



FAḲR-AL-MOLK, ABU'L-FATH MOẒAFFAR

FAḲR-AL-MOLK b. Neẓām al-Molk, ABU'L-FATH MOẒAFFAR (b. 434/1043; d. 500/1106-7), eldest son of the great Saljuq vizier and himself vizier to the Saljuq sultans Barkīāroq (q.v.; 485-98/1092-1105) and Moḥammad b. Malekšāh (498-511/1105-18).

He seems to have had no qualifications for office beyond the distinguished name of his father. In 488/1095, after a brief period in the service of Tutuš b. Alp Arslān in Syria, he offered Bārkiāroq money and rich gifts to dismiss his much more capable brother Mo'ayyed-al-Molk and appoint him in his stead; nevertheless, for the period of his vizierate, which lasted until 492/1099, he was substantially the puppet of the influential financial supervisor (*mostawfi*) Majd-al-Molk Balāsānī (q.v.), whereas Mo'ayyed-al-Molk was driven to espouse the cause of Bārkiāroq's brother and rival Moḥammad. Faḡr-al-Molk's appointment marked the beginning of a sharp decline in the influence of viziers and in the sultans' ability to choose their own officials; this power now fell more into the hands of the great amirs. In 494/1101 Faḡr-al-Molk became vizier to Sanjar b. Malekšāh in Khorasan, who was functioning as subordinate to his two brothers in the west, Barkīāroq and Moḥammad. He was assassinated, allegedly by an Isma'ili, in 500/1106-7 and was succeeded as vizier by his son Ṣadr-al-Dīn Abū Ja'far 500-511/1106-17.

See also [NEẒĀM-AL-MOLK](#).



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