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-Sharḳī Sultānīqī

1954; R. Blachère, *HLA*, i, Paris 1952; Ursula Sezgin, *Abū-Mihnaf*, Leiden 1971, 221; F. Sezgin, *GAS*, viii, 115, cf. also ii, 26. (W.P. HEINRICHS)

SHARḲĪS, an Indian dynasty established in the closing years of the 8th/14th century with *Djawnpur*, [*q.v.*] as its capital. It had a life span of about one hundred years (796-901/1394-1495) during which six rulers—Malik Sarwar *Kh*’ādja *Djahān* (796-802/1394-99), Malik Mubārak *Shāh* *Ḳaranfal* (802-4/1399-1401), *Shams al-Dīn* *Ibrāhīm Shāh* (804-44/1401-40), *Maḥmūd Shāh* (844-62/1440-67), *Muḥammad Shāh* (862-3/1457-8) and *Ḥusayn Shāh* (863-901/1458-95)—exercised authority.

The founder of the *Sharḳī* kingdom, Malik Sarwar [*q.v.*], was a eunuch in the service of *Firūz Shāh Tughluḳ* [*q.v.*]. He was custodian of the royal jewellery and *shahna-yi shahr* (City Superintendent). Sultan *Muḥammad Shāh* entrusted the eastern districts to him and conferred the title of *Malik al-Sharḳ* (Lord of the East) on him. Disturbed conditions helped him in extending his territory. He brought all the rich districts of *Uttar Pradesh* under his control, and his authority stretched to *Tirhut* in north *Bihār* and touched the boundary of *Nepal*. In the west, *Kannawdj*, *Bhodjpur* and *Udjajayn* were under him. Rulers of *Djadjnagar* and *Bengal* were his feudatories. Malik Sarwar died suddenly in *Rabī’ I* 801/November 1399 after a brief reign of five years and six months, but he had firmly planted his dynasty. His administrative talent and political realism were extraordinary. His patronage of scholars made *Djawnpur* a veritable centre of culture and learning.

Malik Mubārak *Shāh Ḳaranfal*, who succeeded Malik Sarwar, was his adopted son. According to *Yaḥyā Sirhindī*, he was a nephew of *Kh*idr *Khān*, the founder of the *Sayyid* dynasty [*q.v.*], but some scholars have attributed negroid origin to him. Soon after his accession, he had to face an invasion of *Mallū Iḳbāl* [*q.v.*], but he successfully pushed him back. Sometime later both Sultān *Maḥmūd Shāh Tughluḳ* and *Mallū Iḳbāl* marched against *Djawnpur*. Mubārak set out to face the invaders but died suddenly on the way.

Mubārak’s younger brother, *Ibrāhīm*, who succeeded him, had also to face a joint attack of *Mallū Iḳbāl* and Sultan *Maḥmūd Shāh*. *Maḥmūd* occupied the city of *Kannawdj* [*q.v.*]. *Ibrāhīm*’s efforts to retrieve the fort having failed, he made peace with *Maḥmūd*. The Hindu ruler of *Tirhut* was a tributary of the *Sharḳīs*. In 1402 Malik *Arslan* attacked and killed its *Rādjā*, *Ganeśvara*. *Ibrāhīm* installed his son *Kirtī Singh* on the throne. Later, when *Kirtī*’s son *Shiv Singh* turned hostile, *Ibrāhīm* annexed *Tirhut*. In *Djumādā I* 809/October 1406, *Ibrāhīm* marched against *Kannawdj* and conquered it, which immensely enhanced his prestige. Next year, in *Djumādā I* 810/October 1407, *Ibrāhīm* marched against *Dihlī*, but when he reached the banks of the *Djumnā* he heard that Sultan *Muzaffar* of *Gudjarāt* was moving towards *Djawnpur*. He hastily turned back. In *Muḥarram* 817/April 1414, he attacked *Kalpī* [*q.v.*]. After a feigned retreat he reappeared and captured *Mahoba* and *Ruth*. *Irādj* was then conquered. *Ibrāhīm* next attacked the fort of *Shayḳhpur* with naphtha-hurling engines and catapults. The garrison became nervous and appealed for mercy. *Ḳādir Khān* was allowed to rule over *Kalpī* on accepting the suzerainty of *Djawnpur*, but he later gave up this allegiance and conquered *Irādj*.

In 817/1414 *Ibrāhīm* was invited by *Shayḳh Nūr Ḳuṭb-i ‘Ālam*, a distinguished *Čishtī* saint of *Bengal*

[see *ČISHTIYYA*] to march against *Rādja Ganesh* [*q.v.*] of *Dinādjpur*, who had established himself in *Bengal* and was oppressing the Muslims (*Maktūbāt-i Nūr Ḳuṭb-i ‘Ālam*, ms. author’s personal collection). *Ibrāhīm* set out with a strong army. *Ganesh* approached *Shayḳh Nūr Ḳuṭb-i ‘Ālam* with the request to intercede. The saint agreed to his request, provided that his younger son accepted Islam and that *Ganesh* promised not to harass the Muslims. *Ganesh*’s son *Djuda* later ascended the throne as *Djalāl al-Dīn*.

In 840/1437 *Ibrāhīm* marched against the *Sayyid* *Muḥammad Shāh* of *Dihlī*. The latter sued for peace and arranged a matrimonial alliance, giving his daughter, *Bībī Rādjī*, in marriage to *Ibrāhīm*’s son *Maḥmūd*. *Ibrāhīm* *Sharḳī* ruled for forty years until his son ascended the throne in 844/1440, with the title of *Maḥmūd Shāh*. He organised an attack on *Bengal* (*‘Abd al-Razzāk, Maṭla’ al-sa’dayn*, ii, 782-3), but when the *Timūrid Shāh Rukh* [*q.v.*] of *Harāt* sent a message urging him to refrain from this attack, he gave up the idea.

In 847/1443 *Maḥmūd Sharḳī* marched against *Naṣīr Khān* of *Kalpī*. The latter abandoned *Maḥmūdābād* and fled to *Candērī* and sought the help of the *Khaldjī* ruler of *Mālwa*, who marched (3 *Sha’bān* 848/8 January 1444) towards *Maḥmūdābād* at the head of a huge army. Several indecisive encounters took place between the two armies, but eventually peace was concluded and the *Khaldjī* ruler returned to *Mālwa*.

Maḥmūd Shāh was deeply interested in the political affairs of *Dihlī*, as the *Sayyid* sultan *‘Alā’ al-Dīn ‘Ālam Shāh* of *Dihlī* was his wife’s brother. Harassed by his nobles, *‘Alā’ al-Dīn* invited *Bahlūl Lōdī* [see *LŌDĪS*] from *Sirhind*. But when *Bahlūl* himself assumed royal authority, *Maḥmūd Sharḳī*’s wife prevailed upon her husband to attack *Dihlī* and dislodge *Bahlūl*. In 856/1452 he accordingly marched against *Dihlī*. But after a fierce battle at *Narela*, some 17 miles from *Dihlī*, *Maḥmūd* had to retreat. In 858/1454, however, he did capture *Dawa*, the capital of *Udjajayn*.

In 859/1455 a non-intervention treaty was reached between the *Lōdī* and the *Sharḳī* sultans, but hardly a year had passed before hostilities started again. *Maḥmūd*’s sudden death in 862/1458 was a serious setback to *Sharḳī* power. *Bībī Rādjī* raised his eldest son to the throne under the title of Sultan *Muḥammad*. *Muḥammad* endeavoured to patch up differences with *Dihlī*, but without any lasting effect, and he fell fighting at *Dalmaw*. His successor Sultan *Ḥusayn* entered into a four-year truce with *Bahlūl*. He strengthened his hold over *Tirhut*, *Orissa* and *Gwāliyār*, and in 872/1468 planned an attack on *Dihlī*. The battle fought at *Candwar* being indecisive, *Ḥusayn Shāh* sought the support of *Bayna* and *Mewāt*. In 873/1469 he again marched against *Dihlī*, but was forced to take to flight, leaving behind even his *harem*. In 875/1471 for the third time he led an army against *Dihlī* consisting of one lakh of horsemen and a thousand elephants. Through the mediation of *Khān-i Djahān Lōdī* [*q.v.*], peace was arranged and *Ḥusayn* returned to *Ētāwa*. Ignoring his pledged word, he led his armies against *Dihlī* several more times. In the fifth campaign he was initially successful, but *Bahlūl*’s army made a surprise attack which turned his victory into complete rout. Driven to extremes, *Ḥusayn* turned round and gave battle to *Bahlūl* at *Rādjbohār*, sixteen miles from *Farrukhābād*. Ultimately, peace was concluded and both sides agreed to keep to their old boundaries. But in 885/1480 he marched against *Dihlī*

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History of the Rise of the
Mahomedan Power
in
India

Till the Year A.D. 1612.

Translated from the
Original Persian of
Mahomed Kasim Ferishta,

by
John Briggs, M. R. A. S.
Lieutenant-Colonel in the Madras Army.

To which is added
An Account of the Conquest,

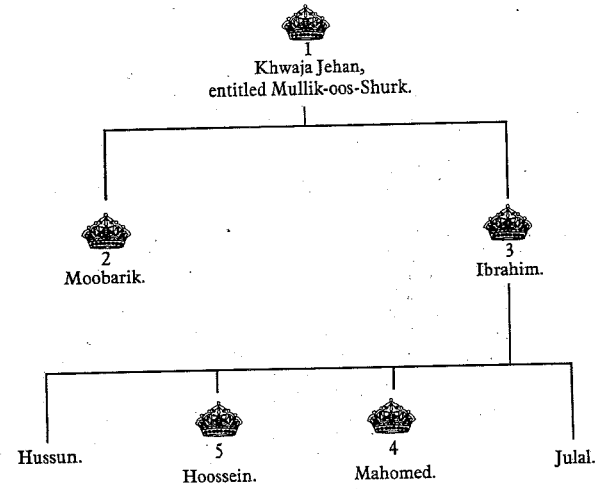
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Türkiye Diyanet Vakfı
İslâm Araştırmaları Merkezi
Kütüphanesi

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-Sarki Sultanlığı

*Genealogy of the
Kings of Joonpoor,
entitled **Shurky.***



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192 OCAK 2005