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## Letter from Jonathan Lovett to Cheragh Aly Khan

<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/L/PS/9/76/380
<b>Date(s)</b>	30 Jun 1803 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
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### About this record

A copy of a letter from Jonathan Henry Lovett, Resident in Bushire [Bushehr], to Cheragh Aly Khan [Chirāgh 'Alī Khān Navā'i, Vizier to the Prince-Governor of Fars], sent from Bushire and dated 30 June 1803.

Lovett laments the death of Hajee Khaleel Khan [Ḥājī Muḥammad Khalīl Khān Qazvīnī, Persian Ambassador to India], expresses hope for continued friendly relations between Britain and Persia [Iran], and thanks Cheragh Aly Khan for his efforts to maintain the relationship.

A postscript states that Lovett is ready to be summoned to the Court of Persia at any time but suggests transmitting the letter from the Governor-General of Bengal concerning the death of Hajee Khaleel Khan to Court without delay.

To Cheragh Aly Khan, in reply. ①

Bushire 30<sup>th</sup> June 1803.

I feel gratified by the new proofs of friendship and esteem conveyed to me in your last kind letter. I was honored at the same time by those of His Royal Highness the Prince and the Grand Vizier.

The death of Hajee Khaleel Khan is indeed an event never sufficiently to be deplored by either Nation. Far am I from censuring in the Nobles of your Court their indulgence even to excess in a sensation, of which we claim so large a share. To the latest period of time will the day on which it occurred be a day of sorrow and mourning to every friend of the British Nation.

At the moment when all our hopes were expanding, when the consummation of our common wishes, of efforts so honorably exerted towards cementing an eternal friendship between two such mighty powers appears to have the prospect clouded on sudden, to have the brilliant scene cut short by an occurrence of such peculiar and complicated calamity, exceeds indeed the ordinary measure of human affliction, as it baffles all wonted methods of relief.

The

The ways of Providence are inscrutable by  
to Man: nor, when Fate means to afflict the  
world with any peculiar disaster is she confined  
to the use of Common expedients. She is often pleased  
in the eccentricity of her deviations to leave the  
wretched no resource but despair.

This last and gloomy stage however is  
the portion of guilt. Let us console ourselves, that  
it is not reserved for those, whose efforts  
have tended to an opposite result; whose  
wishes and whose hopes lay in a far, far, dif-  
ferent direction; whose deeds have not  
called for this severe visitation; whose crime  
consists in an ignorance of futurity, in the  
indulgence of too sanguine expectations, and  
in their inability to apply modes of prevention  
beyond those which the weakness of human  
Prudence suggests.

It is for us indeed to experience an  
unheard of sorrow; to indulge for a period in  
the luxury of grief and mingle our tears with-  
out restraint over the sad source of our  
mutual affliction. No excess of lamentation  
is unbecoming; as no expression can equal  
the reality of our regret.

Time alone must put a period to the  
demonstrations of our severe affliction. Enjoy-  
ing the calm of innocence even in distress,  
it is our duty to search for the farther means  
by

by which it may be alleviated or retrieved. 2  
 Thus, after having discharged the tribute due  
 from us of Sympathy and sorrow; let us rise  
 from the endearments of Common suffering  
 to partake in the consolations of mutual  
 hope. Let us renew that interchange of  
 friendly offices, that co-operation of efforts and  
 unity of views, which, except in this one sad  
 and single instance, have had the happy  
 effect of drawing the bonds of honorable  
 alliance between two such powerful States  
 to the nearest points of intimacy and  
 affection.  
 Behold in the sincerity and good  
 faith of our proceedings; Behold in the cordia-  
 lity, with which the friendly dispositions of  
 the British Government have been cherished  
 by your Illustrious Sovereign; Behold in the  
 magnanimity of His mind, and the wisdom  
 of His Councils, a fair presage, notwithstanding  
 this disastrous interruption of the ultimate  
 realisation of all our hopes. May those whose  
 salutary advice and enlightened views  
 maintain these benign sentiments in His  
 Mind continue to be distinguished and  
 enriched with fresh and splendid marks of  
 His Royal favor. —  
 To you are these rewards eminently  
 due; your liberal conception of the true  
 interests

interests of your Country; to your generous reliance upon our good faith, to the high Station you so happily hold, to the Confidence you enjoy and the laudable use to which you have applied it, must the final and perfect Confirmation of our friendship be ever deeply indebted. Proceed in this great and honorable task: and may you live for years to witness and enjoy the manifold fruits of its auspicious Consummation.

In reply to the Communications which you have made of the gracious determination of His Majesty respecting my progress, I have only to express my deep sense of His Royal favor, and to assure you, that it is no less my duty than inclination to attend at all times with due alacrity and obedience to the intimations of His Royal Will. I shall not fail to exert my humble endeavours towards carrying into faithful execution this and every other Command with which He may please to Honor me.

In the mean time I trust to that kind and friendly Spirit which you have already evinced, for a Continuance of these favorable dispositions in the Councils of His Majesty. You will not fail I am sure to follow to its final and happy issue a Course productive of such conspicuous Advantages to both Nations, and such high and honorable Reputation to Yourself.

I enclose

I enclose an Arzee in reply to the Letter <sup>(3)</sup> which His Royal Highness has been pleased to honor me. —

Separate Postscript.

I am truly flattered by the marks of your friendship and esteem conferred on me by the Verbal Communications of Allohmed Khan.

Again do I offer my most unfeigned acknowledgement and applause to the Steady and unvarying inclinations which you have manifested in promotion of the happy work of accommodation and good understanding between the two States. To the active interest you have taken in the Cause, & to your continued perseverance in supporting it, do I again Commit the perfect attainment of this most desired end.

As to myself, I must beg you will consider me either here or elsewhere as entirely at your disposal. I am ready at all times to attend your Summons. But, considering the high importance of the Subject treated of in His Excellency the Governor General's

General's letter, and the expediency of its  
speedy transmission. They leave to  
suggest to you the propriety of forward-  
ing it alone. after which I should still  
hold myself in readiness to proceed at  
a moments warning, when and where-  
soever it might please you to require  
my attendance. —————

/Signed/ J. Lovett. —





