

الملک الله تعالی

حکم مطاع شد

Invocation

Tughrā

Text

L1

آنکه بنا بر وفور اشفاق بیپلیان عالی و اظهار الطاف بیکران متعالی در باره عالی جاه

اخلاص و عقیدت آنگاه

صداعت و ارادت دستگاه نتیجه الخوانین ابدال سخنان بختیارس از ابتداء

L2

نه ماهه هذالسنه میمونه ایت نیل عالی جاه مشارالیه را بامر حکومت محال پشت کوه باحوسی که

سابق بر این

بامر محبت پناه والد عالی جاه مشارالیه بوده سرافراز و بین الاماتل ممتاز فرموده

L3

مواجبی که در ایام خاقان رضوان مکان در وجه حاکم محال مزبوره مقرر بوده در وجه

عالی جاه مشارالیه را برقرار نمودیم که هر ساله از بابت مالیات محال مزبوره باز یافت

L4

و صرف معیشت خود ساخته از روس نهایت دقت و کاردانی متوجه خدمت مذکوره

گردیده در آبادی محال مزبوره

و در رزق و فتق مهات و داد و ستد مالیات و وصول و ایصال متوجهات و

L5

توفیر و تکثیر زراعات و تقدیم و تشییت خدمات و تنبیه و تادیب اجامه و او باش و قطاع

الطریق و غیره

مساعی جمیلہ بظہور رسانیدہ نحوس نماید کہ محال مزبورہ حسب الواقع محیطہ L6

آبادی درآمدہ رعایا و بریایہ کی درمہداض و امان آسودہ و مرتبہ خاطر بسغل و عمل خود

قیام نمایند مقرر آنکہ محال و کلا تکرر کد خدا پان و اعزہ و اہالی معاجیان و عموم L7

سکان محال پشت کوه عالی جہہ مشارالیم را حاکم بالاستقلال و الا افراد خود دانستہ

و امور خود را محول بعالی جہہ مشارالیم دانستہ از سخن و صلاح عالی جہہ L8

مشارالیم تجاوز ننمایند و از مواخذہ اندیشہ نمایند تحریراً فی شہر رمضان المبارک سنہ ۱۱۶۷

بخطم حضرت و میروزیم خدا داد است  
کمر بہ بندگی شش بست هر کہ آزاد است ۱۱۶۵

Seal

Hukm,<sup>1</sup> Ramāzān 1167/June 1754

Invocation: Dominion is God's; May He be exalted.

Tughra: The universally obeyed order has been issued.

Text: That on the basis of the abundance of endless and exalted compassion and the demonstration of boundless and elevated kindness with regard to him, possessing high status, sincerity and loyalty, truthfulness, and devotion, the issue of the khans, Abdāl Khan<sup>2</sup> Bakhtiyārī, from the beginning of the nine-month period of this auspicious Year of the Dog,<sup>3</sup> we have exalted the aforementioned of high rank and distinguished him among his peers with the governorship of the districts of Pusht Kūh<sup>4</sup>--in the way that it formerly belonged to that abode of mercy, the father<sup>5</sup> of the aforementioned of high rank, and we have established the stipend that was settled in the days of the Khaqān,<sup>6</sup> who rests in paradise, upon the governor of the said districts in favor of the aforementioned of high rank, so that drawing it each year on account of the taxes of the aforementioned districts and spending it on his livelihood, he may pay attention to his assigned duties with utmost care and efficiency.

Displaying his praiseworthy endeavor in the development of those districts, the management of affairs, the receipt and disbursement of taxes; in increasing and expanding cultivation; in performing and carrying through due service; and in punishing and chastizing troublemakers, rogues, highwayman, etc., he should so act that those districts should really enter into prosperity and that the peasants and people should be at ease in the cradle of safety and security and set about their affairs and work with minds at ease.

It is ordered that the tax officials, kalāntars, kadkhudās, grandees and ordinary people, notables, and all inhabitants of the districts of Pusht Kūh should acknowledge this aforementioned exalted person as their independent and sole governor, should refer their affairs to the aforementioned of high rank,

should not transgress against the words and judgments, opinions of the aforementioned of high stature and should bear in mind [the possibility of] punishment.

Written in the month of Ramaẓān the Blessed, 1167/June 1754.

Seal: My triumph and victory over enemies is God-given.

Whoever is free girt up his loins to serve it.

1165/1752.

#### I. NOTES

<sup>1</sup>This Hukm was issued with Document 5.

<sup>2</sup>Abdāl Khan Bakhtiyārī. Abdāl was son of ʿAlī Ṣāliḥ (see Genealogical Table).

<sup>3</sup>Year of the Dog, 1754 in the 12 year Turkic cycle.

<sup>4</sup>District of Pusht Kūh. The Chahār Mahāll side of the Bakhtiyārī, and in the late nineteenth century and the twentieth centered on Ardāl.

<sup>5</sup>Probably implies that ʿAlī Ṣāliḥ is dead.

<sup>6</sup>The days of the Khāqān. Lit. emperor, and this is a reference to Nādir Shah. During Nādir's reign Abdāl's father, ʿAlī Ṣāliḥ, evidently held the same post.

<sup>7</sup>Rabino, Album . . . , Seal no. 30.

#### II. THE DOCUMENT (Sardār Asʿad collection)

This Hukm issued by Āzād Khan Afghan measures ca. 44.5 x 21.2 cm. Its rather crabbed nastaʿlīq is centered left and extends to the page bottom. The sentences run up the left margin. The text is sealed with Āzād's oval seal. The top seal is replaced by a written invocation, and the ṭughrā is not stylized.

The Hukm is sealed with Āzād Khan's oval seal (Rabino, Album, PL 50 #30).  
The dorse bears six seals with signatures and two notations (unread).

### III. SIGNIFICANCE

1. This is the first document to link Durakī leaders specifically with Bakhtiyārī territory--the Haft Lang khans with Pusht Kūh.
2. Abdāl Khan is given his father's governorship of Pusht Kūh. This was perhaps a tuyūl for the contingent of Bakhtiyārī cavalry in Nādir Shah's service. It is most likely that Nādir had awarded this governorship originally, and it is Āzād Khan, who was supported by Afshārs in Azerbaijan, who grants this one. The question, of course remains, did he have the power to place Abdāl there? And, had Abdāl swung his support to Āzād Khan, or was Abdāl merely keeping his options open?
3. This document, like Document 2 (Appendix I) makes reference to both kalāntars and kadkhudās in the context of a political hierarchy.
4. The text emphasizes the importance of the governor's obligation within the Irano-Shi'ī tradition.