



GOWHAR-Ā'ĪN, SA'D-AL-DAWLA

GOWHAR-Ā'ĪN, Sa'd-al-dawla, Turkish eunuch slave commander of the Great Saljuqs (d. 493/1100). In his early life he had been a slave (*mamluk*) of the Buyid ruler of Iraq, Abu Kālijār b. Solṭān-al-Dawla, but passed into the service of the Saljuqs (Ebn al-Jawzi, *Montaẓam* IX, p. 115; Ebn al-Aṭir, Beirut, X, p. 295; Ṣadr-al-Din Ḥosayni, p. 51). In 464/1071-72, Sultan Alp Arslān (q.v.) appointed him the Saljuq military governor (*šeḥna*) in Baghdad, an office which he was to hold, on and off, for the rest of his long life (Rāvandi, pp. 119, 121; Ebn al-Aṭir, Beirut, X, p. 70). He became high in Malekšāh's favor, and as *šeḥna* in Baghdad led deputations to the 'Abbasid caliph for such purposes as seeking a formal grant of the sultanate for his master (466/1073-74) and for Malekšāh's demand to marry al-Moqtadi's daughter (482/1089-90; Ebn al-Jawzi, *Montaẓam* VIII, p. 284; Ebn al-Aṭir, Beirut, X, pp. 90, 175). He participated in important expeditions, including the vizier Faḡr-al-Dawla Moḥammad b. Jahir's campaign against the Marwanids of Diārbakr (1085); against Moḥaddeb-al-Dawla Aḥmad, the Arab chief of the Baṭā'eḥ, or southern Iraq marshlands, (480/1087); and against Yaman (Ebn al-Aṭir, Beirut, X, pp. 144, 162, 204). On Malekšāh's death, his conduct was opportunistic. He at first supported Tutuš/Totoš's bid for the throne, became *šeḥna* in Baghdad again successively for Malekšāh's sons Moḥammad and Barkiāroq (Berk-yaruq), but was finally killed in battle near Hamadān fighting for Barkiāroq against Moḥammad in Rajab 493/May 1100 (Ebn al-Jawzi, *Montaẓam* IX, pp. 111-13, 116; Ebn al-Aṭir, X, pp. 222, 226, 289, 293-96).



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