T
he start of bibliographical stock-taking of Persian defining dictionaries, in both East and West, appears to date from the seventeenth century. Haji Khalifa (Ḥāji Xalīfa, also known as Kātib Čelebī; 1609-57) brought out a vast general bibliography which, besides numerous other works, included Persian farhangs and Arabic-Persian dictionaries. In this collection, however, assembled alphabetically by title, information on the dictionaries is inconsistent and scattered throughout the work. As a first attempt at providing a bibliography of Persian farhangs as such, we may reckon the list (fihrist) included by ʿAbd al-Raṣid Tattaṿī in the preface to his Persian dictionary Farhang-i Jahāngīrī of 1608. This list contains 44 names of farhangs, numbered consecutively. Although the author refers to them as his sources, we may note that some of the farhangs mentioned were apparently inaccessible to him, inasmuch as he mentions one and the same farhang two or three times under different numbers and different names. Thus, under Nos. 3 and 19, there appear respectively F. Šaraf nāma-yi ʿAḥmad Munyarī and F. ʿIbrāhīmī, which are the same work; likewise under Nos. 12 and 13 are listed F. Dastūr and F. Dastūr al-afāżīl, and under Nos. 25 and 27, F. ʿĀlamī and F. ʿAlī Nīkpay, which are also different names for the same dictionary [Jahāngīrī 1972-75, Vol. 1: 5-7].

This list was reproduced in 1700, unnumbered and without direct acknowledgement, by the Oxford don Thomas Hyde (pp. 7-9 above). A contemporary of Tattaṿī, the Persian lexicographer Surūřī, gave a list of sixteen farhangs as his sources in the

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1 This was also pointed out by Salemann in his Bericht [1888: 540].
preface to his own work of 1600 [Majmaʿ al-furs 1959-62]. Other compilers of Persian defining dictionaries listed their lexicographical sources sometimes in the prefaces to their work and sometimes within the text. The most important of these lists are those in the preface to the Persian-Turkish dictionary F. Šuʿūrī (1664; published 1742), of 34 names, including some Arabic-Persian and Persian-Turkish dictionaries and in the preface to Rīzā-quḥ Khan Hedāyat’s F. Anjuman-ārā-yi Nāṣirī [1871] of 48 names, also including some bilingual dictionaries.

The works enumerated did not provide a full accounting of Persian lexicographical works. Scholars tackled this problem in the nineteenth century, concentrating on extant dictionaries and their representative texts in the world’s libraries (Chapter 1). The first among this type of work was the list published in India by Henry Blochmann, of 65 names in alphabetical order [Blochmann 1868: 4-7]. Pierre de Lagarde, having published his list of farhangs in 1884, included in it 61 works (some of them Arabic-Persian and Persian-Turkish dictionaries), adding a brief annotation to each item, thus furnishing a bibliographical overview of the sources for the history of Persian lexicography [Lagarde 1884: 15-64]. Carl Salemann’s great contribution, as mentioned, was that he published for the first time not an alphabetical but a chronological listing of Persian farhangs, which took into account all previous literature on the subject: his list ran to 161 works, still including a few Persian-Turkish dictionaries [Salemann 1888: 505-84].

The list of Persian dictionaries compiled by Saʿīd Nafisī [Burhān-i qāṭiʿ 1963, Vol. 1: 71-77] contains 202 names arranged in alphabetical order. (Nafisī intended it to comprise only Persian farhangs, but in the list we encounter some Persian-Turkish dictionaries). Other familiar errors crept into the list: listed separately are the same farhangs under two or three current names. Thus, for instance, under No. 49 is listed the dictionary Risāla-yi Muḥammad-i Hindūšāh, which is the same work as