

1 Copy /  
No 21

To,  
Mr. Theophilus Metcalfe, Part.  
Agent & Consul Genl. in Charge  
Delhee.

To,  
Mr. Henry Elphinstone, Secy. to the Govt. of India  
With the Governor General  
Madras.

Dated Delhee the 7<sup>th</sup> January 1850.

To,  
In obedience to the instructions  
conveyed in your Despatch No. 2599 under  
date the 13<sup>th</sup> December last, I have the honor  
to submit for the information of the most  
honble the Governor General the following  
account relative to the Koh-i-noor, and  
though I cannot but regret that it is so very  
meagre and imperfect, I can yet assure you  
that no pains have been spared to obtain  
more satisfactory and authentic particulars.

I have divided the account  
into two heads - Traditional and  
Historical.

Yours  
T. Metcalfe

First - according to the tradition of the  
oldest Jewellers in the City of Delhce, as  
handed down from family to family -

This Diamond was extracted from  
the mine Koh-i-noor, four days journey  
from Muchlee-bunder / Masulipatan /  
to the North West, on the banks of the  
Godavari, during the lifetime of Krishna,  
who is supposed to have lived 5,000 years since.  
It was found by a Sumeendur, and became the  
property of Rajah Kinnu. Its weight being  
3/9 Puthres or 1 Ounce and 8 Pennyweight.  
Subsequently, it fell into the hands of Peer  
Bikramajee of the Panwar tribe, Rajah  
of Cojeer in the Malwa Territory, who became  
murder of the whole of Hindoostan - when the  
Mohomedans invaded Hindoostan and conquered  
Cojeer this Jewel fell into the hands of the  
Emperors of the Ghore dynasty, and from  
them successively of the Toghluq - the Syud.  
and the Lodi Dynasties, and eventually  
descended to the Family of Timoor, and  
remained in their possession until the reign  
of Mahommud Shah, who wore it in his  
Turban. On Nadir Shah's visit to Delhce  
the Emperor and he exchanged Turbans, and  
thus it became the property of the latter -  
while others again affirm that Mahommud  
Shah gave the Diamond to effect his  
restitution to Jewer as Emperor of Hindoostan.

The Turban  
is calculated  
from his reign

On

On the murder of Nader Shah by his own tribe, Ahmed Shah Durrani became possessed of the Kingdom of Khorasan and of the Koh-i-noor, and at his death it descended successively to his son Timur Shah - Zaman Shah - Shah Shuja-ool-Mulk - and from the latter was forcibly taken by Ranjot Singh -

The second account extracted from the "Ukber-Namch" or history of the reign of the Great Ukber - is as follows:

That when Nasir-ud-Din Mahmud Shah arrived at Agra - this Diamond on being cut, was found to weigh 8 Miskals or 1 Ameer 2 1/4 Pennyweights - that the Jewellers of that period valued it at half the amount of the sum daily expended in the whole land - and it is said that it was first in the Jewel Office of the Ghoriya Family, who had received it from the descendants of the Rajah Peer Bikramajet of Gwalior. Nasir-ud-Din presented it to his father Babur Shah -

Babur Shah to please him accepted the gift but afterwards returned to him, - It is also stated in the "Ukber-Namch" that when Nasir-ud-Din was seriously ill his father Babur Shah consulted some Physicians regarding his case - Meer Abool Bukker, a learned man, represented that he had ascertained from former Sages that

that when the Physicians despaired of the recovery of any patient the most valuable thing in the possession of the invalid should be given in charity and a blessing solicited from the Almighty. The Emperor Babur observed that in the opinion of Nasir-ud-Din he himself was the most precious, and that he would consecrate himself. The Standard-bearer however intimated that by God's mercy the Prince would recover - and that the meaning of the Sages was that the most valuable article of property should be offered up, and consequently that the Emperor Babur Shah should offer the Diamond which had been taken in the wars with Shalhan Shrohem. Babur Shah replied that no treasure on Earth could be put in comparison with his beloved son, and that he would offer himself as a sacrifice to obtain his recovery. Nasir-ud-Din recovered, and the Jewel remained with the descendants of Timur until the reign of Ibrahim Shah.

Dillic Agency  
The 7<sup>th</sup> Regt. 3  
1850

I have the honor to be Sir  
Yours faithfully  
Agent Genl & Govt  
North Western Provs