

INTRODUCTION AND EDITING OF 'FATHIYA-I-IBRATIYAH

(HISTORY OF ASSAM)

**'Maa'refi-wa-Tashi 'Fathiya-i-Ibratiyah
(Tarikh-i-Mulk-i-Assam)**

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Fathiya-i-Ibratiyah is a work, which gives a detailed historical and geographical narration of Koch-Bihar and Assam. The name of the author of historian is Shahabuddin Tallish. This work was written in the early reign of Aurangzeb. The book is very important from historical point of view, for it is the sole source to know about the social political and cultural conditions of the region during the 17th century. It is because of the authenticity of the work that Urdu; French and English historians have produced translation of some parts of the work in their respective languages. This important historical manuscript was earlier preserved at two places; the library of Asiatic Society of Bengal, Kolkata and Moulana Azad Library, AMU, Aligarh. Recently a latest copy of the manuscript has also been found preserved at the national museum New Delhi.

Summary of chapters

Chapter 1

Fathiya-i-Ibratiyah is an important work, written in the early reign of Aurangzeb, between the ninth August 1662 and thirteenth May 1663. This book is a true account of the disastrous campaign of Mir Jumlah in Koch-Bihar and Assam. The book is considered as an important document on the history of Assam. After the death of Mir Jumlah, Tallish spared no time and soon started writing the events of his stay in Koch-Bihar and Assam. It is noticed that in a very short time Tallish completed this work in one year and six months that is on 18th of May 1663. This book contains a preface, two chapters and one supplement.

Chapter 2

In the preface of the book, the author narrates about the cause of the expedition led by Mir Jumlah in the land of Koch-Bihar and Assam.

Chapter 3

This chapter narrates the biography of the author.

Chapter 4

Manuscripts: works of Shahabuddin Tallish

- A. Marching and invasion of Koch-Bihar
- B. Conquest of Assam
- C. On Assam and its inhabitants

Chapter 5

Editing of manuscripts

To compare the manuscripts studied by me, I have given the notes in the footnotes and pointed out the differences, giving the correct words and events in the manuscripts to clear the facts, dates, years, etc.

Chapter 6

Conclusion

The literary works of Shahabuddin Talish provide a brief but precise history of the then Assam. His works remain both as a genuine resource of the medieval history and as an inspiration for young scholars. Although Shahabuddin's works reflect an account of the Indo-Persian period in history, from the literary point of view there is total absence of the Indo-Persian construction in his writings. His Persian is flowing and flowing and pure. His writings also show lyrical ways of description, which unveils his poetic talents too.

Besides, the present study of the editing of manuscripts has resulted a textual edition of *Fathiya-i-Ibratiah*, which will hopefully enable the researchers, and historians to carry out further works easily.