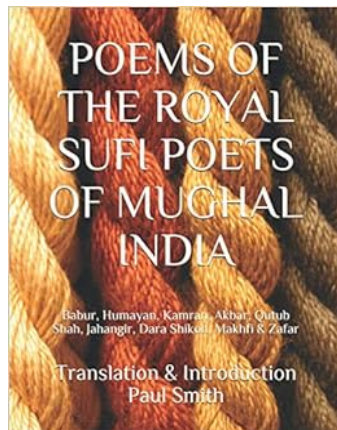


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POEMS***

THE ROYAL SUFI POETS OF MUGHAL INDIA Babur, Humayan, Kamran, Akbar, Qutub Shah, Jahangir, Dara Shikoh, Makhfi & Zafar. SELECTED POEMS Translation & Introduction Paul Smith The Mughal Empire was an imperial power in South Asia that ruled a large portion of the Indian subcontinent. It began in 1526, invaded and ruled most of India by the late 17th and early 18th centuries, and ended in the mid-19th century. Babur, the first 'Mughal' emperor (who wrote some poetry influenced by Sufism) learned about the riches of Hindustan and conquest of it by his ancestor, Timurlane, in 1503 at Dikh-Kat, a place in the Transoxiana region. Babur's son Humayun (another who composed Sufi-influenced poetry) succeeded him in 1530. The 'classic period' of the Empire started in 1556 with the accession of Jalaluddin Mohammad Akbar, better known as Akbar the Great. It ended with the death of the last emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar, both Sufis and poets. The prince and ruler of Golconda Qutub Shah (1565-1611) who built the city of Hyderabad was a great Sufi poet as were Prince Dara Shikoh who composed books on Vedanta and Sufism before his fundamentalist younger brother Aurangzeb had him killed. He was greatly loved by his niece Princess Zeb-un-Nissa, the poetess 'Makhfi', and was a profound influence

on her becoming a Sufi and a wonderful poet. She spent many years jailed by her father. Other poets include Prince Kamran and Emperor Jahangir. Introduction: The Mughal Empire, Sufis & Dervishes: Their Art and Use of Poetry, The Main Forms in Persian & Urdu Poetry of Mughal India. The correct rhyme-structure of these ghazals, ruba'is and qit'as have been kept in this translation of these many beautiful, truthful, mainly spiritual poems. COMMENTS ON PAUL SMITH'S TRANSLATION OF HAFIZ'S 'DIVAN'. "It is not a joke... the English version of ALL the ghazals of Hafiz is a great feat and of paramount importance. I am astonished."
Dr. Mir Mohammad Taghavi, Tehran.

"Superb translations. 99% Hafiz 1% Paul Smith." Ali Akbar Shapurzman, translator into Persian and knower of Hafiz's Divan off by heart. Paul Smith (b. 1945) is a poet, author and translator of many books of Sufi poets from the Persian, Arabic, Urdu, Turkish, Pashtu and other languages including Hafiz, Sadi, Nizami, Rumi, 'Attar, Sana'i, Jahan Khatun, Obeyd Zakani, Nesimi, Kabir, Anvari, Ansari, Jami, Khayyam, Rudaki, Yunus Emre, Lalla Ded, Rahman Baba, Mu'in, Iqbal, Ghalib, Makhfi, Dara Shikoh, Jigar and many others, as well as his own poetry, fiction, plays, biographies, children's books and a dozen screenplays.
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