



ĶĀQĀNI ŐERVĀNI

ĶĀQĀNI ŐERVĀNI (or Őarvāni), AFŹAL-AL-DIN BADIL B. ‘ALI B. ‘OTMĀN, a major Persian poet and prose writer (b. Őervān, ca. 521/1127; d. Tabriz, between 582/1186-87 and 595/1199). He composed a voluminous divan (*divān*), which also contains a few Arabic poems (ed. Sajjādi, pp. 939-67; all references to Ķāqāni’s *Divān* are to this edition), one long narrative poem in couplet form (*maṭnawī*) titled *Toḥfat al-‘Erāqayn* (see [ĶATM AL-ĜARĀ‘EB](#)), and a collection of letters (*monšā‘āt*). An eminent example of a *poeta doctus* (erudite poet), he is noted for his extremely rich imagery, drawn from and alluding to a wide range of fields of knowledge—a mannerist, in an even higher degree than other classical Persian poets, both in the way he absorbs and transforms the poetry of his predecessors and in his love of paradox. In a sense he is a paradox himself, the exuberance of his style being in marked contrast with his deeply melancholic persona.

This entry is divided into two sections:

- i. *Life*.
- ii. *Works*.