



ABŪ BAKR SARAḶSĪ

ABŪ BAKR B. MOḶAMMAD B. AḶMAD WĀ'EZ SARAḶSĪ, IMAM, a follower (but apparently not a contemporary) of Shaikh *Abū Sa'īd b. Abi'l-Ḷayr* (d. 440/1049). Abū Bakr appears in two narratives of the *Asrār al-tawḶīd*, relating stories he heard from those who had known the shaikh directly. In one, he simply recounts a brief anecdote which introduces a longer narrative, the whole being related by Ḷvāja AḶmad MoḶammad Ṣūfī. In the other, he quotes two *bayts* from a *qaṣīda* he recited over the shaikh's tomb in the presence of the saint's family and followers; and he goes on to tell an anecdote from the shaikh's life which, in response to the poem, was recited by 'Abd-al-Ṣamad b. Ḷosayn Ṣūfī SaraḶsī. The subject of the *qaṣīda* was the theological dispute over the placelessness of God. This sole surviving fragment of Abū Bakr's poetry is an interesting example of the early use of poetry as a vehicle for theological debate.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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