



## ABŪ ḤĀMED TORKA

**ABŪ ḤĀMED ṢADR-AL-DĪN MOḤAMMAD TORKA**, scholar and author of the late 7th/13th and early 8th/14th centuries, the first in a line of prominent men of the Torka-ye Eṣfahānī family. The family name refers to Abū Ḥāmed's grandfather, described as a Turk who moved from Kōjand to Isfahan.

Abū Ḥāmed corresponded with K̄vāja Rašīd-al-dīn Faẓlallāh, the vizier of the Ilkhanid Ġāzān. In one letter the latter agreed to a lowering of the taxes on the people of Isfahan, added that the new tax scales "will be applied throughout the country," and called Abū Ḥāmed "ruler of the kingdom of knowledge and faith." Writing again during his severe illness, Rašīd-al-dīn also sent his will, providing for the disposition of his vast property and library of 60,000 volumes.

Abū Ḥāmed dedicated to Rašīd-al-dīn a *Ḥekmat-e Rašīdī*. He is also said to have written a work refuting "doubts of the peripatetics" and dealing with orthodoxy, entitled *Qawā'ed al-tawḥīd*, which may be the same work. Examination of its contents has shown that in many places it follows the teachings of Ṣadr-al-dīn Qūnavī (d. 673/1274), Ebn al-'Arabī's chief disciple; and more particularly, in certain sections it summarizes passages of the first major commentary on Ebn al-'Arabī's *Foṣūṣ al-ḥekam*, that by Mo'ayyed-al-dīn Jandī (q.v.; d. ca. 700/1300), a disciple of Qūnavī (Jāmī, *Naqd al-noṣūṣ fī šarḥ al-foṣūṣ*, ed. by W. C. Chittick, Tehran, 1356 Š./1977, p. 326, fn. 60/2-61/9). *Qawā'ed al-tawḥīd* was commented upon and expanded by Abū Ḥāmed's descendent Ṣā'en-al-dīn Torka (connected with the courts of Tīmūr and Šāhroḳ) under the title *al-Tamḥīd fī šarḥ qawā'ed al-tawḥīd* (Tehran, 1316/1898-9; new ed. by S. J.



Āštiānī, Tehran, 1355 Š./1976). Another work by Abū Ḥāmed also was dedicated to Rašīd-al-dīn: *Konūz al-afrāḥ fi ma'refat al-ašbāḥ wa'l-arwāḥ*.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Šahrestānī, *Ketāb al-melal wa'l-neḥal*, Persian tr. by Afzal-al-dīn Šadr Torka, ed. Sayyed Moḥammad Rezā Jalālī Nā'inī, Tehran, 1350 Š./1972, intro., pp. 71-72; sources for the family's history are cited on pp. 87-88.

“Maktūb-e K̄vāja Rašīd-al-dīn Fazlallāh be Šadr-al-dīn Moḥammad Torka,” ed. 'A. Eqbāl, *Yādgār* 1/4, 1944-45, pp. 6-8.