? Hear my say.
 What is thy country ? What is thy desire ?
 100 Tell me thy story : hearken to my say.”

* See Vol. II, p. 57.

† *i.e.*, flew through the air.

Bândî Chitrlekhâ.

“Badram to woh des hai ; Bânâsur hai Râo ;

Ûkhâ to beṭî hûî, zâlîm burâ subhâo.

Itnî to ik araz merî lîje ;

Us kê jawâb phir mujh ko dije.

105 Sove thî mahil bîch merî piyârî ;

Dekhâ hai khwâb, ishik tan men jârî.

Jis ko Anrudhar kaho, lene âî.

Kar denî khabar, kasm terî khâî.’’

Mâlan.

“Terî kaisî kâmnî darsan us ko râî.

110 Lâkhoñ tabîb bulâ chuke us laṛke ke sâth.

Laṛke ne bahut dawâ dârû khâî ;

Dûnâ bîmâr : nahîñ fursat pâî.

Rove din râî, nahîñ khâve khânâ ;

Mâtâ bhî bilak rahî, main ne jânâ !’’

Chitrlekhâ the Maîd.

“The land is Badram and Bânâsur is its King.

His daughter Ûkhâ is of a cruel wicked temper.

Hear my petition,

And then answer me.

105 My beloved (princess) was sleeping in her palace,

And saw (a lover) in a dream and love came into her
body.

I am come to fetch him they call Anrudhar.*

Tell me of him, I ask thee by an oath.’’

Gardener's Wife.

“He (too) saw in the night a beauty like thy (princess).

110 A *lâkh* of doctors have been called to the youth.

Much medicine and drugs hath the youth taken,

But his malady (of love) hath doubled and hath no
relief.

Weeping day and night he eateth not his food.

His mother (too) I know is weeping !’’

* Aniruddha, son of Kṛishṇa, so called throughout this poem.

- 115 Jab Mâlan lekar chalî, gaî mahil darmiyâu,
 Lar̥kâ us se milâ dîâ ; yeh niche kar jân.
 Sûrat pahchâu lie us kî niyârî :
 Man kî jo bâṭ kahî us se sârî.
 Kaul aur karâr kare jitne sâre :

Bândî Chitrlekhâ.

- 120 " Mat karo âvîr ; chalo, dil ke piyâre."

Pânchoñ pahine kapre, bândh lie hathiyâr.
 Same jo âdhî râṭ thî lar̥kâ hûâ tayyâr.
 Palang par biṭhâ lâ Râjâ gyânî ;
 Leke akâs uṭî dil kî jânî.

- 125 Tîsâ to Mahil bîch leke âî.

- 115 Then taking (the maid) with her the Gardener's wife
 went into the palace,
 And know this at once,* she brought her to the youth.
 She recognized him apart (from the rest),
 And told him the desire of her heart.
 She made him all promises (saying) :

Chitrlekhâ the Maid.

- 120 " Make no delay, but come, my heart's beloved.†"

He put on the five (manly) garments and fastened on
 his arms.

It was midnight when the youth was ready.
 She sat the wise Prince on a couch,
 And took her beloved‡ flying through the air.

- 125 She came to the Tîsâ Palace.§

* To the audience.

† *i.e.*, he was beloved by the maid on account of her mistress.

‡ See above, line 120.

§ The name of Ūkhâ's dwelling throughout this poem.

Ūkhâ kî ik soch dil pe âî.
Sundar sakhî bulâ lî aur man meñ kîâ babak.

Râni Ūkhâ.

- “Bandobast karo mahil kâ ; kahe lâkh kî ek.
Bâbal ko khabar karo mat nâ koî.
130 Kartâ ke ank likhâ, barte soî.
Mahil bhîch ik sîs bândho bânâ !
Rahnâ ik þbaur, nahîñ þhirke jânâ !”

Assî hazâr jodhâ raheñ aur sab ko liâ bulâe :

Râni Ūkhâ.

- “Honî thî so ho gat : kîjo merî sahâî !
135 Kîjo sahâî merî, sâwat sâre,
Jitne mahbûb khare, dil ke piyâre.

An idea came into Ūkhâ's mind.
She called her beautiful maids and made a plan in her
heart.

Princess Ūkhâ.

- “Make arrangements as to the palace ; let one word do for
thousands.*
Let no one give news of this to my father.
130 The Creator hath written the line (of fate), let it be
fulfilled.
Let the turbans (of war) be fastened on in the palace !
Let each remain in his place and let none turn back !”

She had 80,000 warriors and she sent for them all (and
said) :

Princess Ūkhâ.

- “What was to be hath been : be ye my helpers !
135 Be my helpers, all ye my heroes,
As many brave friends as stand here.

* See *ante*, p. 359.

Merâ to hukm mân, bhâî, lîje.
Rahnâ hoshiyâr, kâm aisâ kîje."

Parwânâ Ûkhâ likhâ, dînâ bândî hâth.

Rânî Ûkhâ.

140 "Merî to mintî* kaho us mâtâ ke pâs !
Mâtâ ke sâth bhed merâ kahnâ :"

Rânî Ûkhâ kâ Parwânâ.

"Pâyâ ik lâl mujhe, sundar gahnâ.
Sûrat mahbûb ik larkâ âyâ :
Ûkhâ ne fikar barâ man men khâyâ !"

145 Hukm mân bândî chalî Sunatpûr men jâe :
Us Ûkhâ ke lâl kâ dînâ hâl sunâe.

Friends, here my orders.
Be wide awake and do as I say."

Ûkhâ wrote a letter and gave it to her maid.

Princess Ûkhâ.

140 "Go and tell my prayer to my mother,
And tell my mother all my story."

Princess Ûkhâ's Letter.

"I have found a ruby, a beautiful jewel.
A warrior-like youth hath come,
And a great dread hath come into Ûkhâ's heart !"

145 Hearing the order the maid went to Sunatpûr,
And told the story of Ûkhâ's ruby.

* For *bintî*.

Bândî Chitrlekhâ.

“ Beṭî ne bhaj dî : tujh pe âî.

Pânî ke bich âg aisî lâî.

Râjâ ko phând lâî barâ jorî.

150 Kînî nahîn sharm : lâj us ko ṭhorî !”

Râjâ se Rânî kahe :

Rânî Râjâ Bânâsur kî.

“ Sun merî ardâs.

Deo, dant, dâiv koî us Ûkhâ ke pâs :

Beṭî ko phând lâî ; bîdiyâ kinî :

Dâran to bahut ik us ko dînî.

155 Darwâzâ band kîe jîtnê sâre,

Assî hazâr giraftâr jodhâ niyâre !”

Râjâ sabhâ lagâ dîe ; kahan lagâ sat bhâe :

Chitrlekhâ the Maid.

“ Thy daughter sent me : I am come to thee.

Thus hath she set water on fire.*

She hath entrapped the Prince with great force.†

150 She hath no shame, and small is her sense of honor !”

The Queen said to the Râjâ :

Râjâ Bânâsur's Queen.

“ Hear my say.

Ûkhâ hath a demon, devil or spirit (in her),

That hath entrapped our daughter and is doing evil,

And is giving her much trouble.

155 He hath closed all the doors (of her palace),

And seized each of her 80,000 warriors !”

The Râjâ held an assembly and spake to them the truth :

* *i.e.* created a great disturbance.

† Allusion to the classical story in which Ûshâ brings Aniruddha to herself by magic arts.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “Hai koî jodha balî, us ko pakare jâe ?
 Jangî to jawân charho larnehâre !
 160 Pakaro ik bâr use, mere piyâre.
 Merî to lâj gaî, sobhâ khoî !
 Yeh to ik bel âj bikh kî boî.”

- Jab uṭhke Kachhrâj ne bîrâ lââ uṭhâe.
 Battîs hazâr faujân charhî ; larâ mahil pe jâe.
 165 Chau taraf mahil gher lînâ, piyâre ;
 Sâwat balbîr khare niyâre niyâre.

Râjâ Kachhrâj.

- “Mahil meñ kaun balî sanmukh âo ?
 Karnâ nahîn der : barâ mansab pao !”

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “Is there any warrior who will go and seize the prince ?
 Let some warlike fighting youth come forward !
 160 Seize him at once, my friends.
 My honor hath gone and my glory is lost !
 Surely it is a poisonous plant that hath been sown
 to-day.”

- Then up gat Kachhrâj* and took up the betel leaf.†
 An army of 32,000 advanced to fight at the palace.
 165 They surrounded the palace on all sides, my friends,‡
 Every brave warrior standing in his place.

Prince Kachhrâj.§

- “What warrior will confront me from the palace ?
 Make no delay to obtain a high office !”

* Râjâ Bânâsur's eldest son.

† See Vol. I., p. 43, etc.

‡ Addressed to the audience.

§ Challenge to the palace guards.

- Sun Chhatrî Anrudhar ne bândh lîe hathiyâr :
 170 Darwâzâ ko kholke gîâ mahil se bâhir.
 Mahil se bâhir gîâ Chhatrî bole :

Râjâ Anrudhar.

“Sanmukh se choṭ karo, bal ko tole.
 Chhatrî ran chhor nahîn haṭke jânâ :
 Karnâ hai lâj : sis bândho bânâ.”

- 175 Dhans bân Râjâ lâ, mârâ iko bâr.
 Dhujâ tuṭ rath kî paṛî ; jang hûâ bisiyâr.
 Dâran ik bân diâ Râjâ ran meñ :
 Bâki koî nahîn rahe us ke tan meñ.
 Murchhâ to khâi Anrudhar piyârâ.
 180 Karm ke lekhe ko nahîn meṭanhârâ !

- Hearing this the Chhatrî* Anrudhar fastened on his arms.
 170 And opening the gates came out of the palace.
 Coming out of the palace spake the Chhatrî :

Prince Anrudhar.

“Give your wounds in front, showing your might.
 A Chhatrî will not leave the field and turn back.
 Be honorable, and fasten on the turbans (of war).”

- 175 Prince (Kachhrâj) took a bow and arrow and made a
 shot.
 The front of (Anrudhar's) chariot was broken and there
 was a great fight.
 It was a terrible arrow that the Prince shot into the field,
 And he had no desire left in his heart.
 The splendid Anrudhar fainted ;
 180 For there is no one to blot out the lines of fate.

* Chhatrî here means that he belonged to the old Kshatriya or warrior caste.

Râjâ Anrudhar.

“Sabhâ, dhyân chaukas raho. Bachan suno, Mahârâj !
 Maiñ to âyâ mahil se juddh karan ke kâj !”

Pânch bâñ pûr, lîe kampû* sârâ :

Larze sab des kharâ jitnâ sârâ.

185 Das das to bâñ dîe sab ke tan meñ :

Pâi nahîñ khabar ; pañe loñe ran meñ.

Khurag sînt Râjâ chalâ, sanmukh pahunchâ jâe.

Tegâ mârâ sîntke ; kîjo Râm sahâi.

Râjâ Kachhrâj.

“Kîjîye sahâi ik, Kartâ mere !

190 Âo, balbîr, chañho sanmukh mere !”

Prince Anrudhar.

“My army, be attentive on all sides! Hear my words,
 my Lord (Kachhrâj) !

I am come out of the palace to fight !”

He let fly five arrows and took his whole army (with him),
 And all the land stood trembling.

185 He shot ten arrows each into all their bodies.

They became unconscious and fell corpses in the field.

Drawing his sword Prince (Kachhrâj) advanced and
 faced him.

He drew his sword and struck him in the name of Râm
 (God).

Prince Kachhrâj.†

“Be my helper, O my Creator !

190 Come on, my hero,‡ and meet me face to face !”

* See *ante*, p. 351.

† Prayer to Râma, see preceding line.

‡ To Anrudhar.

- Sûntî talwâr, ik tan meñ mârî :
 Râjâ ne aṭ lie iko bârî.
 Dûsré bhî wâr kîâ aisâ kârî ;
 Dekhe chau taraf kharê hai aggyâ-kârî.
 195 Sanmukh se choṭ kare sâwat sûrâ :
 Bâje har wakt kharâ ran meñ tûrâ.
 Âge ko pair dhare, sastar mâre :
 Pichhe ko pair nahîn ultâ dâre.
 Uṭhe Anrudhar mahâ balî, dhans bân lîo hâth :
 200 Dharin juddh karne lagâ us Râjâ ke sâth.
 Mâre ik bâr bân, faujân larjeñ :
 Kat-katke sîs paṛeñ, jodhâ garjeñ.
 Biyâkul Kachhrâj hûâ ; Har kî mâyâ !
 Dushman balwân hûâ, kâmpî kâyâ.
 205 Hâthî pe aswâr ho jab dhâyo Kachhrâj :

- Drawing his sword he struck at his body,
 But Prince (Anrudhar) warded it off.
 He (also) thus made a second attack,
 And saw (Anrudhar's) followers standing on all sides
 (of him).
 195 The brave warriors gave their wounds in front,
 And all the while the drums were beaten in the field.
 (Prince Kachhrâj) advanced his foot and used his
 arms,
 And never did he turn his feet back.
 Up gat Anrudhar the mighty warrior and took his bow
 and arrow in his hand,
 200 And began a pious fight with the Prince (Kachhrâj).
 He shot an arrow and the army trembled,
 And heads cut off fell down, while the warriors roared.
 Kachhrâj was helpless : it was the doing of God !
 The enemy was a strong one and his body trembled.
 205 Then Kachhrâj mounted an elephant and charged
 (shouting) :

Râjâ Kachhrâj.

“Larne kî mansâ rahî, suno, hamârî âj !”

Karke ik bâl chaṛhâ Râjâ nîche.

Râjâ Kachhrâj.

“Mâro ik bâr, nahîn jâne d̄jo !”

Kampû ko hukm d̄hâ :

Râjâ Kachhrâj.

“Chaṛhke jâo !

210 Râjâ ko pakar, bândh rath ko lâo !”

Jab Râjâ Anrudhar ne bidiyâ lîe banâe :

Chaṛh mârâ Kachhrâj ko ; gaî fauj gabharâe.

Jodhâ gabharâ gae, uṭhe, dhâe :

Jab to sab dhâm nikaṭ uṭhke âe.

Prince Kachhrâj.

“It is my intention to fight to-day : hear me !”

Thus roaring the Prince went on.

Prince Kachhrâj.

“Slay (Anrudhar) at once and let him not escape !”

He gave an order to his army :

Prince Kachhrâj.

“Advance !

210 Seize the Prince (Anrudhar) and fasten him to my chariot !”

Then Prince Anrudhar made a plan,

And advancing slew Kachhrâj, and the army was taken
aback.

The warriors taken aback fled away,

And all returned to their own homes.

- 215 Pûrî meñ jo shor machâ Rânî roveñ :
 Motî ke tor kâñch baiṭhî poveñ.
 Jab Anrudhar mahâ balî gîâ mahil darmiyân.
 Ūkhâ ne mangal paṛhî ; kîâ bahut sâ dân.
 Kîâ bahut sâ dân ; bahut sobhâ pâi.
- 220 Râjâ kî phauj sabhî charkhe âf :
 Sanmukh se sūr bîr bal ko toleñ.
 Man meñ anand hûe, mukh se boleñ.
 Bânâsur kahne lage mahâ balî balwân :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “ Bâkî to chhode nahîñ ; suno, sabhâ, kar kân.
 225 Sunîyo ik bâṭ, bhayyâ mere,
 Kartâ kî dât nahîñ jâtî phere.

- 215 There was a cry in the City and the Queen wept,
 And tearing off her pearls she made (a necklace) of
 glass.*
 Then the mighty warrior Anrudhar went into the
 palace.
 Ūkhâ sang songs of rejoicing and gave much away in
 charity (to Brâhmans).
 She gave much in charity and was much honored.
- 220 Prince (Anrudhar's) army (also) all came up,
 And warriors vaunted face to face with heroes.
 They were happy in their hearts and spake with their
 lips.
 Spake the great hero Bânâsur :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “ Hear, O assembled (warriors), with your ears ; nothing
 hath been left (of the old army).
 225 Hear a word of mine, O my friends,
 The decree of God is not to be turned back.

* A sign of mourning among Rânîs.

Aisâ balwân kaun charhke âyâ ?
Mârâ Kachhrâj nâm aisâ pâyâ ?”

Udayâst sunke utthâ :

Râjâ Udayâst.

“ Merâ yeh hî karâr :

230 Charhke jâûn mahil pe, mârûn iko bâr !”

Bâwan hazâr fauj charhî, hallâ kînâ.

Râjâ Udayâst.

“ Sanmukh se chot karo, châho jînâ !”

Faujân ik bâr wahân ran pe dhâi :

Kile ko chhor nikal bâhir âi.

235 Udayâst it se chalâ, ut se Râjkanwâr.

Ikis hazâr sanîyân saje, gîâ mahil se bâhir.

Who is this hero that hath come upon us ?

And slaying Kachhrâj hath obtained so great a name ?”

Udayâst* hearing this sprang up :

Prince Udayâst.

“ This is my vow :

230 I will go to the palace and slay him at once !”

A shouting army of 52,000 advanced.

Prince Udayâst.†

“ Give your wounds in front, if you would live !”

The army at once advanced into the field ;

Leaving the fort they came outside.

235 This side came Udayâst, that side the Prince (Anrudhar).

With 21,000 warriors he came out of the palace.

* Bânâsur's second son, called also by the bard his *dhwan* or *minis-ter* : see line 7.

† Challenge to Aniruddha.

- Mahil se bâhir nikâl jodhâ âyâ :
 Bândho hathiyâr, nikaṭ kampû dhâyâ.
 Ran ke jo bîch khare sâwat sâre,
 240 Larne kâ hukm dîâ, mere piyâre.
 Mahâbîr jodhâ charhe, lagî nek nahîn bâr :
 Un us ke, un us ke ûpar karâ parhâr.
 Bânjen hathiyâr, parâ bhârat bhârî :
 Donon chau taraf lareñ ik hî bârî.
 245 Kaṭ-kaṭke sîs bhujâ niche âveñ.
 Pîchhe pag nahîn dhareñ, âge dhâveñ.
 Chhattîs hazâr jodhâ mare, bahut parâ sangrâm.
 Mahâ ghor bhârat hûâ, kabhî na ubhar prân.
 Jab to Anrudhar bân iko mârâ :
 250 Kînî sab chhâr, nikat bitî dhârâ.
 Udayâst mâr, fatteh Chhatrî pâî :
 Râjâ kî fauj rahî ultî dhâî.

- Coming out of the palace the warrior came ;
 With arms fastened on he came to the camp.
 To all the warriors assembled in the field,
 240 He gave the order to fight, my friends.*
 The mighty warriors advanced and made no delay,
 And made attacks one upon the other.
 Arms clashed and there was a great fight,
 And both sides fought at all points at once.
 245 Heads and arms were cut off and fell down.
 No one turned a foot back, all went forward.
 There was a great fight and 36,000 warriors were slain.
 There was a great resounding fight and there was danger
 to life.
 Then Anrudhar shot an arrow,
 250 That cut all to pieces and made the blood to flow.
 Slaying Udayâst the Chhatrî gained the victory,
 And the Râjâ's army fled away backwards.

* To the audience.

Fatteh pâ Chhatrî chalâ Tîsâ Mahil samâe.

Ûkhâ ko anand hûâ, sukh kahâ na jâe.

255 Jab to Bânâ Râo ko bahut hûâ afsos.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Dushman to is mahil ke thâ nahîn sau sau kos.

Maiñ to bardân ik Har se linâ :

Dâran yeh dukh diê : kaisâ dînâ ?”

Achraj kî bât fikar man menî khâyâ.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

260 “Deo dant kaun âj pûr menî âyâ ?

Merâ bal chhîn hûâ satiâdhârî !

Achraj kî bat : gaî faujânî mârî !

Assî hazâr fauj phire ham se kaisî ?

The Chhatrî gained the victory and went into the Tîsâ Palace.

Ûkhâ was happy and her joy was untold.

255 Then was King Bânâ* very sorrowful.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“There was not an enemy within 100 miles of my palace.

I obtained a boon from Hari.†

But he hath given me a great grief: what hath he given?”

He was grieved in his heart at this wondrous thing.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

260 “What demon or devil is this that hath come into the city to-day ?

The power of me, the upright, hath been taken away !

It is wonderful, and my army is destroyed !

How came 80,000 men to turn from me ?

* Bânâ, as well as Bânâsura, was a classical name for the hero of this legend.

† Hari is Vishṇu : he really got his boon from Śiva, Vishṇu's rival god.

Chandâ kâ grihan kare Râhû jaise !”

265 Sangrâmjît jodhâ uthâ, kahan lagâ balbîr :

Râjâ Sangrâmjît.

“Sanmukh ran meñ âke kine na bândhe dhîr !”

Jîte sab sâr bîr jîtne sâre ;

Ik bâr phând lie niyâre niyâre.

Râjâ Sangrâmjît.

“Badram yo des kahîn ?”

Boleñ bânî :

Râjâ Sangrâmjît.

270 “ Ab to yeh bêt gaf mulkon jânî !”

Sangrâmjît jodhâ charhe.

As though Râhû had swallowed up the moon !”*

265 Up sprang Sangrâmjît† the warrior, and thus the hero
spake :

Prince Sangrâmjît.

“No one hath had courage when face to face with the
field !”

He had conquered all heroes (hitherto,)

And had ensnared them each at once.

Prince Sangrâmjît.

“Where (is gone) this land of Badram ?”

Spake he :

Prince Sangrâmjît.

270 “ Now will this matter be known in the world !”

Sangrâmjît the warrior advanced.

* Allusion to the Hindû belief regarding the cause of eclipses.

† Râjâ Bânâsur's third son.

Râjâ Sangrâmjît.

“Jân sūrij pargâs,
Tiwar binasûn; chhink meñ karûn shikar binâs!”

- Jodhâ sab âs-pâs lînê sârî :
Bâwan hazâr fauj chaṛhî balken sârî.
275 Jugpat ik bâr mahil ūpar âe :
Nikaṭ hî bhân khaṛe âge pâe.
Pânchoñ phire kapṛe, bândh lie hathiyâr :
Rath sajâe, jodhâ chale, giâ mahil se bâhir.
Mahil se bâr khaṛî faujân sâjeñ :
280 Sanmukh ran dhîr khaṛî, mârû bâjeñ :
Garjat haiñ bân, agin jaise ban meñ.
Bândhe hathiyâr, khaṛe sâwant ran meñ.
Ik bâr hukm diâ, aggyâ kîñî :
Dhâe sab sūr bîr, sobhâ dîñî.

Prince Sangrâmjît.

“Like the light of the sun,
Removing the darkness, in a moment will I destroy
them all!

- He took all the warriors all about him,
And an army of 52,000 men advanced shouting.
275 The mighty lord at once came upon the palace,
And found the glorious sun (Anrudhar) standing before
him.
He put on the five garments and fastened on the arms,
And made ready his chariot, and (then) the hero went
out of the palace.
His army stood ready outside the palace gate.
280 The lines stood face to face in the field and the battle-
drums were beaten.
The arrows crackled like a fire in the forest,
With arms fastened on the heroes stood in the field.
Suddenly he gave the command and orders,
And all the warriors advanced and won glory.

- 285 Dwâdas to bân dîe sab ke tan meñ :
 Jhûjeñ ik bâr, agin biyâpî ran meñ.
 Paṛe haiñ jawân bhujâ kaṭke niyâre :
 Battîs hazâr fauj aise mâre.
 Sangrâmjît sanmukh charhâ, ran meñ paṛî pukâr.
- 290 Bhân chhipâyâ dhul meñ, pâveñ kuchh na shumâr.
 Lagî na shumâr fauj aisî dhâf :
 Durgam ke pâs nikaṭ jaldî âf.
 Chhûntî bandûk aur ghankâ garjeñ :
 Sâwant balbîr khare ran meñ larjeñ.
- 295 Assi hazâr jodhâ lie, hukm karâ ik bâr :
 Jaise sandh samâgte barseñ megh apâr.
 Dhac sab sûr bîr iko bârî :
 Kânṭeñ bhuj sîs chhatî ûpar dâre.
 Gir-girkar pher lareñ, sanmukh dhâveñ.

- 285 He shot twelve arrows into the bodies of all,
 They fell at once and fire flamed in the field.
 With arms cut off each warrior fell.
 There were 32,000 men slain thus.
 Sangrâmjît advanced to the front, roaring out in the field.
- 290 The sun was hidden by the dust (thick) beyond telling.
 An army beyond counting advanced,
 And very quickly approached the fort.
 Guns cracked and cannons roared,
 And very heroic warriors trembled in the field,
- 295 Taking 80,000 warriors (Aurudhar) gave orders sud-
 denly ;
 And they advanced like the sound of heavy rain
 falling.
 All the warriors advanced at once,
 And cutting off heads and arms threw them on the
 ground.
 Falling about they fought again and advanced face to
 face.

- 300 Mâreñ das bis, nahîñ jâne pâveñ.
 Jab to Sangrâmjît mukh se boleñ :
 Jitnâ châlitr, sabhî dal ko kholeñ.

Râjâ Sangrâmjît.

- “Kis kê tû putr ? Kaun terâ pitâ ?
 Lâyâ hai kaun kâñ, aisâ kîtâ ?
 305 Kaunsâ hai des ? Kaho maksad sârâ !
 Mât pitâ kaun kaun terâ, piyârâ ?”

Râjâ Anrudhar.

- “Kilâ hamârâ Dwârkâ ; pitâ merâ Bhagwân.
 Bâbâ Srî Ânand hai, Pañdûñ kî hai ân.
 Lakh sandânî bâñ chaleñ, sanmukh mâreñ.
 310 Hâthî, rath, bâj, chûr karkar dâreñ.
 Chhappan hai koṭ* sage mere tau meñ.

- 300 Slaying some ten or twenty they did not let them escape.
 Then Sangrâmjît called out with his lips,
 And opened all his secrets to the army.

Prince Sangrâmjît.

- “Whose son art thou ? who is thy father ?
 Why art thou acting thus ?
 305 Where is thy land ? Tell me all thy meaning !
 Who are thy father and mother, friend ?”

Prince Anrudhar.

- “My fort is Dwârkâ and my father is Bhagwân.†
 My foster-father is Srî Ânand‡ and I am come of the
 Pañdûs§.
 They shoot 1 any terrible arrows and fight face to face.
 310 Elephants, chariots, falcons they grind to dust.
 There are 56 karors of relatives of my body.

* For *karor*, † *i.e.*, Kṛishṇa.

‡ This must mean Nanda, Kṛishṇa's foster-father.

§ This is of course not correct : he was, however, a relative of the Pândavas : see the genealogy, Vol. III. p. 332.

Sunegî nâdân charheñ iko sunke.”

Gajjâ hâth dhâran kare, dhâran kar sangrâm.

Râjâ Sangrâmjît.

“Sanmukh se nahîn jân dîn, mârûñ âthon jâm.

315 Jo ho balhîn palaṭ ultâ jâo :

Jo ho balwân mere sanmukh âo.

Dekhûñ ik bâr âj teri karnî.

Karnâ hai juddh, bharûñ teri bharûñ.”

Jab Anrudhar mahâ balî dîo agin kâ bân.

320 Ik jojan ûpar parâ, bhûlâ khatâ ûsân :

Bhûlâ giâ rît bhânt jitnî sârî.

Larne kî pher karî dûjî tayyârî.

Sûnton talwâr Chhatrî ûpar âyâ :

Jab to Anrudhar bân chhâti lâyâ.

As soon as they hear I am helpless they will advance together.”

(Sangrâmjît) took a club in his hand for the fight.

Prince Sangrâmjît.

“I will not let thee go from my face, I will fight thee all day.*

315 If thou be weak go back :

If thou be strong come and face me.

I will see for once to-day what thou canst do.

I will fight and fulfil what is to be fulfilled for thee.”

Then Anrudhar the mighty warrior shot a fiery arrow.

320 (Sangrâmjît) fell a *jojan* away and lost his senses,

And forgot all the ways and customs (of war).

He made him ready for a second fight.

Drawing his sword he went at the Chhatrî (Anrudhar).

Then Anrudhar struck him in the chest with an arrow.

* *Lit.*, during the eight watches.

- 325 Sangrâmjit jodhâ girâ, ran meñ parî pukâr.
 Phûl-mâl jyân kanth se hâthî dharî utâr.
 Jodhâ kâ maran hûâ, sanîyân bhâje.
 Hâthî rath chor hâe, khâlî tâje.
 Rânî ranwâs bîch ghar ghar roveñ :
- 330 Râjâ to bîj burâ bikh kâ boveñ.
 Bânâsur dablâ gîâ, kâmpañ lagâ sarîr.
 Chandarbbân sunke uthe, kuchh ik bandhî dhîr.
 Betâ aur bap charhâ donoñ kârî :
 Sanîyân Mahârâj lie iko bârî.
- 335 Tîsâ to Mahil beg charhke âe :
 Dekheñ chhaun oṛ bare achraj khâe.
 Ikkîs hazâr sanîyân lie tab Anrudhar Kânwâr :
 Ghar se utarî beg, de kar âyadh sab dhâr.
 Dhare haiñ karpân, bân chhuteñ kar se :

- 325 Sangrâmjit the warrior fell and there was a cry in the field.
 (Anrudhar threw him) as an elephant would throw a flower-garland from his neck.
 When the warrior was slain the army fled.
 Elephants and horses deserted the chariots.
 The Queens in the palaces wept in their rooms.
- 330 The Prince (Anrudhar) had sown an evil seed of poison.
 Bânâsur was frightened and his body trembled.
 Hearing of this up gat Chandarbbân* and was courageous.
 Both father and son advanced,
 And the King took all his army with him at once.
- 335 They quickly advanced to the Tîsâ Palace,
 And looking all round they were much astonished.
 Then Prince Anrudhar took 21,000 men.
 He quickly came down from the palace, and took all his weapons in his hands.
 He took up his bow and shot an arrow from his hand.

* Bânâsur's fourth son.

- 340 Sanmukh se choṭ karen, nahîn bhâgen ran se.
 Chanchalî se sâr karen, bâdal dhâven :
 Bâjen talwâr, choṭ sanmukh khâven.
 Chandarbhân âge barhâ, Kâm-bân lîe bâth.
 Mahâsûr ran men barhâ, tiryâ paṭ gaî sath :
- 345 We to balhîn hûe jodhâ sâre.
 Tab to ik bân khainch kar se mâre :
 Mâyâ kâ bân dîâ dûjâ kârî.
 Tab to boh-bhânt gae sanîyân mâre.
 Mogh-bân Chhatrî lîa Chandarbhân kî or.
- 350 Mârâ bân tarâkde. Jaisî gahî chand kî kor,
 Chand mâh kî kor gahî Râjâ darse.
 Dhans bân chhûṭ gîâ us ke kar se :

- 340 Giving wounds in front he did not desert the field.
 The warrior flashed in the field, as a (lightning) cloud
 advances.
 Swords clashed and wounds were received in front.
 Chandarbhân went forward with an arrow of Love in his
 hand.
 The great warrior advanced into the field and the
 maidens went with him,*
- 345 And all the warriors became weak.
 Then he drew (his bow) and shot an arrow from his
 hand,
 And a second magic arrow did he shoot.
 Then all the warriors were incontinently slain.
 Next the Chhatrî (Anrudhar) aimed a terrible arrow at
 Chandarbhân.
- 350 He shot a dexterous arrow. Like the moon eclipsed,
 Like the moon eclipsed the Prince (Chandarbhân)
 appeared.
 His bow and arrow fell from his hand,

* This means that Chandarbhân caused heavenly maidens to mix with the enemy, so that they might lose their virtue. Cf. Vol. I., p. 51.

- Dekhe chau taraf kharî parjâ darse.
 Ran men ghangor, jaisâ bâdal barse.
 355 Nâg bân Râjâ lâ, bidiyâ dî pahilâe :
 Sanmukh chhorâ ik bâr, girâ rath par jâe.
 Mârâ jab bân dekh Chhatrî larze ;
 Chhode hathiyâr ; kaun us ko parje ?
 Dharm phâns bîch phânsâ Râjâ binâ :—
 360 Nâg-bân pûr dîo, kâmpî sînâ !
 Bândh lô Râjkanwar aggyâ-kârî.
 Senâ ik bâr chalî pûr ko sârî.
 Mahilon pe dekh rahî sundar nârî :
 Chande mahtâb lâ Ûkhâ piyârî.
 365 Nagarî sab moh lô jîtnî sarî :

And his people standing on all sides saw it trembling.
 There was a noise (of pain) in the field, as when a
 (thunder) cloud rains.

- 355 The King (Bânâsur) took a serpent* arrow with great
 skill.
 He shot it in front at once and it fell on (Anrudhar's)
 chariot.
 Seeing the arrow strike the Chhatrî (Anrudhar) trembled.
 He let fall his arms : who should urge him (now) ?
 Thus was the wise Prince (Anrudhar) caught in a net
 of belief :—
 360 When a serpent arrow was shot at him, his heart trem-
 bled !
 The (King's) followers bound the Prince (Anrudhar).
 All the (King's) army at once returned to the city.
 Beautiful maidens beheld them from the palaces,
 And the lovely Ûkhâ found (a youth as beautiful as) the
 moon.
 365 All the city rejoiced,

* The point of this is that Chhatrîs, considering serpents to be gods will not fight with them. This accounts for what follows.

Dhâm dhâm bích kharî sundar nârî.
 Nâg bân bândheñ bithâ, Kishn Lâl, hûâ rang :
 So Shib Kanwar samâgtî :—jît lô sab jang.
 Nârad ko bulwâ liâ Srî Kishn Mahârâj.

Srî Kishn.

370 "Larkâ ghaib ho gââ, tum se nikale kâj.
 Tum setî kâj bane, merâ bhâl.
 Biptâ kî bân, same aisî âi.
 Deo, ke dant, koî dâñâ âyâ :
 Sote ko uthâ liâ ; phir nahîn pâyâ."

Nârad Brâhman.

375 "Main to Utar dasâ ko abhî chalûñ, Balbîr ;
 Palat âûñ beg, tuk ik bândho dhîr."

And beautiful maidens stood in every house.
 (Saith) Kishn Lâl*—the serpent arrow brought a gift
 (of victory) and there were rejoicings.
 Saith also Shib Kanwar† :—(the King) won the fight.
 Srî Kishn‡ the King sent for Nârad. §

Srî Kishn.

370 "My son hath disappeared, do my desire.
 Let my desire be fulfilled through thee, my friend.
 It is a time of great trouble that is come.
 Some demon, or devil, or spirit hath come,
 And taken him off in his sleep, for he hath not been
 found since."

Nârad the Brâhman.

375 "I will go to the North at once, O Mighty One,
 And come back quickly, so be patient awhile."

* The bard: see *ante* p. 363, etc.

† The bard's wife: see *ante* p. 363, etc.

‡ The scene completely changes.

§ See Vol. II., p. 222, and Vol. III., p. 152. It is noteworthy that he is here called a Brâhman.

Dwârkâ ko chhoṛ gagan ûpar dhâyâ :
 Dekhne se lûp hûe us kî kâyâ.
 Sunantpûr des gîâ mâyâdhârî :
 380 Dhâm dhâm pûchh rahâ Bedâchârî.

Deo.

“Kaise ho gîâ âunâ ? Hamen sunâo hâl.
 Ham se bithâ lîjîye, jo kuchh châhîye mâl.
 Hîrâ aur lâl, ratan, muktâ lije :
 Pichhe asîrbâd mujhe dîje.
 385 Apnî, Mahârâj, kaho ham se bânî :
 Kahânî ke jog nahîû, so nahîn kahânî.”

Nârad Brâhman.

“Betâ âyâ Krishn kâ aur dhûṇḍ lîe sab des.
 Yeh parbat dekhâ nahîn, gaî ik nahîn pesh.
 Ik bhî na pesh gaî ; sunîyo, sâkî :

Leaving Dwârkâ he advanced through the sky,*
 And his body disappeared from sight.
 The wonder-worker went to the land of Sunantpûr,
 380 And the teacher of the *Vedas* sought him in every house.

Demon. †

“How camest thou † here ? Tell me thy story.
 Take a gift from me, if thou desirest wealth.
 Take diamonds and rubies and jewels in plenty,
 And then give me thy benediction.
 385 Tell me thy story, my Lord :
 Tell me nothing that thou wouldst not tell.”

Nârad the Brâhman.

“I came for Krishn’s son and am searching all the land.
 I have never seen these hills (before) and have no plan
 (of finding him).
 I have no plan ; hear, my friend ;

* Cf. above line 91.

† The meaning here is apparently that Bânâsura’s country was a land of demons.

‡ Speaking to Nârada.

- 390 Râjâ ke tan bîch nahîn chhorî bâkî.
Rove din rain aur us kî mââtâ.
Achraj kî bât, nahîn larîkâ pâtâ !”

Deo.

- “Larîkâ Tîsâ Mahil meñ rahâ kare din rain.
Pakarâ Bânâ Râo ne, us parë nahîn chain.
395 Larîke ne jang karâ, sobhâ pâî.
Kûde sab koṭ aur us kî khâî.
Dhâve to châr kare us ne jârî.
Râjâ kâ mân haṭâ aur sanîyân mârî.”
Sunat beg Nârad chalâ, râj-sabhâ meñ jâe.
400 Bhed-chhed sagrâ kahâ aur dînî kathâ sunâe.

Nârad Brâhman.

- “Râjâ, yeh shor parâ pûr meñ kaisâ ?
Bîṭî ik bâr kaho ham se aisâ.

- 390 And Râjâ (Krishn) hath no other (desire) in his heart.
He weepeth day and night and so doth the mother (of
the Prince).
It is a wonderful thing that I cannot find the boy !”

Demon.

- “The boy remains day and night in the Tîsâ Palace.
King Bânâ hath seized him and he is not happy.
395 The boy fought him and obtained glory,
And leapt over all his forts and ditches,*
He made four attacks upon (the King),
And the King destroyed his pride and slew his warriors.”
As soon as he heard (this) Nârad went into the royal
assembly.
400 He said all his say and made them understand.

Nârad the Brâhman.

- “Râjâ, what is this noise in the city ?
Tell me at once what hath happened.

* *i.e.*, those within which Princess Ukhâ was confined.

Kaṅwar ko dikhâo abhî ; sunîye, Râjâ.
Ik to sawâl merâ sunîye tâjâ.”

- 405 Hukm dîâ Mahârâj ne, laṛkâ liâ bulâe :
Râj-sabhâ ke bîch meñ âge dîâ dikhâe.
Âge dîâ dikhâe : baṛî mintî kîñî.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Lîjo, Mahârâj, bhît terî dîñî.
Kahnâ kuchh aur jaisî marzî terî.

- 410 Singâsan baith ; mân kahnî merî.”

Khushî Brâhman ho gîâ, chhâtî se liâ lagâe :
Bât pitâ kî jo kahan dîñî us se sunâe :
Mâtâ kî bipat kahî jitñî sârî.

Show me the Prince now ; hear, O Râjâ.
Hear thou early my complaints.”

- 405 The Râjâ gave an order and sent for the boy,
And showed him to the royal assembly.
He was shown, and (the Râjâ) making a great obeisance, (said to Nârada) :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Take him, my Lord, I present him to thee.
Tell me if thou hast any other desire.

- 410 Sit on the throne ; hearken to my say.”

The Brâhman was pleased and took (Anrudhar) to his
breast,
Told him all that his father had said,
And told him all the sorrow of his mother.

Nârad Brâhman.

“Âyâ kis bewant ? Kabâû akal mârî ?

- 415 Rahnâ hoshiyâr ; abhî ultâ jâûn.
Nahânâ kis kâm ? Nahîn khânâ khâûn !”

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Nârad Mun Mahârâjji, suno hamârî bât.
Main kuchh bal kînâ nahû is larke ke sâth.
Larke ke bahut tarah khâtir kînî bhârî.

- 420 Is ne aprâd kiâ, sanîyân mârî.
Baitho, Mahârâj, abhî mat na jâo :
Larkâ jis taur yahân khelo khâo.”

Bidâ lâ, Nârad chale ; larke ko samjhâe.

Jaisâ golâ top kê gagan-panth men jâe.

- 425 Chalâ hai shitâb, pûrî Dwârkâ âe :
Kiâ hai bayân :

Nârâd the Brâhman.

“How comest thou here ? where hast thou lost thy
wits ?

- 415 Be awake, for I go back now.
Why should I bathe ? And I will not eat my food !”*

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Nârad Munî, † my Lord, hear my words.

I have shown no violence to the boy.

I have shown the boy much kindness.

- 420 He committed a great fault in slaying my army.
Sit down, my Lord, and go not now.
And let the youth amuse himself here as he pleases.”

Nârâd took his leave and explained to the youth.

As a ball from a gun he rushed through the air.

- 425 Going quickly he came to Dwârkâ,
And (there) he said :

* Idiomatic way of saying that he would go quickly.

† See Vol. III., p. 152.

Nârad Brâhman.

“Jagah mujh ko pâî†”

- Mâtâ se kahan lagâ us kî bolî :
 Jitnî thî bêt sabhî dil kî kholî.
 Khabar hûî Anrudhar kî, rahas rahâ parwâr.
 430 Chhattîs bâje bajeñ, kînâ dân apâr.
 Dîni haiñ dân aur mangal gâe :
 Sunke parwâr pâs us ke âe.
 Hâthî, gaj-bâj dîe, mâyâ dîni :
 Mâtâ ne bahut khushî dil meñ kînî.
 435 Garur chapâe sakal dal das jojan ke pher.
 Bajâ damâmâ Krishn kâ, kare nek nahîñ der.
 Nek bhî na der karî, jaldî dhâî.

*Nârad the Brâhman.**

“I have found the place.”

- He told (Anrudhar's) mother all that he had said,
 And opened out all the secrets of his heart.
 All the family rejoiced on hearing news of Anrudhar.
 430 Thirty-six kinds of music † were played and much alms
 given (to Brâhmans).
 The alms were given and songs of rejoicing were sung.
 Hearing of him his family went (to Anrudhar).
 Elephants and falcons and money were given away,
 And (Anrudhar's) mother was very happy in her heart.
 435 All the army riding *garurs* ‡ covered a space of ten
jojans.
 The war-drums of Krishn were beaten and they made
 no delay.
 Making no delay they went quickly.

* To Krishna.

† See Vol. I., p. 176.

‡ The king-fisher, or *garuḍa*, the vehicle of Krishna : hence its use here.

Jitne the sūr bîr âge pâe.

Badrampûr des gae sânwat sâre :

440 Utare sab dhâm dhâm niyâre niyâre.

Parbat ke bîchî baje mârû bâjâ.

Sun-sunke ghor araz kînî Râjâ :

Râjâ Bânûsur.

“Baujârâ kaun mâl bharke lâyâ ?

Mujh ko nahîn bhed nek is kê pâyâ.

115 Lâunâ khabar, abhî jaldî jâo :

Sunke bayân pâs mere âo.”

Halkârâ* pûr se chalâ, Râjâ ko kîâ juhâr.

Faujân dekhîn bahut se, pâve nahîn shumâr.

Qâsid.

“Chau taraf fauj parî, Râjâ, sâri.

450 Ghankâ bandûk chhuṭe halkadârî.

All the warriors advanced.

All the heroes went to Badrampûr,

440 And each alighted in his (appointed) place.

The war-drums were beaten in the mountains.

Hearing the noise said Râjâ (Bânûsur) :

Râjâ Bânûsur†.

“What pedlars are these that have brought goods here ?

I have not understood the real meaning (of this).

445 Go and bring me news about them at once,

And when you have heard it come and tell me.”

The runner left the city and made obeisance to the Râjâ.

He found a large army beyond telling.

The Messenger.

“The army are encamped on all sides, Râjâ.

450 Cannons and loaded guns are let off.

* For *harkârî*.

† To his official messenger.

Hât aur bazâr rache mandir sâre :
Tîrath kare anek, rache ðhâkurdwâre.”

Pûrakh se kambakh hûâ, rohchak lîe shumâr.
Jagah jagah dekhat phire, nahîu kuchh pâyâ pâr.

- 455 Pâyâ nahîu pâr, dahal dil pe khâi :
‘Râjâ kî kâl-gharî sir pe âi !’
Man meû jo soch karî, achhraj khâyâ :
Dekhke tumâm pâs Râjâ ke âyâ.

Qâsil.

- “Banjârâ to hai nahîu. Aise dekhe mauj !
460 Sûr bîr garjeû khare, charhî lakhîû fauj.
Lâkhoû to fauj charhî !”

Bolî bânî :

All the shops and *bâtîûrs*, and dwellings* are prepared.
They are making proper pilgrimages, and the temples
are being built.”

- From moru till noon, till dusk he counted on ;
Wandering on from place to place he could not get
through it.
455 He could not get through it, and fear came into his
heart :
(Thinking that) the hour of death hath come upon the
Râjâ !
He was anxious in his heart and astonished.
Observing everything he came to the Râjâ.

The Messenger.

- “They are no pedlars. I have seen a wondrous thing !
460 They are roaring warriors, for an enormous army hath
come.
An enormous army hath advanced !”

And he said .

* *i.e.*, a completely formed army.

Qâsîd.

“ Kîjo sambhal, mere Râjâ gyânî !
 Mujh ko to pâr nahîn, Râjâ, pâyâ !
 Jâne, yeh kaun Bhûp charhkeâyâ ?”

465 Barî soch Râjâ karî, aur man meñ karî bichâr.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“ Kanwar phând tû ne lâ ; us kâ hai parwâr !
 Chhappan to koṭ charhe sanîyân âe.
 Pânî ke bîch âg ab ki lâ !
 Bâjegâ bân, parë bhârat bhârî !”

470 Shankar ke pâs gîâ Chhatrdhârî.
 Din bitâ, nisâ hûî, ausar pe âdhî rât.

The Messenger.

“ Be careful, my wise Râjâ !
 I have not been able to get through (the camp), Râjâ !
 (God) knows what King this is that hath come !”

465 The Râjâ was very anxious and thought in his heart.

*Râjâ Bânâsur.**

“ Thou hast seized the Prince (Anrudhar) and his family
 hath come !
 His fifty-six *karors* of warriors have advanced.
 A fire hath now been lighted in the midst of water ! †
 Arrows will hurtle and there will be a great fight !”

470 The King went to Shankar. ‡
 The day had passed and night had come and it was near
 midnight.

* Soliloquising.

† There is coming a terrible time : see above, line 148.

‡ See above, line 34.

Mahâdeo.

- “Kyâ koî dushman charhâ? Kâmpê terâ gât!
 Kâmpê hai gât, hile terî kâyâ,
 Dushman hai kaun tere ûpar âyâ?
 475 Kar de bayân, hal niyârâ niyârâ.
 Ham se judâ hoke kaise kinâ guzârâ?”

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “Jag rache hai bhawan mein, aur charh âe bhûpâl.
 Ab partangyâ rakhîyo; suniye, dîn diyâl!
 Dîn ke diyâl, karo khâtir mere!
 480 Karnâ nahîn der; lâj, Bholâ, tere!
 Taiû ne sab râj pâṭṭ dînî mâyâ;
 Lîjîye sambhâl: pâs tere âyâ!”

Sunke us ke bachan ko Shankar hûâ diyâl.
 Charhe Nadiyâ bail pe, uṭhe âp tatkâl.

Mahâdeo.

- “Hath an enemy advanced? Thy body trembles!
 Thy body trembles and thy form shakes.
 What enemy hath come against thee?
 475 Tell me the story bit by bit.
 Deserting me what hast thou done?”

Râjâ Bânâsur.

- “Sacrifices are being prepared in the palace, for a
 monarch hath advanced (against me).
 Preserve my honor now; hear me, O thou that art mer-
 ciful to thy servants!
 O merciful to thy servant, favor me!
 480 Make no delay; my honour is with thee, Bholâ!
 Thou hast given me all my kingdom and power and
 wealth,
 Have a care of me (now): I am come to thee!”

Hearing his words Shankar* was merciful.
 He mounted his bull Nadiyâ and got up at once.

* For all these names of Śiva see early part of this legend.

485 Nadiyâ sawâr kile andar âyâ;
Jab to kuchh pûr dîe apnî mâyâ :

Mahâdeo.

“Arjun ke sât jang kal ko kîjo.
Darjeñ ko mâr, nahîn jâne dijo.”

Parât kâl Râjâ uṭhe, baje mârû tûr
490 Sawâ lâkh sanîyân sabhî chaṛh gac sadr-sadûr.
Sane sane fauj chaṛhî, ran pe âî.
Garjeñ sab sûr bîr tan ke bhâî.
Ran se jo pîṭh dîe phânsî pâve :
Aise koî aur same nahîn âve.

495 Bânâsur bân dîa dâran ran meñ.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Kar lenâ fikar, râkh mat man meñ :
Âge, Mahârâj, rahî terî râjî.

485 Riding on Nadiyâ he entered the fort,
And then he worked some wondrous things (and said):

Mahâdeo.

“Have a fight with Arjun to-morrow.
Slay thine enemy and let him not escape.”

In the early morning the Râjâ was up and the war
drums were beaten.

490 A *lâkh* and a quarter of warriors all advanced with the
monarch.

Bit by bit the army advanced into the field.

The full-grown warriors and heroes roared.

Let him that turneth his back in the field be hanged,

For such a time was not to come again.

495 Bânâsur shot a terrible arrow in the field.

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“Be kind and keep faith in thy heart :

For the rest, my Lord, is thy pleasure.*

* Prayer to Śiva.

- Jis ko de Râm, soî jîti bâje.
 Sanmukh se choṭ karo, bâudho bânâ.
 500 Rahnâ hoshiyâr, nahîn haṭke jânâ !”
- Rath aswâr Arjun hûâ, lâ hâth sandânî bân.
 Rukat baran sab ho gîâ, gher lâ maidân.
 Mârî ik bân ; dekh Râjâ larjâ :
 Ran ke bîch jaisâ bâdal garjâ.
 505 Kaṭe das bîs bhujân faujân mârî :
 Lâkhoñ ke prân gae iko bârî !
 Kaṭ-kaṭkar muṇḍ bhujâ niche âven.
 Bhûle sab kâm, nahîn jâne pâven.
 Dûje ik bân diâ mâyâdhârî.
 510 Lâkhoñ balwân tiriyâ ûpâr jârî.

He will obtain victory to whom Râm (God) granteth it.
 Give your wounds in front, and fasten on the habiliments
 (of war).

- 500 Be careful and go not back !”*

Arjun was riding his chariot and had a mighty arrow
 in his hand.

He became (athirst for) blood and went round the
 field.

He shot an arrow and seeing it Râjâ (Bânâsur) trembled ;
 It was as if a cloud had thundered in the field.

- 505 Some ten or twenty arms were cut off and the army
 beaten.

Lâkhs of lives were lost at once !

Heads and arms cut off fell down.

They forgot everything and were not allowed to escape.
 The wonder-worker shot a second arrow,

- 510 And women appeared over the heads of *lâkhs* of
 warriors.†

* These three lines are addressed to the army.

† See above line 314.

- Nâcheñ, gal bîch parî, mukh se boleñ.
 Nainan kî choṭ karen, bal ko toleñ.
 Agin bân Râjâ diâ, hil hil charh gîâ tâp.
 Sab loṭeñ haiñ dharan pe, kyâ beṭâ, kyâ bâp.
- 515 Beṭâ aur bâp gireñ ran meñ sâre.
 Arjun kî mân mare nîchhe mâre.
 Bhûl gae dhâm, gaî akal mârî :
 Aisâ sangrâm hûâ iko bârî !
 Sît bân Arjun dî, hil hil kâmphe gât.
- 520 Bhân chhipâ yûñ gird meñ, dîn ho gaî rât.
 Jâdâ aur sît lare agin jâgî !
 Dekhe ahwâl sakal parjâ bhâgî !
 Tîjâ ik bân diâ Arjun tan meñ :
 Bânâsur loṭ gîâ âge ran meñ.
- 525 Jab diyâl Shankar hûâ Arjun ke aio pâs.

- They danced and fell on their necks and coaxed them
 with their lips.
 They wounded them with their eyes, trying their
 strength.
 Then Râjâ (Bânâsur) fired an arrow of fire and they all
 trembled as with fever.
 They all lay on the ground, whether fathers or sons.
- 515 All the fathers and sons fell in the field.
 Arjun's pride was altogether humbled.
 He forgot his home and lost his senses :
 So heavy did the fight suddenly become !
 Then Arjun shot an arrow of cold, and all the (enemies')
 bodies trembled.
- 520 Then were the sun's rays obscured and day turned into
 night.
 Frost and cold began to fight with fire !
 Seeing the state of things all the people ran away !
 Then Arjun shot a third arrow into (Bânâsur's) body,
 And Bânâsur fell forward in the field.
- 525 Then Shankar was kind (to Bânâsur) and came up to
 Arjun.

Mahâdeo.

“ Chhamâ-chhîr dil pe karo, karo âio râs ! ”

Arjun ko sâth lâ apne Bholâ ;
Amrit ke kalas lie : mukh se bolâ :

Arjun.

“ Bânâsur bîr, uṭho, kahnî mâno.
530 Dûtiyâ ko dūr karo, nische jâno.”

Bânâsur Mahârâj kâ chhin men gîâ gharâr ;
Sum parkâr mintîn kare ;

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“ Chaliye, Sadr-sadâr ! ”

Mandir ke bîch gae, sobhâ pâî.
Chandan ke rûp bane, sahiyâ âi.

Mahâdeo.

“ Have pity now, thy desire is accomplished ! ”

Bholâ took Arjun to himself.
And gave him a cup of *amrita* ; *and (Arjun) spake with
his lips.

Arjun.

“ Up, thou warrior Bânâsur, and hear my say.
530 Put away all evil afar and know (my meaning) at once.”

In a moment Râjâ Bânâsur's pride disappeared ;
And he humbly begged him in every way (saying) :

Râjâ Bânâsur.

“ Come, my Lord ! ”

(Arjun) went into (Bânâsur's) house and was honored.
He was covered over with (powdered) sandal-wood† and
was revived.

* The drink of the gods : ambrosia.

† To cool him.

- 535 Tab to Anrudhar Kanwar Râjâ dînâ :
Karke san mân aur arpan kinâ.

Râni Râjâ Bânâsur kî.

“ Ūkhâ un ko dîjîyo, rît bhânt kar, kanth.
Dân karo hîrâ ratan aur batâo panth.”

- Ūkhâ bulwâe lîe, Râni bolî :
540 Milne kâ chhâb karen bhar bhar kolî.
Phûl mâl aur gale andar dâle :
Gâven ik bâr khari mangal-sâle.
Ratan-mai dolâ dîâ ; Ūkhâ die biyâhî.
Dâs dîe, dâsî dîe : so chhab kahe na jâe !
545 Kîni sab fauj bidâ. Betâ aisâ,
Târon ke bîch dîpe chandar jaisâ.
Bhukan aur basan swarran dînâ :

- 535 Then the Râjâ gave up Prince Anrudhar.
He showed courtesy and gave him up.

Râjâ Bânâsur's Queen.

“ Give him Ūkhâ and do what is customary, my husband.
Give alms of diamonds and jewels and show them the
way (to Anrudhar's home).”

- Calling Ūkhâ the Queen spake (to her),
540 Delighted to see her she embraced her eagerly.
She put the flower garland (of marriage) round (Anru-
dhar's) neck,
And (maidens) standing at once sang in the hall of joy.
A jewelled litter was given her and Ūkhâ was married.
Slaves they gave and maids they gave: their delight
cannot be told !
545 All the army was dismissed. (Anrudhar, as) a son,
Was like the moon shining amid the stars.
(Bânâsur) gave him jewels and clothes and gold,

- Charnoñ ke bích paṛâ, âdar kinâ.
 Jab Anrudhar bidâ kare, anand ho apâr.
 550 Chhappan kaṛoṛ Jâdûn sage ubhî ik sî bâr.
 Gaṛuṛ pe sawâr hûe jitne sâre.
 Uṛe sab akâs bích sâwant piyâre.
 Dharam ko bichâr liâ, pun ke pûre :
 Dwârkâ ke bích ân utare sûre.
- 555 Kishn Lâl, Shib Kañwar ne bâni kahî apâr :
 Ghar ghar paṛe badhâîyân, gâveñ mangalchâr !

- And (Anrudhar) fell at his feet and paid him respect.
 Then (Anrudhar) took leave and (all) were very pleased.
 550 The 56 *karors* of Jâdû relatives went off at once,
 All riding up *garurs*.*
 All the splendid warriors flew through the sky,
 Thinking on their duty and filled with virtue,
 The heroes alighted at Dwârkâ.
- 555 Kishn Lâl and Shib Kañwar† made this long lay.
 Let congratulations be in every house, and may (the
 people) sing songs of joy !

* See above line 435.

† See *ante*, p. 363.

No. LIX.

THE BEGINNINGS OF MULTÂN,

AS EXTRACTED FROM A PERSIAN MS. BY
LONGWORTH DAMES, Esq.

[This discursive and characteristically fragmentary account of the early history of Multân and the creation, etc., is from the *Kitâb-i-Bayâz*, or Common-place Book, kept by the family of Qânûngos, or local revenue officers, of Shorkoṭ in the Jhang District. They still hold the office of *Qânûngo*, and though originally Hindûs became Musalwâns during the reign of the Emperor Aurangzeb (1658—1702 A.D.) The MS. from which this story is taken dates from the last century.]

[The account is of course quite valueless as history, but it so well illustrates the manner in which the "educated" among the people approach the subjects treated of, and is so characteristic of the confusion of Hindû and Musalmân traditions among them, that it is well worthy of a place here.]

[It is to be observed that the writer seems to have some idea of the traditional ancient names of Multân preserved so long ago by Al Bîrûnî.]

TEXT.

Khâbar-i-Âfrînîsh-i-Zamîn wa Âsmân.

Awwal Khudâi-Ta'âlâ Mârij Dev az âtîsh paidâ kard chunânchi dar Qur'ân-i-majîd wa Furqân-i-hamid khaba, midihad: "Wa khalqa'ljânn min mâriji'mmin an-nâr." Khudâi-Ta'âlâ az pahlû-i-Mârij Mârija biyâfrîd. Har do darmiyân juftî kardand; az îshân do pîsar paidâ shud. Yaki nâm-i-wai Jinn nihâdand, wa az pahlû-i-Jinn zan Jinnî paidâ shud. Har do darmiyân-i-khud juftî kardand: az îshân do pîsar paidâ shud; yakî nâm 'Izrâîl nihâdand; pîsar-i-dûwam râ nâm Mahândev nihâdand. Wa az pahlû-i-Mahândev Korhabarî paidâ shud.

Wa muddat-i-Zamîn wa Âsmân shast do lak wa hashtâd wa panj hazâr sâl shuda. Wa azân bâr Multân âbâdânî shuda, wa ân chihâr qirân bûda: dar qirân-i-awwal Râhanspur miguftaud, wa dar ân âbâdânî bûdan nawad (nausad?) bîst chihâr lak wa hazhda hazâr sâl bûda.

Wa Îsar Mahândev râ dwâzda pisar bûdand. Awwal râ nâm Koîn bûd; dûwam râ nâm Nârâyan bûd; sîum râ nâm Vishan; chihârum râ nâm Kishan; panjum râ nâm Birâhman; shashum râ nâm Parmesar, haftum nadârad, hashtum râ nâm Nârsang; nuhum râ nâm Bhagwân; dahum râ nâm Lât; yâzdahum râ nâm 'Uzzâ; dwâzdahum râ nâm Îsar Jagannâth. Dwazda dukhtarân Îsar Mahândev râ, nâm-i-în bûd; awwal dukhtar râ nâm Mahmâi; dûwam râ nâm Devî; sîum râ nâm Misrî, chuhârum râ nâm Parmisrî; panjum râ nâm Dîvânî, shashum râ nâm Bhagwânî; haftum râ nâm Lankâ; hashtum râ nâm Mathrâ; nuhum râ nâm Jamnâ; dahum râ nâm Totlâ; yâzdahum râ nâm Gharz; dwâzdahum râ nâm Lankâ.

Chûn chandîn guzasht, ba'dahû dar qirân-i-dûwam Multân râ nâm Makpur mîguftand; wa darân âbâdânî farishtagân bûd; hazhda lak wa bîst hazâr panj sâl bûdand. Dar qiran-i-sîum Multân râ nâm Shâmpur mîguftand. Wa dar qiran-i-Bakpur âbâdânî chihl âdam bûd. Wa ba'âze gûyand ki hashtâd âdam bûdand, fa-ammâ az îshân tawâlud wa tanâsul na bûd. Wa dar qarn-i-chuhârum Multân râ nâm Multân shud, wa dar ân âbâdânî aspân bûd; hasht lak wa haft hazâr îshân dar Multân bûd. Ba'd az hasht lak wa hafda hazâr (sâl?) Mihtar Âdam Paighambar (salatu'llâh'alaihi) âfrîda shud. Az gâh-i-Âdam tâ în dam shast hazâr wa nuhsad chihl wa panj sâl ast ki guzasht. (Naql manqûl ast.)

Az Khwâja Hamîdu'ddîn Nâgorî (qaddasa' llâhu sirrahu'l'azîz) mazkûr ast ki Haqq Subhânuhu Ta'âlâ chûn Âdam râ ('alaihi's-salâm) biyâfrîd, wa bâqî gil ki az qâlib-i-Âdam ('ahaihi's-salâm) mând, chihâr chîz âfrîd; awwal, khurmâ; dûwam, angûr; sîum anâr; chihârum rû-i-aspân wa chashm ast. Az lu'âb-i-Hûrân Bihisht biyâfrîd; wa tan-i-asp az Bihisht âfrîd, wa pusht-i-asp az kursî wa 'arsh-i-majîd âfrîd, wa mû-i-asp az tâbâ âfrîd-wa jân-i-asp az 'azmat-i-khud âfrîd. Wa fazîlat în ast ki asp râ pesh-i-khud bidârad, wa hawâla-i-dîgarân na kunad; zîrânk barâ-i-ân Paighambar (Salla'llâhu 'alaihi wa sallama) madâm pesh-i-khud mîdâsht, wa ba jâma wa ridâd-(? ridâ)-i-mubârak-i-khud sar wa rû-i-û pâk karde, ham dar ân jâma jau charânîd. Wa ba miqdâr-i-mû-i-asp gunâhân.

TRANSLATION.

Account of the Creation of the Earth and the Heavens.

First God Almighty produced the Dev Mârij from fire, as it is written in the *Holy Qurân* and in the Glorious Scriptures, "And the Jânn were created from smokeless flame from the fire."* God Almighty created Mârija from the rib of Mârij. They mated together, and two sons were born to them. One they called Jinn, and from Jinn's rib the female Jinnî was produced. They mated together, and two sons were born. One they called 'Izrâil and the second son they called Mahândeṽ, and from the rib of Mahândeṽ Korchabarî was brought forth.†

(Till then) the duration of the Earth and the Heavens was 6,285,000 years. And from that time Multân became an inhabited place, and it went through four ages. In the first age they called it Râhanspur,‡ and in this it continued inhabited for 92,418,000 years.

* There is a muddle here. In the passage quoted, which is not from the *Qurân* but from the *Hadîs* (see Lane's *Thousand and One Nights*: Introduction, Vol. I., p. 27, note 21), the meaning is that "Jânn were created from *mârij* (smokeless flame)." Now there are five distinct kinds of *jinn*s according to Muhammadan tradition—(1) Jânn, (2) Jinn, (3) Shaitân, (4) 'Ifrît, (5) Mârid (see *ante* Vol. I., p. 544), and the writer seems to have confused the whole subject and to have thought the passage to mean "the Jinn Mârij (should be Mârid) was created from fire." The *Qurân* itself does, however, several times say that these supernatural beings were created from fire, notably in the *Surat'ul-Baqr* and *Surat'us-Swâd*, and by implication in the *Surat'ul-Jinn*. The feminines Mârija and Jinnî formed by the writer out of his "inner consciousness" from the words Mârij and Jinn are as curious as they are wrong.

† 'Izrâil or 'Azrâil *alias* Maliku'l-Maut, the Lord of Death, is the fourth of the Musalmân archangels. Maliku'l-Maut, much distorted, is now adopted into general Indian belief (see *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. X., p. 289), and he also appears in the *Surat'us-Sijda* of the *Qurân*. Mahândeṽ is evidently Mahâdeo or Mahâdeva, *i.e.* Siva. The only explanation I can offer of Korchabarî is that the name stands for the two Persian words Gaur Gabr or Gaur Jabr, meaning the old Persian fire-worshippers and thence infidels generally, and should be read Kor Chabarî.

‡ Râhanspur as a name for Multân is, no doubt, meant for Hansapura, which Cunningham (*Ancient Geography of India*, p. 232,) says Abû Rihân Al Birûnî gives as one of its ancient names. The passage may have been originally read "Multân-râ Hanspur Miguftand."

And Îsar Mahândev* had twelve sons, named :—First Kofn ; second Nârâyan ; third Vishan ; fourth Kishan ; fifth Birâhman ; sixth Parmesar ; seventh wanting ; eighth Nârsang ; ninth Bhagwân ; tenth Lât ; eleventh 'Uzza ; twelfth Îsar Jagannâth. Îsar Mahândev had twelve daughters, and their names were as follows :—First Mahmâi ; second Devî ; third Mîsrî ; fourth Parmîsrî ; fifth Dîvânî ; sixth Bhagwânî ; seventh Lankâ ; eighth Mathrâ ; ninth Jamnâ ; tenth Totlâ ; eleventh Gharz ; twelfth Lankâ.*

When so much (time) had passed, in the second age Multân was called Makpur, and angels dwelt in it for 1,820,005 years. In the third age Multân was called Shâmpur. And in the age of Bakpur (? Makpur)† forty men dwelt there (some say that there were eighty men) ; but there was no begetting nor generation among them. And in the fourth age Multân was called Multân, and horses dwelt in it; there were 807,000 of them in Multân. After 817,000 (years) Mihtar Âdam‡ the Prophet (God's mercy upon him) was created. From Âdam's time till now 60,945 years have passed. (The copy has been transcribed.)

* Îsar Mahândev is beyond doubt for Îsvara Mahâdeva, and nearly all his sons and daughters are readily recognizable. Thus of the sons (2) is Nârâyana, (3) Vishnû, (4) Krishna, (5) Brahmâ, (6) Parameśvara, (8) Nrisinha, (9) Bhagavân, and (12) Îsvara Jagannâtha. (10) Lât and (11) 'Uzza are the well known pre-Islamite idols of the Arabs, and are, I may remark, both *female*. As to (1) Kofn, I suggest Kavi, a sage or patriarch in Hindû mythology, a name or title applied to several of the gods themselves. Of the daughters, (1) is Mahâmâi, *i.e.* Durgâ, and (2) Devî, (8) Mathurâ and (7 and 12) Lankâ are female personifications of the places bearing these names, and so is (9) of the river known in Sanskrit as Yamunâ. (4) is a feminine form of Parameśvara and (3) I take to be a mistaken analogy made to rhyme with Parmîsrî in a way well known in Asiatic nomenclature ; but the components of Parameśvara are *parama* and *îsvara*, not *para* and *mîsvara*. (5) Dîvânî I take to be a mere rhymed form of Devî to rhyme with (6) Bhagavânî, a female form of Bhagavan. (10) Totalâ is one of the Mâtas or minor goddesses of the classics, but (11) Gharz is a puzzle (the word means "ardent desire" or "longing"), unless it be "Persian" for Gaurjâ, *i.e.* Durgâ.

† Bakpur and Makpur we may fairly take to be the same word, and it seems to stand for Bhâgapura, which according to Cunningham is another name given by Al Birûnî for Multân. Shâmpur would correspond to Śyâmapura, a new name for Multân apparently.

‡ Mihtar Âdam stands for the Adam of the Jews and Christians.

It* has been stated by Khwâja Hamidu'ddîn Mâgorî† (God sanctify his glorious tomb) that when God the Holy and Omnipotent created Âdam (with whom be peace) out of the earth that remained over from the mould of Âdam (on whom be peace) he created four things: firstly, dates; secondly, grapes; thirdly, pomegranates; and fourthly the face and eyes of horses. And from the spittle of the Hûrîs he created Heaven; and from Heaven he created the horse's body, and from the exalted throne and firmament he created the horse's back, from the *tûbbâ* tree‡ he created the horse's hair, and by his own decree he gave life to the horse. And its perfection is such that he keeps the horse in his own presence and does not make it over to the charge of others; wherefore the Prophet (God have mercy upon him and preserve him) always kept it with him, and used to clean its head and face with his own honoured cloak and mantle, and would give it barley to eat in his cloak. Sins are equal in number to the hairs of the horse.

* What follows is apparently a distinct entry.

† The book referred to must be the *Tawâlatu'sh-Shams* by Qâzi Hamidu'ddin Nâgorî, buried at Dehlî, near the great saint Qutbu'ddin Bakhtiâr in 1296 A.D. It is an essay on the essence and nature of the Deity.

‡ A tree in the Muhammadan paradise.

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