



'ANBARĪ, ABU'L-'ABBĀS

'ANBARĪ, ABU'L-'ABBĀS ESMĀ'ĪL B. 'ALĪ B. AL-ṬAYYEB, 4th-5th/10th-11th century poet and prose stylist of Khorasan and statesman in the service of the Qarakhanids. He stemmed from an important family of Bayhaq of Arab origin, the 'Anbariān (q.v.), from whom had originated many scholars and traditionists (see the section on them in Ebn Fondoq, *Tārīk-e Bayhaq*, ed. A. Bahmanyār, Tehran, 1317 Š./1938, pp. 119-22). Ebn Fondoq's particular biographical notice of Abu'l-'Abbās states that he acted as vizier to the Ilig Khan in Transoxania for several years (probably Naṣr b. 'Alī of Bokhara, d. 403/1012-13), but then sought release from his duties and returned to his native Khorasan. Sultan Maḥmūd of Ġazna attempted to draw him into his own service as vizier, but Abu'l-'Abbās refused; he was imprisoned for his recalcitrance and died in jail of poison. He was a prolific poet, leaving behind more than five volumes of verse, and also a dazzling epistolary stylist. His particular fondness for *tajnīs* or paronomasia appears from an example quoted by Ebn Fondoq; the latter also mentions a *Ketāb al-faraḥ ba'd al-taraḥ*, perhaps a specimen of the *Faraḥ ba'd al-šedda* genre. But it is strange that Ṭā'ālebī has no special entry devoted to him in either his *Yatīma* or *Tatemala*. Abu'l-'Abbās left behind several talented sons, three of whom served the early Ghaznavids; another member of the family, Abu'l-Ḥasan Aḥmad b. Moḥammad (called [Amīrak Bayhaqī](#)) defended the fortress of Termed on Sultan Mawdūd's behalf against the Saljuqs.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

See also *Tārīk-e Bayhaq*, pp. 182-83. Bosworth, *Ghaznavids*, p. 58.