



‘EMĀD-AL-DĪN MARZBĀN, ABŪ KĀLĪJĀR

‘EMĀD-AL-DĪN MARZBĀN, ABŪ KĀLĪJĀR b. Solṭān-al-Dawla Abū Šojā‘ (399-440/1009-48), amir of the Buyid dynasty in the period of that family’s decadence and incipient disintegration, being the last effective ruler of the line. He ruled over Fārs and Kūzestān 415-40/1024-48, in Kermān from 419/1028 and in Baghdad nominally 416-18/1025-27 and in actuality from 435/1044 until his death in Jomādā I 440/October 1048.

Abū Kālījār succeeded in Fārs and Kūzestān at his father’s death in 415/1024 at the age of sixteen, but was challenged by his uncle Qewām-al-Dawla Abu’l-Fawāres, ruler in Kermān. Peace was made three years later at the price of paying tribute to Qewām-al-Dawla, and Abū Kālījār was now able to pursue his ambition of wresting control of Iraq from the shaky grip of another uncle, Jalāl-al-Dawla Šīrzīl. He extended his authority over parts of southern Iraq and was acknowledged in the Baghdad *koṭba* for a short period. At Qewām-al-Dawla’s death in 419/1028, he added Kermān to his territories. But, despite various campaigns in Iraq, he could not dislodge Jalāl-al-Dawla, and was only able to occupy Baghdad after the latter’s death in 435/1044. Abū Kālījār was now the supreme ruler in all the Buyid lands, receiving from the caliph a further honorific title (*laqab*) of Moḥyī-al-Dīn. He had already intervened militarily as far as Oman when its governor of the Mukramid family had rebelled in 433/1041-42. He now found, however, that his dominions were threatened by the relentless westward expansion of the Saljuqs under ʿŤoġrel



(Ṭoḡrīl) Beg. By means of skillful diplomacy, including a dynastic marriage, he kept Ṭoḡrel Beg at bay, but he died in 440/1048 when about to repel a Saljuq invasion of Kermān, which henceforth passed under Saljuq control. Abū Kālījār’s sons were to form the last generation of independent Buyid rulers, enjoying only a few years’ power before the complete triumph of the Saljuqs in western Persia and Iraq.

See also [BUYIDS](#).

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