



## 'ALĪ B. 'OBAYDALLĀH

'ALĪ B. 'OBAYDALLĀH B. ḤASAN ḤASKĀ B. ḤOSAYN B. ḤASAN B. ḤOSAYN (this last was a brother or a cousin of Shaikh Ṣadūq Moḥammad b. 'Alī b. Ḥosayn b. Mūsā b. Bābūya Qomī), ABU'L-ḤASAN, called MONTAJAB-AL-DĪN, a Shi'ite traditionist and biographer (b. 504/1110-11, d. after 585/1189). He learned traditions in Baghdad, Qazvīn, and Isfahan and finally settled in Ray. His disciple, Shaikh 'Abd-al-Karīm Rāfe'ī Qazvīnī (d. 623/1226), whose *Ketāb al-tadwīn fī ta'rik Qazvīn* (British Museum ms. No. 959, fol. 421b-423b) is the chief source for his life, says that he composed a *Ta'rik al-Ray* but did not publish it. This work is quoted by Ebn Ḥajar 'Asqalānī in his *Lesān al-mīzān* and by Sobkī in his *Ṭabaqāt al-Šāfe'īya* (these quotations have been gathered by M. Qazvīnī, *Yāddāsthā* VII, pp. 144-48, and Ḥ. Karīmān, *Ray-e bāstān*, Tehran, 1345-49 Š./1966-70, I, pp. 5-7). Qazvīnī adds that despite his illustrious Shi'ite ancestry Montaḡab-al-dīn did not confine his sympathy or the authorities for his traditions to that party. At least towards the end of his life he expressed high esteem for all of the first four caliphs and was heard in 585/1189 to recite traditions promising reward for those who love them.

The work for which he is principally remembered among Shi'ites is his *Fehrest* of Shi'ite authors and their works, which covers the century and a half from those contemporaries of Shaikh Ṭūsī who were omitted from the latter's *Fehrest* down to his own time. The *Fehrest* of Montaḡab-al-dīn is reproduced fully in the last book of Maḡlesī's *Behār al-anwār* (Tehran lithograph, XXV, pp. 2-13; 1391/1971, CV, pp. 200-98; see *al-Darī'a* XIV, p. 395). Ḥorr 'Āmelī has made it the basis of his *Amal al-āmel*, where its contents are to be found entire and



in a form more readily available than that in which Montaġab-al-dĭn wrote it. *Al-Arba‘ĭn ḥadĭt men al-arba‘ĭn ‘an al-arba‘ĭn* is a collection of forty traditions from forty books on the authority of forty recounters of the virtues of ‘Alĭ b. Abĭ TĀleb (*Darĭ‘a* I, p. 433). Also ascribed to Montaġab-al-dĭn is *ResĀla fĭ mas‘alat adĀ’ al-farĭza le-man ‘alayh qazĀ’ al-ṣalĀt*, of which KĵĀnsĀrĭ saw a copy (*RawzĀt al-ġannĀt*, Isfahan, 1341 Š./1962, p. 380).

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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See also ĀġĀ Bozorg TehrĀnĭ, *Moṣaffa ‘l-maqĀl*, Tehran, 1337 Š./1958, pp. 463-64.

Brockelmann, *GAL* I, p. 405, S. I, p. 710.

M. Qazvĭnĭ, *YaddĀsthĀ* VII, pp. 145-53.

*A‘yĀn al-šĭ‘a* XCI, pp. 343-45.