

THE DREAMS OF TIPU SULTAN

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The dreams of Tipu Sultan by Sultan Tippu & Mahmud Husain

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SULTAN TIPPU & MAHMUD HUSAIN

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OF TIPU SULTAN**

In a few places the language is defective and ungrammatical, but what is even more astonishing is that it contains spelling mistakes. The following list which is not exhaustive will give an idea of the misspellings :—

- بزرگ for بزرگ (Dreams 1 and 30)
 مزبور for مذبور (Dreams 1,3,9,11 and 27)
 تلاوت for طلاوت (Dream 8)
 صحرا for صحرا (Dream 9)
 صحرائی for صحرائی (Dream 16)
 برخاستم for برخاستم (Dream 13)
 برخاسته for برخاسته (Dream 13)
 اطاق for اطاق (Dream 16)
 خزاب for خضاب (Dream 21)
 اصلحه for اصلحه (Dream 30)
 اصطلاح for اصطلاح (In the last note)
 مصری for مصری (In the last note)

And last but not least

- قرآن for قرآن (which occurs twice
 in Dream No. 8)

Court historians have eulogized not only Tipu Sultan's character but his scholarship and literary skill, and his mastery of the Persian language has been taken for granted. British historians have reviled his character, disregarding the views of the court historians, but they have accepted their contention with regard to his scholastic attainments. The facts are the other way round. It is not essential that a great man should also be a master of some language or other which, in any case, Tipu Sultan was not. From the age of fifteen onwards we see him accompanying his father in the various wars which he fought. It is not to be wondered at that he could not receive systematic education of the type that he might have received had he lived in more peaceful times.

Now a word about the contents of the dreams. Of the thirty-seven dreams recorded the majority are concerned with his wars against the British and their



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THE DREAMS OF TIPU SULTAN

Translated from the original Persian
with an Introduction and Notes

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