



ĀZĀD FĪRŪZ

ĀZĀD FĪRŪZ, governor of Bahrain and the surrounding area in the time of Ḳosrow (probably Ḳosrow II Parvēz). His name occurs as Āzād Ferūz (variants Azād Afrūz, Azād Fīrūz, both unpointed; Ṭabarī, I, p. 985), Azād Fīrūz (Ebn al-Aṭīr [repr.], I, p. 468), Dād Ferūz (Ḥamza, pp. 138, 143), and Fīrūz (Balāḍorī, *Fotūḥ*, p. 85). The original form was probably Āzād Pērōz, Arabicized as Āzād Ferūz and Dād Ferūz, apparently a misreading for Zād Ferūz (Zād being a shortened form of Āzād). The Arabs called him Moka'ber (mutilator) because he would cut off peoples' hands and feet (Ṭabarī, *ibid.*). According to the tradition, a caravan of tributes sent by Vahrēz, the Sasanian governor of Yemen, to Ḳosrow II (see below) was raided in the territories of Banū Yarbū' (one of the tribes of the Tamīm), whereupon Ḳosrow ordered Āzād Fīrūz, the son of Gošnasp (Ar. Jošnas, Jošnasf [Ḥamza], Jošayš [Balāḍorī]) to chastise this tribe. Once the Banū Tamīm went to Hajar, Āzād Fīrūz invited them into the castle of Mošaqqar, where he killed all their men and sent all their boys in captivity to Eṣṭaqr (Ṭabarī, *ibid.*; Ebn al-Aṭīr, *ibid.*; Nöldeke, *Geschichte der Perser*, pp. 259ff.) Ṭabarī places this event in the time of Ḳosrow I (r. 531-79); and Baḷ'amī (*Tārīk*, p. 1075) and Ebn al-Aṭīr have followed him. However, others (e.g., Ḥamza, p. 143, and Yāqūt, III, p. 401) have placed the event in the time of Ḳosrow II (r. 590-628). This seems more plausible, because Āzād Fīrūz lived until the time of the caliphate of 'Omar and converted to Islam (Balāḍorī, *ibid.*), and because also some other individuals mentioned in connection with these events lived past the time of the death of Moḥammad (Nöldeke, *op. cit.*, p. 257 n. 3).



BIBLIOGRAPHY

See also Justi, *Namenbuch*, p. 53.

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