

"lower their rods of empire is the watch-tower of the whole earth wherein We have to keep  
 "ward for the safety of one and all the Kingdoms. Nor is any such nation to be found,  
 "fare as far as you will, whether mountain ranges or ocean waves sunder it from the regions  
 "in which We are, that is not embraced by the arms of the Apostolic love. Persia however  
 "We can nowise forget. Reverence is paid in the Christian world by heavenly honours  
 "to not a few Persians as citizens of heaven; and furthermore, just as once upon a time  
 "Greece the mistress of human wisdom sought a pattern of the perfect prince in the royal  
 "court of Persia and so proffered Cyrus's virtue for imitation as the exemplar of good rule  
 "to every single age, so now Rome which is considered the infallible shrine of divine truth  
 "has enrolled not a few Persians likewise in the assemblage of the saints; and those who  
 "would copy their lives would arrive at the place of honour in everlasting bliss. But  
 "moreover the renown of Your Highness of which Europe has long expressed its approval  
 "attracts to itself the thoughts of those to whom the sight of a prince crowned with virtue  
 "is most welcome. Then again You not so long ago taught the peoples living in the part  
 "of the world native to Us how You are minded towards the Roman Pontiffs to whom  
 "You offered Your friendship by an embassy that showed Us great honour. But indeed  
 "truly a wonderful comfort is heaped on Us by the priests, Discalced Carmelite Religious,  
 "in making much of the happiness of the Persian Kingdom by proclaiming Your praises.  
 "Assuredly it is on no unmindful and thankless people that You have bestowed kindnesses.  
 "For, if it is a well-known pleasure with rulers to reach by their renown all those territories  
 "they cannot control by their sway, assuredly proofs of this joy are not lacking through  
 "them. Italy thinks that a unique proof of the divine mercy lies in that royal kindness  
 "which throws open in those Kingdoms hospitable dwellings for the Carmelite Community  
 "and also does not forbid Christian crosses and the Roman Rite openly to hold sway in  
 "their places of worship. Consequently We who have lately been raised to the throne of  
 "Apostolic majesty repeatedly turn Our mind's eye to Your Highness desiring the King  
 "of kings, who is rich in mercy to reward this goodness of the royal nature with some  
 "outstanding piece of good fortune. We offer vows for Your safety and most fervently  
 "beg the Father of Lights to bring so fine a king through the paths of the Divine command-  
 "ments to that glory where the co-heirs of Christ after flying forth from the prison of death  
 "rule in heaven and judge the nations and have dominion over the peoples. But it seemed  
 "fitting to intimate to Your Highness this desire of the Pontifical will by an Apostolic letter  
 "so that it might be clearly known to this nation of Yours that the kindnesses which come  
 "from the Persian court to the Christian commonalty do not in this Our Rome the mother  
 "of Catholic princes find the mind of the Church's hierarchy lacking gratitude. Hence  
 "We recommend to Your Highness most earnestly the peoples that serve Christ, whom  
 "Our priests, zealous for the common peace and quiet, will constantly incite to render to  
 "Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's. But indeed through whatever favours  
 "of royal kindness You protect the Carmelite Community rich as it is in heavenly virtues  
 "and beloved of the Christian commonwealth, through those same You increase the  
 "splendours of Your Name in the Roman city and the comforts of Our Pontifical love.  
 "Our goodwill however which You have long since earned by such noted favour can be  
 "entirely pledged to You by those practices whereby the Kingdom of Heaven suffereth  
 "violence and the chief places in eternity are gained. Let Your Highness entirely  
 "believe that this will be the continual prayer of Our Pontifical love, on whom when trium-  
 "phing amid the plaudits of worldly bliss We desire the Sun of divine truth to shine forth.  
 "Given at Rome at S. Peter's under the Fisherman's ring 9th March 1624 in the first  
 "year of Our Pontificate."

At the same time this great missionary Pope, aware of the strain of the situation for his Carmelite sons and delegates, wrote to encourage them a Brief (*Epist. ad. Princ.*, vol. 38, p. 28, formerly 357, in Arch. Sec. Vat.), in which, moreover, was granted as a reward, a plenary indulgence for the feasts of SS. Simon, Jude, Thomas: