



BOḲĀRĪ, 'ALĀ'-AL-DĪN

BOḲĀRĪ, 'ALĀ'-AL-DĪN ABŪ 'ABD-ALLĀH MOḤAMMAD b. 'Abd-al-Raḥmān b. Aḥmad, called al-Zāhed al-'Alā', Hanafite scholar of *feqh*, legal methodology, *kalām* theology, and preacher and *mofī* in Bukhara (d. 12 Jomādā II 546/26 September 1151). Abū Sa'd Sam'ānī, the main source of information about him, states that he did not meet him but had a written *ejāza* from him. He studied *feqh* in Bukhara under Abū Naṣr Aḥmad b. 'Abd-al-Raḥmān Rīḡdamūnī (d. 493/1100) heard Hadith from him and excelled among his students. Through Rīḡdamūnī he was introduced to the legal doctrine of Abū Zayd Dabūsī. In theology he no doubt represented the prevalent eastern Hanafite doctrine later known as Mātorīdī. There is no evidence that he ever left Bukhara for studying abroad. Towards the end of his life he composed and dictated a voluminous Qur'ān commentary of over 1,000 *joz*'s. None of his works is extant. Sam'ānī describes him as a skilled master in his disciplines, but when he, in his old age, dictated Hadith on the authority of his teacher Rīḡdamūnī, he tended to speak vaguely and lightly (*mojāzef motasāhel*; Şafadī). The most famous among his pupils was Borhān-al-Dīn Margīnānī (d. 593/1197), author of the well-known compendium of Hanafite *feqh*, *Ketāb al-hedāya*. Margīnānī mentioned him in the list of his teachers (*mašīka*), stating that he had given him a written *ejāza* for everything transmitted by him and for all of his own works. Another pupil of his was Şaraf-al-Dīn 'Omar b. Moḥammad 'Aqīlī (d. 596/1200), Hanafite jurist and traditionist of Bukhara.



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