

RIV.KV: KHAÛ V: (Concerning short letters): This comprises three *×arfs*. The first *×arf* is about letters of scholars of *×adîth* (traditions of the holy Prophet ρ), of polemist, and of persons committed to their duties.

The second *×arfs* consists letters of greetings, and ceremonies from the '*Âshûrâ*'.

The third *×arfs* consists of miscellaneous letters.

RIV.KV.HI: First *×arf* of the Fifth *Khaî*: Letters related to scholars of *×adîth*, polemist, and persons committed to their duties.

Hemistich:

Letters regarding the news relating to all.

The news of the welfare of scholars of *×adîth* may be well-known like the recurrent *Alâdîth* (pl of *×adîth*) by the blessing of the traditions of the Prophet ε.

By the blessing of the sayings of the holy Prophet ε this special well-wisher, Najm *Muî addith*, sends his salutations and makes the following submission.

By the blessing of my master, who is the lamp of darkness, your servant Shahâb, the son of your servant, has gone swiftly through the book *AkhhÉr-i-Najm*, like a meteor, and has burnt down many devils of ignorance on whom he passed.¹ Now he wants to read the book *AkhhÉr-i-Nayyarain* from *Maulânâ Shams Badr*. Please signal him with a favorable look with the crescent of your brow that a ray of *Mashâriq al-Anwâr*² illuminates this particle, i.e., *Shihâb*, every day (through lessons in this book),

Hemistich:

This letter is concerned with obligatory duties and has reference to the same.

Due regards are being sent hereby to *Maulânâ* by way of our duty. It is submitted that a woman died in my neighborhood, she has left a son as her heir; but her heartless neighbors provoked her wicked aunt into claiming a share in the wealth and property of the dead woman. The aunt is coloring her imagination in her claim like a rouge on a corpse, and thinks she has made her case quite clear. I argued with her saying that the son is always dear to his mother, that he is perfectly sane, that

¹The Qur'ân, "And We have guarded them (the heavens) from evil spirits accursed: but any that gains a hearing by stealth, is pursued by a flaming fire, bright to see," the Qur'ân (15:17-18); also Qur'ân (37:10).

² The three books mentioned in this paragraph are *AkhhÉr-i-Najm*, *Akhhâr-i-Nayyârâin*, and *Mashâriq al-Anwâr*, the last being the compilation of *Maulânâ Raî î al-Dîn Øighânî* of the time of *Sullân Ilumish*.

there are many close relatives as well, and that she has no share in the inheritance as such. But she is prejudiced in her own claim and wants to acquire what does not belong to her according to the Islamic law, depriving the son and other close relatives of their due inheritance.

I have apprised you of the matter. I hope you kindly come over here one of these days to settle the inheritance case and get the property divided in your gracious presence. May your authority ever remain in establishing and promoting the rights and duties of the commoners due rights and duties.

Hemistich:

This letter is about arguments over doctrines and has references to the same.

To *Maulânâ* Malik al-Munâðirîn (king of polemics) - may God preserve him like he preserves his own controversial points.

The old servant, Burhân-i-'Ólam, ushered again into your service after a gap in service, sends his sincere regards to you and submits the following. After listening to the arguments on the apportioning of the assets it occurred to him, in terms of an analogy, that there exists the same relationship between generosity and nobility as exists between rain and clouds. Wherever there is no nobility there is no generosity either, and wherever there be no clouds it is certain that rain cannot fall there, where there is a generous person there shall also be some poor men to whom gifts may be given. The analogy of rain and clouds seems to hold in this particular case. If there is no rain at a certain place still there may be some clouds there, or there may not be any clouds. In such a case one shall look to the generosity of a drop of water and shall not withhold any benefit.

May you live so long as the heavens continue to revolve. Amen.