



BĀĠ-E PĪRŪZĪ

BĀĠ-e PĪRŪZĪ (or *Fīrūzī*), literally “Garden of Triumph,” a royal garden in Ġazna lying beside the *Fīrūzī* palace and the ‘*Arūs-al-Falak* mosque, founded and built by Sultan Maḥmūd of Ġazna. Maḥmūd was a great builder and possessed palaces and gardens in every important city (see Šabānkāra’ī, pp. 68, 70; Nāẓim, pp. 166-67; Bosworth, *Ghaznavids*, pp. 139ff.) but he especially loved this garden and was buried there on Thursday, 23 Rabī’ II 421/30 April 1030, according to his own will and the common practice of the Ghaznavids (Bayhaqī, pp. 13, 335; Šabānkāra’ī, p. 66; Jilānī Jalālī, p. 217). Two days after his arrival in Ġazna on 8 Jomādā II 422/2 June 1031, Sultan Mas‘ūd visited his father’s tomb and ordered a *rebāṭ* to be built there. He also insisted on consuming its legacies as they were indicated, then forbade anyone to come to the garden for pleasure. Farroḳī Sīstānī in his elegy for Sultan Maḥmūd says that he can never again see the flowered Bāġ-e *Fīrūzī* without Maḥmūd (*Dīvān*, p. 91). Bayhaqī (p. 890) mentions that when he wrote his book (probably in 451/1059, see S. Naficy [Nafīsī] in *EI*² I, p. 1131), the building of the garden and its central square (*meydān*) has been changed and dilapidated. During Mas‘ūd’s reign some ceremonies took place in the garden, particularly army reviews (Bayhaqī, pp. 526, 654, 702, 736-37, 890, in the years 425/1033-34, 427/1035-36, 429/1037-38, 430/1038-39, 432/1040-41). The lawn (*kaẓrā*) of the garden was the temporary jail of Amir Moḥammad’s four sons in 432/1040-41 (Bayhaqī, pp. 893-94).

The Bāġ-e *Pīrūzī* has now been completely destroyed but the extant tomb of Maḥmūd, which is situated in a little village named Rawẓa-ye Solṭān (The



sultan's tomb) about two miles to the north of the present town of Ġazna (Nāẓim, p. 167; S. Flury, *Syria* 6, 1925, pp. 61-90), shows where it was located (see Bombaci and Scerrato, p. 19).

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