

Tales of the Persis
The History of Azar Shah
from the Persie

LEYDEN

There is a story which every class of authors are fond of relating, whether they be learned historians or skilful astrologers, whether they record the deeds of ancient times, or collect the grape clusters in the harvest of language, whether they adorn the wonders of reality or display the beauties of fiction.

In the time of the celebrated Shik Sumian the Emperor Azar Shah reigned in Aher, a city in the Western region of the World. Azar Shah had long been anxious for an heir, but his queen Tullubbe brought him no children. On a day he convened all the Astrologers of the City, and ordered them to examine the tablets of his destiny to see if there was any hope of having a son the astrologers ~~asked~~ asked a delay to make their observations and comply with the demand of the Emperor.

When they had finished their Observations they announced the report of the stars, that the Emperor was to have no child unless by Semen (the) Daughter of the King of the East. In elegance of form this Lady surpassed all comparison, the splendor of the full Moon grew dim before her countenance and the sun was darkened by the rays of her beauty.