



ANŪŠTIGIN ĠARĈĀ'Ī

ANŪŠTIGIN ĠARĈĀ'Ī, Turkish slave commander of the Saljuqs; in the late 5th/11th century, under Sultans Malekšāh and Berkyaruq (Barkīāroq), he bore the traditional title of K̄vārazmšāh. K̄vārazm had passed into Saljuq hands with the flight of the son of the Oğuz Yabgū Šāh Malek of Jand in 433/1042 and had subsequently become an important base for punitive campaigns by the Saljuq sultans into the surrounding steppes against the Qipchaq and other pagan tribesmen. In Alp Arslan's distribution of provincial governorships when he made his son Malekšāh heir to the throne in 458/1066, K̄vārazm was allocated to Alp Arslan's brother Arslan Argūn as an appanage (Ebn al-Aṭīr, X, p. 50).

Anūštigin is first heard of at the beginning of Malekšāh's reign; in 465/1073 the sultan sent an army under Gümüştigin Bilge Beg and Anūštigin to recover territory in northern Afghanistan temporarily seized by the Ghaznavid Ebrāhīm b. Mas'ūd. Anūštigin's *nesba* of "Ġarĉā'ī" presumably relates to the region of Ġarĉestān in northwestern Afghanistan, to the north of the Harī-rūd, where Anūštigin had been originally bought by the commander Bilge Beg (Ebn al-Aṭīr, X, p. 267); Kafesoğlu has surmised that he was possibly of Čigil or K̄alaĵ Turkish origin, while Z. V. Togan ("Hārizm," *IA*) put forward the view that he was of Qipchaq, Qanġlī or Uighur Turkish stock. Anūštigin held the office of *taštdār* (keeper of the royal washing bowls) at the Saljuq court; according to Jovaynī, the revenues of the province of K̄vārazm were used to defray the expenses of this charge, so that Anūštigin bore the title of *šeḥna* of K̄vārazm. It is unclear when Anūštigin actually took up duties in K̄vārazm as governor; Ebn al-Aṭīr (X, p. 219) records that the great vizier Neẓām-al-molk's son 'Ezz-al-



molk had, at some point before 486/1093, been governor in K̅vārazm. It is equally uncertain when Anūštigin relinquished the office and/or died. In 490/1097 a new Turkish governor of K̅vārazm, Ekiñçī b. Qoçqar is mentioned, but in that same year he was murdered, and Berkyaruq appointed in his place Anūštigin's son Qoṭb-al-dīn Moḥammad (Ebn al-Aṭīr, X, pp. 267-68), who thus began the line of hereditary K̅vārazmšāhs which endured there until the Mongol invasions of the early 7th/13th century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The main primary sources are Ebn al-Aṭīr and Jovaynī, tr., Boyle, I, pp. 277-78 (both based on the lost work of Ebn Fondoq, the *Mašāreb al-tajāreb*), on whom later sources like Rašīd-al-dīn and Mīrkvānd depend.

For secondary sources, see: E. Sachau, "Zur Geschichte und Chronologie von Khwārazm," *Sb. Ak. Wiss. Wien, Phil.-hist. Kl.*, 74, 1875, pp. 314-15.

Barthold, *Turkestan*³, pp. 323-24.

I. Kafesoğlu, *Sultan Melikşah devrinde Büyük Selçuklu imparatorluğu*, Istanbul, 1953, pp. 20, 145.

Idem, *Harezmsahlar devleti tarihi (485-617/1092-1229)*, Ankara, 1956, pp. 36f.

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