



‘ALĪ B. ḤARB

‘ALĪ B. ḤARB (or ‘Alī b. ‘Oṭmān b. Ḥarb), ephemeral Saffarid amir of the so-called “third Saffarid dynasty” (described in the sources as the “*molūk* of Nīmrūz”); reigned briefly and died in 622/1225. In the early 7th/13th century, Sīstān, along with all the eastern Islamic lands, seems to have fallen into disorder with the irruption of the Mongols in 614/1217 and after. An additional factor making for instability was the activity of the Isma‘īlis of Qūhestān, the district of Khorasan immediately to the north of Sīstān; their emissaries in 618/1221 assassinated the Saffarid Amir Yamīn-al-dawla Bahrāmšāh. His son Noṣrat-al-dīn was killed by the Mongols, and soon afterwards the aid of the forces of the Quṭluḡ Khan ruler of Kermān, Borāq (Baraq) Ḥāḡeb, was called in to support a claimant to the throne. The ruler Šehāb-al-dīn Maḥmūd b. Ḥarb (b. ‘Oṭmān b. Ḥarb?) was killed in 622/1225, and his brother ‘Alī, called Zāhed (“the ascetic”), took over the reign. He died in the same year, and a member of the Khwarazmian ruling family, Tāḡ-al-dīn Inaltigin, assumed de facto power.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The only source which seems to mention ‘Alī is Jūzjānī, *Ṭabaqāt* I, pp. 282-85; tr. Raverty, pp. 196-202.



See also Malekšāh Ḥosayn b. Malek Ġiāt-al-dīn Moḥammad, *Ehyā’-al-molūk*, ed.

M. Sotūda, Tehran, 1344 Š./1965, p. 76.

Zambaur, *Manuel*, p. 200.