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Memoirs of the Emperor Jahangueir

The manuscript source for this translation of the memoirs of the Mughal emperor Jahangir (1569–1627) is the spurious *Tarikh-i-Salim Shahi*, produced around three years after its subject's death. Serving the East India Company from 1781 as a soldier and, following injury, as a translator, agent and judge-advocate-general, David Price (1762–1835) studied Persian and collected many manuscripts. After leaving India in 1805, he devoted his time to scholarship as a member of the Royal Asiatic Society and the Oriental Translation Fund, which awarded him its gold medal in 1830. In this work, first published in 1829, Price notes throughout where the source is illegible, problematic or incongruous. The translation is carefully made and provides an account of the reign and character of Jahangir which corresponds in places to the authentic memoirs, although containing several factual inaccuracies. Despite this, it remains a colourful reflection of Mughal historiography.



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Memoirs of the Emperor Jahangueir

TRANSLATED BY DAVID PRICE





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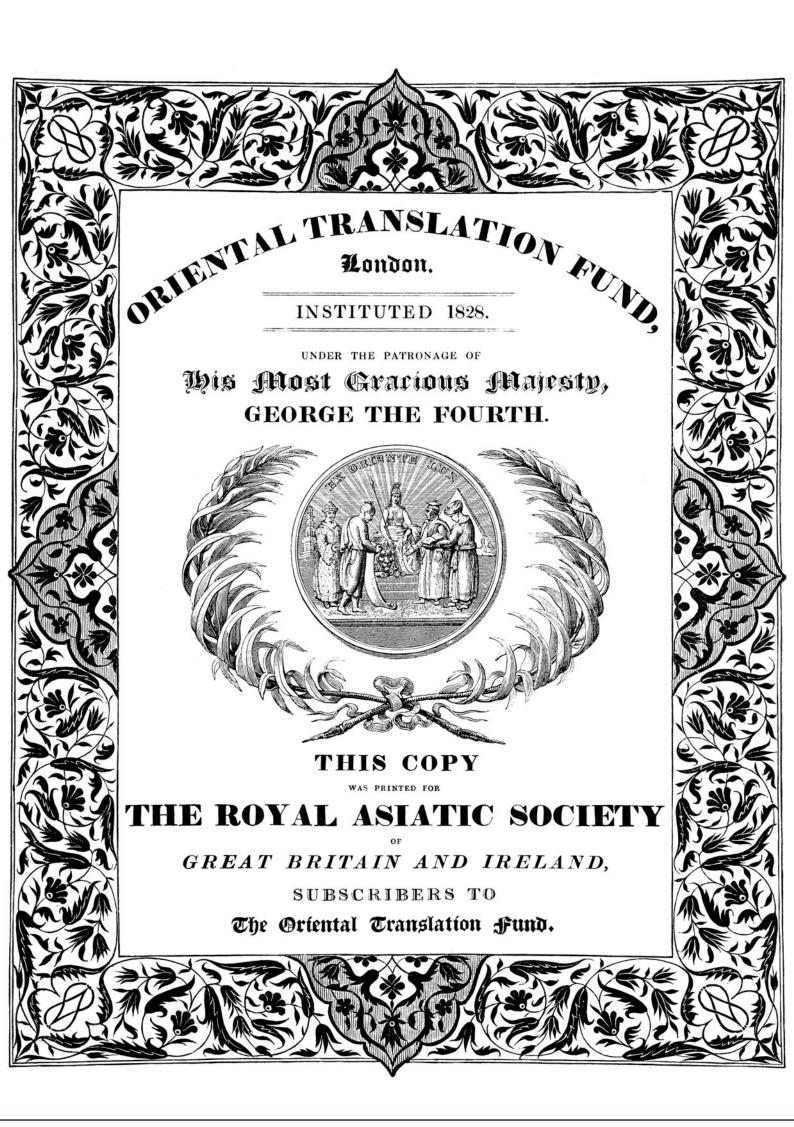
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MEMOIRS

OF

THE EMPEROR JAHANGUEIR,

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF;

AND

TRANSLATED FROM A PERSIAN MANUSCRIPT,

вч

MAJOR DAVID PRICE,

Of the Bombay Army; Member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland; of the Oriental Translation Committee; and of the Royal Society of Literature.

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The Persian Manuscript which has furnished materials for this Work not being distinguished by any particular title, the Translator would have ventured to style it the "Wakiaati Jahanguiri," Wakiaati Jahanguiri, or to bestow on it some other name equally signifying "Incidents in "the Reign of the Emperor Jahangueir." But to supply an Oriental name from mere conjecture seemed unnecessary, as the contents could be indicated with sufficient accuracy in an English title-page.

Besides, from some extracts, occupying about seventeen pages in the "Asiatick Miscellany" (printed at Calcutta 1785-1786, vol. ii., pp. 71-173) it would appear to be the same, or nearly the same, with that work which was described by an accomplished Orientalist, who translated those passages (James Anderson, Esq.) as the "Toozuk e" Јенандеен (ترکث جهانگیری), or Memoirs of Jehangeer written by "himself, and containing a History of the Transactions of the First "thirteen years of his Reign." But Mr. Anderson did not profess to give more than a few extracts from the Toozuk; and a comparison of these with the present work, will show that he must have occasionally omitted whole pages between certain facts recorded in both.



N.B. In this work the Arabic or Persian letter $\dot{\tau}$ is expressed by kh , as in Khaun , Sheikh , &c. The letter τ in the beginning of a word is generally expressed by J , as in $\mathit{Jummaudy}$, Jaguir ; in other parts of a word by dj , as $\mathit{Hidjerah}$, $\mathit{Adjmeir}$, or by the simple j , as in $\mathit{Punjaub}$, $\mathit{Khanjar}$, &c. The letter $\dot{\tau}$ is represented by gh , as $\mathit{Chiragh}$, Afghan : the Arabic $\dot{\tau}$ by th , as in Thauni : the long generally by au , as in Khaun , Zauhed , Bauz , &c. The $\dot{\iota}$ at the beginning of a word by Y , as in Yaheya ; in other parts generally by ei , as $\mathit{Peishkesh}$, Seleim , $\mathit{Parveiz}$, &c. At the beginning of a word $\dot{\iota}$ is expressed by V , as in $\mathit{Vezzeir}$; in other places by w , as Diwan ; or by ou , as in Roum , Nour , &c. To express the Persian letter $\dot{\iota}$ before $\dot{\iota}$ guei or gui are used, as in $\mathit{Jahangueir}$, Jaguir , &c.