



FARROKZĀD, ABŪ ŠOJĀ'

FARROKZĀD, ABŪ ŠOJĀ', b. Mas'ūd b. Maḥmūd, Ghaznavid sultan of Afghanistan and northern India (443-52/1052-59). He succeeded in Ġazna after the traumatic events of the reign of his uncle 'Abd al-Rašīd (q.v.; ca. 440-43/1049-52), whose power had been usurped by the slave commander ʾToḡrel; Ghaznavid authority was restored only after a countercoup. Farroḳzād remains a somewhat shadowy figure in the sources, though praised by Abu'l-Faẓl Bayhaqī (q.v.) for his just rule and charitable works (p. 114). It was during his reign that Bayhaqī emerged from prison and started writing his memoirs (*mojalladāt*).

Farroḳzād's vizier was Ḥosayn b. Mehrān. Of the sultan's external policy all that is known is that the earlier upheavals had tempted the Saljuq Čaḡrī Beg Dāwūd (q.v.) to invade Afghanistan at the beginning of Farroḳzād's reign, but this incursion was repelled by the commander (*ḥājeb*) Kerkīz. Toward the end of the reign the Ghaznavid sultan marched against the Saljuqs in ʾToḳārestān but was defeated by Čaḡrī Beg's son Alp Arslan (q.v.); peace was made, though whether by Farroḳzād himself or his successor, his brother Ebrāhīm (q.v.), is unclear. Farroḳzād died in April 1059 at the early age of thirty-four years. It was during his reign that the title *al-solṭān al-mo'azzam*, apparently borrowed from Saljuq practice, first appeared on Ghaznavid coins (Bosworth, 1962, pp. 223-24, 231).



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