



BĪRŪNĪ, ABŪ RAYḤĀN II. BIBLIOGRAPHY

BĪRŪNĪ, ABŪ RAYḤĀN

ii. Bibliography

Bīrūnī catalogued both his own works and those of Rāzī. In 427/1035-36 or a little thereafter Bīrūnī wrote, at the urging of a friend, a *Resāla fī fehrest kotob Moḥammad b. Zakarīyā' al-Rāzī* (Epistle concerning a list of the books of Moḥammad b. Zakarīyā' al-Rāzī). This consists of two parts, the first devoted to Rāzī and his works, the second to Bīrūnī himself with an inventory of the books that he had authored up to that time. This sort of bibliographical treatment of an individual is modeled on those produced by Galen in antiquity and by Ḥonayn b. Eshāq in the 3rd/9th century.

The catalogue of Rāzī's works contains 184 titles divided into 11 categories: medicine; natural science; logic; mathematics and astronomy; commentaries, synopses, and extracts; philosophy and assessment; metaphysics; theology; alchemy; heretical; and miscellaneous. After it Bīrūnī presents a chronological table of Greek physicians from Asclepius to Galen followed by brief notes on the history of medicine. This part of the *Resāla* has been studied by Ruska.

Bīrūnī's catalogue of his own literary production up to his 65th lunar/63rd solar year (the end of 427/1036) lists 103 titles divided into 12 categories: astronomy, mathematical geography, mathematics, astrological aspects and



transits, astronomical instruments, chronology, comets, an untitled category, astrology, anecdotes, religion, and books of which he no longer possesses copies. Except for the books in the last category he usually mentions the number of folios occupied by each work in the copy available to him. After an account of the astrologers' predictions of the length of his life and of a dream he had in his sixty-first (lunar ?) year, he adds ten more titles of his own works followed by twenty-five of those written in his name by Abū Naṣr Maṣṣūr b. 'Alī b. 'Erāq, Abū Sahl 'Īsā b. Yaḥyā the Christian, and Abū 'Alī Ḥasan b. 'Alī Jīlī. His own works, he says, he regards as his sons, and so also does he those that were written in his name.

A *Mošāṭa*, or appendix to the *Resāla*, in which Bīrūnī's horoscope is thoroughly analyzed, was written by Abū Eshāq Ebrāhīm b. Moḥammad Tabrīzī, called Ġaẓanfar (see Bīrūnī, *al-Āṭār al-bāqīa*, pp. XIV-XV). Ġaẓanfar states that he was born 184 Persian years after Bīrūnī's death. Since he gives the latter date as 440/1048-49, Ġaẓanfar must have been born in 630/1232-33.

The titles of some 155 works composed by Bīrūnī are known (see Boilot). Some he wrote after he had finished his bibliography, others he simply forgot to include in it. Perhaps five-sixths of the total number of 155 treatises are now irretrievably lost.

Bīrūnī's extant works. The list given here follows the order of Boilot, whose RG numbers are prefaced to the appropriate items:

RG 7: *Ketāb maqālīd 'elm al-hay'a*, preserved on fols. 163-84 of ms. 597 in the Sepahsālār Mosque, Tehran (Kennedy).

RG 11: *Maqāla fī'l-tahlīl wa'l-taqṭī' le'l-ta'dīl*, publ. by mistake as part of work no. 1 (*Estekrāj al-awṭār*) in *Rasā'el al-Bīrūnī*, Hyderabad, 1948, and by A. S. Demerdāš, Cairo [1965] (Hogendijk, pp. 148, 150-52).

RG 15: *Ketāb fī efrād al-maqāl fī amr al-aẓlāl*, publ. as work no. 2 in *Rasā'el al-Bīrūnī*, but with some omissions and confusions (Hogendijk, p. 145).

RG 19: *Ketāb taḥdīd nehāyat al-amāken le-taṣḥīḥ masāfāt al-masāken*, ed. P. G. Bulgakov, in *Ma'ākeḍ al-maḥṭūṭāt al-'arabīya*, Cairo, 1962; Russ. tr. P. G. Bulgakov, in Bīrūnī's selected works (*Izbrannye proizvedeniya*) III, Tashkent, 1966; tr. J. Ali, *The Determination of the Coordinates of Cities*, Beirut, 1967; comm. by E. S. Kennedy, *A Commentary upon Bīrūnī's Kitāb taḥdīd al-amākin*, Beirut, 1973.



RG 24: *Maqāla fī estekrāj qadr al-arż be-raşd enḥetāt al-ofoq ‘an qolal al-jebāl*; a brief extract survives on fols. 43-43v of Berlin 5794 (see Wiedemann).

RG 38: *Fī rāşīkāt al-Hend*, publ. as work no. 4 in *Rasā’el al-Bīrūnī* (Hogendijk, pp. 145-46).

RG 45: *Tamhīd al-mostaqarr le-taḥqīq ma’na’l-mamarr*, publ. as work no. 3 in *Rasā’el al-Bīrūnī*, tr. M. Saffouri and A. Ifram, *On Transits*, Beirut, 1959, with a comm. by E. S. Kennedy (Hogendijk, p. 146).

RG 46: *Ketāb fī estī’āb al-wojūh al-momkena fī şaḥ’at al-aştorlāb*, preserved in many mss. RG 47: *Fī tashīl al-taşḥīḥ al-aştorlābī wa’l-‘amal be-morakkabāteh men al-şamālī wa’l-janūbī*, preserved on fols. 1-43 of Berlin 5794 (Bīrūnī, *al-Ātār al-bāqīa*, p. L).

RG 48: *Maqāla fī taşṭīḥ al-şowar wa tabṭīḥ al-kowar*, ed. A. S. Sa’īdān, *Derāsāt* 4, 1977, pp. 7-22; a facsimile of the ms. is given in Berggren, pp. 81-95.

RG 63: *Maqāla fī’l-nesab allatī bayn al-felezzāt wa’l-jawāher fī’l-ḥajm*, preserved in ms. 223 of the Université de St. Joseph in Beirut.

RG 64: *Maqāla fī estekrāj al-awtār fī’l-dā’era be-kawāşş al-kaṭṭ al-monḥanī fīhā*, publ. as work no. 1 in *Rasā’el al-Bīrūnī*; ed. A. S. Demerdāş, Cairo, [1965]; both editions are defective (Hogendijk, p. 147).

RG 67: *Maqāla fī anna lawāzem tajazzo’ al-maqādīr elā lā nehāya qarība men amr al-kaṭṭayn allaḍayn yaqrabān wa lā yaltaqīān fī’l-esteb’ād*; a fragment preserved on 1 fol. was published as part of work no. 1 of *Rasā’el al-Bīrūnī* (see Hogendijk, pp. 149, 158-59).

RG 73: *Ketāb al-tafhīm le-awā’el şenā’at al-tanjīm*, in both Arabic (ed. R. R. Wright, London, 1934) and Persian (ed. J. Homā’ī, Tehran, 1318 Š./1939, rev. 1353 Š./1975).

RG 76: *Maqāla fī sayr sahmai’l-sa’āda wa’l-ğayb*, ed. F. I. Haddad, D. Pingree, and E. S. Kennedy, “Al-Bīrūnī’s Treatise on Astrological Lots,” *Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Arabisch-Islamischen Wissenschaften* 1, 1984, pp. 9-54.

RG 93: *Ketāb taḥqīq mā le’l-Hend men maqūla maqbūla fī’l-‘aql aw marḍūla*, ed. C. E. Sachau, London, 1887; rev. ed., Hyderabad, 1958; tr. C. E. Sachau, *Alberuni’s India*, 2 vols., London, 1888, 1910.



RG 98: *Tarjamat ketāb Bātanjalī fī'l-kalāṣ men al-ertebāk*, ed. H. Ritter, "Al-Bīrūnī's Übersetzung des *Yoga-sūtra* des Patañjali," *Oriens* 9, 1956, pp. 165-200.

RG 104: *al-Qānūn al-mas'ūdī fī'l-hay'a wa'l-nojūm*, ed. S. H. Baranī, 3 vols., Hyderabad, 1954-56; *maqāla* 3 ed. E. E. Aḥmad, Cairo, 1970.

RG 105: *al-Ātār al-bāqīa 'an al-qorūn al-kālīa*, ed. C. E. Sachau, Leipzig, 1879, repr. Leipzig, 1923; tr.

C. E. Sachau, *Chronology of Ancient Nations*, London, 1887, repr. Frankfurt, 1969; lacunae in Sachau's text have been filled by J. Fück, "Sechs Ergänzungen zu Sachaus Ausgabe von al-Bīrūnīs "Chronologie orientalischer Völker", in *Documenta Islamica Inedita*, Berlin, 1952, pp. 69-98, and by K. Garbers, "Eine Ergänzung zu Sachaus Ausgabe von al-Bīrūnī's "Chronologie orientalischer Völker", *ibid.*, Berlin, 1952, pp. 45-69.

RG 143: *Ketāb al-dorar fī saḥ al-okar*, preserved in a Bodleian ms. (Bīrūnī, *al-Ātār al-bāqīa*, p. XXXIX).

RG 156: *Ketāb al-jamāher fī ma'refat al-jawāher*, ed. F. Krenkow, Hyderabad, 1936.

RG 157: *Ketāb nozhat al-nofūs wa'l-afkār fī kawāṣṣ al-mawālīd al-ṭalāṭa al-ma'āden wa'l-nabāt wa'l-aḥjār*, extant in a Bodleian Ins. (Bīrūnī, *al-Ātār al-bāqīa*, p. XXXIX).

RG 158: *Ketāb al-ṣaydana fī'l-ṭebb*, ed. Hakim Muhammad Said, Karachi, 1973.

RG 168: *Resāla fī-fehrest kotob Moḥammad b. Zakarīyā' al-Rāzī*, ed. P. Kraus, Paris, 1936; tr. J. Ruska, "Al-Bīrūnī als Quelle für das Leben und die Schriften al-Rāzī's," *Isis* 5, 1922, pp. 26-50; ed. with Pers. tr. M. Moḥaqqueq, Tehran, 1352 Š./1973.

RG 169: *Ḥekāyat al-āla al-mosammā al-sods al-fakrī*, ed. L. Cheikho, *al-Mašreq* 11, 1908, pp. 68-69; tr.

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RG 170: *Rīāzat al-fekr wa'l-aql*, preserved in a ms. in Hyderabad.

RG 171: *Ajwebat al-masā'el al-k'ārazmīya*, extant in a ms. in Tehran. RG 180:



Ketāb Abī Rayḥān elā Abī Saʿīd, ed. Kennedy, “A Letter of al-Bīrūnī. Ḥabash al-Ḥāsib’s Analemma for

the Qibla,” *Historica Mathematica* 1, 1974, pp. 3-11; not in Boilot. *Ġorrat al-zījāt*, ed. S. S. H. Rizvi, “A Unique and Unknown Book of al-Bīrūnī: Ghurraṭ-uz-zījāt or Karaṇa Tilaka,” *Islamic Culture* 37, 1963, pp. 112-30, 167-86, 223-45; 38, 1964, pp. 47-74, 195-212; 39, 1965, pp. 1-26, 137-80.

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