



BAYHAQĪ, ABU'L-ḤASAN MOḤAMMAD

BAYHAQĪ, ABU'L-ḤASAN MOḤAMMAD B. ŠO'AYB 'EJLĪ NAYSĀBŪRĪ (d. 324/936), a jurist who helped promote the spread of the Shafe'ite school of Islamic law in Khorasan. After initial training at Nīšāpūr under traditionists such as Abū Bakr b. Kozayma and Būšanjī, he went to Baghdad and studied law under Moḥammad b. Jarīr Ṭabarī (d. 310/923; q.v.) and Aḥmad b. 'Omar b. Sorayj (d. 306/918-19), who was the principal exponent of Shafe'ite jurisprudence in Iraq at that time. After returning to Khorasan, Bayhaqī joined the circle of Abu'l-Faḏl Baḷ'amī (d. 329/940), the learned vizier of the Samanids, who tried in vain to make him accept an appointment to the judiciary as *qāzī* at Čāč (Tashkent) or Ray. Bayhaqī propagated the Shafe'ite system through his teaching and his rulings (*fatwās*) and disputations, not through any writings of his own. Among his pupils were Abu'l-Walīd Haṣṣān Naysābūrī (d. 349/960), who founded the first Shafe'ite *madrassa* at Nīšāpūr, and Abū Sahl Moḥammad b. Solaymān Šo'lūkī (d. 369/980), who after Bayhaqī's death in 324/936 became the chief Shafe'ite jurisconsult at Nīšāpūr. The notion that Abu'l-Ḥasan Moḥammad Bayhaqī was the founder of the Bayhaqīya *madrassa* at Nīšāpūr, as Ebn Fondoq asserts, arose through a misunderstanding.



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