



DĀ'Ī

DĀ'Ī, pen name of **AḤMAD** b. Ebrāhīm b. Moḥammad, Turkish scholar and poet who wrote in both Persian and Turkish. From the little information found in *taḍkeras* and Dā'ī's own work, it is known that he lived during the latter part of the 14th century and the first half of the 15th century. Some authors (Sehī, p. 56; 'Abd-al-Laṭīf, p. 85; Qenālīzāda, I, p. 139) reported that he was from the province of Getmīān, the present-day Kütahya in Turkey, others (Ṭawīl [Uzun] Ferdowsī, *Solaymān-nāma*, Süleymaniye kütüphanesi, Istanbul, ms. no. Hacı Mahmud 271) that he lived in the principality of Aydınöglü near Izmir. He received the traditional education of his time, studying *tafsīr*, Hadith, *feqh*, and astronomy. He also appears to have been well versed in Sufism. He was a *qāzī* (religious judge) by profession and, according to his *'Oqūd al-jawāher* (see below), also tutored the young Ottoman prince Morād (later Sultan Morād II; 824-28/1421-44, 850-55/1446-51).

Two of Dā'ī's works in Persian are known. He composed a small *dīvān*, which is extant in a manuscript in the author's own hand dated 816/1413 (for a facsimile ed., see Ertaylan, pp. 273-88). The poems are mostly in praise of the grand vizier Ḥājī Kalīl Pasha, to whom the manuscript is dedicated. Various sections of the *dīvān* give the impression that it is a selection from a much larger collection. A second work, *'Oqūd al-jawāher*, is a versified Persian dictionary rendered from a Persian prose translation by Rašīd-al-Dīn Vaṭvāt (d. 573/1177) of the anonymous Arabic text *Noqūd al-zawāher wa johūd al-jawāher* to help the young prince Morād learn Persian. The earliest manuscripts are preserved in the Süleimaniye library in Istanbul (Bağdatlı Vehbi ms. no. 1949;



H. Hüsnü Pas...a ms, no. 1102/3; Murad Buhari ms. no. 321/61; for a facsimile ed., see Ertaylan, pp. 265-72).

DāĪ also translated several works from Persian. At the request of Karacabey, a vizier of Morād II, he rendered 'Aṭṭār's *Taḍkerat al-awlā'* into Turkish; the unique manuscript is in the Süleymaniye library, Istanbul (Serez no. 1800). On the other hand, several copies of his translation of *Sī faṣl dar taqwīm*, a work on astronomy and astrology by Naṣīr-al-Dīn Ṭūsī (d. 672/1274), survive (Laleli ms. no. 2735; Hacı Mahmut ms. nos. 5715, 576; Esad Efendi ms. no. 3569/5, all in the Süleymaniye library; facsimile ed. in Ertaylan, pp. 314-21). He also translated another work by Ṭūsī, *Jāmāsb-nāma* (facsimile ed. in Ertaylan, pp. 147-54). *Tarjama-ye ta'bīr-nāma*, a Turkish rendering of the Persian translation of Abū Bakr b. 'Abd-Allāh Wāseṭī's Arabic work, was commissioned by the Germiyanid prince Yaḡūb II (790-92/1388-90; mss. in the Millet Kütüphanesi, Istanbul, Hekimoğlu Ali Pas...a ms. no. 588, and Atatürk Kitaplığı, Istanbul, Muallim Cevdet ms. no. 26).

DāĪ's works in Turkish include the following: a *dīvān* of five *qaṣīdas* and 199 *gāzals* in praise of Čelebī Moḡammad (complete edition in the National library [Dār al-kotob], Cairo; see Kortantamer, 1977b; ed. in Ertaylan, pp. 13-144, without two sections of his *naẓīras* [parallels] on the poems of other Turkish poets); the unsigned *Serāj al-qolūb*, consisting of questions posed to the Prophet Moḡammad, 'Alī, and the Companions, as well as their answers, attributable to DāĪ on the basis of language and style; a short *maṭnawī* entitled *Wasīyat-e Nūšervān-e 'Ādel be pesaraš Hormoz-e tājdār* (Ertaylan, pp. 300-08); *Čang-nāma*, a *maṭnawī* on the attributes of the *čang* (harp) in mystical language (facsimile ed. Ertaylan, pp. 155-262); *Wasīlāt al-molūk fī ahl al-solūk*, a short commentary on the Qur'ān verse 2:255 (Ertaylan, pp. 323-29); *Tarassol*, the first collection of Turkish *monša'āt* (examples of epistolary writing) written in Anatolia, surviving in a single manuscript in the Muradiye library in Manisa (for the introductory section, see Ertaylan, pp. 325-28).

Finally, DāĪ also translated three works directly from Arabic: *Meftāḡ al-janna*, by an unknown author (facsimile ed. in Ertaylan, pp. 405-21); *Tarjama-ye ṭebb-e nabawī*, comprising sayings of the Prophet concerning medicine, by Abū No'aym Eṣfahānī (d. 301/1038), abridged by Abū 'Abbās Aḡmad Yūsuf Tifaṣī (d. 651/1253); and *Dorar al-jawāher*, a translation of *Tafsīr al-Qor'ān* by Abu'l-Layt



Samarqandī (d. 373/983), including the first known Turkish translation of the Qur'ān in Anatolia (extant in several manuscripts).

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