



## 'ABD-AL-ḤAMĪD B. VĀSE'

'ABD-AL-ḤAMĪD B. VĀSE' B. TORK, ABU'L-FAẒL MOḤAMMAD, mathematician, often referred to as Ebn Tork. A native of Kottal (north of the Oxus and west of Badaḡšān) or Gīlān, he apparently flourished at the beginning of the 2nd/9th century. His apparent grandson, Abū Barza Faẓl b. Moḥammad b. 'Abd-al-Ḥamīd b. Tork (d. in Baghdad, 27 Šafar 298/4 November 910; see Ebn al-Qeftī, *Tāriḡ al-ḥokamā'*, ed. J. Lippert, Leipzig, 1903, p. 406) asserted 'Abd-al-Ḥamīd's priority over his contemporaries in the field of algebra. Some of the other earliest algebraists in the Islamic world were K̄vārazmī and Sanad b. 'Alī, and Abū Kāmel vehemently supported the case of K̄vārazmī's priority (Ḥāǰī Kalīfa, *Kašf al-zonūn* [Leipzig] V, pp. 67-68).

Ebn al-Nadīm lists two works by 'Abd-al-Ḥamīd (*Fehrest*, p. 281): 1. *K. al-Jāme' fi'l-ḥesāb* ("Comprehensive book on computation") in six books; it is lost, unless no. 4 below is part of it. 2. *K. al-Mo'āmalāt* ("Book of transactions"), lost. A book with this title and a *K. al-Mesāḡa* ("Book of surveying") are also attributed by Ebn al-Nadīm to Abū Barza. Ebn al-Qeftī (*Ḥokamā'*, p. 230) repeats the *Fehrest's* notice of no. 1, but in place of no. 2 he lists the following: 3. *Nawāder al-ḥesāb wa ḡawāšš al-a'dād* ("Book of rarities of computation and characteristics of numbers"), lost. 4. *K. al-Jabr wa'l-moqābala* ("Book of algebra"); ed. A. Sayili, *Logical Necessities of Mixed Equations by 'Abd-al-Ḥamīd ibn Turk and the Algebra of His Time*, Ankara, 1962.

*Bibliography* : See also Sezgin, *GAS* V, pp. 241-42.