

یختل که در عرض راه احمدی بر خورد نموده در ثانی که تحقیق این غلامان شد
که عریضه بخاک پای تخت مبارک مطاع نرسیده

در ثانی جرات بعرض شد بآنچه فرمان قضا جریان صادر شود صاحب رحم و مروت
میباشند چنان [؟] شود [؟] باقی امر کم مطاع

هو

فرمان عالی شد

Farman
Invocation
Tughra

آنکه عالیجاه معلى جایگاه عقیدت دست گاه ابدال خان ریش سفید ۷ لنگ و عالی شان
شیر [؟] بیگ

بدانند که مضمون عرایض مفهوم راس درایت [؟] قضا گردید باید بعد از حصول آگاهی
بر مضمون فرمان عالی بنحوی که بعهده [؟] عالی جاه چهارنگیر خان زند و غیر محصلان امر و
مقرر فرمودیم تمامی اموال جماعت قشقائی و شاهسون

و ۶ بلوکی و غیره ایلات و رعایای ۴ محال و غیره را از قرار تقسیم به جانب
صاحبان رد و قبض باز یافت نمایند و در باب مقتول شدن جماعت بختیارس چند نفر از
طرفین را بحضور اقدس طلب خواهیم فرمود

موافق قانون عدالت صلی دعوی ایشان را خواهم فرمود مقرر آنکه عالیجاه

L4

جهان گیر خان زند و سایر محصلان درینباره بهج مقرر عمل و از فرموده تخلف نکرده

در عهده سناسند تحریراً شهر رجب سنه ۱۱۹۲

یا من هو من رجاه کریم

Seal

Petition and Farman, Rajab 1192/July 1778

The petition of the least of slaves. It is reported at the place of petition of those who stand at the foot of the Caliphal throne of your most holy, exalted Majesty, may we be its sacrifice,

Interlinear note: Abdāl and Shīr [?] of the Bakhtiyārī 7 [sic, Haft] Lang that: May we be sacrificed to the earth [at your feet] that: these slaves, together with H. E. Muḥammad 'Alī Khan, were in the pastures of Mīzdij,¹ when the tribes of Fārs² began to migrate, and on their way they plundered and looted all the belongings of the Bakhtiyārī and 4 [sic, Chahār] Maḥall they came across. Several people went after them so as to regain their property, and a fight took place between them; they killed several of the Bakhtiyārī. In fear they [the tribes of Fārs] left the dead and their property and got away. On being informed, these slaves made lists of all the property and sheep they [the Bakhtiyārī] had brought with them and entrusted them [the lists] to them.

A petition concerning the matter was offered to the dust before your most blessed Majesty's exalted feet but has not been honored with a reply. It is probable that something happened [to the petition] on the way. Once again, when it became evident to these slaves that our petition had not reached the dust beneath the blessed throne, which all obey; we made bold to petition a second time. Whatever decree, as sure as fate, is issued, you are master of compassion and mercy. . . . For the rest, your command is obeyed.

Invocation: He [, Who is]

Tughra: The exalted order has been issued.

Text: That he of high rank and faith, Abdāl Khan, the Rīsh Safīd of the 7 [sic, Haft] Lang and the exalted Shīr Baig, are to know that the contents of the petition have been understood by the knowledgeable [royal] mind. They must, on becoming

aware of the contents of the Royal decree, in the way that has been ordered and laid down to the charge of H. E. Jahāngīr Khan Zand³ and the other commissioners, return to their rightful owners all the property to the Qashqā'ī and Shāhsavan and 6 [sic, Shish] Būlūkī⁴ and other tribes and peasants of 4 [sic, Chahār] Maḥall, according to their share and obtain receipts [for the property].

Regarding the deaths of the Bakhtiyārī, some from both sides will be called to our presence, and we shall settle their dispute according to the laws of justice. It is ordered that H. E. Jahāngīr Khan Zand and the other commissioners shall act as ordered and not transgress what has been commanded. Let them consider it part of their responsibility.

Written in the month of Rajab 1192/July 1778.

He, to whom we carry our supplication, is generous. 1177/175?

I. NOTES

¹Mizdij. One of the four districts of Chahār Maḥall which was the center of the Durakī Khans' land holdings.

²Tribes of Fārs. Presumably those listed lower in the document, the Qashqā'ī, Shāhsavan, and Shishbūlūkī. Had the Zand's given them permission to go into Bakhtiyārī territory?

³Jahāngīr Khan Zand. Son of Khudā Murād of the Zand Hazara, and entrusted by Karīm Khan Zand with military and administrative matters. (John Perry, Karīm Khan Zand (Chicago, 1979), pp. 108 and 296.)

⁴Shishbūlūkī. One of the main divisions of the Qashqā'ī. Inclusion of the Shāhsavan is somewhat perplexing, but Nādir Shah and Karīm Khan presumably settled small remnants of them in Fārs.

II. THE DOCUMENT (Sardār As'ad collection)

The petition is centered-left on the lower half of the page, that measures ca. 35.7 x 18.9 cm, with ca. 7 cm margin on the right. The lines, written in shikastah-nasta'liq, extend up the left margin.

The formula of both the petition and the Farman is similar to that of Documents 11 and 14.

The Farman is written--also in shikastah-nasta'liq--inversely in the top margin. It begins with a tughra and the invocation "His," or "He [, Who is]." The Farman is sealed with Karim's square seal (Rabino, Album, Pl. 50, #32). A most unusual feature in both the petition and farman is the use of a number rather than the word for the number in proper names that include a number, for example "7" Lang, rather than the usual "Haft" Lang.

III. SIGNIFICANCE

1. Karim Khan's Farman, dealing with a relatively common--at least superficially--dispute, indicates the degree of his concern for Bakhtiyari affairs. His concern sprang, of course, from the proximity of the Bakhtiyari to his capital of Shiraz and to Isfahan and to the threat that various Bakhtiyari had posed to him.