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"NAQLUNA"

OR

SOME PUSHTU PROVERBS & SAYINGS

BY

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(Second Edition)

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It is hard for an Englishman to realise the importance illiterate Pathans attach to the proverbs and maxims which are used by their fellow tribesmen. To them they represent the accumulated wisdom of generations of wise men. Nothing will appeal so much to their keen sense of humour as a well-known proverb aptly quoted in the course of conversation. On occasion, when they will listen to no other kind of argument, they will accept the decision of one of their own maxims which fits the case.

An example of this was the late Sir George Roos Keppel's answer to a 'jirga' of Massuzais which he had convened in order to inform them of the compensation the Government demanded for a series of raids they had made into British territory. The Massuzais are divided up into two political factions the black and 'the white factions (Tor

and Spin Gund), between whom for centuries, there has been an undying blood feud. The elders of each of these factions blamed the other faction for the raids, and extolled the friendship of their own faction for the British. Sir George Roos Keppel listened to their tirade and at the end remarked, "a dog, whether it be black or white or grey, is a dog just the same." To hear one of their own maxims quoted as a reply made them realise, more clearly then any other form of answer, that further argument was useless, and that the tribe as a whole was held responsible for keeping the peace.

The proverbs and sayings in this book I have collected from the rank and file in the Frontier Militias and from villagers, the large majority of whom were illiterate. Examples will be found of the proverbs of Afridis, Bangash, Khattaks, Sulaiman Khels, Turis and Yusufzais. It must be understood that no one Pathan will know all of them,

though it is certain he will know some. They must be used, therefore, with discretion. The answer one would get by asking a Khattak if he knew the meaning of a Yusufzai's scathing criticism of Khattaks in general, can better be left to the imagination than described. Some of the sayings will sound vulgar and coarse to English ears. The Pathan does not consider them so; and it is from his point of view that they should be judged. The student of Pushtu will find in them a wealth of idiom, and expression and a comprehensive vocabulary. The uses of the tenses of the verb are particularly noteworthy. The Pathan frequently uses the past tense when we in English use the present and vice Although the collection is by no

Although the collection is by no means complete, it is hoped that a study of the book may help the student in conversing with Pathans to understand that little bit which one so often misses and what it is they are all laughing at.

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The first edition of Naqluna met with some criticism on the grounds that certain of the proverbs were not used, that there were grammatical mistakes in others etc etc Khan Bahadur Ahmad Jan of Peshawar very kindly offered to revise the whole book with me

With his advice certain of the sayings in the flist edition, which are only used in certain localities or tribal areas, have been omitted, and have been replaced by others which are more generally known

On my own responsibility, however, a few sayings of local import, complete with grammatical mistakes, as they are actually said have been retained

The proverbs are re arranged in alpha betical order, and the key word in each is over-lined

My best thanks are due to Khan Bihadur Ahmad Jan for all the trouble he has taken in checking all the proofs and for the untiring help he has given me in the revision of the book

Simla April, 1938



THE PATHAN TRIBES

OF

THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.



Every true Afghan claims descent from Afghana the son of Jeremiah, the son of King Saul of Israel. This Afghana is said to have been the Commander of the forces of King Solomon.

They say that, in about the year 600 B. C., their ancestors were carried away from Palestine by Nebuchadnezzar, who settled them as colonists in Persia and Media. Media is part of the modern Kurdistan, and it is interesting to note that the Kurdish language is very akin to Pashto.

In the course of time they migrated east into the mountains of Ghor to the east of Herat, and the modern Hazarajat of Afghanistan, where they were known as the Beni Israel, or the Beni Afghana.

In 327 B.C., Alexander invaded India, and Heroditus mentions in his history, that at that time the Apartyae, who have been identified with the modern Afridis, lived in the Safed Koh; the Satragyddae, who have been identified with the Khattaks, occupied the Sulaiman range and the northern portion of the plains between it and the Indus; and the Gandhari, who Peshawar. lived round

These, who probably represent the original frontier tribes, were of Indian extraction and Buddhists.

In about the year 626 A.D., Muhammad, the Prophet of Arabia, sent a missionary, Khalid-bin-Walid by name, who is said to have been an Israelite, to convert Beni

Afghana in the mountains of Ghor These people were very impressed with what they heard, and eventually their chieftain, Kais, (or Kish) went himself with some of the eiders of the tribe to see Muhammad and to hear him preach

They were soon converted, and Kais, on conversion, was given the name of Abdur-Rashid. The Prophet was so impressed with the steadfastness of his faith that he give him the soubriquet of Pathan', which, in Svriac signifies the wood on which they by the keel when constructing a boat.

It is from the three sons of Kais — Sarban, Gharghusht, and Baitan, that all Pathans trace their descent

Kais and the elders returned to Ghor, and soon succeeded in converting the Beni Afghana to Islam

Inspired with the fainticism of the new faith, the Beni Afghana advanced eastwards, converting the people as they went. By 700 A.D., they had reached the line Kabul-Kandahar. The people of the country were then either Persians who were fireworshippers—'Gabr', or Indian Buddhists.

At Kandahar they met the Gandahari, whom they were unable to defeat by force of arms, and so they settled in the district, and intermarried with them, and at length converted them to Islam. They also adopted from them the Pashto language. In the course of time the two races became so completely amalgamated as to form a distinct nation, called the Afghans, professing to be descended from Kais.

Eventually all the Gandaharis accepted Islam, and under the banner of Islam advanced eastwards until, by the year 750 A.D. they reached the Indus.

In the eleventh century, India was invaded by Mahmud of Ghazni, who

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It was not until the end of the twelfth century, after the invasion by Muhammad Ghori, that the original frontier tribes-the true Pathans-were converted.

So the invaders spread over the frontier, and eventually formed themselves into tribal communities, and the various wars and invasions of history have given them the lands they now possess.

(II)

The characteristics of the Pathan.

All of us can appreciate the fact that he is a good sportsman and enjoys a day's shooting or fishing. Moreover he usually has a great sense of humour, and will laugh heartily at a joke. Prima facie cheerfulness, courage, courtesy and generosity are his outstanding characteristics. His hospitality indeed is proverbial. So, those British officers who come in touch with the Pathan and can understand his language are much attracted by him.

However, those who have experienced the state of utter lawlessness that exists in their country, or who have been engaged in operations against them, will describe them as blood-thirsty, revengeful and treacherous.

It must be remembered that every Pathan is in honour bound to defend his issat (honour) in the case of the individual, in accordance with the standard which is

termed *Pukkhto*, and which, in the case of the tribe, is governed by a code of laws called *Pukkhtunwalai*, which is based on nang or nang-i-Pukkhtana i. e. tribal honour.

Should he fail, in accordance with this code to exact retribution for insult, murder, etc, he becomes an object of scorn to his tribe-an outcast-daus.

(III)

Tribal Organisation.

The basis of the tribal organisation is the *kor*, i. e., the house or family, the members of which acknowledge the authority of the eldest member.

The village will consist of several kor and is subdivided into kandis all of which will acknowledge the authority of the village malik.

A clan, which may be called a *khel*, or may be designated by the suffix zai, is composed of a group or several groups of

villages These as a rule, acknowledge a chief malik. In the Peshawar district this latter may be called malik-i-tappa where a group or several groups of villages is called a tappa. A number of such clans may be combined into a qaum or tribe, and if they are not divided by some feud, the various clans may recognise one chieftain

Each *khel* or clan is a separate little democracy. Its internal affairs, blood-feuds and disputes are settled by its *jirga* or council of elders, which is guided in its work by the above-mentioned code of laws (which is) called Pukkhtunwalai.

(iv) Pakkhtunwalai

This code is based on three principles — mailmastiā or hospitality, Nanawāte or protection, and Badal or retaliation.

Mailmastiā: Most villages possess a hujra or guest house where guests and stray travellers are housed and entertained as

guests of the village as well as circumstances permit. Should no *hujra* exist, they will generally be given shelter in the village mosque. The village holds itself responsible for the person and property of a guest for the duration of his stay.

Pathans regard hospitality as an essential duty.

Nanawāte: This term signifies going as a suppliant to some person's house to seek (a) refuge or asylum: (b) forgiveness or pardon: (c) a favour or assistance.

In the first case, the man to whom the request has been made must shelter the supplicant even at the risk of his own life.

In the second and third cases, he usually solicits the good offices of some elders, *Mullas*, or *Sayids* who form a deputation for the suppliants.

In accordance with the custom of the Afghans such a request can seldom be

refused.*

Recently there have been examples of a very intense form of Nanāwate which takes the form of a deputation of women bearing Qurans on their heads.

Badal: This signifies the taking of retaliation for insults whether personal or to the family or tribe; or for injury; or in pursuance of a blood-feud. Sometimes, when a man is too weak to take his revenge, he has recourse to balandra i.e. hired assassins.

(V)

Blood-feuds.

These may be either individual, intervillage, tribal, or general.

They are of two types-zboda and wural. In the former men only are shot; in the latter women, cattle, dogs etc, are shot as well.

The most common causes of these feuds are intrigues with women, the murder of a

*Translation of Da Qissa Khani Gap by Khan Bahadur Ahmad Jan member of the family, or of their hamsayas, disputes about debt and inheritance, and quarrels about land and water.

Sometimes these feuds are settled by the offenders paying sāz or khun-bahā (blood money) in accordance with the decision of the jirga; and, on occasion, the good offices of a British official may be requisitioned to effect a settlement.

There are two fends which may be said to be more or less common throughout the Frontier. The first is between the sects of Sunni and Shiah, the two religious factions in Islam.

In the N.W.F.P. only the Turis in the Kurram, half the Bangash, who live west of Kohat, and some sections of the Orakzai are Shiah, and all the other tribes are Sunni.

This feud has been in existence since 681 A. D., and can be compared to the struggle between the Western and Eastern churches in the Middle Ages.

The British Government might become involved in this by being asked to mediate or to protect a local minority.

Secondly there is the feud between the factions of *Gar* or the *Spin Gund* and the *Samil* or *Tor Gund*.

Although nowadays the feeling between these two factions seems to be gradually lessening, the feud is of sufficient importance to warrant mention.

The origin of this feud is nebulous. Many stories which are mere fables are told of its origin, but the truth is believed to be as follows:—

When the Beni Afghana reached Kandahar, the city was divided into two camps-the Gabr or fire-worshippers, and the Indian Buddhists who were called Saman They both accepted Islam, but never combined, and as they advanced east, the peoples they converted adhered to the one faction or the other.

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"Black dogs, white dogs, grey dogs are all dogs to us!"

There was nothing more to be said. and the jirga, realising that they could not play off their feuds against us, dispersed.

Note:—It may not be out of place here to note the difference between a <code>jirga</code> and a <code>maraka</code>. The literal signification of the latter word is mutual consultation, coming to terms; making peace.

A maraka is a tribal council which anyone can join, whereas in a jirga only such elders or persons can take part who are reconguised by the tribe.

A note on the fighting characteristics of the Pathans

These are considered only with reference to operations involving the use of Government forces.

Such operations can be considered under two headings:—

(i) Raids on villages, herds, flocks etc. in British territory.

(ii) Operations against a punitive force of all arms, or offensive operations in British territory as the result of a ghaza (jehad-holy war).

Raids: It must always be remembered that the object of the raiders is to seize the cattle or herds or other form of loot from the village concerned, and that they do not wish to fight, and will not fight except to cover their retreat. Moreover, should they have the slightest suspicion that information of the proposed raid has leaked out, they will not carry it out till a later date.

The following may be taken as an example of the principles on which they work when raiding:—

The evening before the day on which the raid is planned to take place, some travellers will halt at the village and ask for permission to spend the night at the *hujra*.

These travellers may consist of two old men and a woman, with a bullock, and possibly a mule or donkey heavily loaded.

During the night these travellers will endeavour to get up into one of the towers of the village

Their rifles will be taken off the mule or donkey, or out of their clothes

A little after dawn, when the cattle are driven out to graze, the raiding party will descend on them, and the boys driving the cattle will give the alarm. The village chigha will turn out to find that it is under from fire one of the village towers. The confusion that ensues will give the raiders sufficient time to get the cattle under way.

At this juncture the occupants of the tower will endeavour to make good their escape

The covering party, when unable to get into the village as described above, will take up a suitable position outside the village during the night

Major Operations The tribesmen's object in such operations will be either to

defend their country from an invading force, or, when inspired with fanaticism by the preaching of some Mulla or holy man, to attack and kill the infidels, or give their lives in the attempt.

In this latter case some initial success may be achieved by synchronised raids on a large scale on villages just inside the frontier, yet sooner or later they will be opposed by considerable regular forces, and they will be faced with the necessity of defending their country.

(a) How the lashkar collects: When the elders of the tribe have decided to oppose the Sarkar with force, they will, in consultation with the most important and experienced of the leaders of the village chighas, decide on a plan of campaign. At the appointed time, the chigha drums will be beaten in the villages, and the chighas will assemble. These will then be led to the rendezvous, and so the lashkar will be formed.

Each man will be armed, probably with

a 303 or other modern rifle, will be carrying all the ammunition he possesses, and sufficient food for three days or more. If circumstances permit, his women folk will replenish his supply of food, otherwise he may be compelled to return to his home or to some nearer village for the necessary provender.

Thus it will be seen that once the lashi ar has deployed in accordance with the accepted plan, it will be very difficult for them to alter that plan or to make new dispositions

(b) How they get their information — The Frontier Cantonment on such occasions will be full of tribesmen who have come in ostensibly with the object of doing business in the bazar. These will get into conversation with the servants of British officers etc and will get early information of any unusual military activities etc.

Mention must be made of the motor 'bus' which nowadays assists rapid communication and, where motor roads exist, provides a new form of contact between tribe and tribe, and brings the tribesmen into closer touch with administered territory.

As the columns march out along the roads, stray unarmed Pathans will be met. These may be old men or boys with bullocks or donkeys. As the column moves on they will signal with staff or head-dress to the 'shepherds' on the hill-tops. These 'shepherds' will take up positions on the hills from which a wide view of the approaches from the plains is obatinable. They will be in touch with the advanced elements of the *lashkar*.

It may also be noticed that as the columns march along the road, fires will be lit in or just outside the various friendly villages by the side of the road.

The 'shepherds' on the hills will notice these fires and appreciate their import.

Thus the *lashkar* will have early information of the approach of the Sarkar's forces.

- (c) The battle It must be remembered that the two chief factors which affect the tactics of Pathans in action with British-Indian forces are—
 - (i) The fact that they realise that although they may be able to defeat and destroy detachments, they can never hope to defeat the Sarkar's troop decisively.
 - (ii) The fact that they estimate the result of an action by heads rather than by the temporary capture or loss of localities; unless the locality be a very holy shrine or an all-important village

They will therefore take up positions, very carefully concealed and weakly held from which they can snipe the troops at long ranges as they advance from below. From the air these positions will be invisible, and for the artillery and infantry there will be no visible target. Caves which abound in the hills are favourite defensive localities especially as they provide cover from ur-craft.

Natural adepts in the use of ground, nowadays the tribesmen are becoming more and more 'airminded'. In any case much of their country is unfavourable for observation from the air, and they quickly learn the art of concealment from air-craft by dispersion, movement in small parties and by night etc.

The chighas or detachments which have been detailed to perform a tura i.c. an outstanding act of bravery, will be located under cover in suitable localities on the flanks etc.

These chighas will take every opportunity of ambushing unwary detachments of troops, and if an exceptional oppor unity offers, of delivering an attack with the armoblanche on the unprotected flanks of the advancing columns.

In any case they know that, sooner or later the advanced troops will have to retire to their camp, and then they will take advantage of their superior mobility on the hill-side to harass their retreat with the

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object of inflicting as many casualties as possible at a minimum cost to themselves

The advance of the British-Indian forces is, of course irresistible, and so they find themselves forced back to the limits of their territory. Now they will cross the frontier either into Afghanistan or some other tribul territory and demand nanawäte.

The tribal jurga makes a formal surrender to the British authorities, the terms of peace are enforced, and in a few years' time theerstwhile warriors will return to their own lands in the guise of peaceful and law abiding citizens

			2 1	
re now find them.	Main sections and politics.	Kambar KhelGar. Kuki KhelGar. Malikdin KhelSamil.	Zakha KhelSamıl. Others less important. Mahmund. Isozai. Ismailzai.	Miranzai) All Gar. Baizai Some Shiahs in Samilzai Kurram, Hangu and
d where w	Nos. of fighting men	44,000	34,000	8,000.
The most important tribes and where we now find them.	Locality.	Tirah—900 sq. miles S. & W. of Peshawar.	Bajaur & Dir.	W. of Kohat and in the Kurram
	Tribe.	AFRIDIS	BAJAUR1S or TARKAN-	RIS (originally of Yusufzai stock) BANGASH

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	Main sections and politics.		Khani Khel All Tor Gund. Khwajak Kol Some Some Haji or Para	Bada Khel Clude Alisian and Gandara	"Upper" & "Lower" Perhaps Idak Incorrect ethnogra- Mallizad phically		Barozai
	Nos. of fighting men.	6,000	4,500		12,000	8,000	=
	Locality.	Borders of Tank and Bannu from Gabar Mountain to the Gumal.	East & North East Kurram,	1	Tochi Valley.	Peshawar Valley.	
	Tribe.	BATAN- NIS	CHAM: KANNIS		DAURS	KHALIL F	

	J = - 10	
Locality.	nos. or fighting men.	Main sections and politics.
Teri Klattaks in Kohat, Bannu,	40,000	Teri Khattaks (Western)
and Rawalpindi Dists.		Khwarram
Akora Khattaks in S. portion	-	Seni.
Peshawar and E. Kohat Dists.		Teri.
		Barak.
		Saghri
		Bangi Khel.
		Nasraoti.
		Akora Whallaks (Eastern)
		Akora)
		Yusafzai.
Centre of Waziristan.	16.500	Alizai.
		Bahlozai
		Shahman Khel (Upper))
Kuz Mohmands S. of Peshawar.	25,000	Kayakzai.)
		Musazai.
		Dawezai.
Bar Mohmands.	25,000	Tarakzai.
		· Comment of the comm
		Daizai, [
		Khwaezai.

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	Main sections and politics,	Ismailzais,—Very disunited by fought and in Lashkarzais—At feud with Turis, Zamukhi, Ali Khoi, and Mamuzai Orakzai. I faction allied with Zamukhis,	Alloherzus, Some Gar Sections, Daulatzar e—Samil Mibiennada Khal—Shiah and Gar. Khal—Sunn and Shiah Gar and Samil Mall Shiahs, but divided into Mara-Marid and Drewandi factions
	Nos. of fighting men	*32,000 *inc'uding Hamsayas.	9,000
	Locality.	Boundaries — N. Afrois and Shinwaris, E. Afrois and Bangash. S. Barnesh and Zarnukhis, W. The Khurmana and Chamkannis.	The Kurram Valley.
	Tribe.	ORAK- ZAIS	TURIS

Tribe.	Locality.	Nos of fighting men.	Main sections and politics.
URMARS	Kaniguram. Bhawalpur State. Two villages near Peshawar.	1,000	Probably connected with the Atish-Kash community in the Persian Gulf who were originally Yezidis.
UTMAN KHEL	Cis-frontier North of Peshawar district to Mardan.	16,000	Ismailzai. Mandol. Alizai.
	Trans-frontier South of Bajaur between the Panjora and Swat rivers and the Ambahar valley.		Matakai. Pegohazai. Bimarai. Gurai and Sinazai.
WAZIRS OR DAR. WESH KHEL	Waziristan & Bannu District.	31,000	Utmanzais. Ahmadzais.
	*		

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	Main sections and politics.	Cis-Frontier, Mandaur, Usmanzai,	Utmanzaı, Baızaı, Trans-Frontier,	Mamuzaı Samil At feud Khoidad Khel with all neigh-bours.				
	Nos of fighting men.	25,000	167,000	2,000				
	Locality.	N. E. of Peshawar Distt.	Dir, Swat, Malakand, Bunner and Habyara (Tribal	Boundares: N. W. Turis. N. & E. Orakzais. S. Bangash.				

Tribe.

ZAI. MUKHTS ا. نشته په سترګو کښ آب نشته He has no sense of shame.

دَ مرغاري خو أب ره چه ال_بر 2

The pearl has lost the lustre that it once had. (This can be said of those who have lost their honour or reputation).

اباسيند په چپر بهيريي

The Indus flows in a raging torrent. i.e.

Nothing can withstand its force.

(This expression can be used as a warning to those who dare to attack some very powerful enemy. e.g., a Pathan tribe which proposes to declare a feud with the British Government).

ا رس خبره په اباسيند و کهه شوه

Now the matter is launched on the

Indus. i. e. is beyond control.

اباسيند هم چه کاسي کاسي (ياپه کاسو) شي نو وچ به شي آ. Even the Indus can be emptied by cupfulls. (cf: Drop by drop the lake is drained).

ر د (پریدی وىلئ ده

It is an Afridi's hammer. (cf a bad penny.) Compare ג' בראי ליל 'The Mohmand's goad. (The story runs that a Mohmand from tribal territory once gave a goad to a farmer in Peshawar. Whenever the Mohmand went into Peshawar he always reminded the farmer of his favour in giving him the goad. Eventually the farmer, in disgust, handed it back).

هر سړي د احل په نعلي سور دي .

Everyone is mounted on the grey horse of Fate. (Note-Ajal means the appointed time of death).

8. Specification before your appointed time !

Don't die before your appointed time (cf: Never say die).

9. په چا عم په چا احتر Some are sad, whilst for other it is the Festival. 10.

اختر پټ ميړ، نه دي

The Id (festival) is not a paramour that it can pass by unobserved. i. e. A great event cannot be kept secret.

11.

چه چرته ډب نه وېي هلته ادب نه وېي

There can be no law and order without force. (The same idea is expressed by دب سرة ادب وي cf: Spare the rod and spoil the child.)

12.

اس چه په میدان ورزي د سواره په زور ورزي When a horse gallops on the plain it is thanks to the skill and prowess of its rider. (This can be said of a

skilful commander with reference to his victorious troops: ورتك = to fly.)

13.

دُ يو اسَّ غو,ژرونه دي

They are the ears of the same horse.

(cf: They are as alike as two peas.

cf: د يو څانځي کلونه دي. They are flowers of the same bush).

14.

دُ اس لته اس سهلبيَ شي (يا زغمي)

Horses can stand the kicks of horses.

الس لوه په لاس لوه Keep a horse but keep it in hand.

اسونو تعلونه وعل جبده خي هم پسې ورده ونتولې.

Some horses were being shod, and a frog held up its feet to them as well. i.e.

Imitation leads many into folly.

أسمان ده مه نُوكه به خبل ميم به د بريوزي

Don't spit up at the sky, it will only come back on your own face. (Used to one who abuses those in a higher position.)

18.

هعه د آسمان کپ دئي

He is the constellation called 'da āsmān kat'. (This constellation always moves and changes its position. This is said of a person whom one wishes to meet but who is very hard to get hold of.)

اصبل له اشارت کم اسل له کوتک

A hint for the well bred, and a stick for the ill bred. (cf: A nod for a wise man and a rod for a fool.) 20.

هغه دَ الملوكو په تول کښ راغيَ

He has been weighed with the plums.

i. e. caught up in the stream.

21. و عاجز سري تيل نه بليري او د دولتمند اور په اوبوبليري A poor man's oil won't burn whilst even the water of a rich man catches light.

22.

دَ ورخَ تيري اوبهٔ بيرته نه راڅي

Water that has passed through the cut does not come back. *i. e.* So there is nothing more to be done about it.

23.

اوبهٔ په ډانګ نهٔ بياړي

Water cannot be cut with a club. (To some extent this has the signification of 'Blood is thicker than water.')

24.

آوبهٔ په کمزوریِ څاي زر ماتيږيِ

Water overflows where the banks are weak. (cf: The weakest goes to the wall).

25.

^ک زورا ور اوبهٔ په لوړه خيزي

A strong man's water flows up-hill. i.e. Everything goes well with him.

اونهٔ حه در سرَ واوړی دو څهٔ دوګز څهٔ سل ګزَ

When the water comes over one's head, what does it matter if it be one yard or a hundred yards deep? (cf: In for a penny in for a pound)

اوس اولهٔ دَ ورخَ ندري دي

Now the water has passed the cut (in the canal etc.) **. *e. Things have come to a pretty pass.

Drink the water of Landi (Kabul river)
that your wound may heal. (Note.
The water of Kabul river is very
pure and is said to have curative
properties.)

چه لربغهٔ ری بو تّنهم (با تنبور) نه حاحب نه ری په لاه وی When water is at hand there is no necessity to perform one's ablutions with sand. (Note.—When water is not available Muslims are permitted to perform the necessary ablutions before prayers with sand.)

دَ اور او دَ اوبو اشنامِي نه شمِي 31. Fire and water will never become friends.

زمکه هغه سوزي چه او. پر بليري

Only that part of the ground burns which has caught fire. (cf: It is the wearer that knows where the shoe pinches).

د خلي اور په خرص ولهيده

One blade of grass set fire to the stack. (cf: Little chips light great fires.)

د اور په رنړا مه څه او دُسپي په غيا مه څه

Don't walk towards firelight nor the barking of a dog. (Note.—Advice to those travelling at night. Everyone knows how close those things may seem at night, and how far off they may be.)

Who is burnt by fire is cured by fire. (cf: A hair of the dog......)

ارسنده خه نوده شي دو نه او رده شي

Iron will not straighten out until it is 'heated. s. e. Punishment makes an obdurate man tractable.

اوس به ديه وهل

To stuff a camel into the hem of one's trousers. i. e. with the object of hiding or stealing it. (Note:—Bada is the hem of the trousers through which the string passes to fasten them round the waist. Said of a man who does something ridiculous which is sure to lead to detection.)

اوس په پيسو وه دو ديسې ده وې چه پيسې .38.

When the camel was for sale I had no money, but when I had the money the camel was not for sale, of:

حه عامی ژو بو بسی دهٔ ربنی حه تعنی رشوی تو عامی به ژو When I had teeth I had no parched gram, but now that I have parched gram I have no teeth. 39.

ارښ په دروزه نهٔ درنيږي

Druza will not overload a camel. (Druza-stubble; stumps of wheat etc. left by the sickle; the hard part of the head of corn left after threshing.) cf:

ر اوښ په غابيل نهٔ درندري

A camel's load will not be made more heavy by putting a sieve on it.

40.

گوره چه اوښ په نوم اړخ څملي

See on which side the camel will lie down. cf: See on which side of the fence the cat will jump.)

41.

روښ اوښ خه د سم شو پاتبي سؤخه (اورميرو)

Camel! What member of your body is straight that your neck alone should not be so? (Said of one who has no good in him.)

42.

دًا وبس د ښمني

The enmity of a camel. *i. e.* An unending and unreasoning enmity.

ىو نادشاه آومآن په ندغار نئول نړوړى سراى نه رىسله . 43. حا ورنه پسنده واړله حه ولى نسدى و مى حه نا پېسان نادشاه دى هسى ده وه پهٔ ندغار شم

A king was commandeering some camels and a fox ran out of the Sarai (palace) Someone asked the fox why he was running away. The fox replied, "No questions are asked under this government, and God forbid that I too should be roped in."

اوسان په حيلو متدارو کس سوئدري

Camels slip in their own urine. (cf Hoist with his own petard)

45. در ارسی کړی د او اله کړی د او اله کړی . Those who have camels should have lofty gateways. (cf: Great ships require deep waters.)

اوکر او شده يو شي دي Gruel and pap are one and the same

thing

چه اوګر سړيږي بلا پر پريوزي 47.

When gruel gets cold it becomes harmful. *i. e.* Eat your food quickly whilst it is hot. (cf: Strike while the iron is hot.)

تَهُ هُو دَ اِينْ شُحرَ گُل يِي 48.

You are a flower of the fig tree. i.c. You are very hard to get hold of. (Note: Fig trees have no flowers.)

كمي بابوكي ستري ي لكي 49.

Little chaffinches have long tails. (cf: Little pitchers have long ears.)

چه وريږي باران مزي کوي خواران Poor men enjoy the rain. i. e. Rain makes the crops grow which means

cheaper grain.

له باران نه تښتيده د ناوي لاند ي شيه شوه

He was running away from the rain and spent the night under a water-spout.

(cf: Out of the frying-pan....).

آوار به حا تارار موندلی به دی آوار به حا تارار موندلی به دی Nobody has acquired wealth by cruelty.

هعد به له باديدي داردشاه به راعلي وي He must have come from Banda Daud

Shah. s. c. He must be daft. (cf: Peebles-Banda Daud Shah is a small village near Kohat noted for the stupidity of its inhabitants.)

اموهده الله يه مسم الله مه معع كيرى (يا نه گررى)

A hardened sinner will not be deterred from his evil purpose by merely reciting the Muslim creed to him.

i. e. It is of no use wasting one's breath over bad men Strong action and punishment are what is needed to hold them in check.

(Note:—Bism illah-in the name of God-are the first words of the Quran and of any other book written by a Muslim. They are

therefore a synonym for the beginning of anything.)

و ړوکمي بلا ستري بلا ته واي چه بُو

A small calamity says boo to a big one.

په بنځي کښ يو موټي او ړۀ نشته لاپي د دولتمن کوي .56

There is not a handful of flour in his bag, yet he boasts of his riches.

د بردي ټال 57.

The old woman's swing. i. e. The rainbow.

دَ بَوْدِي َ دَمْهُ پَهُ بُودِي كَدِرِي

Old women are happy with old women. (cf: Birds of a feather.....)

بيذات خيلو لس كولي پر اتهٔ شوي

The Bezat Khels made a mess of it.

Note:—The Bezat Khel are a sub-section of the Yusafzai and

are renowned for their stupidity.

To make eight out of ten is a common way of expressing failure.

له ورگاری به بیثار چهٔ دی Forced labour is better than idling.

i. e. Any work is better than none.

____ پحتی دُ حاں به کور کس تکاله وهورانه په الرسم 61. دۂ دلو (دا دة)

A bald man had a meal in the Khan's house and then could not walk straight. 1. e. went away swaggering. (Note:—Tikala means a round of bread, but it is used with the sense of food in general, or meal Note also that bald man are generally despised.

يين (يا ټپ) اه دواړه لاس منژې

It takes two hands to clap. 1. e. It takes two to make a quarrel.

پستانهٔ په لنډې لياري وړه دې ر

Pathans die by taking the short cut.

(This refers to the Pathan custom of not carrying on feuds on the high road, and also to the fact that they usually avoid the latter which are more safe.)

شهه م هم تيوه کړه پالزم هم سي نه شو (٥٢ شة) 64.

I spent the night (by his bedside) but my father did not die. i. c. hoping to step into the dead man's shoes.

سل کال پس پاار مي وکټاو بل ورته وو چه بېړه د وکړه . 65

He avenged his father after a lapse of a hundered years, and someone said to him, "You have been quick!"

که پښتون سل کال پس بدل واخلي نو هم واي چه زرم واخست : cf

If a Pathan takes his revenge after a hundred years, he will still say that he was quick over it.

چه پُلُاو خوري نو په پُلُو سري . . . 66.

If one eats pulao one will die from

steel. i. e. Rich men die by the sword.

If only an onion, give it with good will. (cf: Rich gifts seem poor when givers prove unkind.)

دُ والدي أو د والدي داسي ددي وه لكه دُ مرك او د بيشو . The feud between these two is like a feud between a cat and a mouse.

The (feud) between them is like (a feud) between Ali and an infidel (Note:—Ali was the son-in-law of the Prophet Mohammad, and was always fighting the infidels.)

69. دُ اورور بيشر نه ود حوره ايم خو مدن به خوک کوي I can fashion a cat out of flour, but it won't mew. i.e. Bluff is of no avail if there is nothing behind it. (Note—Da oro pisho = bluff.) پیشو به شیخه نه شي که په مرکوري پیښه شي A cat won't be a Shaikh (saint) when

it sees a mouse.

So long as there is no meat near him a cat will be a Shaikh.

71. The cat has become a Shaikh, i. e.

Because there is nothing on at the moment.

72. ك پيشو غو اړ منګيا وير The nuptials of cats is a small affair, but they make a lot of noise about it.

بئي پيشو وهښل ونډي ماتو وخو ړلي
The cat drank the curds, and Mato
got beaten for it. i. e. Mato being
the house-wife.

که نخدران د پکار وي نو پيشوګان مه تله

If you wish to live in peace don't

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weigh cats. The story runs that early one morning a farmer gave his wife a seer of meat, and told her to have it cooked ready for him on his return from the fields at noon Later on her lover came in to pay his respects, and she gave him the meat which he ate. When the farmer returned he asked for the meat, and his wife told him that the cat had eaten it "What rot" said her husband "How could the cat have possibly eaten a whole seer of meat? "I'll go and weigh it" The wife replied in the words of the proverb -"If you wish to live in peace, don't weigh the cat!" The moral is the one ought to "Live and let live," to wink at small irregularities, and not be too particular in testing the truth of explanations given by one's wife, etc. etc. cf -"Masters should be sometimes blind, sometimes deaf."

Also:—"He that would live at peace and rest. Must hear and see and say the best."

خلق ژاړي خو پيغله خاندي م

The world may weep but a bride laughs.

آرات جنه دي كه متروك لعنت شه په دواړه توكه

Which is the better? a lash or a whip?

May both these types of cat o'

nine tails be damned! (cf:—It

is six of one and a half dozen of

the other.)

که ته تربور یی زهٔ ستا ترهٔ بم کبرجُن Oh you prig! If you insist on saying that you are my cousin, know that I am no cousin but an uncle! i.e. In any case I am better than you.

تنزريه خپلي خولي نيولي يي

Oh grey partridge! Your own voice has given away your hiding place.

cf.—

که دی حاید ازرکی ده وسکی اوار ده صداد خدی حدر وه ده شهنار هکه له دمی حدی هسی معلومتری حکه حیل عر دی هر سری اراه عمار

If partridges called not out inoppor tunely, neither hunter nor hawk would know their whereabouts. Hence from this it appears that:— "Every man is betrayed by his own tongue

ىژكىچى لېرى ددا حولى ده ده راڅى . 79.

What you spit out will not come back into your mouth *. e. You cannot retract what has once been said.

الان بعدری وړوکی ربد دید کیی Mulberries ripen in due season, but children won't wait till then to

pick them. 81. چه وهلی شی ویده ولودی

81. تۇرە چە رەلمى شى رىدە ولومېرى
Blood is spilt when the sword smites.

82.

نُوري پور غوښتهٔ څاهي نور غوښتهٔ

Where a Turi will ask for a loan, a Jaji will ask to increase his debt.

(Note:—A Turi's jibe at their neighbours.)

83.

تا د خداي جو ړکړي مونو ټاکان صحبم

Until God cures you, we'll be Thugs as well. (This refers to the wellknown story of a lunatic who was being taken to hospital on charpoy. On the way, a band of Thugs drove off the carriers and kidnapped the man, carrying him along on the bed. On going through the village the man cried out, "Save me! Help! These people are Thugs. They are Thugs and are taking me away!" Everyone knew that the man was mad, and their reply has become prover bial. It is used of people who suffer from imaginary fears. cf:-Wolf! Wolf!)

دَ نؤري دَ ټوبک هٔو ړلې ِجو ړسُې نه جوړنړې ِ .84 ستا د غاجو پږهرونه

Sword cuts and gun-shot wounds heal in time, but those caused by your teeth never do. *i. e.* Love's wounds never heal.

له تش ټېېک نه دوه تن ويرىرې

Two people are afraid of (the shot of) an empty gun.

لنهي ټوپک دي د خداي په رضا يز نه کوې ليه دارځ . .86 خورې

It is a short gun, but it needs a whole handful of powder before it will go off. (Note:—This expression is used to describe an expensive amusement فَخْنَاي فِي رِمْنَا = from philanthropic point of view.

يه ټريک ريشنلي که دي په خبري الله ت شرامنده دې. 87. To be shot is all right, but to suffer calumny is disgraceful. 88.

حَجَّ عُواړي جغ دِ په غاړي

You look for the yoke which is on your own neck. cf: The butcher looked for his knife, when he had it in his mouth. Hindustani:

بغل میں لوکا شہر میں ڈھنڈورا

89.

پروں جاا (وطن) وي نن نبيي پټوي Yesterday you were an outcast from

your own home, and lo! Today you hide your feet in boots. (Said to one who has suddenly become rich.)

90.

نا بلد غلهٔ جماعت هم صات کړی دي Even the mosque has been broken into

by some inexperienced thief. (Said to one who makes a bad faux

pas.)

91.

ج^{نژگ}ِ دَ بازانو وهٔ ورکښ پريوته سپلمه

A dove has become embroiled in a fight amongst hawks.

92.

ج^{ائ}ک سو_یر شهٔ موذی تود شهٔ

When the fury of the battle abates, the skulker waxes bold.

93

وی حدی راعله دوی رحب ی راو ر

A new bride has come into the house and has brought new (fashioned) clothes with her (Said of an influential person whom everyone tries to copy)

اوی داری راعله دوی درد ی زار پر - cf --

A new bride has come and has started a new custom i e Although a woman generally gives way to her husband in all things, yet each new bride that enters the home introduces some change into his domestic arrangements

94

د کور حدی سپکه وی

A girl is of no account in her own home

cf -

د کور _{هور} گُور کړمدونة وی

A man looks on his own sister and daughter as sluts

جَلِمِي لَا يُو شَانَ مُعَدِّتُ أَرْ بِي لَا بَالِ شَانَ عَلَيْكِ لَا يُو شَانَ مُعَدِّتُ أَرْ بِي لَا بَالْ شَانَ

There is all the difference in the world between consorting with a young girl and an old woman.

90. يسي وزيوي نو جني به نه هابخ نه هم زاشي If you pay for her you can get a mistress even from Kalabagh. (This is a saying of the Bangash of Kohat and means, 'Money makes the mare go.')

يو جوا تُجالب ميي ؤولستني نه مي ودنامال بال ورته زو .97 چه جالب د کيمي دمي نو بيرته مي ودنامال چه آدنامامي نه دنامامي "

A weaver had taken an aperient, and jumped over the water-cut (outside the village to go out to the fields). Someone told him (to be careful as) he had taken an aperient. So he jumped back again saying, "very well, consider that jump as cancelled!"

(Note: Nowadays the last words of the story viz: 'danguli nuh danguli' are used with the signification of "I withdraw what I have said.")

پرون جولاً شوي س نهجي پټوي 98.

Only vesterday you became a weaver, and to-day you are winding thread on a reel (or stealing reels). (Said to a novice or recruit who makes

rapid progress.)

په لتو ي پلن کړئ حه حولا مشدو (يا مشدة) Give the weaver a jolly good kicking

for falling in love. (Note: - The weaver, who was of a despised profession probably had no right to pay court to the lady in question.)

مقلمن حولاگان مالئه كرى . 100.

Clever weavers sow salt.

(Note: - Weavers are renouned for their stupidity. This story 18 with reference to the well-known

story of a weaver who spilt some salt on some ground where later a thick crop of grass came up. He told his brother weavers of his good fortune, and advised them, if they were clever, to do the same. This saying is used to express wasted effort. Thus, if students find these proverbs to be of no use the author can be accused of sowing salt.)

چاړځ که دَ سرو وي دَ لړمانهٔ دُ منهلو نه وي

Even if the dagger be of pure gold, one should not plunge it into one's bowels.

i. e. Life is too precious to be risked for gold.

أَدُ چَايُو يُوهُ بِيالُهُ هَيْجُ لَهُ دَهُ دُو يَهُ بَسِ دَهُ دُرِيمُهُ عَبِثَ دَهُ. The first cup of tea is nothing, the second is enough, and the third is shere waste.

که _{حه} اک نادک وله وائي هم ده صدسی

Though the cock crownot, morning will dawn.

1 e Nothing is indispensible
(Cont) In contra distinction to the
above, the following saying is
current among the Khattaks —

که حرک دهوی نو شپه ده صا نه شی ere no cock to crow might

If there were no cock to crow, night would never become morning

حر^ت حه په رور دىسى هم شور كوى حه ىۀ 104 قوار ى دىسى هم شور كوى

A cock makes a great to-do whether you catch hold of it tightly or gently.

cf -

103

حرث که سوله دیسی هم یعبری که دیرانه دیسی هم یعبری A cock makes a great to-do whether you catch hold of it with good or bad intentions who is always grumbling. cf: Pigs grunt about anything or nothing.)

چرځه چه خوبيوري کونه يې تن^ميوري

The fatter a hen grows, the more costive she becomes. i. e. The better off a man is the more tight-fisted he becomes.

خو چرنگه په لاس کښ ور نه کړي مُملا دَ خداي ۱۵۵. - 106. پئر رضا نه کا تعویدونکه

Until you give him a fowl, the Mulla will not make you charms which bring God's blessing.

You can't milk a buffalo cow without putting something in front of her to eat.

الام دَ چَرَمَشِكِيَ نَهُ لَرِي او لَاسَ شَامَارَانُو تُهُ لَچُوي You do not know the charm for a lizard and yet you lay your hands on great snakes.

(Note: Applied to one who undertakes a task far beyond his abilities.)

يوه ورج د حافظ هم د الس ارکمي ولودړي . 108.

One day a blind man's stick will fall out of his hand (Note —Said by one who has been blamed for an accident A hafiz is a man who has become blind from learning the Quran by heart)

> One cannot make firewood out of bhang sticks, nor a man out of a Khattak.

(Note.—A Yusafzai taunt at their hereditary enemies)

ىارىي د هر چاسره سهٔ ده له حټک سره دا110. حټک ده له حټک سره حټک نه کوي يارى دفتر کدټک سره

Friendship with anyone but a Khattak is good.

A Khattak always wants a bit of bread as well as friendship. (Note:--A

Yusafzai taunt at the Khattaks and their proverbial poverty.

څوك يي ؟ خان آلس كښ د څه دي ؟ كنوك يا 111. په كتُ كښ د څه دي ؟ بتك

Who are you? a Khattak! With a piece of bread in your hand, and a water-bottle under your arm (== 2 armpit or lap)!

(Note:—Khattaks are renowned for their poverty.)

يا به اڼک نهوي يا به خټک نه وي يا علم ع

Either there will be no Attock or there will be no Khattak.

یا به تک نه وي یا به خټک نه وې ِ

Either there will be no frontier or there will be no Khattak.

- (Note:—A proud boast of one of the Khattak chieftains during tribal fighting in the early days of their history. cf:—By hook or by crook.)
- كة پهٔ لاس كښ ي څڼك وي نو به خټك وي الاس كښ ي څڼك وي الام If he has a hammer in his hand, he

61

will be a Khattak. (Note — This refers to the story of a Yusafzai who was going to meet a Khattak, and asked how he should recognise him. The reply has become proverbial as Yusafzais look on all Khattaks as common labourers, and therefore expect to see them sitting by the side of the road breaking stones.)

د د ډېکو عوا د یې په جُوکه ده پلخې You are a Khattak's cow. You won't

even get up for the goad.

دَ حيکو گمان د لده و ده نتر (نا ندر) وي

Khattaks are very suspicious

حوک حتران دی د هنای په کنجو څوک حتران دی - 116 د هت پهٔ کانډو

Some marvel at the treasures of God and some at the sowing of a garment (i. e. the disparity of wealth.) كم شي دُ ستر په ايلي ستر شي دُ خداي په ايلي . 117

A small man relies on a big, but a big man relies on God. i. e. However much man may look to his fellow man for assistance, in the end he has to turn to God for help.

غريب خداي کړي دؤس چا کړي

God made you poor, but who made you the dirty swine you are? (cf:-A' of them are guid lasses, but where do a' the ill wives come frae?)

خرچه له خر نه کم شي غور پريکول ي پکار دي ِ

When donkey can no longer do the work of a donkey, it should have its ears cut off.

خَرَ دَ خويد په خوراک څه پوهيريي

What do donkeys know of eating green wheat?

خَرِ شِكْرُ غُوارِ مِي او پيشو وزر غُوا پر يِ

A donkey wishes it had horns, and a cat, wings.

حر ما ما کره مطلب ور ده واحلة

Call a donkey 'Uncle' and get what

122

حر داار کړه حاحب پر دار کړه

Call a donkey 'Father' and use him to the full.

cf ماحت په رحت کسن حراف هم سړي پالر واعي د In time of need one will call even an ass 'father' (cf — Flatter fools to gain an end.

خهٔ حرکبی خه می دارکبی (123

What of a miserable donkey, or what of the small load it carries !

(Note —Said to a tyrant or bully, and means, I am not big or important enough for you to try your strength on)

ھو۔ ہ ہ کبی وی ہے۔ بی نا کی وی ۔ ہو۔ ہ ہ کبی وی ہے۔ بی نا کی وی

Donkey foals are loaded on according to their size.

خري خري زوي د وشهٔ و ي زه ي هه کړم خپل وري به و پري خپل به و پرم

Someone said to a donkey, "You've got a foal!" "What has that to do with me," said she, "He'll carry his load, and I'll carry mine!"

cf: - Every man for himself.

دَ خرى لکئي پاس نه لويشت کوي هم يوه ده که لاده. لاند نه لويشت کوي هم يوه ده

If you measure a donkey's tail by spans, it comes to the same if you start from the top or the bottom.

- خسنېري سپک مه کنړه پهٔ سترګو کښی به د پريوزې 127.

 Don't despise a blade of grass. It will get into your eye, (and see what it is like then.)
- په سر کښ د مسواک دي پهٔ بغل کښ د خنجر You have a tooth-cleaning stick in your hair, but a dagger under your arm.

پئة خولة خور پئة زړة كوږ

Fair words but hate in the heart. i. e. A hypocrite.

When a poor man is out of luck, the least of his bad luck will be a thorn in his sweets.

i. e. Everything will go wrong.

> Some ask what they will eat, others ask what they will eat with. i. e. Rich and poor have their troubles.

۔ چه نه تکی پۀ شا ده د کړم چه دۀ خوزی څۀ د کړم

131

If you wont go I will carry you on my back, but if you wont eat, what on earth can I do then.

(cf:— You can take a horse to the water.....)

نه پحپله خوري نه ې خور ددې له ورکوي

He neither eats it himself, nor will he

give it to anyone else who will eat it.

(cf: A dog in the manger.)

What is in Khost is not to be found in books, and what is in books is not to be found in Khost.

(Note: This is a jibe of the Turis at their uncouth Afghan neighbours in Khost.)

So and so is a flatterer of Teri, and so and so is a scoundrel of Bengal.

(Note:— The Khattaks of Teri are renowned for their flattery, and the Pathan hates and despises the Bengali.)

خپله خولهٔ بلا ده هم قلا ده

One's mouth is a calamity (when one talks too much) and a fort as well

(when one can hold one's tongue).

په دا وړو دی درای حه عواړرۍ (دی درای حه عواړی

With a tiny mouth like yours, how can you ask for anything? (Note —Said to a wife etc who

عدرات په حيل ورانات

keeps on asking for something)

Charity begins at home

اوّل خان پسی حیاں Self comes first, other people afterwards.

عاں جہ دمی دہ صال ۔ Is life best or wealth ?

One slap hurts twenty faces.

1 e. The one who has been slapped
enlists the sympathy of others and
so the quarrel spreads

a حسل دىنى حديثى بوسنى قد ده غده احوى ... 141. If the moster eats (such bad food as) parched grain, what will be give

his dog?

142.

كله أد دادا أو كله د بابا

Sometimes it is the father's turn sometimes the grand-father's. (The ups and downs of the world; every dog has his day.)

کله ک دادا وار کله د ادي وار داد داد وار کله د ادي وار

143.

داغ په سپينو جامو لئي

A stain shows up on white clothes.

که رښتيا راشي نو د دروغو وطن به سوي وي. 144. If the truth comes out, the land of lies will be burnt up.

cf :--

چه رښتيا راغني دروغو به کلي وران کړي وي

By the time that the truth comes out, lies will have destroyed many villages.

145.

َ دُ دروغو لنه منزل وي

Lies go a short way.

cf —

د دروعو مرۍ لنډ وی

The course (string) of lies is short.

د ملك ده cf — A lie has no legs

ده درنات لوی دی حمچه حلله ده
Though the sea be large, you have your

own spoon

1 c and that is all you'll get.

دسمی حس دی هو سنا نس دی

Your enemy is puny, but he is a match for you i e Never underrate an enemy, be he never so

contemptible

149

دینا د ارها عدا عرقی (با لوټکی) دی The world is the water pot used on a Persian wheel-well i e People come into and go out of this world duly like the water in a water pot on a Persian wheel-well which is continually being filled and emptied

كه ديناً ديره شي احر ده تيرة شي

However much you gain of this world's

goods, in the end they will pass from you.

په دنيا کښ ماميز بي خلي ِنه وي ِ

One can't get currants without stalks. (cf:—No rose without a thorn.)

َ د دنياً کارونه په دنيا شي

Worldly work is accomplished by wealth.

(cf: - Money makes the world go round.)

دوست هغه دي چه په سختي کښ د په کار راشي ِ A friend in need is a friend indeed.

د هم په ننداره شوه تارو رسو

A minstrel came into sight and the partridge was burnt. (Note:— A girl was cooking a partridge when a minstrel came along who attracted her attention, and so the bird was burnt.)

پم چه ډول وهي زوري لري لري The drummer who beats the drum has

the necessary strength for it.

 e Everyone has the ability suited to his own particular calling.

ومانو کله کله مسیی گوټلی دې Even Dams taste curds every now and again (Note —Dams are a poor

and despised caste of musicians, and curds are an expensive form of food) of:—Every dog has his day.

د ډمانو کلي نشته دُ رنځو څلي بشته 156

There are no villages of Dams-Boundary pillars are not built of dust.

(Note:—This expression is used to express disbelief in some preposterous statement.)

یمی مہ چا وىل چه نار د ِ مې شهٔ ويل می 157. د کومی دؤشمی

Someone said to a dancing girl (prostitute) "Your lover is dead!"
"Of which street?" asked the lady,

(cf :— Every body's friend is nobody's
 true friend.)

اوبهٔ چه وزني شي ِ سخا شي Stagnant water stinks.

راغلي په کښ کښيوتي ونډ وۀ په کښ پريوتي You have got yourself nicely messed up in it. You have fallen into a pond (which you did not expect.)

(Note:—Said to those who presume, and ultimately get involved in some trouble.)

When a drum is hung round your neck there is no shame in beating it.

(Note:—Pathans consider singing, dancing, and the profession of a musician (dam) to be undignified. The moral is-Don't be above your work.)

د ډيموي د کوني لاند تياره وي

There is darkness under the lamp. (cf:— The nearer the church the

further from God.)

یر اندهٔ نه سُپه او ورم نوردهی ده 162.

Day and night are all the same to a blind man.

د پرىدر په مج کس ژېږىدل ىى فادده رى It is of no use weeping before the blind.

که یوه سدرگه د رده ده په دلی لاس کنرده

When you are blind in one eye put your hand over the other (to protect it).

 e. Don't get caught the same way twice.

د سړی یوه سترګه ړاده شي په دلی باند لاس کدردې .--: cf

Blind in one eye, he puts his hand over the other. l. e. To shut one's eyes to a thing.

روند پهٔ حیل کور چه نومټرې نه سا د بل په کور A blind man knows his own house well, whereas the possessor of eyes knows not another's.

cf :-- A fool knows more of his own

house than a wise man of another's.)

166.

روند ته ګډيدل دي

It is merely dancing to the blind.

cf :--

اوښ ته سارينده غږول دي

It is merely playing the lute to a camel.

i. e. It is shere waste of time.

167.

· پروند دَ خدایه څه غواړي ؟ دوه سترګي

What does the blind man want?

Two eyes!

(Note:— Said by one who is offered the thing he most desires. cf: Show the dog a rabbit!)

روند قارغه شوي يوه سوټه خوري بلي ته سترګي وهي . 168. You have become like a blind crow-You eat one cow-pat with your eyes fixed on another.)

i. e. You are never satisfied.

169.

ر گر پروند گه پوري خاندي

A blind man laughs at a cripple.

امری مع م د رازی په مطار کس کرری So you, of all people, wander about in a flight of cranes (Note:—Said to one who ranks himself among those who are greatly his superiors.)

رر حه ناك وي له اور كي حه ناك وي

What fear of the fire has pure gold?

1. e. The innocent have nothing to fear.

رر ورکه هه حان شی دنا ر ډېر Give him some money, and you will become a Khan - Then you will

be rich.

A hundred taps of a goldsmith are not equal to one blow of a blacksmith. i. c. A brave man is a match for a

رور دَ عقل کنډه څنرې 174

hundred cowards.

Physical strength rips open the stomach of common sense. e. g. Tricks in wrestling.

cf :--

زرر د حساب كونه شلوي

i. e. Force recognises not lawful claims.

که زور د زوراور شي کندو کښ غنم خپل شي منام کنه زور د زوراور شي کندو کښ غنم خپل شي The wheat in the corn-bin is yours if you can get the upper hand.

چه په زور کښ ورسوه نه يي بړابږ د کښو وره خوا کښ مه کښينه زړرهور

If you are not his equal in strength don't sit beside him off your guard.

مه زوراور شي نو فصل سره پټي خپل شي A brave man can take the fields as well as the crops.

ر بنتیا یا زوراور وای یا کم عقل Strong men and fools dare to tell the truth.

ر وراور آنه صنح کښس صمه څخه د قنچر ورستو صمه څخه Go not in front of the brave nor behind a mule.

180.

له پردې زرې نه خپله لُور ښه ده

دُ زېري زوي نه کندو چه ُوشهٔ به کلي کښ 181. مرګ ګه وهٔ

An old woman could not give birth to a son. When she did there was plague in the village that year (and the son died of it).

i, e. There are faults on both sides,

183

هغه ژرنده جماعت نه پیژني

He is such a fool that he doesn't know
a mill from a mosque.

اله خوارئ (زاند ساني له ستي حق نه اخلي . From poverty he sits at the mill (watching other people's corn) but pride makes him refuse the reward

he earns.

185.

ژرنده که ک پلار ده خو په واز ده

Even if the mill belongs to your father you must wait for your turn.

i. e. First come first served.

186.

هُ اوبو (يا غذمو) لار په ژرنده وي

The way of the water (or wheat) is through the mill.

187.

هه م شي په هغه سپرلي چه نه م سخي څري نه م وري

Of what use is the spring time to me when neither my calves nor lambs will graze?

(Said by one who is unable to take advantage of a good opportunity.)

188.

سپرلي دي تا په گنجي سر ټرنبلي دې ګلو نه

It is spring, and behold! Your bald head is adorned with flowers.

(Said sarcastically to a 'sugar-daddy' with flowers stuck behind his ears, after the manner of Pathans)

د سنړو لد کدله چا کده نه دبې غورزولې No one throws away his cloak (beggar's) on account of ticks i e No one

on account of ticks 1 e No one
will give up a great advantage because of a slight inconvenience)

د سنو کور په کور ندی ده خو پغیر نه نو دی 190

The dogs of every house are at feud with each other, but they are all united against the faqir on the road

کومه دلا سپی ده معلومه ده هغه خسس نه معلومه ده ده

The master is not aware of the calimity

of which his dog knows
(cf —An old dog does not bark for nothing)

The dogs are barking, while the caravan is passing (unconcerned)

تور سپی مړ سپی واړه سنی دی

A dog, whether it is black or grey, is all one and the same dog

خبر سپی دَ لیوهٔ (یا کیدر) ورور دی کالیوهٔ (یا کیدر) درور دی The grey dog is the wolf's (or, jackal's) brother (cf: Chips of the same block).

A man with a nature like a dog will speak like a dog.

د سپي عمر نه مرګ ښه دي

Aweel-Death is better than a dog's life.

If a dog's tail were to be kept in a pipe for a hundred years, it would not become straight.

واي گهه م له سپېي نه خلاصه کړه د شرعم په لاس م . 198. ور کړه

He says that he saved the sheep from the dog only to let the wolf have it.

(cf:-Out of the frying pan ...)

سپينږيږي سره مه کوه مړ به شي د واړۀ سره مه کوه هم کوه هم د بهي شي

Don't lay yourself out over an old man

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they die, and young ones forget.
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> Get along with you-Go off to her! Fare thee well! You have been ogling other (women)

(Note - A wife's retort)

سرکی د سدرکو دهٔ سومدړی 201.

He is brazen to the point of shamelessness '

Also -

.. 1

سدرکی له سدرکو شرمدری

Eyes are shy of eyes

202. مديه در موړي دورې دورې د د A calf can only run as far as the peg

(to which it is tied)

سر په حالو ونساو نه دردنړي

Hair does not make one's head any heavier

cf. — Peshawari

سىرگى پە ىىړو نە درىنېرى

Eyelashes do not make one's eyes any heavier.

204.

نه په سر تار لرم نه په غو رو کار لرم

I have not a hair on my head, nor have
I any further use for grease
(hair-oil).

cf :--

گنجي په سر تار نه لرِي په چا کار نه لرِي

The bald man has not a hair on his head, nor does he require any one (to dress it).

i. e. A poor man is his own master.

عسل من سر خوخوي د دور گتو ژبه نه خوخوي
You wag your head which weighs about a hundred maunds, but you won't wag your tongue which is only the size of two fingers.

(Note:— This is used as a hint to a man who won't talk.)

206.

سر ک پاسه سر شده

There is always somebody (or some-

thing) higher up.

i. e. Every man has his master.

Your conceit reaches to the heavens, but your intelligence does not rise above your feet.

Your head (face) is like a rose, but the rest of you is like an onion.

 i. e. Good looks do not make up for a bad heart.

A domestic foe (tell-tale) ruins ones house.

make a thing than to break it.

په سلو وهليي شي په يو بړ نه شي 212.

Be beaten a hundred times, but never have to admit that you are beat.

سويه چة بار شي بارين څه وي ۔ 213.

If a harê be made a beast of burden, what sort of load will it carry?

A hare put its feet up into the air and said, "Look! The sky is right up against my feet!"

- له سيال سرة سيالداري كه له همزر لي سرة رازداري كه . 215 Treat your own clansmen as your friends, but beware of your contemporaries (and rivals).
- که فَ اوو سیندونو شم پوري خعله برخه به وي راپوري . 216. Even if I cross the seven seas (lit: rivers), my destiny will follow me (like a shadow).
 - i.e. There is no escape from ones destiny.

که شپه اداره ده مدړي په شمار دې 217.

Though the night is dark, the apples are counted.

 e. There are some things which a man knows almost instinctively.

شومی وربادد وشوه که د لک وهٔ که د کک

Whatever Fate had in store for him has happened; it matters not that he was rich or poor.

i. e. Fate spares neither the strong nor

219.

Arable land is all clods of earth.

 i. e. There are many more at home like you,

This is quite ordinary.

220.

The world (stands at nineteen), and no one has made it twenty. i. e. Man is never content, however much he may have.

په شماه د شوم غلطه په کور د درغام نه د خره وه نه د کته 221:

was deceived by the tail of your turban. I came to your house and found that you had no ass nor even a saddle. (This proverb is based on the story of a young man who used to pass the house of a certain young girl every day. From his appearance and the gold tail of his turban he appeard to be very wealthy. The girl fell in love with him and eventually ran away with him. When she came to his house she found that she had been deceived as he did not even possess an ass which even the poorest people have. This saying is now used of men who pinch and economise at home in order to keep up appearances abroad. The phrase, "Pa shamla e ma ghulega" is commonly used to mean, "Don't be taken in by his outward show or appearance.")

يه سردو سوي وهٔ ماسنو نه يې پُوکل يوکي 222.

Scalded by milk he blows on curds.

Also:—

مار دو ړلنۍ د پړې نه ود دړې

Bitten by a snake, he fears a rope. (cf: A scalded cat fears cold water)

دَ شوم او دَ سعى يو سّان اللهي 223.

The miser's and the generous man's accounts balance at the end of the year.

ر پرؤ چه مىن شى جايست پكار نه دى او چة خوب راشى بالست پكار نه دى

> When the heart is in love beauty is of no account; and when one is sleepy a pillow in not necessary.

سایسته د خدای هم خوس دی 225.

God too loves the beautiful.

(cf: Those whom the gods love die young.)

همغه ناوي چه په څان ښايسته نه وي . 226. څوک ي څه کوي ښايست د مور او نيا

If a girl is not good-looking herself, who cares a damn about her mother's or grandmother's looks?

cf: Every tub must stand on its own bottom.)

- به پنزار په ښپو کښ تنګ . 227. به پنوار په ښپو کښ تنګ . 227. بي پښځي سړي ښه دي نه عدام په کور کښ جنګ . It is better to go bare-footed than to wear tight shoes.
 - (e.g. To suffer the discomforts of westernisation before one is ready for it.) It is better to be without a wife than to be continually fighting in ones home.

هرة ښځنه چه حجاب نه لري بي مال^مي طعام دي . 228. خوه ی نشته

A woman without a veil is like food without salt unattractive.

نځخه چه د چا له خاطر نه نهٔ تيريږي په کال کښ يودي دولس وار لنګيږي

A woman who cannot say, "No." has

twelve babies a year,

i.e. A good natured fool.

Also .-

كمنتعمى سنثحى په كال ئىس دوە خالَ لەنگىرى

Ill-starred women have two babies a year.

سحه د کلي حوسه ده که دُ حاودد حوسه ده 230.

Should a wife be the idol of the people or of her husband?

The answer is obvious. Implies that while in certain cases you must follow public opinion, there are others in which you must follow your own, e.g., in your own private affairs.

ستعه دؤس بوټي دي 231.

Woman is a poisonous creeper.
i.e. The very devil.

 A man's wife was having a baby, but she could not give birth to it. friends asked after his family, and he replied that either there would be three of them or he would go and live in the village guest house in case his wife died.

(Note:—The last phrase has become proverbial and has the signification of "Hobson's choice".)

میږونه غړونه دی او ښڅی اړمونه دي 233. Men are mauntains and women are the

levers that shift them.

ر شخص د هر ويسته لاند سل سل مكرونه دي 234. A woman has a hundred wiles hidden under every hair.

دَ ښننمي منزدور 235.

His own wife's slave. i.e. A henpecked husband.

دُ به خي عقل تر پوندي لاند وي 236.

A woman's intelligence is in her heels.

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i. c. She's slow in the uptake, and it
occurs to her what she ought to have
said when she has left the room.

دَ مربي عفل په سن^هرو کښ وي —: Also

A slave's sense is in his ankles.

Lark: at the first alarm (lit: blow) thou art gone.

(Note:—Said to one who is faint hearted.)

طوطی ِ دَ خدای په کام (نا ورکړو) سو پر دی

The parrot has the lion's share of God's treasury (or, munificence.)

i. e. Beautiful plumage, the ability to talk, long life etc. cf: To be born with a silver spoon in the mouth.

هو څنځ لا ړشې اه سړې ده عادت ده لهې

Whatever else a man may lose he can not lose his habits.

هر خهٔ برو عادت نه دو -: Also

عقل دَ سنړي له کُفُتار نه معلوميږي

The extent of a man's intelligence is known from his conversation.

عقل به په سر دي نه په کال دي دَ خپل فکر په کمال دي

Common-sense is not in one's head, nor does age bring it.

It is the result of considered thought.

غار دى يى يا غارونو كښ نور غارونه وي يا غارونو كښ

It is a cave, and there are always caves within caves. (cf: Wheels within wheels.)

Don't put your hand into every hole or you'll be bitten by a snake.

غټ يي ميلنځ د رټ دي

You are fat and hollow inside. i. e. Impotent, chicken hearted etc.

هسي تش کدُو يي You are like an empty pumpkin.

که عر لوړ وي خو په سر مي لنار وي 245.

Even though the hill be high there will be a road at the top.

(cf Every cloud has a silver lining.)
Also:—

که عرالوی دی به سرای لار ده

Though the mountain be high there is a road to the top.

 e. There is no one so great as to be beyond control

خهٔ ور (ما لاس) بناه خه عربناه

It comes to the same thing if it is hidden by a door (or hand) or by a mountain.

(cf: A miss is as good as a mile.)

چه ډاد عربري هغه کم وريړي

Thunder clouds seldom bring rain. Also:— جه عودړی نه وريړې

عل پردمي سل کورونه وړان کړې حپل يو کور 248.

إناد فه كومي

A thief destroys a hundred houses, but

he cannot make his own house flourish.

دَ غل هاي په غر کښ نشته يو غلی غاي په غر کښ

A mountain is no place for a thief.

چه غَلَ نه یې ډارېږي په څه If you be not a thief of what are you

afraid?

عَلَمُ تَهُ وَايِ لَئُمُ سَادَ تَهُ وَايِ لَئِيمَ اللَّهُ سَادَ تَهُ وَايِ لَئِيمَ اللَّهُ سَادَ تَهُ وَايِ لَئِيمَ

He tells the thief to steal and the householder to catch him.

(cf: Run with the hare and hunt with the hounds.)

غلبيل کوزي ته ځو چه سؤري بؤري علامي کوزي ته ځو

The sieve said to the water-pot, "You are all holes!"

Also:—Peshawari:—

غلبيل کوزي ته ووِ چه تا کښ دوه سوري دي

(cf: The pot calling the kettle black.)

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Grief and happiness are brother and sister.

i. e. Go hand in hand.

ما به دى سىرگو لدىلى وج علم ولاير سُنهُ ردىلى 254.

With my own eyes have I seen ripe wheat standing, and the green crops reaped.

i. e. A young man's death etc.

عَوا پسی سحی وی حبل وی که بردی وی

There is always a calf behind a cow, sometimes her own and sometimes another's.

که راعله عوا په يې که لاړه عوا پردئي 256.

If a stray cow comes along to be milked it is mine; if it runs away it is somebody else's.

i. e. If a stray cow comes along and allows me to get a free pail of milk, I'll take it as mine for the time being. If not,well, the cow did not 96

belong to me so I lose nothing. (cf: Heads I win, tails you lose.)

په ډيرو قصابانو کښ غوا مرداره شي

When there are too many butchers the cow dies before it has been lawfully slaughtered (according to the Muhammadan law.)

cf: Too many cooks.....

غوبل د موړي په زور کرزي ِ

On the stake in the middle depends the threshing.

(Note:—Everyone is familiar with the spectacle of half a dozen bullocks yoked to a pole which turns on a central stake, treading out the corn.

This saying is used with reference to one who relies for success on a powerful friend.)

غوړريي که توي شول په تالي کښ توي شول 259.

Even when the ghi is spilt it falls into the brass dish (of his scales.)

(Note:—Said of a bunniah who, when weighing ght lets some of it spill.

The saying is now used of people who are always fortunate, even when some mishap befalls them.)

حرة سكر كيل عوړونة مى بايلل عوړونه

The ass tried to get horns and lost his ears.

- (Note:—Applied to those who, not content with what they have got, seek more, and lose everything.
- cf: Be thankful for small mercies).
- كة مصات نه عوسة اخلى نو حرفوى نه ب حرنه You can buy meat from a butcher, but you will never sell it.
 - e. An amateur can never compete with an expert.

Also:--

ممآت نار له هم هډوکي ورکوي

(Note:-Butchers are said to be cunning rogues and do not even spare their friends.) غوښه به د هرچا خوښه وي خو پيشو پر ايمان 262.

Everybody likes meat but a cat simply worships it.

عُونِي لَهُ وَسُورِي بِبا هُم لَهُ سَائُو نَهُ شِي وَيِ Burnt meat is better than vegetables.

Also:—

غرښي ته وسوزي بيا هم له پيتني نه ښي وي

خپله غوښه وسکونډه د بل هم دا شان خوړيږي ي

Pinch yourself to find out how much it hurts others.

يه غُلُو کښ چه څومره لرګي وهي بولېس ي زياتيږي . 265. The more you stir up filth the more it smells.

دَ فقير چه چرته ښه وي هلته ي شپه وي

A beggar spends the night wherever he is welcome.

(cf: Beggers can't be choosers.)

يو سائحي سل کلَ عمر دَ ملک په عور کس ندر کړ چه کوم وحب ناو ملل نه ی ؤو چه ره څم ملل <u>ؤو</u> چه ره سنا په تلو راناو نه يم حتر

A mosquito lived for a hundered years in an elephant's ear. When he was about to leave, he said to the elephant, "I'm off now!"

"I know nothing of your coming and going", he replied.

Also .-

نو ماشی د انی په عور کس شپه نده کړله ویل ی خه ماما ره خو خم انی ونل خه نه د په راقلو خدر یم او نه د په نلو خدر نم

(Note:—The Elephant's reply has become proverbial and is used as a snub to a bumptuous non-entity, cf no: 43.)

هغه سړی دومره دباوحل دی چه نو بلل د هغه 268. دواو د لل د هغه

He is so proud that an elephant could not carry his pride.

The crow talks of its white son, and the hedgehog of its soft-skinned offspring.

i. e. Everyone extols his children for the qualities they don't possess.

عفت شراب قاضي هم څښلې ديي

Even the Qazi drinks wine that is free. (Note: Wine is unlawful to the orthodox Muhammadan.)

چه صيوي يي دَ کابل خوړلي نه ويي َد هغه تر فهمَ وسکي وي ^{ځورځ}ري

> He who has not tasted the fruits of Kabul thinks sloes as good as raisins.

> (cf: Where ignorance is bliss......

كة په كار م نة راهي نامة ي نة راهي ِ

If a thing is of no use to me I don't even want to know its name.

جه په کلسي کس ي راکوی په غلسل کس ی 273. واجوه حه توې سُي

Put what you give me on a plate into a sieve so that it may fall through.

i. e. Thank you for nothing-I am not in need of your favours.

خوری دا کال نه کړی حدای تىر خو سا سوی . 274. پدون نه م نه شی هنر

Sister! This year will pass but I will never forget your burnt thigh.

- (Note: This is with reference to the well-known story of a brother who visited his sister during a famine year.
 - The lady happened to be cooking chuppaties, and fearing that he might ask her for some food, of which they had very little rapidly took the hot slab of dough off the griddle and hid it under her thigh, but she had not time to hide the griddle too. Her brother noticed this when she said that they

had no food in the house, moreover the chuppatics very soon burnt her, and she could not help jumping up and giving the secret away. Sometime afterwards the brother again visited his sister who welcomed him, and in the course of conversation mentioned the famine year.

The brother's reply has become proverbial.

This saying is used to emphasise any unforgetable incident and also to emphasise help declined or an old grievance.)

كانړي دير دي خو كار په سير تمام دي 275.

There are lots of stones, but only those of a seer's weight are needed (to use as weights).

كه منهجي په کانړي يا کانړۍ په منهجي وهي خبره يوه ده . 276. If you hit a pitcher with a stone or a stone with a pitcher it comes to the same in the end.

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The crow in imitating the gait of the maina forgot his own.

(Note —Said of anyone who becomes Europeanised or Indianised and drops his own language and customs)

____ پردی کپ د ند و سُپو ری 278.

One can only spend half the night on someone else's bed

(Note — This is used as a cautionary reminder to someone who borrows anything, and means that

278 د کُومی په ورنجو مه علطبوه او د ندهرهار پهٔ منړو
Don't be deceived by Kurram's clouds
nor hy the young men of Ningrahar.

(Note:—The clouds on the Safed Koh are notoriously deceptive, and the feud between the Turis of Kurram and their northern neighbours of Ningrahar has made them look on the young men of that province as being as unreliable as the rainfall of their own country.)

په هر چا خپل وطن کشمير دي

Everyone thinks his own country Kashmir.

چيندخه د اوښ په پچي (يا لوټه) وخته ويل ي 281. چه کشمير م وليدو

A frog climbed on to a piece of camel's dung (or a clod of earth) and cried

"I have seen Kashmir!"

(Note:—Said of a man who is blowing his own trumpet.)

282.

يا به كلال غيبي يا به دُ للمي كر

He must either ruin a brick-maker or a farmer of Lalmi.

(Note:—This is with reference to the Turi story of a brick-maker who prayed God for sunshine to dry his bricks at the same time as a farmer

of Lalmi village (i. e. a village whose lands are dependent on rainfall) prayed for rain to water his crops.

Lalmi zmaka also means unirrigated land.)

حوک ی په کلی کس ده پردړدی دی واي 283. حه وسله م حال کوه کدرده

The man who is not even allowed into the village is the one who says, "Take my arms to the Khan's house!"

له كلى ورة له نوحه مي صه وره 234.

Forsake your village, but not its ancient manners and customs.

- يم عقل درموه يد لل ده كا لكه هوسنار يه حيل څال ... A fool would not have made such a fool of anyone else as a clever fellow (like you) have made of yourself.
- Also: کم عقل دومره په دل ده کا لکه ده حیل خار

 A fool does not do so much (harm) to

 another as he does to hymself.

ک یو کم عقل نه په کور کښ ستن ورکه شوه 286. لټوله ی په بازار کښ

A fool lost a needle in his house and looked all over the bazar for it.

کنیه چه مبرهٔ کا نو په وخت مي ولي نه کا

If the widow intends remarrying, why

doesn't she do it at once?

(cf:— A stitch in time)

کنه، دَ لیور په طمع شوه دَ جمله میړونځ ووته

The widow through hopes of (marrying)

her brother-in law missed a whole

heap of husbands.

Also:— کنوه چه د لیبر په طمع شوه د ربرو روته

The widow hoped that her brother-in-law would keep her (but he didn't,)

and the harvest was over (so she could not go out gleaning for her-self.)

(cf:—To fall between two stools.)

کنوه ښځه په يو کټ دوه خوبونه وينې

A widow dreams a double dream on her lonely bed.

i. e. First of the late-lamented, and again of her next love.

ناري د کدوي سه ده لکه په يوي سحي پحيله 290. جع ته ته جي

A widow is good to love for a calf won't go into the yoke

د حمدار كور حه سحا وه حد داران وسد دور سحا شد The tanner's house was filthy, and when it rained it became worse still.

(cf .- Piling Ossa on Pelion.)

نه کور کسن نو پیر دارو نهٔ لرمی نلار نه وای خه 292. ما به بويع ولحله

> He has not got enough powder for one cartridge in the house and yet he asks his father to buy him a cannon

(Said of one who boasts of his family etc cf: with 283.)

293. ده کور دادی ده لری په ژردده اسل وار دسی

He has not got a grain in the house, and yet he books a turn at the 108

mill. (Making a vain show.)

294.

سل روپئ پور که د ژمی شپه په کور که

Borrow even a hundred rupees, but spend a winter's night in your own home.

(A Turi saying. The winter in Kurram is very severe.)

295.

كونهر ته نغارهٔ وهل فائده نه لري

It is of no use beating a drum to a deaf man.

Also:

اوښ ته سارينده غږول دي

It is like playing the harp to a camel. (cf: To cast pearls before swine.)

296.

کونړ په يوه خبره دوه څل خاندې

A deaf man laughs twice.

i. e. First when he sees other people laughing, and again when he realises what has been said.

297.

دُ کوهی خاوره په کوهي ل^مي

The clay of the well is expended on the well.

i.e. It takes all the earth excavated from a well to fill it up again. Said of a profit which is expended on the source from which it was derived.

298.

که څوک دل ده کوه_ک کڼي ه**ه**ه پنجبله به کس درموزی

Who digs a pit for another falls into it himself,

Also :--

د ىل په لار كس مه كنه كوهې حرب پخپله به د لار شي Don't dig a pit in another's path, perchance you may go by the same road yourself.

299.

کارری په خونه د مه مه په خوپ د_. م

Oh carrot! I am not so pleased with your flavour as with the noise made in crunching you up.

(Note:—Said of things which are not so enjoyable in themselves as in the effect produced by them on others.) 300.

پنخه واړه کتي. په خولهٔ مه منده Don't cram all five fingers into your mouth at once. i. e. Behave yourself! Pathans consider it elegant and genteel, when eating, to insert the tips of two, or at the most, of three fingers into the mouth. The sight of the average Englishman eating with his fingers is revolting andn auseating. Pathans are often surprised that they have such bad "table-manners".

This saying also has the force of-"Dogs that put up many hares kill none."

301.

څوک مه وهه په ګتی تا به نه وهی په لتی

Never lay a finger on anyone, and then you won't be kicked

302.

دا نخ دا میدان Here you are! This is a yard (36 inches) and this is a plain. i. e. Show

your prowess!

(Note:—This was said to a Pathan

who boasted of having done a tremendous long-jump whilst in India. It is now used as a retort to any kind of boasting

cf:—The proof of the pudding.. ..)

303. کیل په صنونر صنونر په کال څه وکړل What did Gul do to Sanobar, and what

did Sanobar do to Gul?

(Note:—This refers to the well-known story of a most lovely princess of Tartary, who announced that she would marry the first suitor who could answer this question correctly. If, however, they failed to do so, their heads were forfeit! Many tried to win the lady, and the battlements of her castle were decorated with the heads of the Failed B. A's (Bachelors of Adven-

tures),

Our hero, whose six brothers had lost their heads in the fruitless quest, was a really beautiful Prince.

After a series of the most incredible adventures, hair-breadth escapes, and sanguinary battles, all of which were of a very high standard of blood-pressure, he succeeded in finding the correct solution to the problem.

Whereupon he returned in triumph and married the Tartar as well as several other beautiful ladies he had run into during his travels.

The saying is now used in the hujras as a riddle and elicits the reply, "Ask me another!"

The really inquisitive, who burn to know what Gul and Sanobar really did to each other, will find the whole story in a pamphlet in Urdu entitled 'Gul-o-Sanobar' published by Shaikh Barkat Ali & Sons Booksellers, Kashmir Bazar Lahore.)

هر چرته چه ګل وي يو ازغيي ورسره مل وي

Every rose has a thorn as its friend

کل دې ارعې ده وې Also:-

Every rose has a thorn.

گلونه ودوه چه علک در ته کلزار شي زوران سه کره . 305. خپوکس به د لاړ شي

Cultivate roses and your land will become a rose garden.

Don't plant thorns they will stick into your feet.

كىيچې له خداي نۇكې ور سه كړه د سر ىديخ نه أياسې

May God never give a bald headed man nails, or he will scratch his head to pieces.

(cf;—Put a beggar on horseback and he will ride to the devil.)

دَ کلنجي يو راک رانات رمي

The bald headed always have one extra sense.

(Note: They are generally supposed to be very wicked.)

308.

که گور گران دي َ مړي نا کام دي

Though the grave be a terrible thing, the corpse must grin and bear it.

309.

خپل کور هر چانه تنګ ښکاريږي

Everyone thinks his own grave too small for him.

(cf:—Every horse thinks his own pack the heaviest.)

If he wants to make a saddle out of gur (molasses) he'll do it.

i. e' He's a wonder and can do anything.

311.

هسار کيدر د مزري په مقابله جنگيري

A jackal at bay fights like a tiger.

پيشو هم په خپل کور کښ همزري وي —: Also

Even a cat is a lion in its own home.

(cf: Every cock fights best on its own dunghill.)

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Oh jackal! Your nuptial pleasures last till the sun has risen.

(cf — Every dog has his day.)

ىو كىدېر بارى وهى او بل نه وهى د س .313. وسنه مى حنومى ، م

hair just stands on end د گندار دادهٔ دی

314 دى دى ئىلىر راده دى It is only a jackal's wedding.

(Note — This is used to describe a slight shower of rain when the sky is fine. The mating of jackals is popularly supposed to be of short duration.)

مره کنده فارسی وای A full stomach speaks Persian (instead

of Pashto)

1. e The man gives himself airs for good feeding makes a man arrogant.

An Indian bearer when he has received his pay may be heard to remark, "Ham kuchh care about nahin karta."

316.

دَ کيپيي اخوند دي

He is a glutton.

317.

لاس چه مات شي غاړي له څي

When the arm is broken the hand goes to the shoulder. i. e. When down in the world one turns to one's friends.

318.

لاس دَ برِي کار دي

Might is right.

319.

سل په لالي پوري يوه ي دَ بن^هړو

When you spend a hundred (Rupees etc.)
on your best girl, you might just as
well spend one more on bracelets
for her. (cf:— Don't spoil the
ship for a ha'porth of tar.)

320.

^{گاه} لري هر څومره پخوي خوند ي غشوين وي

However much you cook tripe it will

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still taste horrible. (cf —Sour
grapes can never make sweet wine)

الر وركة ود وكية على 321. Give a little (in the name of God) and

you will gain a lot.
(cf — The charitable give out at the

(cf — The charitable give out at the door, and God puts in at the window.)

___ لسکر که دَ پلار ومي هم ده دی

Even if the *lashkar* belongs to your father it is an evil thing.

1. e It is very expensive to keep.

لعل په ادبو کښ ده پيدرې 323.

A ruby will not remain hidden amongst ashes.

(cf .- Murder will out.)

لىپى خلال بە دى سانک ى ورىد بىل بولى دى 324 The short-tailed ox had not even been slaughtered when a man came along with a tray on his head to take the meat away. cf:— Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.)

لنهي که د عودل په ورخ پيدا شه نو ههو ورک ، 325. ، نه دي

If the short tailed (ox) returns on the day of threshing it has not gone for good.

(cf:—"It is not lost if it comes at last".
or, "All is well that ends well."

لنډينه غوايهٔ په لو ړه وخبژه چه څه د عزيزان کوي هغه ته هم کوه

Oh short-tailed ox! Go up on to the high ground (and look around) and do as your kinsmen do.

(cf :— In Rome do as the Romans do.)

لُوْر هُم دَ كُورَ او زُوم هُم دَ كُورَ

He wants me to provide him with a son-in-law as well as a daughter-in-law.

(A preposterous request. cf:—Like the tailor who sewed for nothing and provided the thread himself.) (c) ketabton.com: ក្រុម្ម Digital Library

Someone said to a camel, "Is uphill best or downhill?" He replied, "Confound them both!"

(cf:-It is six of one and half a dozen of the other.)

320

ه يو لوسي چه حوړوري ماندري

Every plate that is made breaks.

(Note:—This is used to express the transitory nature of life.)

cf •—

سور دُ پريوتو دیي

330.

۔۔۔۔ لُوسٰی کَ قام دد غوسدل سر می بِه دریاب (یا یه اودو کس) رچ شهٔ

The bulrush was not a well-wisher of its own kind, and lo! though its feet stand in water, its head is dried up.

Note:—This is a condemnation of lack of patriotism, esprit-de-corps etc.

لو گري نه چه کار نه کېږي لور په لوټه تيروي 331.

A reaper when he cannot work, sharpens his sickle with a clod of earth.

(cf: A bad workman quarrels with his tools. The latter part of the sentence also means, he wastes his time.)

هر سړي پروزه توره کړي چه زه لوهار يم 332.

> Any one can blacken his nose and say that he is a blacksmith. (Said of the vain-glorious.)

که تهٔ کړي سمي چاري تا به څوک نه نيسې په لياري .333 If you behave yourself nobody will interfere with you.

(cf:—A clear conscience is a coat of mail.) په ليلي هر څوک مين دي که ليلي په چاسينه شي 334.

Every one is in love with Laila: in the hope that Laila would fall in love with someone (but she did not.)

(Laila was the daughter of an Arab prince. In vain did all the nobles of the land seek her hand. She

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had given her heart to Majnun and remained faithful to him till death.

 i. e. A wish alone is not enough to achieve ones object. cf: "If wishes were horses, beggars would ride.")

هوجيار ده اشاره ده التوني نه ينهه ده

A hint is enough to the wise, but a fool needs a stick.

cf:— إصلل له إشارت كم إصل له كودك

مار خه سؤړي لوه ورشي نوادو شي . 336. ده دګور په عاوه راغلې ده شوي سم

When a snake approaches his hole he straightens out; whereas here are

straightens out; whereas here are you on the brink of the grave and you do not straighten out. (A rebuke to an old sinner.)

Also:-

مَارَكَهُ خَهُ كُورُو هَي چَهُ سَوْرِي تَهُ وَرَشَّي سَهُ دَهُ شَي Although a snake wriggles and curls along the road, when it comes to its hole it will straighten out. 337.

هغه دُ استونړي مار دي

He is a snake in the sleeve.

چه سر ي دَ مار وي که چرمښکئي وي سر ي 338. په تيږه ځله

Throw a stone at anything with a head like a snake, even if it be a lizard.

په پږدي اس مار هم مه وژنه 339.

Don't kill even a snake with the hand of another.

i.e. See to everything yourself.

340.

هغهٔ مار په دښمن وژني

He gets his enemy to kill snakes for him.

i. e. He gets any one to do his dirty work
for him

341.

تور مار ييي ورستو نه وهنه كوي

You are a black snake (cobra); you strike from the back.

342.

مارنمهٔ دانه وینی ِاو لومه نه وینی

The bird sees the grain but not the snare.

i. e. Avarice makes one blind.

هر مارعد هره ي حالة دو حدر دد دي د دل دُ حال

Every bird has its own nest, and no one of them knows about the others.

(c. f. One half of the world knows not how the other half lives)

What does a fowl know of the flavour of salt,

(cf: -Pearls before swine).

> He is very lucky and everything turns out well for him.

تاثىر لەمىلىس دى .346

A man is known by the company he keeps.

هعه دَ سَمَ له كُمُ والسى 347.

So and so is such a skinflint that he takes butter off a fly.

و هري مُجئي غُل شات نه وي دَ هري مُجئي غُل شات نه وي

Every bee's excrement is not honey. (cf:—All is not gold that glitters.)

349.

سلو مرغانو ته يوه تيوه کاېې ده

One stone is enough to drive away a hundred birds.

cf :--

سل پاېړ دَ يو لوړ

350.

مرگ نه په واړه دي نه په زاړه

Death is not for the young, nor for the old (but for all).

(cf:-"Death devours lambs as well as sheep".)

351.

مريني چه کا کا شي ِسر ي لوي شي_.

When a slave is called 'uncle' (i. e. becomes old) he gets a swollen head.

352.

مَوْيِيَ که دَ سرو وي کُنه ي دَ جستو وي

Though a slave be of gold, his bottom is of copper.

(That is, he will not be gold all through. cf:—"He has a yellow

streak". Also, "Blood tells in the end.")

مریمي شپرځ نه مونداه حفر و می موبدله نو و می چه 353. شل کو نه ده A slave could not get a blanket and

when at last one was given to him, he complained that it was not twenty yards long.

cf:—Don't look a gift horse in the

cf:—Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.

*354. هُم يَهُ قصى شَهُ

So a corpse has begun to talk!

(Note:—Said of any notably silent member of a party who suddenly becomes voluable.)

A dead man speaks not, if he does, well, he tears his shroud.

(Said of a quiet or modest person who when he does speak has no shame and spares no one. cf:—Still waters run deep.)

مزري په پنجره کښ هم مزري دي

A tiger is a tiger even inside a cage.

مَرْكُهُ آمانت نه كوي خانت (خيانت) 357.

The ground never plays false with a corpse that has been entrusted to it.

(Note:—It is a common belief amongst Pathans that if on burying a corpse, the ground be verbally charged with its care, it will be preserved in a perfect state until it can be given a proper internment. Most commonly done after a battle when the dead are given hasty burials. The words used are to this effect :- "Oh earth! I entrust this corpse to thy keeping for so long, when I shall require it of thee safe and sound." First hand evidence has obtained of a corpse that was exhumed two months after burial in this manner, in perfect condition, with, moreover, the hair and nails grown.)

معل په دهمادو رور وکړ دهفادو په حرو رور وکې

Afghan soldiers are cruel to the villagers who in turn are cruel to their donkeys.

معل حتلی سه دی مه په کور کس مدام حدث . 359.

It is better to raid into Afghanistan than to wage continual wars in one's own country.

د حوار مُلا په بادگ حوک کليمه هم نه نيږوي . 360.

When an impecunious Mulla calls (to prayers), no one even repeats the creed.

(Note:—On hearing the Azan (the call to prayers) all Muslims repeat the creed. The proverb means that no one pays any heed to a poor man.)

361.

ويريري مُلا په خپلي لُور ويريري

A Mulla is afraid for his own daughter.

(Note:—A Mulla's daughter seldom inherits her father's pious nature, and no one knows better than he the number of bad-hats in the village.

مُلا څنګل تهٔ نه څي ِ عياو جماعت ته نه ورڅي ِ

A Mulla does not go to the jungle, nor a bear to the mosque.

Also:—

مُلاً له جماعت نه وزي او بلا جماعت له نه ورني

The Mulla does not leave the mosque nor the devil go into one.

i. e. Each minds his own business.

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Some get educated and become Mullas; others go to the bad.

ر ملا مار دی د خوانانو کار دی . 365. مُلا تالی دس هم م زوی هم م نوسی دی

" Mulla! Here is a snake!"

"That is a matter for brave lads!"

" Mulla! Here is a dish of food!"

"Well, my son, my grandson, and my self are ready for that!"

(Note:—Originally used to illustrate the cowardice and greed of Mullas, but now applied to all who possess these failings.)

given you a swollen head.

(Notwithstanding the fact that) the rat

could not get into its hole, it (went and) tied a winnowing basket to its tail.

(Note:—Said of poor people who encumber themselves with unnecessary expenses.)

A snake comes to the road to die.

Also:—

(Note:—Said of outlaws etc, who are caught in British India.)

I cut the snake's tail off, but did not kill it.

(Note:—This is used to express partial success.)

An empty vessel makes much noise.

دَ مُوتِي دياسه مع ربعه

Don't reap above the closed hand.

1. e. practise the right way of working.

(cf:—Don't put the cart before the

horse.)

A hen-pecked husband, who does at any rate fill the bed is better than none at all.

(cf: -Half a loaf is better than none.)

د و ړونمي هلک (نا کودئث) په ژبه دپله مور پوهدړي ِ .373

The prattle of a little child is only understood by its mother.

The baby is not suckled till it cries.

(cf:—A closed mouth catcheth no flies.)

375.

لُورُ له. صور زوى لهٔ پلارَ معلوميري

A girl takes after her mother, and a boy after his father.

Also:

لكه مور هسي لُور نكه جرنده هسي دوره

As the mother so is the daughter; as the mill so is the flour.

چه نه د وي د مور دايي مه وابه چه ورور

Don't call anyone 'brother' who is not the son of your mother, i. e. Be careful whom you trust.

چه سور ميره شي پلار پلندر شي

With the arrival of a step-mother, the father becomes a step-father.

په شاهئي کښ مولئي خوغوي You sell raddishes in Shahi (village). (cf:—To carry coals to Newcastle).

لکه مذّی کښ تور سپين

Like the black specks in a grain of pulse (which is white.)

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(Note:— This is used to describe very small proportion.)
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میا شت آوّله (یا و پر ندی) ورخ کدی شی One can see the moon on the first of

(Note: The Muhammadan year is lunar. This saying has the force of, 'All in good time.')

ميا شت په کُنه نه پټدرې ميا شت په کُنه نه پټدرې

You can't hide the moon with a finger. (cf:— Murder will out.)

ميا شب کوره کال پر ندسه 382.

Look at the month and judge the year thereby.

1. e. Coming events cast their shadows

before them.

دَ مَدِرِي رَوِي مَدِرُو پِسِي خَي دَ وَرِي وَرُو پِسِي . 383. The lamb follows the sheep and the

kid the goat.
(cf: Birds of a feather...)

ميربي ته لربي اوبه درياب و ي

A very little water is a sea to an ant.

Also:—

ـــــــــــ پَ ميربي ته پچه هم پيچومي دي

Even a piece of sheep dung is a hill to an ant.

دَ مدير ي چه خداي په بدو شي نو وزري وکه 385.

When God wishes to destroy the ant, he gives it wings.

(cf:— To give a man a rope to hang himself.)

په پردي کور سل ميلمانځ هين دي 386.

What does it matter if there are a hundred guests in someone else's house?

cf:—To cut large thongs of another men's tethers.

دَ ميلمنو په بيړه دَ کالهٔ څه شي

What attention does the host pay to the fact that his guests are in a hurry?

(Note: — Anyone who has sampled Pathan hospitality will appreciate the truth of this remark.)

معلمة كور ده شولى جه دى ده په كسوه دي.

Better to drive the guest from the

house than to go hungry one self.
A Turi saying which few Pathans

مدودی مدامه د اسمال مدور دی Also :--

The unexpected guest is a thunder-bolt (a bolt from the blue.)

منده ساعب په ساعب رياتدړي لکه رياتدړي .389. د سپايانو ماحنونه

د سپانانو محموده Love increases from hour to hour like a sepoy's pay.

If there were no barber, who would pick out the ticks?

(Note — This is a Yusafzai saying. Yusafzais often wear their hair long at the back of the neck, and so are commonly worried by ticks, which it is the barber's business to remove. Every village has its own barber, whom each villager paysnot in money-but one pound out of every eighty of the grain that he harvests.)

391.

نر زوي په رونړي کښ معلوميږي

One can tell a promising (lit. male) son even in his swaddling clothes. (cf:--"The child is father of the man".)

392.

دَ نس غولي ژور دي

The belly's courtyard is capacious. (That is, there is no satisfying it.)

393.

چه نښتر زړيږي ځو ړئي چۍ کنُبي ته لوړږي

When a fir tree gets old, its sap goes to the bottom.

(Note:— This is said of old people in their dotage.)

394.

چه چرته څېي خپل نصيب به و ړي

Wherever you go your destiny will follow you.

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په سپو خو د څه نکريزې نه دې اېولي 395.

Have you put henna on your feet?

i.e. Why are you lagging behind?

(Note:—Said to one who won't walk quickly: henna is put on the feet to beautify them and also to cool them. Therefore a man with henna on his feet will walk slowly and carefully so that it may not be rubbed off.)

It is not a morsel of food.

(That can easily be gulped down. Said of a difficult task. cf:—Rome was

not built in a day.)

shove his whole fist in.
(cf: — Give him an inch.....)

Virtue will make you a king; evil will disgrace you.

هر چا سره نیکني کوه خو خپلو سره نیکی ممه کوه (399

- Do everyone a good turn except your own relatives.
- i.e. They will only take it for granted and will not even thank you for it.

وادهٔ نه پس نکريزي په کنني ولهوه

After the wedding put the *henna* on your backside!

اختر چه تير شي ِنكريزي ِپه ديوال وتپه --: Also

When the festival (Id) is over, plaster the wall with *henna*.

(Note: -The former refers to the well-known story of the villager, who asked a friend, who was going to town, to buy him some henna, as a wedding was going to be held in the village. On such occasions they don their best clothes and anoint their fingers with henna. The man was delayed in the town and returned two or three days later, and said to his friend, "I' ve

done your commission-here is the

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henna!" His friend's reply has become proverbial, and is used as a retort to anyone who does a thing too late to be of any use. Frequently only the first part of the saying is used-"Wāduh na pas!"

لاده ماده نهٔ رهٔ د سلو رویو دول نوه شه There was no wedding and a hundred rupee drum broke.

i. e. Every thing went wrong.

402. په سىر، و ب وارده را اوړىداي ده His eves are bunged up with fat.

i. e. He is too proud to recognise his old friends.

له وروری نه وارده ونسدل 403.

To take the fat off a flea.

وحو بورى داده هم رُسوُ

The green wood was burnt as well as the dry.

i. e. A holocaust - Also, the innocent suffered with the guilty.

405.

اورئ او نوك نهٔ سره جدا كيږي

The nail and the flesh about it do not separate.

cf:-Blood is thicker than water.

406.

و ړنبټي دَ ورستبي پُل دي

The man in front is a bridge for the man behind.

i.e. Sets an example.

407.

که ورور د خپل وِي چه په راز د بل وي له هغه نه دښمن ښه دی

It is better to have an enemy than a brother who prefers someone else's society.

408.

وزوري خوري به كؤو هنسب تر مينڅه

We will remain brother and sister, but some sort of account must be kept.

i. e. Business first, then friendship.

409.

ته م وزي وهه زهٔ به د روژي وهم

Break my prosperity (lit. kill my goats) and I'll break Thy fast!

(The shepherd here threatens God in

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the words of the proverb, for the loss of his goats. Fasting in the month of Ramzan is one of the five pillars of Islam and so he thinks that by this means he will be able to annoy God. (cf: Tit for tat.)

A hungry man keeps his eyes on the dining table.

A hungry man always hears the sound of *chupatties* cooking.

A hungry man will eat his son's lungs.

To a hungry man a ... is a carrot. (cf:—Appetite is the best sauce.)

What does the satiated man know of the hungry man's state.

i.e. When a man is out of luck every thing goes wrong.

Though arms are a burden, sometimes they are useful.

The dust of one country is gunpowder (or medicine) for another.

(cf: What is one man's meat is another man's poison.)

The dog of the country catches the hare thereof.

(cf: Set a thief to catch a thief.)

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The sparrows ate up everything, and the bulbuls were blamed for it.

cf:--Cat's paw.

Were you born standing that you won't sit down?

(Note:—Said to one who won't take a seat when paying a visit.)

There is no tree which has not felt the force of the wind.

هره ونه منه حوره نوه نه د رهر گدید. شی 421.

Dont eat of every tree, or one will turn out to be as oleander (poisonous.)

i.e. Take care what company you keep, or society you move in, so as not to come to grief. .

رسي و حده که دُ دو السدي لهما له خپلي تدې نه وسي . 422. دو وه ده جا وهام

The tree said, "If only the handle of

the axe were not made of my wood, no one would be able to fell me."

كه چه وينه زاري هسي مينه نه ژاړي ِ

Love never weeps as blood weeps. (cf:—Blood is thicker than water.)

نَ هذه وستان لياري په صبر لنه بريِ

Patience shortens the road to India.

هغه چه هندوستان نه دولت او د افغانستان نه سر 425.

He is a clever man who brings back wealth from India or his head safe from Afghanistan.

اوبديار له كم عقل پند اخلي ِ

A wise man takes warning from a fool.

دَ هيلو بچو ته غوپې مه ښيه

Don't teach ducklings how to dive.

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suck eggs. It is also used in the sense of, Don't be such an obvious fraud.)

429. اس دیی اس دیی An old friend is saddled horse.

430. لا دار شم لا بدرار شم

i. e. Is always at your service.

Be either friendly or downright displeased.

side the garden.

These nights and days will go on (or remain) but friends will not.

i. e. Life is short.

د باعوان داري د داغ بهر وي A gardener's flirtations take place out-

An orphan is an expert in crying,
i.e. One accustomed to misfortune
can endure it better than those
who are not accustomed to it.

يتيم روژه ونيوله ورخ ورباند کال شوه

The orphan began to fast, and the days lengthened out into years.

(Note:—The Muslim fasts by day only, and so suffers most in summer when the days are long and hot.

The saying means that everything combines to distress the poor.

(cf:-Misfortunes never come singly.)

يخني هداي رسول نه مني يو موټي مالوچ مني معني

- Cold acknowledges neither God nor His Prophet, but a handful of cotton wool.
- i. e. One should not invoke God's aid in every trivial matter, but use the means He has provided.
- (cf:—Heaven helps those who help themselves.)

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proverb					
2	(line 7)	Heroditus	Herodotus.		
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