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## ‘Translation of a letter from H. R. H. Abbas Meerza to H. E. the Kaim Makaum’

<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/L/PS/9/71/26
<b>Date(s)</b>	Jul 1827 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
<b>Extent and Format</b>	1 item (2 folios)
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### About this record

Translation of a letter from Abbas Meerza [Crown Prince of Persia, ‘Abbās Mīrzā Qajār] to his Vizier, the Kaim Makaum [Mīrzā Abū al-Qāsim Farāhānī, Qā’im-Maqām]. The letter concerns the ongoing war between Persia [Iran] and Russia in the Caucasus [Russo-Persian War, 1826-1828]. Abbas Meerza details an attack by himself and his forces against Russian forces, during which Persian troops from Irak [Arak] deserted and began to ‘plunder and devastate the country’. He describes their conduct and complains that their behaviour is detrimental to his ability to fight Russia.

The letter includes an extract of a letter from the commandant of the fortress of Abbas-Abad [‘Abbasabad], Mahomed Ameen Khan [Muḥammad Amīn Khān Qajār Davallū], to Ibrahim Khan [Ibrāhīm Khān], detailing the Russian siege of Abbas-Abad.

This document was originally enclosed, numbered 5, in the letter of the East India Company Envoy to Persia, Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonald Kinneir, to the Secret Committee of the East India Company of 10 July 1827 (IOR/L/PS/9/71/21).

'Translation of a letter from H. R. H. Abbas Meerza to H. E. the Kaim Makaum'  
[1r] (1/4)

Translation of a letter from H. R. H. Abbas Meerza <sup>(1)</sup>  
to H. E. the Kaim Makaum - L/PS/9/71/26

Let the Kaim Makaum know that on Tuesday  
I placed my Cavalry in ambuscade, and on  
the following day at noon with Ali Bekke Meerza  
the Asuf-ed - Boulek and Mujpar Khan, I made  
demonstrations and attacked the Russians - The  
troops under myself and the Sirdar behaved well  
and exerted themselves strenuously and the  
enemy were nearly defeated, when we heard that  
the army of Irak had deranged our movements  
and betaken themselves to flight. This cowardice  
and unsteadiness of the troops of Irak, I swear  
caused me serious distress and deprived me of  
all relish for life - But why should they not  
fly since their profit is in flight? for no  
sooner had it commenced, than they began to  
plunder and devastate the country, stripping &  
plundering all persons and baggage that came  
in their way - When they reached my camp  
they evinced a similar disposition but the  
Soldiers



soldiery were formed and prevented the  
execution of their design - I cannot conceive  
the nature of this rabble, or what steps to take  
regarding them, and what progress can my  
affairs make if such is to be their conduct -

It is now four hours after sunset, and I have  
arrived in camp drowned in thought and  
doubtful how the act - of the Sauf-ed Bowleh  
who has not yet arrived, I have no intelligence  
and know not where he is, or what has become  
of him. - I wish that these Inakies had not  
come to my aid & that I had gone with the  
Infantry and cavalry that were with me,  
and that we had all fallen together which  
would have been far better than what has now  
occurred - To day during the action I approached,  
was engaged and killed two men with my  
own gun; and was nearly involved in  
difficulty when I heard of the disgraceful  
conduct of the Inakies and that they had  
retreated.



'Translation of a letter from H. R. H. Abbas Meerza to H. E. the Kaim Makaum'  
[2r] (3/4)

from the field of battle - In every place <sup>(2)</sup>  
they hated they destroyed the harvest and  
plundered the villages, and I am not able to  
conjecture of what service they can be - So  
much for their fighting and steadiness -

Your translation  
of M. Campbell  
1877

Extract of a letter from Shahrooz Ameen Khan Commandant  
of the fortress of Abbas - Abad to Ibrahim Khan -

on Monday the Musicians discharged 120  
rounds at the fortress by which two artillerymen  
were killed, and on Tuesday night they made  
an attempt to escalade but were repulsed with  
the loss of forty men - You have of course  
heard the cannonading - all that was necessary  
I did - Many of the enemy fell and during  
the night their companions came and removed  
the bodies -

Your extract & translation  
of M. Campbell  
1877

'Translation of a letter from H. R. H. Abbas Meerza to H. E. the Kaim Makaum'  
[2v] (4/4)

