



## ABŪ ŞĀLEĤ MANŞŪR (I) NŪĤ

**ABŪ ŞĀLEĤ MANŞŪR (I) B. NŪĤ B. NAŞR**, called **AL-AMĪR AL-SADĪD** and **AL-MALEK AL-MOẒAFFAR** (350-66/961-76), Samanid ruler in Transoxania and Khorasan and successor of his brother 'Abd-al-Malek after the latter's death in Şawwāl, 350/November, 961. 'Abd-al-Malek's reign had been filled with discord, the amir striving to free himself from domination by the great military leaders, but he fell under the domination of the slave commander Alptigin, governor of Khorasan, and the latter's then ally, the vizier Abū 'Alī Moḥammad Ba'āmī.

At this point, Alptigin attempted to raise to the throne 'Abd-al-Malek's young son Naşr, doubtless hoping that he would be a pliant tool in his hands, but the rival general Fā'eḡ Kāşşa and other members of the Samanid family favored the candidature of Manşūr for the succession. Manşūr accordingly was hailed as ruler at Bokhara on 19 Şawwāl 350/1 December 961, and Alptigin was compelled after the failure of his putsch to withdraw to Ġazna on the far eastern periphery of the Samanid empire. Abū Manşūr b. 'Abd-al-Razzāḡ stepped into his old office as governor of Khorasan, though he was soon killed and replaced by Abu'l-Ḥasan Moḥammad Sīmĵūrī.

In an endeavor to find new financial resources for the state, the army was now diverted into northern Persia against external foes there. Samanid authority was extended over the Ziarid princes of Gorgān and Ṭabarestān, Ḥāẓir-al-dawla Voşmagīr and his son and successor Bīsotūn, and a substantial indemnity was exacted from the latter. Campaigns were launched against the Buyid ruler in Ray, Rokn-al-dawla Ḥasan, until in 361/971-72 peace was made



between Amir Manşūr and the Buyid prince on a basis of the latter's paying an annual tribute of 150,000 Nīšāpūrī dirhams (thus, in continuation of Naršaķī, *Tārīķ-e Bokārā*, ed. Modarres Rażawī, Tehran, n.d. [ca. 1939], p. 116; tr. R. N. Frye, *The History of Bukhara*, Cambridge, Mass., 1954, p. 99; according to Ebn al-Aṭīr, Beirut, 1385-87/1965-67, VIII, p. 626, 150,000 dinars). Also, as part of this general settlement with the Buyids, Manşūr's son, Abu'l-Qāsem Nūĥ, married a daughter of 'Azod-al-dawla. The authority of the Samanids was also restored, at least nominally, in Ġazna after Alptigin's death (352/963); his son Abū Eshāq Ebrāhīm was only able to succeed to power there with military help from Bokhara (354/965).

Internally, the condition of the Samanid empire seems to have been generally peaceful, despite the background of financial crisis, with Baḷ'amī serving as vizier till his death in 363/974. Amir Manşūr is mentioned by the continuator of Naršaķī as the builder of fine villas and gardens beside the Jūy-e Mūlīān at Bokhara. Manşūr himself died, according to 'Otbī (*al-Ta'rīķ al-yamīnī*, ed. Manīnī, Cairo, 1869, I, p. 349) and Gardīzī, on 11 Šawwāl 365/13 June 976; he was succeeded by his thirteen year old son Abu'l-Qāsem Nūĥ II.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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The most detailed primary source is Gardīzī, ed. Nazim, pp. 43-47; ed. Ḥabībī, pp. 161-64.

See also the continuator of Naršaķī, pp. 115-16; tr. Frye, pp. 98-99.

For the fighting in northern Persia between the Buyids and the Samanids, see 'Otbī, *al-Ta'rīķ al-yamīnī*; Ebn al-Aṭīr; and Ebn Meskawayh, *Tajāreb*.

For secondary sources, see Barthold, *Turkestan*<sup>3</sup>, pp. 250-52; Spuler, *Iran*, pp. 99-100; R. N. Frye, *Camb. Hist. Iran* IV, pp. 152ff.