



FAYYĀŽ, 'ALĪ-AKBAR MAJĪDĪ

FAYYĀŽ, 'ALĪ-AKBAR MAJĪDĪ, scholar and educator (b. Mašhad, 1316/1898; d. Mašhad, 4 Šahrivar 1350 Š./26 August 1971; [Figure 1](#)). Son of Sayyed 'Abd-al-Majīd Teqat-al-Eslām, head steward (*kādem-bāšī*) of Āstān-e Qods-e Rażawī (q.v.), Fayyāž received his elementary and secondary education at traditional schools (see [EDUCATION iii, iv](#)) in Mašhad, studying Islamic jurisprudence with Abu'l-Qāsem Azgandī and literature with Adīb Nišābūrī (q.v.). For a while he served at the shrine in Mašhad as his father's replacement. In 1307 Š./1928 he joined the Ministry of Education and was appointed the principal of Šāhrezā High School in Mašhad and in 1314 Š./1935 became the head of the newly-founded Elementary Teachers Training School (*Dāneš-sarāy-e moqaddamātī*) in the same city. In 1316 Š./1937 he enrolled at the Faculty of Letters of the University of Tehran, where he received his doctorate in Persian language and literature in 1322 Š./1943. In 1334 Š./1955, commissioned by the government, he established the Faculty of Letters in Mašhad and served as its dean for nine years before returning to the University of Tehran to chair the Department of Religion at the Faculty of Theology (*Dāneškada-ye elāhiyāt*), in which capacity he served until his retirement and return to Mašhad in 1346 Š./1967. He was also instrumental in founding the Faculty of Theology at Mašhad and served as its dean for some time. He represented Mašhad in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Majles and was also the head of the Bahār Literary Society (*Anjoman-e adabī-e Bahār*) and the chief editor of *Majalla-ye Āstān-e Qods-e Rażawī*.

Fayyāž remained an indefatigable scholar all his life. Going beyond his



traditional background, he studied a number of western languages, including Russian, German, English, ancient Greek, and Latin. He was a meticulous scholar, combining his profound knowledge of traditional Islamic sciences and Persian literature with modern methodology in scholarship and literary criticism. His publications, in addition to a number of articles scattered in literary journals, include *Tārīk-e Eslām* (Tehran, 1338 Š./1959), *Moḥāzarāt 'an al-še'r al-fāresī wa'l-ḥazāra al-eslāmīya fī Īrān* (Alexandria, 1950; in Arabic), and editions of Sohrawardī's *Manteq al-talwihāt* (Tehran, 1329 Š./1950) and *Tārīk-e Bayhaqī* (Mašhad, 1350 Š./1971). He is buried in the precincts of the shrine in Mašhad.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Ġ.-Ḥ. Yūsofī, "Taṣwīr-ī az Ostād Fayyāz" *MDAM* 7, 1350 Š./1971, pp. 707-16; repr. in idem, *Barghā'-ī dar āgūš-e bād* II, 2536=1356 Š./1977, pp. 867-78.

Idem, "Zendagī wa ātār-e šādravān Doktor 'Alī-Akbar Fayyāz," *MDAM* 7, 1350 Š./1971, pp. 717-23, repr. in *ibid.*, pp. 879-84 (including a select list of his works).

Figure 1. 'Alī-Akbar Fayyāz. After *Rāhnemā-ye ketāb* 14, 1350 Š./1971, p. 598.