

INTELLECTUAL AND LITERARY CONTRIBUTATION OF DARA SHIKOH

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ABSTRACT

Dara Shikoh was an important figure in the history of the Mughal Empire. He was the eldest son of emperor Shahjahan and elder brother of Aurangzeb. He was a liberal Mughal Prince and inclined towards philosophy over military pursuits. No doubt he held two sided position in Indian history as a political figure and as an intellectual personality. However, his political career was short and shadowed with failures, but his contribution towards literary and intellectual area was profound and amazing. He was also a great patron of the Art and widely considered to represent the pinnacle of Indo-Islamic cultural assimilation. He was given a model of religions toleration, which was short, lived but still has substantial relevance.

KEYWORDS: *Sufism, Alim, Qadiri, Safinat-Ul-Awliya, Sakinat-Ul-Awliya, Sirr-E-Akbar, Hasanat-Ul-Arifini, Majma-Ul-Bahrain.*

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8. Dara Shikoh, op.cit., p. XXXIII

9. Ibid, p. XXXVI
10. Ibid, p. XXXVII
11. Ibid, p. XL, XLI
12. Ibid, P. XLiii
13. Ibid, p. XLvi
14. See for details, Dara Shikoh's, Sirr-e-Akbar, Ed and Translated by Dr. Harsh Naryan, Lucknow, 1975.
15. Wuzudi Ideology was propounded by Sufi Ibn-al-Arabi (1165-1248) He believed that all beings are basically one and love is the essence of all religions.
16. Dara Shikoh, Majma-al-Bahrian, P. Liii.