

**TITLE. CONTENTS.** *Dīvān-i Hidāyat*, collection of poems by Hidāyat consisting of 186 ghazals, one strophic poem (ff. 62a-63b), one mukhammas (ff. 63b-64b) and two mathnavis (ff. 68a-70b).

**SIZE. FOLIOS.** 17.3 × 12.3 cm.; written surface 11 × 6.8 cm.; 2 columns of 11 lines; 73 folios.

**BINDING.** Brown leather, flapped, with deep-sunk 3-centre and corners, with flower design, cord and line borders, all blind-tooled. Inside, the centre and corners are of brown tracery over gold and blue, the borders being in gilt blind-tooled cord and lines; the flap is decorated with lattice design of tracery.

**SCRIPT. PAPER.** Nasta'liq, gold rule. Thin, cream, semi-polished paper, gold-sprinkled.

**SCRIBE. DATE.** Probably A.H. 883/A.D. 1478.

**PROVENANCE.** Inscription in rosettes on ff. 1b and 2a runs: 'For the library of the Great Sultān, the Ruler of the Nations, the Arm of the State, of the World and of the Faith, Abul-Faṭḥ Sultān Khalil Bahādur Khān, may God prolong his reign.' The title corresponds to that of the Aq-qoyunlu ruler Khalil, son of Uzun-Ḥasan. After A.D. 1470 Khalil acted as governor of Fārs. After the death of his father (on 6 January 1478) he succeeded him, but on 15 July 1478 was killed in a battle with his brother Ya'qūb. The fact that the manuscript has no colophon, and may have been left unfinished, may be connected with the sudden end of the patron's career.

F. 1a bears an official entry (no. 6975) by Muṣṭafā Ṭāhir, inspector of the Holy Places (Mekka and Medīna), testifying that the present manuscript was presented as a pious gift (*vaqf*) by the Ottoman Sultān Maḥmūd I b. Sultān Muṣṭafā II (A.H. 1143-68/A.D. 1730-54), whose seal is apposed above the entry. Underneath the latter is Muṣṭafā Ṭāhir's seal. In the top left corner, seal of some learned Qāsim b. Maqṣūd (?). An official seal on f. 1a and f. 71b.

**MINIATURES AND ILLUMINATION.** Before the text two full-page '*unwāns*' are found executed in dominant gold, blue, and light green in best Persian artistic style. F. 2b opens with a *sarlawḥ* in complete harmony with the '*unwāns*'. The end of each poem is marked by two flower sprays, or motives varying all through the manuscript. In addition to them triangular panels and other decorations mark single verses towards the end of the book (f. 62, &c.).