

---

**No. 25**

**Petition of Ahsan-ul-Hak, dated 4th July 1857**

To—The King ! Shelter of the World !

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That Mirza Abulbakt Sahib has lately been in the habit, with unrestrained license and recklessness, of visiting for evil purposes the house of Princes Farkhunda Zamani, situated in Bahram Khan's Teraha (your petitioner's houses being in the same division of the City), and of indulging in the practice of all those acts which may be expected to result from drunkenness. According to his custom, he came yesterday before noon to the said Princess's house, and remained, drinking spirituous liquors, and hearing singing for the rest of the day. About an hour and a half after sunset, he prepared to leave; but the key of the street

---

gate, accidentally being with the watchman, and he not coming immediately, the Mirza was delayed. Upon this, the Mirza being in a hurry, drew his pistol and fired it at your Slave, who happened at the time to be sitting at his door with some friends. Your Slave kept silent, although no pretext had been afforded for this violence; but the Mirza nevertheless gave unlimited hand to his tongue, and thought to enter your Slave's house, and to plunder and to carry off all the property it contained. Your Slave, however, shut the door, fixed on the chain, and got inside. The Mirza had intended to kill your Slave, and it was with this object he discharged his pistol at him; but as some little portion of your Slave's life remained uncompleted, the shot did not take effect. After the door had been closed the Mirza drew his sword, and made several attacks upon it, and moreover directed his servants to throw stones at different places over the walls, and at the doors. He further gave orders that the Artillery, Infantry and Cavalry, should plunder the house and slaughter the inmates. The watchman stationed at the Faiz Bazaar arriving, the Mirza forcibly threw him on the ground, and it was probable that he would have severed the watchman's head from his body. This did not occur; but the Mirza so bruised the watchman's back and head with blows, as to leave him half dead. Moreover, the Mirza kept striking with his drawn sword in all directions, and very much injured the door with successive shots from muskets, and so distributed the Infantry Soldiers in the Bazaar, at the same time ordering the Troopers to plunder and murder, that many of the people passing in the streets, were hit by the bullets. The Assistant to the Chief Police Officer of the City was hit by one.....<sup>32</sup>

.....Nothing remains of the property that belonged to the residents of this part of the City, or to the Police Officer

.....  
All the goods and chattels likewise, which happened to be in the yard in front of the house, were carried off in plunder, and the Mirza, then destroying the door left a guard, and went away. In this disturbance, your Slave has had a fore-

taste of the day of judgment. Whatever has passed, now depending on Your Majesty's kindness, I trust that full punishment may be awarded. Otherwise, tomorrow is not far from today, and the said Lord of the World, Mirza Abulbakr, bent on evil purposes, will certainly come with cannons, muskets, and swords, and will carry out his designs, and what we helpless subjects will have suffered will be something astounding. (Prayers for the prosperity of the reign.)

*List of Property carried off*

Cotton Carpet, 5 yards long, valued at 7 Rs.	1
Copper Vessels (Lotas)	2
Copper Saucers and Covers, valued at 1 Re.	2
Janumaz, valued at 2 Rs.	1
Benaresi Scarf, valued 7 Rs.	1
A Horse, color, dun, valued 200 Rs.	1
A small portable hookah	1
A pair of Bullocks, value 100 Rs.	1
A sword, valued 15 Rs.	1

Petition of Muhammad Ahsan-ul-hak.

Order under the Autograph Special Cypher of the King, in pencil, in reference to the circumstances represented in the above petition, dated 5th July 1857.

To—Mirza Moghal.

SON,—The illustrious and valiant Mirza Zohur-ud-din, otherwise Mirza Moghal Bahadur. Learn, that you are directed to search out, and recover from the servants of Mirza Abulbakr Bahadur, a sword and a pink turban, the property of Kamdar Khan, watchman of the Faiz Bazaar, who was wounded, and to forward them to the Royal presence. You are directed also to recover from the men of the said Mirza, the property of Muhammad Ahsan-ul-hak, son of the Mufti<sup>33</sup> Ikram-ud-din, whose petition is enclosed, as also to recover and forward to the Royal presence, the property of Khuda Bakhsh Khan, Assistant to the Chief Police Officer. Be assured of our kindness.