



BESĀṬĪ SAMARQANDĪ

BESĀṬĪ SAMARQANDĪ, SERĀJ AL-DĪN, Persian poet (fl. second half of the 8th/14th and first half of the 9th/15th centuries). Besāṭī grew up and lived in his birthplace, Samarqand; he became a poet under the tutelage of Faḡr-al-Dīn ‘Eṣmat Boḡārī (d. 840/1436), whose pen name was Ḥaṣīrī. Early in his career he earned a living weaving straw mats (*ḥaṣīrbāfi*), whence his initial pen name Ḥaṣīrī, however, on the advice of his mentor Boḡārī, he changed this to Besāṭī. Besāṭī’s patron was Mīrzā Ḳalīl Solṭān (d. 814/1411), the son of Mīrānšāh and grandson of Tīmūr. A manuscript of Besāṭī’s lyrical poems, fragments, quatrains, and verse riddles is kept at the Bibliothèque Nationale. Besāṭī’s contemporaries praise his poetry for its grace; however, because the poet’s literary education was incomplete, one occasionally finds certain weaknesses in his works. ‘Abd-al-Raḥmān Jāmī in his *Bahārestān* (p. 102) faults him on this very point.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cat. Bib. Nat. III, p. 260.

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Haft eqlīm III, p. 374.

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‘Alī Ebrāhīm Khan Kālīl, *Ṣoḥof-e Ebrāhīm*, MS 663 (W. Pertsch, *Verzeichniss der persischen Handschriften der königlichen Bibliothek zu Berlin*, Berlin, 1888; a photostatic copy, no. 2976, is in the Central Library of the University of Tehran).

Nafisī, *Naẓm o naṭr*, p. 295.

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