



## AMĪRAK BAYHAQĪ

**AMĪRAK BAYHAQĪ**, ABU'L-ḤASAN AḤMAD B. MOḤAMMAD 'ANBARĪ (d. 448/1056), intelligence officer (*šāḥeb-barīd*) in Khorasan under the early Ghaznavids. He stemmed from a prominent Bayhaq family of scholars and officials, the 'Anbariān (q.v.), who had shortly before produced the poet and vizier Abu'l-'Abbās 'Anbarī. Abu'l-Ḥasan was a landowner in Bayhaq, where he built a *madrasa*; his main claim to fame was that he acted as castellan of the strategically important Oxus crossing point of Termeḍ for Sultan Mawdūd and defended it against Čaġrı Beg Dā'ūd's Turkmens. Ebn Fondoq (*Tārīk-e Bayhaq*, ed. A. Bahmanyār, Tehran, 1317 Š./1938, pp. 119-12) asserts that he held out there for fifteen years, which must be an exaggeration; at the most it was probably five years, until the mid-1040s. The Saljuq historian Šadr-al-dīn Ḥosaynī states that, after the failure of Mawdūd's planned revanche in Khorasan against the Saljuqs (435/1043-44), Abu'l-Ḥasan realized that his position in Termeḍ was untenable. He surrendered honorably, made over his estates in Bayhaq to Čaġrı Beg's vizier Abū 'Alī b. Šāḍān, and retired to Ġazna (*Akbār al-dawlat al-saljūqīya*, ed. M. Eqbāl, Lahore, 1933, p. 27). Ebn Fondoq says that he refused an offer to transfer his allegiance to the Saljuqs and subsequently headed the chancery (*dīvān-e resālat*) for Sultans Mawdūd and 'Abd-al-Rašīd. He was a secretary under Farroḳzād and died in the latter's reign (Šawwāl, 448/December, 1056). After him, his son Moḥammad continued to serve the Ghaznavids, living until the time of Bahrāmšāh's succession.



## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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See also Bosworth, *Later Ghaznavids*, pp. 10-11, 25-26.