

# SLAVES on HORSES

The evolution of the Islamic polity

Patricia Crone

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**PATRICIA CRONE**

Lecturer in Islamic History  
University of Oxford

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For T. C. and V. C.

*I have seen slaves upon horses,  
and princes walking as slaves upon the earth.*

Eccles. 10:7.

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## P R E F A C E

This book is a reincarnation of the first part of my thesis ('The Mawālī in the Umayyad Period', University of London Ph.D., 1974) in a form so different that theologians might dispute the identity. I should like to thank Professor B. Lewis, who supervised me in 1969–73, Professor M. J. Kister, who helped me during a term in Jerusalem in 1972, Robert Irwin, whose queries inspired two pages of part III, and Dr Martin Hinds, whose criticisms inspired many more. Above all I wish to thank Michael Cook, who read the entire typescript in both its past and its present form, and whose advice I have nearly always followed, if not always with good grace. I also owe a special debt to Magister E. Iversen for suggesting to me, many years ago, the unfamiliar idea of becoming a historian. Needless to say, not even Magister Iversen can be held responsible for the result.

P.C.

*A note on conventions*

Dates in the text are A.D., but *bijrī* dates have been added in square brackets where appropriate; in the appendices and notes all dates are *bijrī* unless otherwise specified. The full names of Arabic authors are given in the bibliography, but only the short forms are used elsewhere.

PART I  
INTRODUCTION



# I

## HISTORIOGRAPHICAL INTRODUCTION

This work presents an explanation of how and why slave soldiers came to be a central feature of the Muslim polity. The conceptual framework in which the explanation is set is that of *Hagarism*, and to the extent that the crux of the explanation has already appeared there,<sup>1</sup> this work may be regarded as simply an overextended footnote. There is, however, one respect in which the two works differ radically; for where *Hagarism* rejected the Islamic tradition, the present work is squarely based upon it.

This apparent lack of historiographical morality may meet with some disapproval, but it arises from the nature of Islamic historiography itself. Whereas the religious tradition is such that it must be accepted or rejected *in toto*, the secular tradition can to some extent be taken to pieces, and though a great deal of it has to be discarded, there remains enough for a coherent historical account. Before going on to the subject of this book, it is worth lending substance to this claim.

Muslim knowledge of the Muslim past was transmitted orally for about a century and a half.<sup>2</sup> Whatever the attitude to the permissibility of writing history,<sup>3</sup> little history was actually written until the late Umayyad period,<sup>4</sup> and the first historical works proper were only composed in early 'Abbāsid Iraq.<sup>5</sup> The fact that history was transmitted orally does not, of course, in itself mean that it was transmitted unreliably. Human brains can become memory banks of astonishing capacities, procedures can be devised for the transfer of memory from one bank to another, and professional memorizers easily hold their own against copyists in the business of perfect replication: the Vedas, Pāṇini's grammar and the Avesta were all transmitted for centuries by such men. But rigorous procedures along these lines are only adopted for the transmission of highly authoritative works which need to be immutably preserved, not for works of religious innovators; for where classics need to be preserved, new ideas need above all to be spread, and inasmuch as they engender change, they cannot well be shielded from it. Adherents of a new religion necessarily inhabit a different world from that of the founder himself: were it otherwise, his attempt at a religious paradigm

shift would have failed. Hence they will go over their tradition oblivious of the problems with which the founder struggled, struggling with problems which the founder never envisaged, and in so doing not only elaborate, but also reshape the tradition which they received. And since the world of our grandparents, as not quite that of our parents, easily becomes ancient history of which we know little and understand even less, the founder must resign himself to the fact that it takes only three generations for his life and works to be thoroughly reshaped:<sup>6</sup> the only insurance policy he can take out against it is to write his own authoritative works.<sup>7</sup> Oral transmission in the formative period of a new religion, in short, does not mean faithful preservation, but rapid transformation of the tradition.

Thus against the Hindu Vedas we can set the Buddhist *Skandhaka*, in which the life of the Buddha was first presented.<sup>8</sup> It was a grandchild of the Buddha's generation who created this authoritative work in an effort to outbid the Vedas. Formally it was a biography. Substantively it was an exposition of monastic rules interspersed with entertaining legends, in which remains of the tradition from which the biography was recast could still be found, but which was otherwise devoid of historicity. And thanks to its success it is directly or indirectly the source for the bulk of our knowledge of the Buddha's life today.<sup>9</sup>

Similarly thanks to its success, the *Sīra* of Ibn Ishāq is practically our only source for the life of Muḥammad preserved within the Islamic tradition. The work is late: written not by a grandchild, but a great-grandchild of the Prophet's generation, it gives us the view for which classical Islam had settled.<sup>10</sup> And written by a member of the 'ulamā', the scholars who had by then emerged as the classical bearers of the Islamic tradition, the picture which it offers is also one sided: how the Umayyad caliphs remembered their Prophet we shall never know. That it is unhistorical is only what one would expect, but it has an extraordinary capacity to resist internal criticism, a feature unparalleled in either the *Skandhaka* or the Gospels, but characteristic of the entire Islamic tradition, and most pronounced in the Koran: one can take the picture presented or one can leave it, but one cannot *work* with it.<sup>11</sup>

This peculiar characteristic arises from a combination of the circumstances and the method of transmission. The circumstances were those of drastic change. Whereas Buddhism and Christianity spread by slow infiltration, the coming of Islam was by contrast an explosion. In the course of a few decades the Arabs exchanged their ancestral paganism for monotheism, the desert for a habitation in the settled Middle East, tribal innocence for state structures, poverty for massive wealth, and undisturbed

provinciality for exposure to the world's polemical attention. Rarely have a preacher and his followers lived in such discontinuous environments: what made sense to Muḥammad made none to Mu'āwiya, let alone to 'Abd al-Malik.

Even so, the Arabs might well have retained a more integral recollection of the past had they not proceeded to adopt an atomistic method of transmission. The transmitters memorized, not coherent narratives or the components of one, but isolated sayings, short accounts of people's acts, brief references to historical events and the like. It was a method evolved by the Jewish rabbis for the transmission of the Oral Law, and the Mishnah was handed down with the same rigorous attention to immutability as were the Vedas. But it was also a method which, once the rigour was relaxed, made for even greater mutability than that exemplified in the formation of the *Skandhaka*. Being short and disparate, the components of the tradition were easily detached from context, forgotten or given a new meaning by the addition of a single word or two. Rabbinical memories of the past not only suffered rapid attrition and deformation, but also tended to be found in a variety of versions set in a variety of contexts in answer to a variety of problems, with the overall effect that the original contours of the tradition were blurred beyond all hopes of recognition.<sup>12</sup> For the rabbis the past was constantly disintegrating into amorphous bits even at the most stable of times. For the Arabs the combination of atomistic transmission and rapid change was to mean both fast erosion of old structures and fast appearance of new ones.

To this came a further circumstance. Muḥammad was no rabbi. Whereas Jesus may have been a teacher whose doctrine may well have been handed down in accordance with the normal methods of rabbinic transmission,<sup>13</sup> Muḥammad was a militant preacher whose message can only have been transmitted *b'il-ma'nā*, not *b'il-lafz*, that is to say only the general meaning was passed on. For one thing, rabbinic methods of transmission were not current among the bedouin; and for another, the immediate disciples of a man whose biography was for some two hundred years studied under the title of '*ilm al-maghāzi*, the Prophet's campaigns,<sup>14</sup> are unlikely to have devoted their lives to the memorization of *hadīth*. In time, of course, Muḥammad's words were to be transmitted with the usual attention to immutability, both orally and in writing, and he himself to some extent laid down his sword to assume the role of the authoritative teacher of the *Sira*.<sup>15</sup> But that is not how things began. The Muslim rabbis to whom we owe the Prophet's biography were not the original memory banks of the Prophet's tradition.

The Prophet's heirs were the caliphs, to whose unitary leadership the

embryonic religion owed its initial survival. The '*ulamā*' appear with the Oral Tradition itself, perhaps in the mid-Umayyad period, perhaps before, and the history of Islam thereafter is to a large extent the history of their victorious emergence. The tradition as we have it is the outcome of a clash between two rival claimants to religious authority at a time when Islam was still in formation.

We have, in other words, a situation in which the Arabs were rent by acute internal tension and exposed to scathing external polemics, under the pressure of which current doctrines were constantly running out of plausibility. As the caliphs pushed new doctrines at their subjects and the nascent '*ulamā*' took them up, worked them over and rejected them, the past was broken into splinters, and the bits and pieces combined and recombined in different patterns, forgotten as they lost their relevance or overlaid by the masses of new material which the pressure generated: it is no accident that whereas the logia of Jesus have remained fairly small in number, those of Muhammad can be collected by the volume.

For over a century the landscape of the Muslim past was thus exposed to a weathering so violent that its shapes were reduced to dust and rubble and deposited in secondary patterns, mixed with foreign debris and shifting with the wind. Only in the later half of the Umayyad period, when the doctrinal structures of Islam began to acquire viability, did the whirlwind gradually subside. The onset of calmer weathers did not, of course, mark the immediate stabilization of the Islamic tradition. On the one hand, the controversies over the Oral Law continued to generate Prophetic *hadīths* into the ninth century;<sup>16</sup> and on the other hand, the Muslim rabbis now began not just to collect but also to sift and tidy up the tradition, an activity which issued in the compilation of the first historical works in early 'Abbāsid Iraq. Nonetheless, it is clear that it was in the course of the first hundred years that the basic damage was done. For the *hadīths* from the late Umayyad period onwards can to some extent be dated and used for a reconstruction of the evolution of Islamic theology and law.<sup>17</sup> And the rabbinic censorship, though far from trivial, eliminated only the remains of a landscape which had already been eroded. That much is clear from Ibn Hishām who, as he tells us, omitted from his recension of Ibn Ishāq's *Sīra* everything without direct bearing on the Koran, things which he felt to be repugnant or which might cause offence, poems not attested elsewhere, as well as matters which a certain transmitter could not accept as trustworthy.<sup>18</sup> Despite his reference to delicate topics, Ibn Hishām clearly saw himself as an editor rather than a censor: most of what he omitted had long ceased to be dangerous. We have in fact examples of badly censored works in Muslim eschatological books,<sup>19</sup> particularly the

*Kitāb al-fitān* of Nu‘aym b. Hammād, who happily defines the *mabādī* as he who guides people to the original Torah and Gospel;<sup>20</sup> and though Jewish and Christian material is conspicuously present in these works, the doctrinal formations of which it is the residue can no longer be restored: the structural damage had been inflicted in the course of oral transmission. But it is above all our one surviving document which conclusively demonstrates this point. The Constitution of Medina is preserved in Ibn Ishāq’s *Sīra*, in which it sticks out like a piece of solid rock in an accumulation of rubble,<sup>21</sup> and there is another recension in the *Kitāb al-amwāl* of the ninth-century Abū ‘Ubayd.<sup>22</sup> Abū ‘Ubayd’s version, which is later than Ibn Ishāq’s, is a typical product of written transmission: it has copyists’ mistakes,<sup>23</sup> interpolations,<sup>24</sup> several of the by now unintelligible clauses have been omitted,<sup>25</sup> and it has also been equipped with an *isnād*;<sup>26</sup> but otherwise the text is the same. The Constitution, however, also survives in a number of *hadīths*. The *hadīths* are all short; they mention two or three of the numerous clauses of the document, but do not spell them out; they characterize the document as a scroll coming from the Prophet, but leave the occasion on which it was written unidentified, and turn on the point that the scroll was in the possession of ‘Ali.<sup>27</sup> Whereas written transmission exposed the document to a certain amount of weathering which it withstood extremely well, oral transmission resulted in the disintegration of the text, the loss of the context and a shift of the general meaning: the document which marked the foundation of the Prophet’s polity has been reduced to a point about the special knowledge of the Prophet’s cousin.

The religious tradition of Islam is thus a monument to the destruction rather than the preservation of the past. It is in the *Sīra* of the Prophet that this destruction is most thorough, but it affects the entire account of the religious evolution of Islam until the second half of the Umayyad period; and inasmuch as politics were endowed with religious meaning, it affects political history no less. There is not much to tell between the *sīra* of the *shaykhayn*, the first two caliphs, and that of the Prophet: both consist of secondary structures stuffed with masses of legal and doctrinal *hadīths*. The *hadīths* do at least have the merit of being identifiable as the product of the late Umayyad and early ‘Abbāsid controversies, and though they constitute a sizeable proportion of our information about the conquests,<sup>28</sup> they taper off with the coming of the Umayyads. For if the reign of the first four caliphs was *sīra*, a normative pattern, that of the Umayyads, by contrast, was *jawr*, paradigmatic tyranny, and where the fiscal rectitude of the first four caliphs is spelt out in a profusion of detail, the fiscal oppression of the Umayyads is summarily

dismissed in a number of stereotype accounts which, for all their bias and oversimplification, do in fact contain some historical truth.<sup>29</sup> And by the time of the 'Abbāsids the lawyers had begun to reach their classical positions on the subject; the fiscal policy of the 'Abbāsids was therefore neither *sīra* nor *jawr*, but simply history, of which the sources do not have all that much to say. The secondary structures, however, do not taper off until the second half of the Umayyad period. They are manifest in the mass of material on the battle of Ṣiffīn<sup>30</sup> and in the received version of the Tawwābūn;<sup>31</sup> the accounts of Mukhtār successfully blur what was clearly a dangerous message and defuse it by systematic ridicule,<sup>32</sup> while those of Shabib and Muṭarrif, the Khārijites in the days of Hajjāj, conversely turn minor rebels into prodigious heroes and pinnacles of piety of riveting interest to the chroniclers.<sup>33</sup> It is only with the revolts of the Yemeni generals, Zayd b. 'Alī, 'Abdallāh b. Mu'āwiya and Dāḥhāk the Khārijite, that we find highly charged events described in fairly neutral terms,<sup>34</sup> and by the time of the 'Abbāsids, of course, the Sunnī attitude had set: 'Alid rebels continue to receive sympathetic attention,'<sup>35</sup> but the successors of the prodigious Shabib in the Jazīra are dismissed in short notices to the effect that they rebelled and were defeated.<sup>36</sup>

The legal and doctrinal *hadīths* are thus only one of the problems which the Islamic tradition presents. Were they the only problem, we should still have a fairly good idea of how Islam began; but the basic trouble is that these *hadīths* are a layer deposited relatively late and that the layer underneath consists of rubble reorganized in minimal order. No scholar in his most extravagant fantasies would dream of reconstructing the Constitution of Medina from its debris in the *hadīths* about 'Alī; and yet scholars are doing precisely that when they reconstruct the origins of Islam from its debris in the Islamic tradition.

Islamic historiography, however, does not consist only of a religious tradition, but also of a tribal one; and the question to which we must now turn is the extent to which the tribal recollection of the past survived with its structures intact.

What the Arabs did with their tribal tradition can best be set out against the background of Iceland. Icelandic and Islamic history unexpectedly share the feature of beginning with a *bijra*: as the future Icelanders made their exodus from Norwegian monarchy in the name of their ancestral freedom,<sup>37</sup> so the future Muslims made theirs from Arab paganism in the name of their ancestral God. And both *bijras* led into an isolation, physical in the one case and moral in the other, which enabled the *mubājirūn* to retain and elaborate the values in the name of which they had walked out.<sup>38</sup>

Hence, for the Icelanders and the Muslims the heroic past was no mere backdrop to history, but history *par excellence*, the classical age embodying their abiding values and on which their intellectual efforts were spent. Where the Greeks or the Germans remember their *jābiliyya*, barbarian past, only from an epic, and others not at all, the Icelanders and the Muslims, by contrast, became assiduous collectors of antiquities relating to the country they had left,<sup>39</sup> the exodus,<sup>40</sup> and the society which ensued.<sup>41</sup>

The character of these works is nonetheless very different. Where the Icelandic *jābiliyya* merely escaped from monarchy and survived the coming of Christianity, the Arab *jābiliyya* by contrast interacted with an Arab religion and state. Hence, where the Icelandic material is either historical or epic in character,<sup>42</sup> the Arab material bears all the marks of having been through religious discussions. The *Landnátabók* and *Íslendingabók* simply recorded the past on the basis of oral tradition collected while the classical society was still in existence, and the *Íslendingasögur* evoked this past in literary works composed during the agonized centuries when the classical society caved in;<sup>43</sup> but where Ari recorded and Sturla evoked, the Arabs argued, and the books of *futūh* and *ansāb* are thoroughly rabbinicized. The tradition has been broken up. Coherent narratives, though they do exist, are rare;<sup>44</sup> and for all that heroic prowess and lapidary style are common enough, the fragments of which the tradition came to consist are so many residues of religious arguments. At the same time pagan timelessness has been replaced by monotheist history. The heroes are sometimes pious and sometimes impious, but of heroic fatalism there is none;<sup>45</sup> and where the sagas are pure family history, the *futūh* and *ansāb* are that and a good deal more besides.

The tribal tradition was, like politics, endowed with religious meaning, and for that reason it did not escape the ravages of the whirlwind. There is no qualitative difference between the tribal and the strictly religious material in the *Sīra*, the Constitution of Medina being once more the only exception;<sup>46</sup> accounts of the conquests, insofar as they do not consist of legal and doctrinal *hadīths*, are formulaic and schematized;<sup>47</sup> tribal and religious history up to the accession of Mu'āwiya are largely beyond disentanglement;<sup>48</sup> and the careers of the Umayyad *ashrāf* are as stereotyped as the accounts of Umayyad fiscal policy.<sup>49</sup>

It is, however, undeniable that the tribal tradition was located off the centre of the whirlwind, and suffered less damage as a result. Where the *Sīra* is marked by secondary constructions, the *ayyām* are simply legendary;<sup>50</sup> there is occasional material relating to the period between the *ridda* and the first civil war, above all in Sayf b. 'Umar, which is strikingly alive;<sup>51</sup> and there is still more relating to the subsequent period, and above

all the second civil war, which is manifestly historical.<sup>12</sup> The fact that material is alive does not necessarily mean that it is true, but it does mean that it has been through an undisturbed transmission such as the religious tradition did not enjoy: of the Prophet the tribesmen remembered nothing, but of their own history they obviously did remember something.

But it is not much, and what is worse, much of it is of very little use. What the tribal tradition preserved was above all personalia: who married, divorced and killed whom, who was the first to say and do such and such, who was the most generous of the Arabs, what so-and-so said on a certain occasion, and so forth, in short the chit-chat and gossip of the Arab tribal sessions. Of such material a ninth-century scholar was to make an entire collection, the *Kitāb al-muhabbar*, which must rank with the *Guinness Book of Records* among the greatest compilations of useless information.<sup>13</sup> It was material which was well equipped to withstand the effects of atomization, and it was, of course, precisely the stuff of which the Icelanders made world literature; but it is not the stuff of history.

Whether one approaches Islamic historiography from the angle of the religious or the tribal tradition, its overall character thus remains the same: the bulk of it is debris of an obliterated past. The pattern in which the debris began to be arranged in the eighth century A.D. acquired the status of historiographical *sunna*<sup>14</sup> in the ninth, the century in which the classical works of history and *ḥadīth* were compiled. The tradition did not, of course, entirely cease to change on reduction to writing, but basically the canon had now been closed and endowed with the same kind, if not quite the same degree, of sanctity as that which was attached to the Prophet's words; and both were passed on without substantial modifications, complete with *ikhtilāf* and *ijmā'*, disagreement and agreement.

The works on which the canon was based were compilations pure and simple. Had historical works composed before the subsidence of the tempestuous weathers come down to us, we might very well have had the excitement of seeing early Islamic history through independent minds; but because the tradition has been shattered, all the later historians could do was to collect its remains.<sup>15</sup> The works of the first compilers – Abū Mikhnaf, Sayf b. ‘Umar, ‘Awāna, Ibn Ishāq, Ibn al-Kalbī and so forth – are accordingly mere piles of disparate traditions reflecting no one personality, school, time or place: as the Medinese Ibn Ishāq transmits traditions in favour of Iraq, so the Iraqi Sayf has traditions against it;<sup>16</sup> ‘Awāna, despite his Syrian origins, is no Umayyad zealot;<sup>17</sup> and all the compilations are characterized by the inclusion of material in support of conflicting legal and doctrinal persuasions.<sup>18</sup>

Inasmuch as the classical sources consist largely of extracts or free

renditions of these works, they could not easily be very different in character. We have an apparent abundance of rich and diversified sources for the history of the first two centuries. Sunnis and Shi'ites, Iraqis and provincials, Arabs and Persians all contributed over the years to the mountain of universal chronicles, local histories, genealogical works, biographical dictionaries, legal handbooks, collections of poetry, of proverbs and of gossip, heresiographies, polemical tracts and essays which shield the Muslim past from the unholy designs of modern historians.<sup>59</sup> But the diversity is depressingly deceptive. Ya'qūbī gives us nothing like the Shi'ite experience of Islamic history, merely the same body of tradition as the Sunnī Ṭabarī with curses in appropriate places;<sup>60</sup> similarly local historians such as Azdi have no local experiences and few local sources, but merely pick out from the canon what was of local interest;<sup>61</sup> compilers of biographical dictionaries picked out their *prosopa*, jurists and historians their *ḥadīths* on taxation, and Persian historians simply translated their selections into Persian; Balādhuri's *Ansāb* is a universal chronicle genealogically arranged, Ibn 'Asākir's *Ta'rīkh* a biographical dictionary topographically based, and so on *ad infinitum*: wherever one turns, one finds compilers of different dates, origin and doctrinal persuasions presenting the same canon in different arrangements and selections.<sup>62</sup> This does of course have its practical advantages. Inasmuch as every compiler will have bits of the canon not found elsewhere, one can go on finding new material even in late sources; and in theory one ought to read the entire corpus of Muslim literature on the period before venturing an opinion on what it was about.<sup>63</sup> But in practice, of course, this is not feasible, and one all too soon reaches the point of diminishing returns: in a late local chronicle written in Persian such as the *Tārikh-i Sīstān* there is admittedly bric-à-brac which is not found elsewhere; but there is little else.

The source material thus consisted of an invariable canon formed between a hundred and fifty and two hundred years after the Prophet's death. It is for that reason that it is so extraordinarily impenetrable. Passing from one source to another and finding them very much the same, one is harassed by an exasperating feeling that one cannot *see*. And in fact one cannot see. Whoever comes from the Mediterranean world of late antiquity to that of the Arab conquerors must be struck by the apparently total lack of continuity: the Syria to which Heraclius bade his moving farewell seems to have vanished, not just from Byzantine rule, but from the face of the earth. Nothing in the Arab accounts of the conquests betrays the fact that the Arabs were moving into the colourful world described by historians

of late antiquity: in the east the Arabs saw *kisrās* and *marzubāns*, in the west *qaysars* and *batrīqs*, but of whatever else they saw, they took no notice;<sup>64</sup> and for the better part of the Umayyad period, the only non-Muslim presence to come through in the sources is that of Khurāsān. The Syrian pillar saints dispensing grace to local Arab tribesmen, the Coptic peasants, riotous Alexandrines or sophisticated Nestorians at home at the King of Kings' court, all these have been conjured away at a stroke and replaced by faceless '*ulūj*' and *naṣārā*: one comes straight from late antiquity to classical Islam.<sup>65</sup>

Unvaried and impenetrable, the tradition is also marked by an extraordinary unreality. The accounts which the sources push at us never convince, and if one accepts the descriptions of Muḥammad's years in Mecca, 'Ali's fiscal policy in Kufa or the course of the battle of Ḡiffīn, it is because the sources offer no alternatives, not because they ring true. In part, of course, this unreality arises from the fact that what the sources would have us believe cannot be true: new religions do not spring fully-fledged from the heads of prophets, old civilizations are not conjured away. But more particularly it reflects the circumstance that the tradition which the sources preserve was dead; for whereas the epic has compelling verisimilitude even when its information is wrong, the Islamic tradition is completely unpersuasive even when its information is correct. Thus Noth dismisses the use of *takbīrs* as battle cries as a mere literary *topos*,<sup>66</sup> and as it happens a Syriac source proves him wrong,<sup>67</sup> but had it not been for the Syriac source, who other than the most *zāhibī* of historians would have believed it?<sup>68</sup> The epic evokes a lived experience, but the Islamic tradition had been through too many upheavals to retain much vividness: true or false, it has all become dust in the eyes of the historians.

But above all the tradition is marked by high entropy. Unsurprisingly, it is full of contradictions, confusions, inconsistencies and anomalies, and if these could be ordered a certain meaning might emerge. But the debris is dejectedly resistant to internal criticism, and because it cannot be ordered, nothing much can be proved or disproved. There is nothing, within the Islamic tradition, that one can do with Balādhuri's statement that the *qibla* in the first Kufan mosque was to the west:<sup>69</sup> either it is false or else it is odd, but why it should be there and what it means God only knows. It is similarly odd that 'Umar is known as the *Fārūq*, that there are so many *Fāṭimas*, that 'Ali is sometimes Muḥammad's brother,<sup>70</sup> and that there is so much pointless information; but all one can do is to note that there are oddities, and in time one gets inured to them. It is a tradition in which information means nothing and leads nowhere; it just happens to be there and lends itself to little but arrangement by majority and minority opinion.

The inertia of the source material comes across very strongly in modern scholarship on the first two centuries of Islam. The bulk of it has an alarming tendency to degenerate into mere rearrangements of the same old canon — Muslim chronicles in modern languages and graced with modern titles. Most of the rest consists of reinterpretations in which the order derives less from the sources than from our own ideas of what life ought to be about — modern preoccupations graced with Muslim facts and footnotes.<sup>71</sup> This combination of traditional rearrangement and modern preoccupations does little to uncover the landscape that we are all trying to see: things can occasionally be brought to fit, but one all too rarely experiences illumination.<sup>72</sup> And for the same reason new interpretations do not generate much in the way of new research. Theories and facts do not mesh, paradigms produce no puzzles and puzzles no paradigms:<sup>73</sup> we are forever shifting rubble in our own peculiar field without appreciable effect on the work of our successors or that going on in adjoining areas. Hence what patterns we opt for hardly seems to matter: maybe Muhammad was a Fabian socialist, or maybe he merely wanted sons; maybe the Umayyad feuds were tribal or maybe that was how Umayyad politicians chose to argue. What difference does it make? We know as little as and understand no more than before.

The inertia of the source material is similarly reflected in the inordinate time it has taken for a helpful *Quellenkritik* to emerge. In 1899 Wellhausen applied to Islamic historiography the principles of literary criticism which had paid off so handsomely in his study of the Pentateuch; and since in both cases he was up against tribal and religious traditions belatedly committed to writing, one might have expected his ‘Prolegomena zur ältesten Geschichte des Islams’ to have been as revolutionary a work as was his *Prolegomena zur ältesten Geschichte Israels*.<sup>74</sup> But it is not altogether surprising that it was not. The Biblical redactors offer us sections of the Israelite tradition at different stages of crystallization, and their testimonies can accordingly be profitably compared and weighed against each other.<sup>75</sup> But the Muslim tradition was the outcome, not of a slow crystallization, but of an explosion; the first compilers were not redactors, but collectors of debris whose works are strikingly devoid of overall unity; and no particular illuminations ensue from their comparison. The Syrian, Medinese and Iraqi schools in which Wellhausen found his J, E, D and P, do not exist: where Engnell and other iconoclasts have vainly mustered all their energy and ingenuity in their effort to see the Pentateuch as a collection of uncoordinated *hadīths*,<sup>76</sup> Noth has effortlessly and conclusively demonstrated the fallacy of seeing the Muslim compilers as Pentateuchal redactors.<sup>77</sup>

After Wellhausen the most striking feature of Islamic *Quellenkritik* was

its absence. It was only in 1967 that Sellheim published his stratigraphy of the *Sīra*, a work notable for its failure to relate itself to either Wellhausen or Schacht, and for its definition of a *Grundschicht* so broad that the basic problems of the formation of the Prophet's biography were evaded.<sup>78</sup> And not until 1968 did Wellhausen's ideas begin to be taken up by Noth.<sup>79</sup> Noth himself has adopted a form-critical approach, and the result is both enlightening and wholly negative. Form-criticism is, like literary criticism, a method evolved for the study of the Pentateuch. Biblical form-critics treat Wellhausen's redactions rather as conglomerates in which each individual component has its own individual history, and in pursuing these they take us back in time. But just as the Islamic tradition is not the product of either slow crystallization or a gradual deposition of identifiable layers, so also it is not a conglomerate in which ancient materials have come together in a more recent setting. Hence, where Biblical form-critics take us back in time, Noth by contrast takes us forward. He demonstrates time and time again that the components of the Islamic tradition are secondary constructions, the history of which we are not invited to pursue: they simply have to be discarded. Where Biblical form-criticism takes us to the sources behind the sources, Noth exposes us to a gaping void behind the sources. And the practical outcome of his *Quellenkritik* is accordingly not the rewriting of Islamic history, but a warning to foolhardy Islamic historians.<sup>80</sup>

By far the most important contributions, however, have come from the field of Hadith. Here too there was a notable delay. Already in 1890 Goldziher demonstrated that the bulk of the traditions attributed to the Prophet in fact originate in the doctrinal and legal controversies of the second and third centuries of the *bijra*,<sup>81</sup> and his ideas were taken up by Lammens and Becker.<sup>82</sup> But thereafter the implications of Goldziher's theories were quietly forgotten, and not until the 1940s did they receive systematic development at the hands of Schacht.<sup>83</sup> With Schacht, however, things did begin to move. His work on Islamic law for the first time related atomistic *hadīths* to time and place and used them for the reconstruction of an evolution,<sup>84</sup> a feat which has generated the first and as yet the only line of cumulative research in early Islamic studies.<sup>85</sup> At the same time his work on Islamic historiography demonstrated that second-century *hadīths* abound in the accounts of the Prophet and the Rāshidūn,<sup>86</sup> and that the earliest historiographical literature took the form of dry lists of names chronologically arranged<sup>87</sup> – *ta'rikh* as opposed to *hadīth* and *akhbār*.

Among historians the response to Schacht has varied from defensiveness to deafness,<sup>88</sup> and there is no denying that the implications of his theories are, like those of Noth, both negative and hard to contest. That the bulk

of the *Sīra* and lives of the Rāshidūn consists of second-century *hadīths* has not been disputed by any historian,<sup>89</sup> and this point may be taken as conceded. But if the surface of the tradition consists of debris from the controversies of the late Umayyad and early 'Abbāsid periods, the presumption must be that the layer underneath consists of similar debris from the controversies which preceded them.<sup>90</sup> The fact that so much of the *Sīra* has no apparent doctrinal point is not, of course, a proof of its historicity: of the lives of prophets little is remembered or invented *unless* it has a point. And the pointlessness testifies, not to the extraordinary detachment of seventh-century Arab reporters, but to the extraordinary erosion of seventh-century religious and historical structures.<sup>91</sup> The question which Schacht's theories beg is whether the chronological and prosopographical skeleton identified by him as the *Grundschicht* of the *Sīra* can withstand critical inspection, and it is remarkable, but perhaps not insignificant, that no historians have so far rushed to its defence. It cannot withstand such inspection. The chronology of the *Sīra* is internally weak,<sup>92</sup> schematized,<sup>93</sup> doctrinally inspired,<sup>94</sup> and contradicted by contemporary non-Muslim sources on one crucial point.<sup>95</sup> And that the prosopography shares these features needs hardly to be pointed out.<sup>96</sup> There is of course no doubt that Muhammad lived in the 620s and 630s A.D., that he fought in wars, and that he had followers some of whose names are likely to have been preserved. But the precise when, what and who, on which our interpretations stand and fall, bear all the marks of having been through the mill of rabbinic arguments and subsequently tidied up.

As far as the origins of Islam are concerned, the only way to escape the entropy is thus to step outside. It is our luck that, unlike historians of the Buddha, we *can* step outside: all the while that Islamic historians have been struggling with their inert tradition, they have had available to them the Greek, Armenian, Hebrew, Aramaic, Syriac and Coptic literatures of non-Muslim neighbours and subjects of the Arab conquerors, to a large extent edited and translated at the end of the last century and the beginning of the present, and left to collect dust in the libraries ever since. It is a striking testimony to the suppression of the non-Islamic Middle East from the Muslim sources that not only have these literatures been ignored for questions other than the chronology of the conquests and the transmission of Greek philosophy and science, but they have also been felt to be quite *rightly* ignored.<sup>97</sup> Of course these sources are hostile, and from a classical Islamic view they have simply got everything wrong; but unless we are willing to entertain the notion of an all-pervading literary conspiracy between the non-Muslim peoples of the Middle East, the

crucial point remains that they have got things wrong on very much the same points. That might not, it is true, have impressed the medieval Muslims who held the Jews and Christians capable of having maliciously deleted from their scriptures precisely the same passages relating to the coming of Islam; but as the Jews and Christians retorted, given their wide geographical and social distribution, they could scarcely have vented their anti-Muslim feelings with such uniform results.<sup>98</sup> It is because there is agreement between the independent and contemporary witnesses of the non-Muslim world that their testimony must be considered; and it can hardly be claimed that they do not help: whichever way one chooses to interpret them, they leave no doubt that Islam was like other religions the product of a religious *evolution*.

Stepping outside is, however, not the only solution as far as the political history of the Arabs after the Rāshidūn is concerned.<sup>99</sup> Here too the *Grundsicht* consists of a chronological and prosopographical framework, and that the Arab *horror anonymitatis* contributed to the proliferation of names here as elsewhere can hardly be open to doubt;<sup>100</sup> but the lists include the names of governors who can be checked against the evidence of numismatics, papyrology and epigraphy, and against the testimony of non-Muslim sources, and the result of such a check is unshakeable, surprising and impressive agreement.<sup>101</sup> Who compiled these lists, when and why is one of the most intriguing problems of Islamic historiography;<sup>102</sup> but what matters in the present context is that the one thing we can pride ourselves on knowing in early Islamic history is who held power and when.

It is thus not surprising to find that whereas the non-Muslim sources offer a wholly new picture of the religion that was to become Islam, they generally confirm the familiar outline of the society that was to become the Muslim polity;<sup>103</sup> and since they do not usually offer many details, their importance is necessarily reduced. Not that this does much to justify the reluctance of Islamic historians to touch a non-Muslim source. Syriac sources offer a contemporary account of the revolt of Mukhtār,<sup>104</sup> descriptions of a proto-*mamlük* army under Mansūr<sup>105</sup> and a slave revolt in Harrān;<sup>106</sup> and had it occurred to Dennett to glance at a collection of Nestorian *responsa* edited, translated and indexed in 1914, he would not have had to write his *Conversion and Poll-tax* in 1950 to prove that the Arabs did indeed impose a tax on the unbelievers' heads.<sup>107</sup> But the fact remains that for political history the non-Muslim sources offer additional, not alternative, information.

The obvious way to tackle early Islamic history is, in other words, prosopographical. To the extent that the pages of the Muslim chronicles are littered with names, prosopography is of course nothing but a fancy

word for what every historian of that period finds himself to be doing. But early Islamic history has to be almost *exclusively* prosopographical. There is, to be sure, a scatter of tribal traditions and stereotypes which can be used, but the vast mass of information is gossip which cannot be used for what it asserts, only for what it conveys, primarily the background and status of the persons gossipped about.<sup>108</sup> The gossip provides a context for the men in power, and without such context the lists would be of little use to us. But it does not provide much else.

## 2

## THE NATURE OF THE ARAB CONQUEST

A Ch'i-tan prince of the Liao dynasty in China once caught a servant reading a book. It was an embarrassing moment, for needless to say the book was Chinese; hurriedly, the prince hid the book in his sleeve and cautioned the servant in future to do his reading in secret.<sup>109</sup> Similarly, 'Umar I once caught an Arab copying the book of Daniel. It was not, however, an embarrassing but a frightening moment, for 'Umar thrashed the man repeatedly to the accompaniment of the verse 'we have revealed to you an Arabic Koran' until the wretched victim cried out that he repented.<sup>110</sup> There could be no question of reading Daniel or other foreign writings on the side.

These stories nicely catch the contrast between Central Asian and Arab conquest. The Ch'i-tan episode was merely one of the many undignified moments the Central Asian conquerors had to endure in the course of their invariably vain attempts to resist Sinification. There were few who were not determined morally to stay in their ancestral 'forests of Ötükän',<sup>111</sup> and yet there were none who escaped at least a measure of cultural assimilation: even the Ch'i-tan, who had so aggressively insisted that they possessed a respectable civilization of their own,<sup>112</sup> took a Chinese type of administration with them when they escaped to western Turkestan.<sup>113</sup> And no barbarian conquest of China ever resulted in the formation of a new civilization. But the Arabs had conquered the Middle East in the name of a jealous God, a God who dwelt among the tribes and spoke in their language, and morally they did remain in Mecca: where the Ch'i-tan could at best translate the Chinese classics, the Arabs read their own Koran and tribal poetry. And, culturally, the outcome of their conquest was indeed a new civilization: where the Ch'i-tan adhered to Chinese values even in western Turkestan, the Syrians and the Persians adopted Arab values even in the settled Middle East. What are the features of Central Asia and Arabia in terms of which this extraordinary difference can be explained?

We may start with Central Asia, the paradigmatic home of barbarian conquerors. Two points are relevant here. Firstly, in terms of ecology

Central Asia is a land of steppe.<sup>114</sup> The steppe is close to ideal pastoral land: if generally too poor to be exploited by agriculture,<sup>115</sup> it is generally also too rich to be wasted on camels.<sup>116</sup> The steppe pastoralists can keep a wide variety of domestic animals,<sup>117</sup> and above all they can specialize in horses. Horses permit a high ratio of livestock to man,<sup>118</sup> and moreover they are in the nature of cash cattle.<sup>119</sup> It is perhaps for these reasons that the process of sedentarization through excessive wealth and poverty, which elsewhere siphons off the top and the bottom of the social pyramid,<sup>120</sup> scarcely seems to have been operative on the steppe: just as vast herds could be accumulated before the point of diminishing returns was reached,<sup>121</sup> so a large number of impoverished tribesmen could be kept in business as shepherds.<sup>122</sup> Central Asian tribes thus disposed of greater endogenous resources than is common in a pastoral context and possessed a correspondingly high potential for internal organization.

Secondly, in terms of geopolitics Central Asia was a huge sea of barbarians set in the midst of interlocking continents. Thanks to its border on the Siberian forest in the north, it was open to barbarian incomers who would upset existing polities and set migrations going.<sup>123</sup> And being surrounded by the four civilizations of China, India, Iran and the West, it was the recipient of a steady flow of moral and material resources from the settled states, some arriving in the form of imperial subsidies, others being left behind by the commercial and diplomatic caravans that traversed the steppe, or by the garrisons and missionaries who followed in their wake: as Greek fabrics, Graeco-Roman masks and Chinese lacquers could find a common grave in Pazyryk and Noin Ula, so Manichaeans, Nestorians and Buddhists were all to reach the Orkhon at their appointed times.<sup>124</sup> There were thus two external sources of commotion in the barbarian sea, and the very size of the sea was such that the commotion could reach gigantic proportions.<sup>125</sup> Hence the potential for internal organization was liable to be encashed.

This was particularly so in the area along the Chinese wall. Mongolia though split into two by the Gobi, formed a compact steppe wide open to the forests in the north, but in head-on collision with a compact civilization in the south — a situation very unlike the patchwork of oases, steppe and desert which constituted the Transoxanian border of Iran, where nobody could dream of building a single wall to keep the barbarians out.<sup>126</sup> Tribes certainly did enter Mongolia from the north,<sup>127</sup> and Chinese resources certainly did pour into it from the south, but the only safety-valve was the narrow Jungarian corridor to the west. Accordingly, very high pressure could be built up in the Mongolian steppe, and for this reason Mongolia was the classic site of Central Asian state formation.<sup>128</sup> Generally, Turkish

and Mongol tribes are highly stratified. The lineages are ranked in the order of seniority on the principle that no man is his brother's equal,<sup>129</sup> and divided into two estates, nobles and commoners, the 'white' and the 'black bones' respectively,<sup>130</sup> and these may be further subdivided. The nobles collect taxes and services from the commoners and command them in war, and descent groups are or may easily be reorganized as units of internal administration.<sup>131</sup> Periodically, the warfare endemic in Mongolia would act on these tribes to produce larger political structures. On the one hand, a chief became indispensable: 'a body fares badly without a head', as the conventional wisdom had it.<sup>132</sup> And on the other hand, kinship ties were slowly being ground away by the savagery and length of the struggles.<sup>133</sup> As tribes were broken up by dispersal or enslavement,<sup>134</sup> social stratification encroached on segmentation,<sup>135</sup> free retainers clustered around nobles and chiefs,<sup>136</sup> and one of these would eventually subdue his neighbours, distribute them in military and administrative units headed by his vassals, kinsmen or the nobles,<sup>137</sup> and commonly mark the foundation of his polity by the promulgation of laws.<sup>138</sup>

It was thus possible to found a state in the steppe; but the caravan trade notwithstanding, it was scarcely possible to *maintain* it there. Hence such states had no option but to conquer, and from the Hsiung-nu in the third century B.C. to the Manchus in the seventeenth century A.D. northern China was the seat of a long succession of barbarian states bent on the absorption of their rivals along the wall on the one hand, and the annexation of the fertile lands behind it on the other.

At the other end of Central Asia, by contrast, the steppe was sprawling and civilization well tucked away behind the Caucasus and the Danube. Here, then, the pressure was deflated. There was of course no lack of tribes coming in from the east, any more than there was lack of revenues pouring in from the south; but on the one hand, the tribes were free to spread out in the almost endless steppe, and on the other hand, the almost endless steppe lacked a natural centre of expansion: the Crimea was a place of refuge,<sup>139</sup> not a place from where to conquer. Typically, therefore, the tribal states of southern Russia were loose structures. A layer of tribal rulers was spread thinly over a local population of pastoralists, peasants and hunters; military organization was usually restricted to a royal body-guard and an army of nobles; and resources came largely in the form of tribute from the subject population and revenues from whatever trading colony the area might house at the time. The basic structure of the Mongolian states — kings, retainers and an aristocracy in command of the tribes — was usually present, but the *tightness* was entirely absent, and that holds true of both the Iranian states of the Scythians and Sarmatians,<sup>140</sup>

the Germanic ones of the Goths and the Rus,<sup>141</sup> and the Turco-Mongol ones of the Huns, Khazars, Volga Bulgars or Tatars.<sup>142</sup> Eventually, of course, civilization began to close in on the steppe: where the Sarmatians could spread into Poland at a slight push from the Alans in the first centuries A.D., the Cumans had to negotiate their entry into Hungary when threatened by the Mongols in the thirteenth, while the Kazakhs scarcely budged when slaughtered by the Kalmuks in the seventeenth and eighteenth. And then the tightly organized states did make their appearance.<sup>143</sup> But by then it was too late for world conquest. And until then the barbarians of southern Russia had a simple choice between staying in the steppe at the cost of failure to conquer civilization, and conquest of civilization at the cost of losing their tribal homes.<sup>144</sup> In practice they usually stayed in the steppe:<sup>145</sup> when the Byzantine empire finally fell to the Turks, it fell to those who came from the east.

That is not to say that until then civilization was safe from tribal incursions in the west. Because tribal pressure in Central Asia was concentrated in the east, it was in the west that migrations tended to end up, so that southern Russia became instead a dumping ground for unwanted barbarians. The up-and-coming states along the Chinese walls would send their defeated rivals through the Jungarian corridor, from where the waves of displacement would eventually reach the Russian steppe. Hence where China was typically faced with attempts at concerted conquest by barbarian states such as those of the Hsiung-nu or the Yüan-yüan, Byzantium typically had to endure invasions of barbarian hordes such as those of the Huns or the Avars; while Iran, in all respects in between, suffered a bit of both.<sup>146</sup>

Europe and Arabia can both be seen as variants on the Central Asian pattern. Up to a point, Northern Europe and Central Asia are directly comparable: along the Rhine, as along the wall, barbarians were in direct confrontation with a compact civilization, and here as there the confrontation engendered state structures among the tribes – kings, *comitati*, military and administrative divisions,<sup>147</sup> and possibly even laws.<sup>148</sup> But for one thing, Europe was a land of forests, not of steppe, and thus underdeveloped rather than deprived. And for another, it was peninsular in shape. The sea placed a limit on the barbarians who could come from the north, while the eastern frontier, tiny as it was by Central Asian standards and moreover mountainous in parts, was not at all impossible to defend. Neither the ecological potential nor its defensibility can have been very obvious to those who witnessed the days of the migrations. But the Germanic tribes could hardly have overrun the Roman empire without the

intervention of Central Asia in the shape of the Huns: Germanic state structures were too embryonic and Germanic mobility too limited for a conquest of the Chingizid type;<sup>149</sup> and the Goths who broke the frontier as terrified refugees from the Huns, or the Franks who crossed a deserted Rhine with their cattle and cumbrous ox-carts, were certainly a far cry from the devastating horsemen who swept down on the Chinese.<sup>150</sup> Conversely, it is not accidental that the Germanic states which escaped imperial reconquest proved viable, so that in Europe the establishment of barbarian states with a veneer of civilization was cumulative.<sup>151</sup> As Charlemagne smote the Avars and baptized the Saxons, so even his feeble successors could withstand the onslaught of the Vikings, whose mighty display of barbarian savagery soon degenerated into mercenary and commercial services to the civilized south, and colonization of the empty north. And though the Mongols could still take the Hunnish road to Hungary, the Cuman refugees did not conquer France.

But in Central Asia the barbarian states regularly fell, if not to the Chinese then to other barbarians.<sup>152</sup> Central Asia was the region not of stable but of vanished nations, the *umam khāliya* of the Turks and Mongols who left behind a long tradition of tribal unification and conquest. Evidently, this tradition was primarily about Mongolia and China; but whereas the barbarians of Europe, settled in their stable states, forgot their ambition to replace 'Romania' by 'Gothia',<sup>153</sup> those of Central Asia by contrast learnt that there was more to the world than the Orkhon and the Middle Kingdom. On the one hand, it was clear that control of the entire steppe was required for the conquest of the Middle Kingdom;<sup>154</sup> and on the other, control of the entire steppe led to awareness of the civilized world beyond it.<sup>155</sup> And it was doubtless thanks to this piling up of barbarian experience that Chingiz could conceive the ideas deep in the wilds of Mongolia of conquering the world, so that instead of setting up yet another peripheral state that sent the losers westward, he combined the conquest and the invasion pattern in a single snowballing conquest of both China and the west.<sup>156</sup> In Central Asia it was thus barbarian conquest which was cumulative, and it was only in the sixteenth century that the stability of the Mongol polity finally issued in the definitive establishment of civilization there.

If Europe was too rich and too well-protected to conform to the Central Asian pattern, Arabia by contrast was too poor and too isolated. Ecologically, the deprivation of the desert is extreme: sheep and goats can be reared only along the edges, but in the interior only camels can subsist.<sup>157</sup> And inasmuch as camels demand a considerable investment of labour<sup>158</sup>

without yielding a commensurate return on the market, differentiation of wealth along the lines of the Central Asian pastoralists could not arise.<sup>159</sup> Geopolitically, the peninsula was simply a backwater. No tribes pressed south in search of its meagre pastures: what tribal movement there was went in the opposite direction. And what interest the settled states displayed in the peninsula was limited to the fertile strips along the eastern coast and in the south.<sup>160</sup> The Yemen, for all that it might be Felix, was no China, and by Central Asian standards the traffic it engendered was derisory, so that commercially the Arabs could make it only in the Syrian desert or at sea. Inner Arabia thus remained all but innocent of foreign contamination. There *may* have been Manichaeans in Mecca just as there *may* have been Manichaeans in Siberia,<sup>161</sup> but against the Manichaeans, Buddhists and Christians who populated the oases of the Tarim basin, writing in some eleven languages and about as many scripts,<sup>162</sup> Arabia had only the Jews of Wādī'l-Qurā and the Christians of Najrān; and these scarcely even wrote.

Hence, where the history of Central Asia is one of endless political upheavals, that of Arabia by contrast is one of tribal immutability: there is not much to tell between the Arabia of the Bible and the Arabia of Musil's *Rwala*.<sup>163</sup> In the sparsely inhabited and uniformly impoverished desert social stratification remained trivial. Tribal nobility, *sharaf*, conferred a prestige as elusive as that of the 'good family' among the bourgeoisie; an acquired status,<sup>164</sup> it entailed no formal privileges or bans on intermarriage, and its occupants collected no taxes, transmitted no orders and had no tribal units to command. Similarly, chiefs were invariably peers among equals,<sup>165</sup> who did not issue orders as much as formulate a general consensus.<sup>166</sup> It is true, of course, that warfare might increase their authority dramatically;<sup>167</sup> but just as there were few endogenous resources for the chief to work on, so also there was no erosion of kinship ties:<sup>168</sup> it is precisely because there were so few resources to fight for that warfare in Arabia never came near the ferocity of the wars between the tribes in Chingiz's Mongolia. Tribes were rarely dispersed: the fate of the Bajila is a marvel, not the norm.<sup>169</sup> And still less were they collectively enslaved or executed.<sup>170</sup> Where the Central Asian tribes had wars, the Arabs typically had feuds;<sup>171</sup> they went to battle for the sake of honour and excitement and occasionally for wells or pastures; but though warfare might trigger the formation of confederacies, it did not lead to states. There is thus no parallel in Arabia to the political tradition of the Mongols or the Turks. The Arabs could scarcely even have afforded the Veblenian waste of human lives, animals and material objects — women, servants, horses, lacquers, textiles — that went into the burial of a Hsiung-nu or a

Scythian chief.<sup>172</sup> And where the Central Asian tribes have a profuse and eclectic vocabulary of political titulature,<sup>173</sup> the Arabs made good with *shaykh*, *sayyid* and a few other terms. The *hālif* was no retainer,<sup>174</sup> the chiefly slaves no *ordo*, military and administrative divisions appear only after the conquests,<sup>175</sup> and there never was an Arab *Yāsa*.

It was of course possible for the Arabs to have states in the Syrian desert, where civilization was ready to assist with commercial revenues and imperial subsidies. But by the same token such states were forced into undignified dependence. In times of imperial weakness they might either pander to civilization as commercial statelets as they did in Petra, Hatra and Palmyra, or infiltrate it as settled kings as they did in Emesa and Edessa; but those who like the Nabateans or Zenobia tried both commerce and conquest were a shortlived menace at best, and culturally they were no menace at all.<sup>176</sup> In times of imperial strength they might either fight for civilization as client states after the fashion of Ḥīra and Ghassān, or they might fight against it as unorganized tribes as they did at Dhū Qār. But whatever they did, organization and independence could not be had together. Equally, it was possible to have states in the south and on the coast where the ecology improved.<sup>177</sup> But such states were too remote. The best the Yemenis could do was to have outposts in the north – the kingdoms of Lihyān and Kinda – but of these only the Kindī kingdom was a military as opposed to a commercial outpost, and precisely for that reason it did not survive:<sup>178</sup> it was not the Kindī tradition that Muhammad took up. What the Yemen contributed to north Arabia was above all a script, and what the tribes of the Damascene *ḥarrā* recorded in this script was not records of their victories, but details of their genealogies and sheep.<sup>179</sup> Had Arabia been geographically inverted, there might well have been across the Roman *limes* a state endowed with the ecology of the Yemen without its parochiality, the commercial revenues of the Nabateans without their subservience, and the military following of the Ghassānid without their clientage. But Arabia as it was in real life could not and did not have a Chingiz Khan: there was never any *empire du désert*.<sup>180</sup> So the Byzantines worried about their share of Central Asia in the north, and the Sāsānid worried about theirs in the east, but both quite reasonably thought that the Arabs were simply marauders.<sup>181</sup>

Instead the Arabs possessed a characteristic very uncommon among tribes: they had enormous antiquity. The corollary was that they enjoyed an ethnic and cultural homogeneity quite without parallel in Central Asia or Europe. Central Asia being as we have seen land not of stable but of vanished nations, the tribes of Mongolia were no more Mongols than the Germanic tribes were Germans;<sup>182</sup> but because the Arabs had lived

in freedom from ethnic and social disturbance since very ancient times, their mobility had given them a common identity such as other peoples acquire only through their state structures.<sup>183</sup> Similarly, because they were ancient inhabitants of an impoverished peninsula, they combined a long-lived geographical proximity to civilization with a complete ecological distance from it. Unlike Huns or Vikings arriving out of nowhere, they knew what civilization was even if they did not have it, and unlike Goths or Mongols building states, they could continue not to want it. The common run of barbarians could vindicate their identity only in the name of a civilized tradition and so they acquired cultural unity as states within a foreign civilization; but the Arabs had their identity instead of states, and so they acquired cultural unity as a peninsula outside it.<sup>184</sup>

They might very well have stayed in their peninsula, and to this extent their conquest was a formidable historical accident. From the point of view of Arabia, the existence of the Jews was, after all, quite fortuitous.<sup>185</sup> It is similarly factors external to the peninsula which explain how Jews and Arabs got together.<sup>186</sup> But it is above all the circumstance that an individual was there to conceive the idea which drives home the extraordinary intersection of historical opportunity and accident to which Islamic civilization owes its existence:<sup>187</sup> it is a fact that, whichever way the origins of Islam are explained, Islamic civilization is the only one in the world to begin in the mind of a single man.

But if the event itself was accidental, the potential was not. The very deprivation which made the Central Asiatic paradigm inoperative in Arabia predisposed the Arabs for conquest on the model of the Jews. With its monotheist articulation of barbarian ethnicity, its divinely sanctioned programme of state formation and conquest, and its intrinsically religious leadership, the Judaic tradition constituted a sort of sacred obverse to the political tradition of Central Asia which the Arabs were uniquely qualified to make their own.<sup>188</sup> Where a Mongol statesman could accumulate earthly power, the Arab prophet tapped divine authority; and where the Mongol conquests were an explosion caused by the *disintegration* of a tribal society, the Arab explosion by contrast was caused by its *fusion*. Once invented, the idea was applied again and again by impoverished tribes in Arabia and North Africa who reenacted the Prophet's career in areas which had previously seen only monotonous raids and revolts: in the Islamic, as not in the Roman, Middle East the desert was as prolific a source of tribal conquest as the steppe behind the Chinese wall.<sup>189</sup>

It was, however, precisely because the Arab conquest had to be *invented* that it was followed by an outburst of barbarian creativity: the unlikeliness

of the event and its unlikely outcome are two sides of the same coin. Chingiz's conquests superbly realized an existing idea, and their outcome was predictably a reinforcement of existing *Shinto*: the political sanctity of the Hsiung-nu<sup>190</sup> came back as that of the Chingizids, who in the name of their right to world dominion peremptorily ordered the western rulers to submit<sup>191</sup> and martyred a Russian prince for his refusal to bow in the direction of Chingiz's *qibla*.<sup>192</sup> But even Mongol *Shinto* was no solvent of existing civilizations. The conquerors of China could and occasionally did try to impose their identity on the Chinese, just as they could and usually did try to resist the blandishments of Chinese culture; but their identity having no truth with which to interact, they could not create: Buddhism was no substitute for an ethnic God.<sup>193</sup> Hence, when the tribal ties decayed, the imprint of the barbarians was all but completely washed off the face of Chinese civilization. But the Prophet's conquests came out of the Prophet's imagination. Muhammad having fused a jealous God and a peninsular identity, *something* had to happen. In the name of their jealous God the Arabs ordered the rulers of the Middle East to convert and martyred the garrison at Gaza; and in the name of their peninsular identity they withdrew into the conquest ghetto.<sup>194</sup> But either way they kept creating: it was exactly in the interaction between a universal truth and a parochial identity that the dynamic potential of their aegis lay. Vindicated by the force of conquest, this aegis was accordingly a powerful solvent. The barbarian imprint could not merely be washed off the face of the Middle Eastern civilizations, and when the conquest society collapsed, the dissolution of these civilizations was already far advanced.<sup>195</sup>

Islamic civilization thus took shape in an intensive interaction of religious and tribal power at very high cultural temperatures, and it is for this reason that its basic structure had set irreversibly within what was scarcely more than moments after the initial explosion. The key element of this structure was a tribal hostility to settled life which, having become religiously fixed, constituted one of the fundamental constraints within which Islamic culture and the Islamic polity were to evolve. The Arabs escaped absorption into the cultures of their subjects because morally they stayed in Mecca. But because morally they stayed in Mecca they were to find it impossible to legitimate a Muslim state in the settled lands.

PART II

THE EVOLUTION OF THE  
CONQUEST SOCIETY



## 3

THE SUFYĀNID PATTERN,  
661-84 [41-64]

The problems which the Arabs came up against when they set about organizing a conquest society were precisely the opposite of those which normally afflicted the barbarians in China. In contrast to the latter, the Arabs found it a relatively easy matter to take over the native administration. For one thing, it was in the nature of their conquest that they possessed an imperviousness to native values which no Turkish or Mongol conqueror ever enjoyed. And for another, it was their good fortune that whereas the Chinese bureaucracy was the backbone of Chinese civilization, those of the Byzantines and Sāsānids were mere instruments of government; in particular, the provincial bureaucracy of Byzantine Syria was strikingly devoid of social and cultural distinctiveness. The translation of the Greek administrative records thus dragged no classics in its trail,<sup>196</sup> and there are no parallels in the Arab Middle East to the desperate dodges whereby the barbarians in China tried to have Confucian bureaucracy without Confucian civilization.<sup>197</sup> But in return the Arabs found it extremely hard to organize themselves. Their religious aegis could provide them with a rationale for a continuing political authority when the days of the messiah were over, just as the tribal armies furnished the material for a continuing Arab state when the days of the conquests were over; but for the shape of the conquest society neither the Judaic nor the Arab tradition had much to offer. The barbarians of Central Asia fought their civil wars before the conquests and *arrived* with state structures; typically, their organization thus endured.<sup>198</sup> But the Arabs had to fight one civil war to devise an organization, another to maintain it, and a third to prove it obsolete, all within some eighty years.

Because the Arabs arrived with a common identity instead of state structures, their conquest society was organized along lines very different from that of the Mongols in China. Where the Mongols parcelled out northern China in appanages to the Mongol aristocracy,<sup>199</sup> the Arabs huddled together in garrison cities to maintain their tribal isolation along the edge of the settled land. And where the Mongol aristocracy was the instrument of government, the Arab tribe could at the most be an instru-

ment of indirect rule. The Arab solution can in fact best be characterized as a form of inverted colonial rule. The garrison cities have rightly been compared with the coastal outposts of the British.<sup>200</sup> In both cases the conquerors arrived without the intention of making themselves permanently at home; in both cases, therefore, they settled in locations whence they could easily return to their homeland, and in both cases their relations with the natives were characterized by a combination of cultural tolerance and economic exploitation. But in the Arab case it was the *tribesmen* who congregated in the Bathursts and Dakars, and two crucial features of Sufyānid rule arise from this inversion: unlike a colonial empire, the Sufyānid state had to be tribal even in its *metropolis*; and where the British brought their own administration for themselves and practised indirect rule of the native tribes, the Sufyānids by contrast borrowed the native administration and practised indirect rule of their *own* tribes.

The Sufyānid metropolis was located in Syria. In terms of the normal geopolitics of the area this was an old location, but in terms of tribal settlement there was scarcely an alternative. The unsuitability of Medina was obvious: quite apart from being too remote, it was no tribal power base, a point which was forcibly brought home when 'Uthmān was murdered in 656 [35].<sup>201</sup> But Iraq or for that matter Egypt were no more suitable since the problem of the garrison cities was precisely that they had to be controlled by a precarious system of tribal balance, not by reliance on any one group;<sup>202</sup> it is thus not surprising that 'Ali's fate was as unhappy as 'Uthmān's. Had Syria been similarly constituted, the unitary state would presumably have dissolved in the civil war: both 'Uthmān and 'Ali had after all anticipated key features of the Sufyānid solution, the former by his reliance on his kinsmen and the latter by his tribal amalgamations.<sup>203</sup> But Syria was an exceptional province, firstly in that the Arab population was spread evenly over the countryside, and secondly in that one confederacy, the Qudā'a, by far outnumbered any other tribe.<sup>204</sup> It was thus possible for the Syrian as for no other governor to rely on a local group, and since Mu'āwiya was not slow to take advantage of the situation,<sup>205</sup> the outcome of the first civil war was not political dissolution, but a transfer of the capital to Syria.

For purposes of indirect rule appropriate tribal units had to be created. The subtribe of the desert, though fairly well-defined in terms of social cohesion and political authority, was too small to be directly utilizable,<sup>206</sup> while conversely the tribe and confederacy, which had a more suitable size, were too ill-defined.<sup>207</sup> New units had been set up already in 638 [17] when Kufa had been divided into sevenths,<sup>208</sup> and the Sufyānids

followed suit about 670 [50] when all settlements were divided into quarters of fifths.<sup>209</sup> The basis of these units varied considerably with the availability of tribal material,<sup>210</sup> but the original groups were always retained by way of subdivision<sup>211</sup> so that the quarter or fifth was in the nature of a large semi-artificial tribe, a *qawm* or *qabila* which could serve for the organization of army and city alike. Militarily, it was a division with its own range of commands. Administratively, it was a unit for the payment of stipends, the collection of taxes, and the maintenance of law and order.<sup>212</sup> With the quarters and fifths the Arabs had got their tens, hundreds and thousands. The leaders of these units, however, were not tribal vassals, but tribal chiefs, the *ru'ūs al-qabā'il* or *ru'ūs al-qawm* who formed the tribal aristocracy or *asbrāf* of the Umayyad period.

The *asbrāf* constituted the link between governor and governed in the Sufyānid system of indirect rule;<sup>213</sup> they commanded their units in times of war and were responsible for them in times of peace.<sup>214</sup> *Asbrāf* and governor came together in the latter's *majlis*, a session which did not differ greatly from a tribal meeting. Absence was a sign that something was wrong, while attendance provided an occasion for the exchange of information, orders, requests, and for a display of traditional generosity on the part of the governor.<sup>215</sup> The *ra's al-qabila* in turn passed on information and gifts in his own *majlis*, and the process was repeated in the sessions of the lesser chiefs to reach the tribal group which had formed the primary unit of the conquerors.<sup>216</sup> Occasionally, it was repeated also at a higher level, as when the *wufud* took deputations of *asbrāf* to the *majlis* of the caliph.<sup>217</sup> There were admittedly also elements of more direct rule in the system. Government by reliance on the *asbrāf* was supplemented morally by direct confrontation between governor and tribesmen in the weekly Friday service, and materially by the coercive power vested in the *shurta*, the local police force. But the exchange of bloodcurdling speeches and showers of gravel which marked the Friday service was hardly a major contribution to the smooth functioning of government;<sup>218</sup> and the *shurta* was drawn from the tribesmen themselves so that the governor had no independent force against the citizen militia.<sup>219</sup> Primarily, then, it was on the *asbrāf* that the Sufyānid set-up rested.

The position of the *ra's al-qabila*, like that of any tribal chief under conditions of indirect rule, rested on the dual basis of influence within the tribe and acceptability to the authorities, and it was accordingly marked by the tense balance of loyalties that this implies on both parts. He was usually chosen from among the larger groups accommodated in the unit, and usually from within existing chiefly houses where the position tended to be hereditary.<sup>220</sup> To this extent the *asbrāf* demonstrate the continuing

efficacy of the pre-conquest stratification. But he was appointed by the authorities and occasionally even by the caliph himself.<sup>221</sup> rivalry for nomination is thus a recurrent theme.<sup>222</sup> And moreover, he was bound to the governor by a certain amount of intermarriage,<sup>223</sup> by the prospects of promotion to a minor subgovernorship,<sup>224</sup> and not least by the highest available stipends, the *sharaf al-'atā'*.<sup>225</sup> The *asbrāf* were not the creatures of the state, and there is no lack of men among them who sided with their fellow-tribesmen against the governor: in 684 [64] few of the Basran *asbrāf* had any compunction about the expulsion of 'Ubaydallāh.<sup>226</sup> But they certainly were indebted to the state, and there is equally no lack of men who took the opposite side: already in 680 [60] 'Ubaydallāh had been able to send Kufan *asbrāf* against their fellow-tribesmen during the affair of Muslim b. 'Aqil.<sup>227</sup> And the way the balance was tipping is clear from the standard accusation against the *asbrāf*, built into virtually every one of their biographies, that they support the powers that be.<sup>228</sup>

Between the metropolis and the provinces were the provincial governors; on them fell the duty of ensuring that the Arab tribes and the non-Arab bureaucracy were kept apart in the provinces, while at the same time both were linked to the metropolis. This problem was solved by two simple measures. Firstly, the number of governors at the highest level was reduced to an absolute minimum. The conquered lands were divided into four huge provinces: Syria with Mesopotamia where the caliph himself was supreme governor, Egypt with the west, and Kufa and Basra with their eastern dependencies.<sup>229</sup> Some of these provinces were later subdivided and others were assigned together, but whatever the variations the number of top-governors was always very small; and it was in line with the same policy that fiscal and military power was all but invariably concentrated in the hands of one man. Secondly, the offices were entrusted to a kinsman of the caliph, be he agnatic, cognatic or affinal,<sup>230</sup> or to members of a small tribe closely related to his, such as Quraysh,<sup>231</sup> Thaqif<sup>232</sup> or the Anṣār.<sup>233</sup> These men in turn relied on their own kinsmen and, to a less extent, the local *asbrāf* for the many sub-governorships they controlled,<sup>234</sup> so that the vast majority of tribesmen were debarred from office or at the most admitted to interim governorships and insignificant posts.<sup>235</sup>

The solution worked, but at a price. Where government is monopolized by a small circle of relatives and friends, personal relations will necessarily take precedence over the impersonal demands of bureaucratic rules. There was of course no lack of such rules; the governor's revenues were acknowledged to be public money which had to be sent on to Damascus after the deduction of local expenses, and had the Sufyānids been able, they

would doubtless have ensured that the rule was enforced. But where officials need to be controlled, friends by contrast have to be cultivated, and it was accordingly by an elaborate system of indulgence that the Sufyānid system was upheld.<sup>236</sup> The governor spent enormous amounts of public money on opening moral accounts with *asbrāf*, honourable visitors, potential rebels, family, friends, poets, and other hangers-on,<sup>237</sup> and enormous amounts were likewise invested by the caliph in the governor.<sup>238</sup> The distinction between public and private money was tenuous in practice, and governorship soon came to be regarded as a source of private enrichment for the incumbent, so that what was actually sent on to Damascus depended largely on the good-will of the governor, and what the caliph expected to receive was determined largely by what he had received from the predecessor. The only remedy the caliph allowed himself was to call the governor to account on dismissal in an effort to retrieve what was deemed to have been illegitimate gains, the usual agent chosen for this procedure being the successor.<sup>239</sup> Very early on, governorship thus assumed the nature of *qabala*, the governor sending on a fixed sum and pocketing an unlimited one which could be regained only through post-dismissal extortion; and the relatively gentle treatment which the governors received in this period was evidently due to the limitation of the rivals for the spoils to a small number of personal acquaintances to the exclusion of the tribal leaders. But it was precisely on this insulation of political and fiscal power from the tribal structures of conquest that the viability of the Sufyānid system turned.

The system was, however, vulnerable in both structural and temporal terms. Unlike a colonial empire, the Sufyānid state was tribally based even in its metropolis: it was thus a basic feature of the system that the mutual insulation of tribes and state could not obtain everywhere. And unlike colonial subjects, the Sufyānid tribes were conquerors: it was thus also a basic feature that the insulation could not obtain for long. As long as the precarious balance of tribal alliances in the metropolis and the tense balance of sharifian loyalties in the provinces were maintained, the state could not become the object of tribal or factional fighting. But in 684 [64] a momentary fluctuation in high politics upset the system in Syria; and already before 684 the long-term erosion of the tribal roots had begun to undermine its foundations.

## 4

### SYRIA OF 684 [64]

The background to the events in Syria in the second civil war was two-fold. Firstly, in terms of religious developments the transfer of the capital to Syria had placed the Umayyad high priest in exile from his temple; the Umayyads may have done something to make the temple come to Syria, but for the politically redundant Quraysh of Arabia it was a more appealing idea to have the capital come back to the Hijāz.<sup>240</sup> Accordingly, on the death of Mu‘awiya in 680 [60], Ibn al-Zubayr refused to pay allegiance to Yazid I, sought refuge in the temple, and awaited an opportunity to make his bid for the caliphate.

Secondly, in terms of tribal politics the rise of Qudā'a had led to the emergence of three rival confederacies in Syria. The Qudā'a, who were then considered descendants of Ma'add,<sup>241</sup> were represented in the three districts of Jordan, Damascus and Hims<sup>242</sup> where they had the support of neighbouring tribes such as Ghassān and Kinda.<sup>243</sup> In the north, however, the immigration of members of the confederacy of Qays in the reign of Mu‘awiya<sup>244</sup> led to the detachment from Hims of the new district of Qinnasrin by Yazid I,<sup>245</sup> and here the Qudā'a had no foothold. They similarly lacked representatives in the southernmost district of Palestine, and their efforts to win over the Palestinian Judhām by intervening in a quarrel over the tribal leadership proved unsuccessful. The rivals were Nātil b. Qays al-Judhāmī who held the leadership, and Rawḥ b. Zanba‘ al-Judhāmī, a younger man who hoped to get it. Ḥassān b. Bahḍal al-Kalbī, the Qudā'i chief, intervened on behalf of Rawḥ, who in return proselytized for the affiliation of Judhām to Asad of Ma'add, but Nātil retorted by opting for Qaḥṭān,<sup>246</sup> a confederacy which had recently been formed for the benefit of Ḥimyar and Hamdān in Hims.<sup>247</sup> The once undisputed predominance of the Qudā'a was thus threatened in the north by Qays and in the south by Qaḥṭān, and both confederacies moreover were busy winning allies against the Qudā'a in the central districts. The tribal balance on which the Sufyānid system rested had become unstable, and for this reason there was an opening for Ibn al-Zubayr in Syria.

The death of Yazid I followed by that of his son Mu‘awiya in 683

[64] provided the occasion. For the Quḍā'a and their allies it was evidently imperative to close the interregnum with a Sufyānid or at least an Umayyad caliph. Accordingly, on the news of Yazid's death, Ḥassān b. Bahdāl, who was governor of Palestine at the time, left Rawḥ b. Zanbā' as his deputy, gathered his tribal following in Jordan and joined the other pro-Umayyad *asbrāf* at Jābiya,<sup>248</sup> where the chiefs of the Quḍā'a, Kinda, Ghassān, Akk, Ash'ar and others elected Marwān b. al-Ḥakam in a last grand tribal *majlis*.<sup>249</sup> For the Qays and Qaḥṭān, however, it was clearly no less imperative that the Umayyad house be excluded, and both confederacies thus gave their allegiance to Ibn al-Zubayr and/or Dahhāk b. Qays, a Damascene Qurashī who stepped forth as Ibn al-Zubayr's representative in Syria;<sup>250</sup> in Palestine Nātil b. Qays expelled Rawḥ in the name of the Zubayrid cause;<sup>251</sup> in Hims Nu'mān b. Bashir, the Anṣārī governor, declared for him on behalf of Qaḥṭān;<sup>252</sup> and the Qaysīs followed suit in Qinnasrin.<sup>253</sup> The antagonists met at Marj Rāhit, where the Quḍā'i supporters of Marwān won a signal victory.<sup>254</sup>

Inasmuch as the Syrian tribes constituted the Umayyad power base, it was in the nature of Syrian politics that what they were about was not merely a confrontation of *ashrāf* and state apparatus, but sharifian control of this apparatus. The interregnum had brought tribal rivalry to a head in both Syria and Basra; but whereas the Basrans could only try to evade or reject the state,<sup>255</sup> the Syrians by contrast fought for its possession under the leadership of their respective caliphal candidates. It is easy to see that in this respect Syria of A.D. 684 is a taste of the future. Equally, it is worth noting that the events had one effect of some importance for the future; that is, they generated the alignments which were to dominate the Marwānid period. Shortly after Marj Rāhit a local feud broke out between the Qays and the Kalb in the region around Palmyra,<sup>256</sup> and it was in the course of this feud that the Quḍā'a under the leadership of the Kalb and with the encouragement of Khālid b. Yazid b. Mu'awiya changed their genealogy from Quḍā'a b. Ma'add to Quḍā'a b. Himyar.<sup>257</sup> The tribal instability thus issued in a genealogical realignment: the confederacy of Ma'add was dissolved and its members absorbed by the Qaḥṭān. In future it was the Qaḥṭān, or in other words Yemen, who were to be poised against the Qays.

But in itself there was nothing futuristic about this civil war. A tribal conflict for the possession of the state apparatus was a hazard built into the Sufyānid system, not the result of its collapse, and whatever the undesirability of such a conflict, there was no reason why the system should not in due course be restored. On the one hand, the mixture of religious and political issues was purely adventitious. The Zubayrid utopia

was extrinsic, and indeed contrary to the ambitions of the Syrian *asbrāf* who had not the slightest interest in handing over the state apparatus to the Hijāzī Quraysh, and the rumour which had it that Dahhāk was seeking the caliphate on his own behalf is likely to have been right.<sup>258</sup> The interregnum might change the dynasty, but once the dynasty was there nobody in Syria displayed the slightest interest in the Zubayrid issue.<sup>259</sup> On the other hand, the agents of the war were still authentically tribal. Hassān b. Bahdāl and his rivals were tribal chiefs who put their confederacies together with time-honoured genealogical glue, and though the civil war might change the alignments, the new alignments could serve as well as the old. The civil war changed many names, but substantially it left things as they were.

## 5

THE MARWĀNID EVOLUTION,  
684-744 [64-126]

Yet if the Sufyānid system could still be made to work in 684, its foundations had of course long been subject to steady erosion, and by the Marwānid period the effects began to tell: out of the unitary tribe of the Sufyānids came the soldiers and civilians of the Marwānids.

The new armies can be seen emerging from the time of 'Abd al-Malik (685-705 [65-86]). They were not all of the same type. On the one hand, there was the Syrian field army which was based on the five districts of Palestine, Jordan, Damascus, Hims and Qinnasrīn, and which provided garrisons for the entire empire and emergency troops wherever they might be required.<sup>260</sup> And on the other hand, there were the local armies of which only those along the frontiers retained their importance.<sup>261</sup> But field and frontier armies alike reveal a number of common features in terms of both composition and organization which suffice to establish the dislocation of military power from the tribal structures of conquest.

In terms of composition the dislocation is evident in two ways. In the first place, the manner of recruitment was now entirely voluntary enlistment.<sup>262</sup> The unwieldiness of the old militia, difficult to mobilize and hard to keep in the field, appears to have been a problem already in the Sufyānid period;<sup>263</sup> and by the time of Hajjāj the institution was defunct.<sup>264</sup> Hajjāj accordingly recruited soldiers at the price of a horse, arms and three hundred dirhams for his new *muqātila*.<sup>265</sup> Similarly, after the battle of the Pass in 731 [112f], Hishām ordered the governor of Khurāsān to recruit at least fifteen thousand men while promising him reinforcements raised in Iraq.<sup>266</sup> And in the course of the third civil war three new armies were raised: the thirty thousand volunteers recruited by Ḥafṣ b. al-Walīd in Egypt at the order of Yazid III,<sup>267</sup> the twenty odd thousand Jazirans enrolled by Marwān II at Harrān,<sup>268</sup> and the armies of Abū Muslim in Khurāsān.<sup>269</sup>

In the second place, the domain of recruitment now embraced both Arabs and non-Arabs. There had of course always been non-Arabs in the

Arab armies; but for one thing, the rarity of volunteers meant that in effect only prisoners-of-war were involved; and for another, the tribal organization of the early armies offered no facilities for the large-scale accommodation of non-tribal groups. The Persian Asāwira had had to turn themselves into a subtribe of Tamim,<sup>270</sup> while the prisoners-of-war were either placed in a regiment loosely attached to the person of their captor<sup>271</sup> or else, as was more commonly the case, distributed among the soldiers as servants and batmen.<sup>272</sup> But by the time of 'Abd al-Malik volunteers were sufficiently numerous and the tribe sufficiently eroded for non-Arabs to form a quarter or fifth of their own.<sup>273</sup> Such units of *mawālī*, that is to say ethnic, social or religious renegades to the Arabs, appear in Syria under 'Abd al-Malik,<sup>274</sup> in Iraq under Hajjāj,<sup>275</sup> in Khurāsān under Qutayba,<sup>276</sup> and in Egypt under 'Abd al-'Azīz b. Marwān.<sup>277</sup> There were also separate regiments of non-Arabs such as the *Waddābiyya*, named after its commander, a Berber freedman of 'Abd al-Malik,<sup>278</sup> and the *Qiqāniyya*, a regiment of archers from Qiqān.<sup>279</sup> Finally, there were the *mutatawī'a*, irregular volunteers for the duration of a single campaign in whom voluntary enlistment and non-Arab origin converge. Rarely paid and usually finding their reward in plunder, such volunteers are mentioned as early as the reign of Mu'āwiya,<sup>280</sup> but again they reach significant proportions only under the Marwānids.<sup>281</sup>

In terms of organization, the dislocation of military power from the tribal structures of conquest is evident in the disappearance of the smaller tribal groups accommodated in the quarters and fifths, and their replacement by regular regiments known as *ajnād*. Every such *jund* was placed under a commander, a *qā'id*,<sup>282</sup> whose men or *ashāb*<sup>283</sup> were certainly registered under him in the 'Abbāsid period and perhaps before.<sup>284</sup> Henceforth, the *ra's al-qabila* was chosen from among the *qā'ids*. As before, he commanded his *qabila* in war and was responsible for its good behaviour in peacetime, but the archaic terminology notwithstanding, the *qabila* was henceforth composed of regiments, not of tribal groups, and its leader was a general, not a tribal chief. The tribal pretensions of the Arab and non-Arab *qabilas* were equally false, and eventually of course they disappeared. The Khurāsānī fifths are last heard of in 741 [123],<sup>285</sup> and a few years later Abū Muslim's men are described as coming from four new quarters in Marw which appear to bear topographical names.<sup>286</sup> By 775 [159] the fifths had also disappeared from Basra.<sup>287</sup> Parallel evidence for the remaining provinces is absent,<sup>288</sup> but it is scarcely hazardous to guess that by the end of the Umayyad and the beginning of the 'Abbāsid periods the last vestiges of the tribe had disappeared from the entire army organization.

It is, however, of some importance that the tribal nomenclature persisted as long as it did. Syria of 684 had changed only names: the substance was left as before. But the Marwānid evolution changed only substance: the names were left as before. In other words, where the Sufyānid system might have continued to work under the new labels, the Marwānid erosion displayed its effects under the obsolete labels of the Sufyānids.

With the dissociation of military and tribal structures the army became the instrument of control of the Arab and non-Arab population alike, the distinction between the two becoming increasingly effaced. Henceforth governors thus had to be chosen from among men who had the obedience of the army, that is generals rather than kinsmen, and the large number of subgovernorships would accordingly be distributed among men on whom the generals could rely, that is other generals rather than kinsmen and tribal chiefs. The net effect of the erosion of the tribal roots was thus to crack open the Sufyānid kinship state. In the metropolis the Qudā'i confederacy of the Sufyānids was replaced by the standing army of the Marwānids, while in the provinces the tribes under indirect rule were replaced by a civilian population under direct military control. And between metropolis and provinces the kinsmen to whom the state had owed its impermeability gave way to generals. Just as the Arabs had been their own colonial rulers, so also they inherited their own peculiar version of a post-colonial dilemma: colonial rulers usually go home, leaving the tribes with alien political roles; but in the Arab case the tribal roles disappeared, leaving the Arabs with alien rulers.

This transition is well illustrated by the governors of 'Abd al-Malik. This ruler, after the successful termination of the second civil war, began by appointing his kinsmen entirely in the Sufyānid style;<sup>289</sup> his departure from the old pattern is first discernible in the appointment of Muhallab b. Abī Sufra to Khurāsān. Muhallab is said to have been now a *sharīf* and now a *mawla*,<sup>290</sup> and the ambiguity is instructive. On the one hand, he never held the *riyāsa*, the leadership, of Azd in Basra, and he doubtless owed his appointment to the military ability he had demonstrated in his campaigns against the Azāriqa as well as to his long acquaintance with Khurāsān.<sup>291</sup> It is thus difficult not to see in his appointment, as in that of Mūsā b. Nuṣayr to North Africa under Walīd I,<sup>292</sup> a recognition of the fact that the empire could no longer be governed by manipulation of kinship ties, and it is not of course surprising that this recognition should have come first in a frontier province. But on the other hand, the reaction of Muhallab is typical in his attempt to assimilate to the old model. First, he encouraged the immigration of Azd so as to set himself up as a tribal

chief.<sup>293</sup> Secondly, he tried to make himself out as a kinsman by forging affinal and symbolic kinship ties with the caliphal house: he married his daughter to Hajjāj<sup>294</sup> and, like Mūsā b. Nusayr a few years later, he proclaimed a characteristically intimate loyalty to the ruling house in the naming of his sons.<sup>295</sup> There is a similarly ambivalent pattern in the career of Qutayba b. Muslim al-Bāhili.<sup>296</sup> But when Jarrāḥ b. 'Abdallāh al-Ḥakamī opened a long sequence of Syrian governors in Khurāsān, the generals ceased to disguise themselves.<sup>297</sup>

We thus have a situation in which the tribal character of the Sufyānid army and the affinal character of the Sufyānid state have both given way to military politics. At this point one might have expected one of two things to happen: the dissolution of the conquest society might have issued in the effective disintegration of the unitary state on the pattern of Merovingian history; or it might have led to the attempt at an orderly reorganization of the state on the pattern of Visigothic history. But the actual character of Marwānid politics arises from the fact that neither happened. The unitary state continued, but as one in which access to office and its spoils was normatively and substantively disorderly.

The unitary state continued because two crucial variables held constant in the transition from Sufyānid to Marwānid rule: metropolitan government remained affinal in character, and provincial power remained monolithic in shape. In contrast to most barbarian rulers, the Marwānid caliph was no soldier. Syria therefore continued to be ruled very much as before by men chosen from among the kinsmen of the caliph and the *asbrāf*,<sup>298</sup> and the Syrian troops who ruled a civilian population abroad found themselves subject to what had now become civilian rule at home. It was thus a basic feature of the Marwānid system that the head of state and the military were not competitors: the civilian caliph did not control the generals and the generals did not control the metropolis. Equally, in contrast with most barbarian rulers, the Marwānids vested immense provincial power in the hands of a tiny number of men. The top-governors continued to fill masses of subordinate offices and to handle huge fiscal resources. All competitors for office thus focused their attention on these men from whom all power flowed, and these men in turn fixed their attention on the caliph to whom they owed their appointment. Hence, it was also basic to the system that the struggle for power was centripetal. As long as both conditions held good, the unitary state would survive: the power structure invited provincial bids for the metropolis, not provincial bids for independence.

Had the caliphs become military men, or conversely had the generals

taken control of Syria at this point instead of in the third civil war, the metropolitan problem of keeping control of rebellious provinces would doubtless have resulted in both attempts at reorganization of the state and the danger of disintegration; in fact these were postponed until the advent of the 'Abbāsids. And in the mid-Umayyad period, as not in the 'Abbāsid period, such a development might well have precluded the survival of Islamic civilization: had the pre-conquest polities resurfaced, the Arabs might still have Arabized the Middle East,<sup>299</sup> but like the Germanic conquerors of the west, they would have left behind only barbarian kingdoms within the imperial civilizations.<sup>300</sup>

It is, however, not altogether surprising that the dissolution of the Arab conquest society had a different sequel. Unlike Germanic or Central Asiatic kingship, the caliphal office was a priestly one closely associated morally, if no longer physically, with a sanctuary in the tribal homeland.<sup>301</sup> And unlike Germanic and Central Asiatic conquerors, the Arabs had no compelling imperial tradition to confront in Syria. Indeed, the archaic character of the Marwānid metropolis in which a high priest without a sanctuary presided over a tribal society which no longer existed is one of the most striking testimonies to the strength of the Hagarene aegis on the one hand, and the extraordinary etiolation of imperial culture in Syria on the other.<sup>302</sup> The Umayyad princes might be soldiers, and the caliph Hishām took a certain interest in imperial statecraft,<sup>303</sup> but basically it took fifty years before an Umayyad prince and the Syrian troops decided to break the illusion.<sup>304</sup>

The unitary state thus survived, but the reasons why it survived are also the reasons why access to office was disorderly. It was in the nature of provincial power that competition for office was highly centripetal: all the competitors were, so to speak, trying to crash the same gate. And it was in the nature of metropolitan rule that the caliphs could not regulate the competition. There are of course always many more competitors than there are spoils, but usually the authorities see to it that hurdles of one kind or another eliminate a sufficient number of candidates on the way. The unwritten rules of kinship and *sharaf* had had precisely this function under the Sufyānids, but these were now obsolete. Had the Marwānids been military men, they might have acknowledged unwritten rules of military valour; and had they been reformers, they might have devised a formal *cursus honorum*. But as civilians orientated towards a tribal past, they could not tell their generals how to select their men. And in the absence of both traditional and formal rules of allocation, competition for office necessarily took the form of factionalism.

## 6

### THE MARWĀNID FACTION

The Marwānid faction is identified as such by the fact that the interests involved were not susceptible of rationalization. The parties were drawn from the same army and fought for the same spoils; they merely happened to be too many for the spoils available.<sup>305</sup> Accordingly, they offered no programmes, demanded no reforms and laid no claim to the possession of truth until the faction came home to the metropolis as civil war: it is this failure to *argue*, as opposed to merely pour abuse, which is such a tell-tale indication of the nature of Marwānid '*asabiyya*'.<sup>306</sup>

The faction was articulated in a tribal language because the soldiers aligned themselves by the nearest criteria to hand, that is to say along the lines of their regimental units. These, as will be remembered, bore tribal names, and it was thus the archaic labels of the Sufyānid period which were bandied about as factional slogans. Since a soldier was assigned to his particular regiment on the strength of his tribal background, it is not surprising that tribal and factional membership virtually always coincide: a *Kindī* by tribe is a *Kindī* by regiment and a *Kindī*, that is to say a *Yemenī*, by factional affiliation.<sup>307</sup> This does not of course mean that the loyalties were tribal, for the labels meant nothing to an Arab civilian,<sup>308</sup> while conversely they meant much to a non-Arab soldier.<sup>309</sup> But nor does it mean that the tribal language was wholly inert. The factional issues and the tribal language interacted in three major ways.

Firstly, in contrast to most factions that of the Marwānids was a response to a moral vacuum. Unlike, for example, the factions of Chinese gentry trying to manipulate the examination system, Qays and Yemen attempted to invent rather than to circumvent the rules, and to this extent they can scarcely be classified as corrupt. Intrinsically, the rules they invented were neither better nor worse than so many others tried out through the ages: Qaysī descent is presumably as good a ground on which to give a man a job as knowledge of the classics. But because they had been invented by the competitors as opposed to the authorities, they did not constitute an acceptable title to rule.<sup>310</sup> Here the tribal vocabulary came alive, for it could supply not only the rules, but also the honour. In

a world in which the metropolis persisted in defining nobility as tribal, the soldiers scarcely had much choice but to see their generals as chiefs: their poetry may not be very pre-Islamic in style, but it leaves no doubt that they took their tribal pretensions seriously.

Secondly, in contrast to most factions that of the Marwānids was polar. This was clearly the result of the monolithic character of provincial power: just as there could not be a number of generals breaking away from Marwānid control, so there could not be a number of factions sharing the enjoyment of Marwānid power. But it meant that the tribal language was very convenient. The lines of polarization could of course have been invented, but since the Sufyānid confederacies had divided all the major tribes into two or at the most three groups,<sup>311</sup> dividing lines with ancestral sanction already existed: Qays, Muḍar or Nizār and Yemen have no pre-Islamic history, but the generals certainly saw their antagonism as the legacy of a venerable past.

Finally, it is the combination of regimental composition and tribal nomenclature which explains the extraordinary rigidity of the Marwānid factional lines. Just as confederacies are usually made up of changing tribal groups, so factions usually consist of changing coalitions; but the Marwānid factional groups were fixed as if *ab aeterno* precisely because the language was dead: being soldiers, the participants could no longer reshuffle their alignments in accordance with the tribal rules,<sup>312</sup> but having adopted a tribal vocabulary they could not reshuffle in defiance of them either.

The role of the faction in Marwānid politics can be analysed at three levels. Firstly, it played a local role in cementing the teams competing for provincial power and fiscal resources. The faction pushed its leaders at the caliph for nomination, and rewarded its supporters with office and commands.<sup>313</sup> It thus provided a simultaneous solution to the problems of the civilian caliph who was faced with a profusion of eligible generals, and those of the Syrian general who had to select his men from among masses of eligible soldiers.

In the governors of Iraq generals and faction can be seen to emerge together. The Marwānid period opens with Ḥajjāj b. Yūsuf, a Syrian of Qays and affinal kinsman of the caliph who relied a great deal on his own family of Abū ‘Aqil. To that extent he harks back to the Sufyānid kinship state, and it would certainly be absurd to claim that he favoured Qays or Muḍar over Yemen.<sup>314</sup> But as a pointer to the future he was also the man who introduced Syrian troops into Iraq.<sup>315</sup> He was followed by Yazīd b. al-Muhallab, an Iraqi of Azd/Yemen and the son of a general in disguise

who already showed a more marked inclination for men of his own regimental background when he could not rely on members of his own family;<sup>316</sup> and as a pointer to the future he was also the man who introduced Syrian troops into Khurāsān.<sup>317</sup> With 'Umar b. Hubayra al-Fazārī, a Mesopotamian general of Qays, all the subgovernors whose tribal affiliation is known are of Qays and Mudar; Khālid al-Qasrī, a Damascene of Bajila/Yemen, reversed the factional background, but kept it equally uniform; and Yūsuf b. 'Umar, a relative of Hajjāj, dismissed all Khālid's men to replace them with Qays and Muḍar in an elegant illustration of the demise of the kinship state.<sup>318</sup> All Yūsuf's men were dismissed in their turn by the *Yamaniyya*, the Yemeni following of Yazid III on the outbreak of the third civil war.

High stakes kept the faction going. As before, governorship was a source of private enrichment, but now of course the competitors were no longer confined to a small circle of friends. As the governor increasingly relied on men of his own regimental background, the appointment of a top-governor came to mean the appointment of a faction whose members from the lowest subordinate at the bottom to the figure-head at the top all diverted part of the revenues into their own pockets. Dismissal of a sub-governor accordingly came to mean the dismissal of a faction whose successors had few inhibitions in the application of the post-dismissal treatment. This was clearly a vicious circle. The greater the threat of extortion on dismissal, the larger the amount of money embezzled and the harsher the treatment accorded on the inevitable fall. Failure to pay up was met by imprisonment and torture, often resulting in the death of the victim, while willingness to pay was also dangerous since it encouraged the belief that there was more to be had with the application of pressure.<sup>319</sup> Hence Marwānid governors were rarely dismissed as much as seized and thrown into jail;<sup>320</sup> hence also a change of governors was planned with the greatest secrecy and fears of revolt in the event of a leak;<sup>321</sup> and when the secret did leak the men in office would usually consider either revolt or a contribution to the top figure so that he could buy himself a renewal of tenure or at least immunity from torture.<sup>322</sup> The faction in power was thus cemented both by its profits and its fears, just as the men outside were united by their aspiration to replace it.<sup>323</sup>

Secondly, the faction played a medial role in linking up the metropolitan and the provincial armies. It was the ubiquitous Syrian troops who had generated the faction in their scramble for provincial spoils, but to the extent that local men continued to be eligible for office they were inevitably split by factions of their own. In Iraq, where the local army was of negligible importance, the local faction is likely to have been a simple

product of the Syrian presence, but in Khurāsān or Spain where the armies were power structures of their own they were doubtless of autonomous origin. Here, however, the local and the Syrian faction had to relate, and the tribal vocabulary provided a universally intelligible guide to the alignments. Throughout the Marwānid empire the soldiers were thus united by their participation in a faction which had everybody turn his attention to the centre, and though by origin the faction was the price that had to be paid for the continuance of the unitary state, it certainly paid off by contributing to that continuance. It is a striking fact that whereas the 'Abbāsids were peripatetic, it took civil war to make the Umayyads budge from Syria.

Thirdly, the faction played a central role by providing the categories for the conduct of metropolitan civil war. The faction was not, of course, a metropolitan phenomenon as such. Just as Syria escaped the direct rule of the Syrian troops, so also it escaped the factional competition for its resources; and for all that Qays and Yemen loathed each others' sight abroad, they lived peacefully enough at home. But the faction was clearly capable of becoming a metropolitan phenomenon. If the instability of high politics could generate a conflict between confederacies in the days when Umayyad power was based on tribes, it could similarly generate a conflict between factions when the tribes had been replaced by troops; and it is precisely this point which is illustrated in Yazid b. al-Muhallab's flight from Hajjāj's instruments of torture in Iraq to Sulaymān b. 'Abd al-Malik's succession quarrel in Syria.<sup>324</sup> Back in the metropolis, however, the faction could not remain a faction. High politics meant civil war; and it was then that the factional slogans assumed the nature of political programmes: the *Yamaniyya* of Yazid III and the *Qaysiyya* of Marwān II consisted of the same soldiers who had fought each other for provincial office and spoils in Iraq; but back in Syria they fought for the possession of the state apparatus.

In Syria of A.D. 744 the Marwānid evolution came full circle. Once again the Syrians were lined up under their respective caliphal candidates in a conflict for the possession of the state. But whereas the second civil war had been fought for the maintenance of the Sufyānid order, the third civil war by contrast was enacted for its final destruction.

In the first place, the agents had drastically changed. The leaders of the third civil war were generals. Yazīd III's *Yamaniyya* had served in North Africa, Iraq, Armenia, Khurāsān, and Sind at various times before the revolt, while Marwān II's *Qaysiyya* were frontier troops,<sup>325</sup> and it was only such soldiers who responded to the factional slogans.<sup>326</sup> But the victims of the civil war were *asbrāf*. With a few exceptions the Sufyānid aristocracy supplied no sons to the generals of 744, and the few that one does find among them are indistinguishable from their fellow soldiers in terms of careers and interests.<sup>327</sup> The sons of the *asbrāf* of Jabiya appeared as the opponents of Yazīd.<sup>328</sup> In contrast to the *Yamaniyya* they were purely local figures.<sup>329</sup> They had no careers in the far-flung provinces of the empire, but they were greatly respected at home where they commanded the loyalty of the city or district populace, coming forth as its leaders in a legitimist revolt on behalf of the sons of Walīd. But militarily they were no match for the generals, and it was no longer they who elected the caliph. Inside the army the difference between *sharif* and general had been effaced; outside the army even the Syrian *asbrāf* had now lost out to the generals.

In the second place, the political centre of gravity had changed. Many of Yazīd's supporters shared a connection with Iraq, either their fathers and/or they themselves having been stationed there in the past;<sup>330</sup> their first act after the murder of Walīd was to send Syrians to Iraq, where they counted on and with few exceptions received the allegiance of the local Syrians;<sup>331</sup> and it was in Iraq that the last battles between the *Yamaniyya* and the *Qaysiyya* were fought.<sup>332</sup> This Iraqi orientation is of interest in two ways. Looking forward, it heralds the end of the Syrian metropolis. Since Syria owed its metropolitan status exclusively to its

peculiar tribal composition, the decay of the tribal roots which had swept away the *asbrāf* at the same time eliminated the one ground for keeping the capital where it was. The *Yamaniyya* did not of course abolish their own metropolitan standing and even Marwān went no further than Harrān. But it was with Iraqi resources that the Yemenis reduced Syria to military rule, and so it was largely a question of time until Iraq would reduce it to a province.

Looking back, the Iraqi connection provides the clue to the transition from faction fighting to civil war. The Syrians stationed in Iraq since the time of Hajjāj had been drawn wholly or largely from the southern districts of Syria which, unlike the northern ones, had no frontier to defend;<sup>333</sup> and as it happened, the southern districts were overwhelmingly Yemeni in composition while the northern ones were overwhelmingly of Qays.<sup>334</sup> This coincidence meant that the faction was open to contamination by political issues, for if initially Qays and Yemen were simply so many rival generals, their relationship to the key province of Iraq increasingly differentiated them into two discrete military units, the Syrian field army and the Syro-Mesopotamian frontier troops.<sup>335</sup> The question thus arose which of the two was to inherit the status of imperial troops. For the Yemenis who had acquired families and struck roots in Iraq<sup>336</sup> there was no doubt that they possessed the title-deeds to provincial control; and yet in practice they tended to be excluded by the Qaysis, not only in the eastern provinces, but also in Iraq itself, where the insecurity of their hold on the province was demonstrated on two humiliating occasions: in 720 [101] the revolt of Yazid b. al-Muhallab brought Maslama to Iraq with an army of Syro-Jazīrans who stayed on to take the governorships under Ibn Hubayra;<sup>337</sup> and, more bitterly, in 738 [120] the dismissal of Khālid al-Qasrī meant the end of fifteen celebrated years of Yemeni control.<sup>338</sup> It was against the background of this second loss that the Yemenis prepared their take-over of the metropolis in 744.<sup>339</sup>

That the factional slogans could serve to conceptualize the interests of two rival armies was thus accidental; certainly far more so than the use of tribal labels in the faction itself. But that this was indeed how they served is suggested by two exceptional cases. The first is that of the odd men out. Inevitably, the coincidence of tribal and military membership was imperfect: there were Qaysis in the south just as there were Yemenis in the north. In the faction fighting such men would side with the party to which their genealogy assigned them, but in the civil war significant exceptions begin to appear. Not all of these are amenable to explanation,<sup>340</sup> but with some it is clear that we have to do with men siding with the party to which they belong by career: in the civil war, as not before, a Jordanian

Qaysī would fight with the *Yamaniyya*.<sup>341</sup> The second case is that of Khurāsān. It was in the nature of the fact that the Yemenis of Khurāsān would identify with the Yemenis of Syria, and the 'Abbāsid missionaries did their best to play on their Yemeni discontent;<sup>342</sup> yet the 'Abbāsid revolution was no Yemeni revolution: in Khurāsān the factional differences failed to coincide with any material ones, so here the recruitment for the take-over of the metropolis had to be cross-factional.<sup>343</sup>

Finally, the relationship between religion and politics had changed. In 744 as in 684 the agents of the civil war were up against a dissociation of sanctity and power, but whereas in the second civil war the mixture of religious and political issues had been adventitious, in the third civil war it was intrinsic: the *Yamaniyya* based their action on a Ghaylānī doctrine of the imamate.<sup>344</sup> In 684 the dissociation had not yet been strongly felt; for all that Mu'āwiya did not return to the Prophet's seat, he still presided over a tribal society which made sufficient sense of his rule to deprive Ibn al-Zubayr's utopia of its persuasiveness in the Syrian metropolis, or even in Iraq.<sup>345</sup> But by 744 it was the tribal character of Umayyad society that failed to carry conviction, so that even for the Syrians the Umayyad caliphate was now in need of redefinition. It is well worth noting, however, that the Syrian generals could very easily have avoided the task of providing such a redefinition. A discreet coup behind the scenes would have enabled them to dispense with religious issues; it would almost certainly have spared them the confrontation with Marwān; their material interests would have been equally well served; and there was even a precedent for a *majordomus* in Dāhhāk b. Qays. But the Yemenis still saw the murder of the impious Walid as the first item on their religio-political agenda: they did not merely want power, they wanted to put power right.<sup>346</sup> Had the Muslims been content simply to legitimate power after the fashion of the Franks,<sup>347</sup> the archaic caliphate might well have continued as cosmetics for a Yemeni sultanate. But power in Islam had to be intrinsically sacred: it was only when power and sanctity no longer *could* be kept together that the Muslims had to make do with an illusion. Yazid's *Yamaniyya* and Marwān's *Qaysiyya* were the same sort of generals; but because Marwān was *both* a legitimist on behalf of the civilian Walid *and* a general who assumed caliphal power, he could make no sense of his rule, and few names are so suggestive of ugly power-politics as his. By contrast, the *Yamaniyya* who killed a caliph so that military power might be sanctified have come down to posterity with an unmistakable aura of righteousness.<sup>348</sup>

## 8

## UMAYYAD CLIENTAGE

We may now reverse the perspective and look at the evolution of the conquest society from the point of view of the non-Arab convert. The non-Arab converts were the representatives of the two empires which the Arabs had respectively truncated and destroyed, and in the Marwānid period such converts were becoming increasingly numerous. Yet they signally failed to direct the political evolution of their conquerors: just as the Arab conquerors contrived to keep up their fixation on the tribal past, so the non-Arab converts remained in the position of mere clients to the Arab tribes.

Clientage among the Arabs was known as *walā'*, a term which also designated the patronate. It always bound two individuals, both known as *mawālī*,<sup>349</sup> but never groups.<sup>350</sup> And it arose on either manumission or voluntary commendation, the latter being known as *tibā'a*,<sup>351</sup> *luxūm*,<sup>352</sup> *inqitā'*,<sup>353</sup> *khidma*,<sup>354</sup> or generically as *muwālāt*.<sup>355</sup> The clientage which arose on conversion can readily be seen as a special form of voluntary clientage. *Walā'* was in all likelihood a *Fortleben* of Roman clientage, the Arabs having borrowed it from their subjects with their usual lack of acknowledgement,<sup>356</sup> and to that extent it is comparable with Frankish ties of dependence. But whereas in Gaul Roman clientage fused with a Germanic political tradition and operated in a context of disintegrating state structures, in the Middle East it fused with a Judaic tradition and operated in the context of a fully bureaucratic state.

Throughout the Umayyad period *walā'* was the only mechanism for the attachment of newcomers to the conquest society. Being adherents of an ethnic faith the Arabs were not always willing to share their God with gentile converts,<sup>357</sup> and being conquerors they were usually unwilling to share their glory with defeated enemies – both problems to which clientage provided an apt solution. Clients were freely accepted without conversion,<sup>358</sup> but no converts were allowed to escape the humiliation of *walā'*, the newcomers to the faith being attached to the person ‘at whose hands’ they had converted.<sup>359</sup> This use of the tie is at the same time a striking example of the imperviousness to native values which the fusion of tribalism and monotheism had created and one of the most important

mechanisms whereby the imperviousness was maintained. The newcomer automatically renounced his position in the pre-conquest polity,<sup>360</sup> and an Iranian noble would find himself rubbing shoulders in the clients' rank with the peasants whom his ancestors had ruled.<sup>361</sup> The institution thus operated to distance the conquerors from the pre-conquest polity and its cultural values, not to merge them in it as it did among the Franks.

Even so, the clients might well have got a better grip on the development of Arab society if they had been recruited predominantly from among the free members of the pre-conquest elite, in particular the Persian aristocracy. There were of course members of the elite who defected to the Arabs,<sup>362</sup> and even some who defected to the Arab God, notably in Syria<sup>363</sup> though the converts also included a scatter of *dihqāns*;<sup>364</sup> and as was to be expected they placed their legacy at the disposal of the conquerors: the resurfacing of clientage is in itself an example. But it would require considerable imagination to see these converts as being at all near determining the actual direction of the Marwānid evolution. In part their feebleness reflects the fact that the position of client is a disadvantageous one from which to negotiate syncretic deals, but it also reflects the fact that the Syrians had little direction to offer: had the *Iranian* aristocracy converted in large numbers, the Marwānid evolution would certainly have taken a very different course. But the nature of the Arab conquest was such that aristocratic renegades by choice were few and far between.<sup>365</sup>

The overwhelming majority of converts in the Sufyānid and very likely also the Marwānid periods were prisoners-of-war who had been enslaved and were subsequently manumitted. The number of prisoners-of-war which the Arabs took in the course of their conquest was staggering,<sup>366</sup> and enslavement hit all social, ethnic and religious groups in the Middle East. For their future role, however, the provenance of the slaves scarcely mattered: dispersed among the conquerors and employed for the most part as domestic servants, they all rapidly adopted the norms and values of their masters,<sup>367</sup> while at the same time they and their descendants continued to be despised by the freeborn members of their masters' society. To the extent that they supplied a disproportionate number of scholars, scribes, tutors and poets active in the late Umayyad and early 'Abbāsid periods, their role in Arab society is comparable to that of the Oriental slaves in republican Rome.<sup>368</sup> But their contribution was shaped overwhelmingly by Arab values, not by their native ones. Whereas the Romans, being no monotheists, had happily let their slaves and freedmen teach them Hellenistic culture and Oriental cults, the Arabs by contrast made theirs operate wholly within the political and cultural directives furnished by their own religious aegis.<sup>369</sup> Without doubt the freedmen of the Arabs contri-

buted far more to the civilization of their masters than had their ancestors to that of Rome; but they were in far less of a position to change its overall character.

In the Marwānid period the converts began to enter willingly, but if before they had been slaves, now they were overwhelmingly fugitive peasants. The predominance of this type of convert in the Marwānid period has to be seen against the background of the fact that the Arabs, particularly those in Iraq, continued to be concentrated in the garrison cities after the collapse of the tribal order had led to their demilitarization.<sup>370</sup> The continuing urban character of Arab settlement in Iraq may to some extent reflect the fact that the ex-tribesmen still saw themselves as settlers in an alien land, but more particularly it resulted from the circumstance that the countryside was beyond their control in the crucial period of transition: whatever their wishes, they were in no position to make the alien land their own. Under the Sufyānids the *dibqāns*, protected by a state for which they acted as tax-collectors, enjoyed an autonomy which effectively made the countryside theirs,<sup>371</sup> and which enabled them to resist inundation by prospective Arab landowners as effectively as they did conversion. Hajjāj put an end to their autonomy, placing the countryside under the direct control of *mawlā* tax-collectors about the same time as he made over the Iraqi cities to the Syrian troops: it was not for nothing that he suspected the *dibqāns* of having sympathized with the revolt of Ibn al-Ash'ath and the *asbrāf*.<sup>372</sup> But it was the state, not the Iraqis, that benefited from this change; and insofar as land passed into Arab hands in the course of it, it was the caliph, his family and governors who acquired it,<sup>373</sup> only a fraction passing into the ownership of the ex-tribesmen.<sup>374</sup> On the one hand, then, the Marwānid period saw the formation of the so-called Muslim bourgeoisie.<sup>375</sup> The ex-tribesmen became shopkeepers, craftsmen and merchants, and the *Shari'a* which they wrote is accordingly marked by a high regard for mercantile activities<sup>376</sup> which landed nobilities usually despise: that of Sāsānid Persia was no exception.<sup>377</sup> On the other hand, the Marwānid governors could subject the countryside to bureaucratic rule with merciless efficiency. Being wholly out of sympathy with the lifestyle of a landed aristocracy both by origin and by evolution, they everywhere eliminated privileged estates, fiscal exemptions and other intervening structures as relentlessly as they did in Iraq.<sup>378</sup> Because the countryside was thus denuded of its protective network, flight from the land replaced the traditional search for a rural patron as the primary mode of tax-evasion.<sup>379</sup> And since power, protection and fiscal exemption were now concentrated in the cities, rural communities found it increasingly hard to withstand their attractions.

The peasant flights which bedevilled the Umayyad governors did not always go in the direction of the cities; a great many went to monasteries and districts in which the peasants were not registered; and wherever they went, it was the departure from the land which caused the relief to the peasants and the loss to the authorities who invariably reacted with ruthless determination to make up for their losses.<sup>380</sup> To that extent there was no difference between the escape routes. But unlike the rural refugee, the peasant who went to the city went straight into the lion's den, and here conversion was a *sine qua non* for survival. It was, however, not enough for survival. The typical fate of those who chose this course is described in a stereotype episode which recurs at various times and places in the chronicles, in which a tax-collector writes to a governor that the *dhimmi*s have flocked to Islam and that the taxes are in arrears; somebody thereupon points out that they have only converted to escape their taxes, and the governor accordingly takes action by rounding up the fugitives in the city concerned, sending them back to their land and reimposing their taxes.<sup>381</sup> The chronicles scarcely envisage any other type of convert.<sup>382</sup> Whatever the truth of each particular episode, posterity clearly remembered the Marwānid converts as fugitive peasants for whom conversion was a standard but unsuccessful means of tax-evasion.<sup>383</sup>

How then did they survive? The answer is by finding a patron: it was the acquisition of an Arab protector that made the conversion socially effective. There were clearly some who managed to find such a patron among civilians. By way of example we have the success story of Māhān, the father of Ibrāhīm al-Mawsīlī. He is described as a *dihqān* from Arrajān in Fars who fled from the fiscal tyranny of the Umayyad tax-collectors to settle in Kufa. Here he became the client of the B. Nadla b. Nu'aym, presumably by conversion 'at their hands', took a wife from the family of another fugitive *dihqān* and, when he had a son, reinforced the tie between himself and his patrons by fosterage.<sup>384</sup> Māhān being the client of a Tamīmī *sharīf*, the sources either did not recollect or else did not see fit to provide him with a history of continued fiscal martyrdom.

By far the majority of the runaways, however, concentrated their efforts on entering the army. In a variant on the stereotype *mawlā* episode it is the good caliph rather than the bad governor who takes action, and he does so, not by sending the fugitives back, but by granting them tax-relief and enrolling them in the army.<sup>385</sup> It is clearly not the case that non-Arabs as such were excluded from the army;<sup>386</sup> equally, when we are told that 'twenty thousand *mawālī* fought in the army without pay or rations'<sup>387</sup> we are not to take it that the Arabs enrolled the non-Arabs, but in a niggardly fashion refused them pay. What these stories say is that *peasants*

were excluded. Admission to the army transformed a tax-payer into a tax-recipient, a fact vividly illustrated in the papyri of Qurra b. Sharik with their monotonous demands for money and produce from the *abl al-ard* for distribution among the *abl al-arzāq*, and it is not surprising that the authorities should have been bent on keeping the *abl al-ard* quite literally in their place. Provided that they paid their taxes, however, the peasants were perfectly free to work out their fascination with the army as *mutaṭawwi'a*, unpaid and/or irregular volunteers, and it is clearly as such that the twenty thousand *mawālī* have to be identified. No less than thirty thousand *mutaṭawwi'a* are said to have participated in Maslama's expedition to Constantinople, and they appear in unspecified numbers in the armies of Yazid b. al-Muhallab in the extreme east as well as in those of Müsa b. Nuṣayr in the extreme west.<sup>388</sup>

Needless to say, not all of these volunteers were necessarily peasants on the look-out for a military haven, but a great many are likely to have been, and whatever 'Umar II's action in the matter, it was not usually a caliph who would let them in. About the time that peasants begin to congregate in the ranks of the volunteers, private retainers also begin to cluster around the generals. These retainers are not to be confused with the personal servants of the soldiers; such servants, of course, continued to be found in the Marwānid armies,<sup>389</sup> but they are quite distinct from the armed retinues which now appear.<sup>390</sup> Most of them are mentioned in the third civil war, by which time they were clearly an institution of some standing;<sup>391</sup> and though as a rule they appear to have been quite modest in size,<sup>392</sup> some, like the famous *Dhakwāniyya* of Sulaymān b. Hishām, consisted of several thousand men.<sup>393</sup> Some of these retainers were freedmen;<sup>394</sup> and some were even slaves;<sup>395</sup> but it is hard not to see in the majority of them the peasants from the ranks of the volunteers. And how such a peasant might be picked up from there is precisely what we are told in Naṣr b. Sayyār's harangue to his client Yūnus:<sup>396</sup> 'You, Yūnus b. 'Abd Rabbih, are one of those who wished to escape the burden of supplying provisions to Marw, and you and your family were among those whose necks Asad b. 'Abdallāh wished to seal in order to put you in the infantry; but I gave you appointments and I favoured you . . .' Yūnus and his family, in other words, were runaway peasants whom one governor would treat as such by sealing their necks and relegating them to the ignominious and presumably unpaid peasants' infantry; and here another would pick them out for positions of trust.<sup>397</sup> It was without doubt this latter kind of patron most of the converts hoped to acquire,<sup>398</sup> and Naṣr's action was certainly not the only one of its kind. Already in 696f [77] Bukeyr b. Wishāḥ had been told that he only needed to promise converts

remission of their taxes to collect a superbly obedient army,<sup>399</sup> and according to Christian sources it was precisely in this way that Hāfiṣ b. al-Walid, the governor of Egypt, obtained his semi-private army consisting of some twenty or twenty thousand renegades and other troops.<sup>400</sup>

The appearance of such retinues is not in itself a phenomenon of major interest. Soldiers are generally inclined to collect them, and the Marwānid caliphs were particularly badly placed to object: there are no measures against *mawālī tibā'a* to compare with the Byzantine legislation against *Bucellarii*.<sup>401</sup> The governor-general was virtually at liberty to choose between taxes and retainers, and in civil war he evidently opted for retainers.

But both the predominance and the fate of the peasant converts provide a striking illustration of the manner in which the Arab possession of both truth and power kept the pre-conquest polities at bay. Possessing both, the Arabs were sufficient unto themselves, and their relations with their subjects were almost exclusively fiscal. The non-Arabs were rarely asked or forced to convert;<sup>402</sup> on the whole they were dissuaded. They simply had to pay for the upkeep of those who had defeated them, preferably in a manner which emphasized their twin humiliation of non-Arab ethnicity and unbelief.<sup>403</sup> Now the landed aristocracy of Iraq and the Iranian plateau on the whole could afford the price and bear the humiliation, shielding themselves on their estates.<sup>404</sup> But their peasants, for all that they might have borne the humiliation, could not afford the price, and in the Arab, unlike the Hellenistic, Middle East it was thus the peasants who went to live in the cities. Where the Greeks had siphoned off the local elites but left the rural masses virtually untouched, the Arabs by contrast siphoned off the masses from underneath the elite and mopped up the elite when in due course its position had collapsed.

It was thus those least qualified to represent the Persian polity that the Arabs had to deal with in the crucial period in which their tribal ties dissolved. Moreover, these sorry representatives arrived as fugitives, illegal immigrants dependent on the elusive patronage of Arab generals and other individuals with access to power for their precarious foothold in a society which looked with mixed feelings at the prospect of *dhimmiṣ* wishing to save their souls. The crowds of peasants hammering at the doors of an Arab Heaven were hardly in a better position to retain or pass on what legacy they might possess than were those who had been dragged to Paradise in chains. When the rural masses of the Hellenistic Middle East had acquired Christian voices, there was no lack of chauvinism in what they spoke: their heritage had been deeply eroded, but at least they were no Greeks. But the masses who flocked to Islam in the century of Umayyad rule simply became Arab Muslims.

The Arabs, in other words, uprooted their subjects by enslavement in the course of their conquest, and by taxation in the course of their administration, subjecting those whom they had thus uprooted to the indignity of clientage. The role of shaping the political and cultural evolution of the conquerors thus fell almost exclusively on the members of the bureaucracy who for all their clientage were the only non-Arabs to combine native learning with a position of power in the Arab state.<sup>405</sup> And since it was not until the capital was moved to Iraq that the Arabs were exposed to bureaucrats with a strong commitment to the order of the past, the imagination of the Umayyad rulers continued to be exercised more strongly by the tribal rather than the native after-image.

There is another way of demonstrating the same point. In the Marwānid period ties of dependence began to develop even among the Arabs themselves. Thus next to the *mawlā* retinue we find the *qawm*, a term which had once denoted a man's tribal following, but which now came to be used of a general's personal recruits, usually from within his own tribal group.<sup>406</sup> For all that the recruits were private dependents, the institution was tolerated or even encouraged,<sup>407</sup> and some of these retinues appear to have been comparable with the *Dhakwāniyya* in size.<sup>408</sup> If Hafṣ b. al-Walid's recruits in Egypt were a giant *mawlā* retinue, Marwān II's recruits in the Jazīra can be seen as a giant *qawm*.

Within the *qawm* there were plain retainers and more distinguished ones, *ashab* or companions, who were the general's most trusted men.<sup>409</sup> How such a companion might be acquired is graphically told in the story of Ziyād b. 'Ubaydallāh al-Hārithī and Khālid al-Qasrī.<sup>410</sup> Ziyād, who has just enrolled in the Damascene army,<sup>411</sup> meets Khālid, who has just received his appointment to Iraq. After having assured himself that Ziyād is a Yemeni, Khālid invites him to Iraq. He also asks him to inform his companions, who are waiting for news at the camp, of his appointment, instructing him to ask for remuneration. On hearing the news Khālid's companions go mad with joy and shower Ziyād with gifts, a taste of what he might get in Iraq. Ziyād is then in a quandary until his *arif*, the army official in charge of payment, undertakes to draw his pay in his absence on the understanding that he may keep it for himself if Ziyād's venture should turn out to be a success. It did. By the time he was back from his first meeting with Khālid in Iraq he had received six hundred dīnars worth of gold, silver and other commodities, and he was subsequently appointed to the *shurṭa*.<sup>412</sup> As Naṣr picked Yūnus from the infantry, so Khālid picked Ziyād from the rank and file. There is yet another story to illustrate the ideal relationship between the governor and his companions. The scene is once more Yemeni and it is now 'Abdallāh b.

'Umar who takes the role of governor.<sup>413</sup> He has just sat down to eat in the company of his generals, scribes and other servants in Hīra when he receives the message that the rebel Ibn Mu'āwiya is approaching. Having paused for a moment, he unperturbedly gives the sign for the cook to serve, and though everybody is in tremors of fear, he does not bat an eyelid. Having finished his meal, he has gold, silver and other valuables brought out for distribution among his companions. Only then does he set out for battle, and though the place is now swarming with Ibn Mu'āwiya's men he wins.

It is not, of course, particularly remarkable that Ibn 'Umar should be depicted here as a paradigm of military valour. These were clearly stories told of soldiers for soldiers, and apart from the name of the faction to which the heroes belong, there is not the slightest trace of tribal notions, nor, despite Ibn 'Umar's pious ancestry, of religious ones. But there is an undeniable whiff here of the private lord in the Anglo-Saxon or Scandinavian style, the warlord and gold-giver whose followers would faithfully repay him in battle and avenge his death.<sup>414</sup> Considering that Khālid and Ibn 'Umar were generals of a public army whose gold had been raised by an orderly bureaucracy, the virtues they exemplify would seem peculiarly out of place. They reappear, nonetheless, in the accounts of Abū Muslim and his men, among whom companionship and clientage almost converged. Himself a *mawla*, Abū Muslim was the lord of Arab and non-Arab companions who held him dearer than the world and the hereafter;<sup>415</sup> they were a constant menace to Mansūr when he planned the elimination of their master; and they honoured the obligation to avenge his death, at least in Khurāsān. And the men who had accompanied him to Iraq and allowed themselves to be dispersed by a combination of threats and bribes were well aware of their infamous conduct, as is clear from their penitential *bi'nā mawlānā bi'l-darābim*, 'we have sold our lord for silver'.<sup>416</sup>

Despite the tendency towards convergence attested in Khurāsān, companionship and clientage never did fuse, nor was that really to be expected. Clientage was about affiliation of the weak and the despised. Clients were non-Arabs, and non-Arabs were '*abīd*' and '*ulūj*', slaves and peasants. The tie was far too thoroughly associated with them ever to lose its social stigma,<sup>417</sup> and though emotive loyalties towards the patron are very much in evidence among the clients,<sup>418</sup> reciprocal attitudes among the patrons are thinly exemplified.<sup>419</sup> The occasional client who rose to honour did so not as a client, but as a kinsman, the kinship having been created by fosterage<sup>420</sup> or by the widespread custom of naming one's children after the patron.<sup>421</sup> There was no such thing as an Arab *mawla*,<sup>422</sup>

but with a bit of good-will a *mawlā* might be seen as almost an Arab.<sup>423</sup>

Companionship, by contrast, was about providing honour for a post-tribal military, and it is this phenomenon which is interesting. Transitions from tribal to private ties are of course commonplace, but not usually in the presence of a fully-fledged state: vassals appeared among the Franks in the context of crumbling state structures, *nököt* among the Mongols in the context of nascent ones, but the post-tribal Mongols in China simply became a Chinese-style gentry.<sup>424</sup> The post-tribal Arabs, however, did not become an Iranian-style aristocracy. The peculiarity of the Arab case lies in the fact that unlike the post-tribal conquerors of China they did not inherit any political roles from their subjects, and unlike the post-colonial subjects of the Europeans they could not inherit any from the conquerors. As the tribal illusion wore off, the soldiers thus found themselves in an undisguised moral vacuum. Because the metropolis remained committed to the *ashrāf* of the past, the soldiers were given public power without the corresponding public honour: the Marwānid generals never became an aristocracy at all. It was this vacuum that the ideals of private lordship filled; in a world in which tribal honour belonged to the past and military honour to the future, the soldiers had no choice but to see the generals as their private lords and masters.<sup>425</sup> The Arabs and the Franks are thus obverse cases. The Franks had all the will to set themselves up as a Gallo-Roman aristocracy, but the material collapse of Gaul was such that they could not. The Arabs by contrast had all the material capacity to set themselves up as an Iranian or for that matter a Greek nobility, but their moral distance from the conquered polities was such that they would not. To the extent that clientage was one of the chief mechanisms whereby this distance was maintained, clientage and companionship are in a curious way two sides of the same coin.



PART III

THE FAILURE OF THE  
ISLAMIC EMPIRE



## 9

## THE ABORTIVE SERVICE ARISTOCRACY

With the closure of the third civil war the reorganization of the conquest society could no longer be postponed. On the one hand, the common past had receded beyond the point where it could offset the drastic changes accompanying the rise of the new dynasty. In particular, the new dynasty drew its soldiers from Khurāsān, a highly distinctive frontier province in which Iranian civilization enjoyed a unique *Fortleben* in Islam, so that the revolution could not fail to be ominously reminiscent of a Persian reconquest. For all their illegitimacy the Syrian soldiers had at least been Arabs who never stooped to speaking Syriac, but it was no secret that the Khurāsānis did speak Persian.<sup>426</sup> Hence it was only too easy to believe that the 'Abbāsids had ordered the extermination of the Arabs in Khurāsān,<sup>427</sup> and there was widespread fear that the conquerors would now have to endure the humiliation of being ruled by their own clients.<sup>428</sup> With the loss of the common past the idea of secession was likely to suggest itself. Not that it came easily: despite the massacre of his relatives, the Umayyad refugee in Spain acknowledged 'Abbāsid overlordship until as late as 757 [139].<sup>429</sup> But when Spain eventually did secede, the precedent had been set.

On the other hand, the factional ties had snapped. The civil war had turned the caliphs into military men in command of their own generals; and what is more, the transfer of the capital to Iraq eliminated the vital provincial spoils: henceforth there were governors of Basra and Kufa, but not of Iraq, let alone of the entire east.<sup>430</sup> The faction thus disappeared all but overnight from the metropolitan army,<sup>431</sup> and insofar as it survived, it did so as a purely local phenomenon which the governors would henceforth try to suppress, not one to which they would relate.<sup>432</sup> In view of the distinctive character of Khurāsān this was no mean loss. There was of course no question of moving the capital there: Khurāsān was the *dār al-bijra*<sup>433</sup> not the *umm al-qurā* of the revolution, and the western provinces would scarcely have accepted it as anything else. But conversely, having staged the revolution, Khurāsān was unlikely to submit willingly to the hegemony of a culturally alien Iraq. It was thus vital for the

'Abbāsids to find a way of integrating Khurāsān into the Islamic empire: were they to fail, the eastern frontier would go the way of Spain.

The main features of the 'Abbāsid reorganization are well known. The bureaucracy was hugely expanded,<sup>434</sup> fiscal and military governorships began to be separated,<sup>435</sup> and an elaborate espionage system was set up to facilitate central control.<sup>436</sup> The basic problem of the 'Abbāsids, however, was not the fairly simple one of creating the machinery required for imperial rule, but rather that of giving meaning to such rule. They urgently needed a political rationale.

The difficulties involved in the creation of such a rationale were determined by the fact that the Marwānids had contrived to do without one for so long. In the 690s Islamic civilization hardly existed, and had the Marwānids undertaken a reorganization of the conquest society then, they would of necessity have had to seek their rationale for it in the political traditions of their non-Muslim subjects. But by the 750s Islamic civilization did exist, and whatever political rationale the 'Abbāsids might attempt to create, it was clear that it was within Islam that they would have to find it. There was of course nothing to prevent them from seeking inspiration in the imperial tradition of the Middle East, that of the Sāsānids, and given the prominence of this tradition in Iraq it is not surprising that they did: the increasingly inaccessible monarch, the complex court etiquette,<sup>437</sup> and the appearance of the chief *qādī*<sup>438</sup> are well-known examples of the 'Abbāsid attempt to reshape Islamic government according to the Persian model. But since the moral identity of the empire was to be Islamic, a direct revival of the Sāsānid tradition was ruled out.<sup>439</sup> What the 'Abbāsids had to do was thus to fuse the Sāsānid tradition with Islam.

By the 750s, however, Islam had already acquired its classical shape as an all-embracing holy law characterized by a profound hostility to settled states. The *Shari'a* was created by men who had exchanged a tribal past for a commercial present in the demilitarized cities of Iraq, *outside* imperial Iran and in *opposition* to caliphal Syria. Its political ideal can be seen as the intellectual counterpart to the military faction, that is as the price which the Muslims paid for the continuance of the Umayyad state beyond the point where the tribal ties had disappeared. The '*ulamā'*, as also the generals, found that power had lost its Sufyānid meaning, and both in their different ways tried to rediscover it in the Arabian past. But the generals, for all that they operated in a moral vacuum, were the representatives of power, whereas the '*ulamā'* were merely the subjects of it, so that unlike the Syrians, whom they saw as their oppressors, they were deeply alienated from the existing regime; and their alienation went into the *Shari'a* they

elaborated. Where the generals merely exploited the tribal language of their faction, the '*ulamā'* defined God's law as *haqq al-'arab*,<sup>440</sup> the law of the Arabs, just as they identified his language as the *lisān al-'arab*, the normative language of the bedouin, the consensus being that where God had not explicitly modified tribal law, he had endorsed it.<sup>441</sup> The result was a tribal vision of sacred politics. The simple state of the Prophet and the *shaykhayn*, the first two caliphs in Medina, was held up as the ideal from which the Umayyads had deviated,<sup>442</sup> the accumulation of secular and religious power alike being condemned as a presumptuous encroachment upon the omnipotence of God. Kings were rejected as Pharaohs and priests as golden calves, while God's community was envisaged as an egalitarian one unencumbered by profane or religious structures of power below the caliph, who was himself assigned the duty of minimal government.

The *Shari'a* caught the 'Abbāsids in an insoluble dilemma. To the extent that it was the core of Islam, an Islamic empire must of necessity represent the norms embodied in it; yet were the 'Abbāsids to abide by its norms, an Islamic empire could not be created: it was as if Charlemagne had been asked not to revive the Roman imperial tradition, but to fuse it with a divinely sanctioned Salian law. Had the '*ulamā'* been content to desanctify power, they could have rendered unto Caesar what was Caesar's, but the very fact that politics are covered by the law testifies to its continuing sanctity. Where the Christians had left power alone, the '*ulamā'* gave it minimal definition, and they did so with a wealth of casuistic detail which bound the caliph hand and foot; so that where the Christians might see imperial power as vain, the Muslims saw it as illegitimate in the most literal sense of the word.

Effectively, the '*ulamā'* had thus made up their minds against settled states for good, a point which can also be made in another way. Political alienation was a feature of Iraqi society at large in the late Umayyad period: Sunnis,<sup>443</sup> Khārijites and Shi'ites, not excluding the lunatic fringe of Gnostic *ghulāt*, were at one in their rejection of the Syrian state. But it was only the Zaydis and the *ghulāt* who engaged in ill-planned revolts against the Syrian troops<sup>444</sup> or terrorism,<sup>445</sup> and only the Khārijites and the 'Abbāsids who sent out missionaries to raise troops outside Iraq for a future revolution:<sup>446</sup> the Sunnis refused to act. Outside Iraq we have revolts by soldiers who, for all that they had power, wanted a different type of state, witness the *Yamanīya* in Syria and Hārith b. Surayj in Khurāsān. The religious persuasions of these men were neither Shi'ite nor Khārijite, but nor were they Sunnī in the strict sense of the word, inasmuch as the creeds came from the theologians, not from the traditionalists.<sup>447</sup> The Sunnī traditionists neither rebelled nor inspired others to rebel:

being a Sunnī meant being a quietist. The 'Abbāsids staged their revolution because they wished to make a difference, and yet it was already a basic feature of the Sunnī outlook before the revolution that it would not make much difference whoever won the state; where the 'Abbāsids wished to be redeemers, the Sunnis had come to terms with their exilic situation.

The intractable Sunnī '*ulamā'* were of course not all there was to Islam in the 750s. Outside Iraq the fixation on the political paradigm of the tribal past was probably less pronounced, certainly so in Khurāsān, where the soldiers found it easy enough to adopt Iranian political roles.<sup>448</sup> And even in Iraq the '*ulamā'* were not the only exponents of Islamic norms. They shared their literacy with both *mutakallims* and *kuttāb*, the theologians and secretaries who perpetuated the traditional division of learning in pre-Islamic Iraq, that between Christian priests and bureaucrats; and though not all the *mutakallims* and none of the *kuttāb* disputed the validity of the traditionists' law, the former certainly did not see it as the core of Islam, while the latter would have none of its infatuation with the desert.<sup>449</sup> Similarly, the Sunnī traditionists faced the rivalry of the Shi'ite imam in whom the high-priestly authority of the early caliphs lived on:<sup>450</sup> the '*ulamā'* went so far, after the revolution, as to accept the caliph as a layman endowed with *ijtibād* in matters of the law,<sup>451</sup> but for the Shi'ites the imam was the very fount and the origin of this law. The 'Abbāsids rose to power by staging a revolution of Shi'ite colouring in Khurāsān, from the start employing *mutakallims* who as religious disputants and propagandists played an integral part in the 'Abbāsid establishment;<sup>452</sup> and they soon inherited the bureaucracy of Iraq. They thus possessed what resources were available for a syncretic handling of Islam. Certainly, a caliph whose soldiers would have obeyed had he ordered them to pray with their backs to the *qibla*,<sup>453</sup> ought to have had no problems when it came to a reshaping of Islamic law. But the most striking feature of these resources was their marginality. Just as Khurāsān was a frontier province, so Shi'ism was a heresy, while the theological and bureaucratic traditions were both tainted with the double stigma of secular status and foreign origins, Greek reason in the one case, Persian statecraft in the other. Despite the arch-heretics among their followers, the 'Abbāsids were certainly less marginal than the Ismā'ilis who were in due course to attempt a repeat performance of the 'Abbāsid revolution: it is not for nothing that the fears of a Persian religious and/or political restoration in the 750s were minimal compared to the paranoia which the Ismā'ilis were to induce.<sup>454</sup> But the fact remains that it was in traditions marginal to mainstream Islam that the 'Abbāsids found their intellectual resources, while at the same time it was to the Muslims at large that they had to make themselves acceptable. And in this dilemma lies the explanation of their failure.

The rationale with which the 'Abbāsids set out to restore the meaning of politics rested on a conflation of the priestly and the messianic roles familiar to Shi'ism. The conflation was in all likelihood a product of the circumstances attending the last phases of the revolution. The mission in Khurāsān had revolved around the themes of revenge for the Prophet's family and the restoration of power to a member of this family, but precisely who was intended to take power in precisely what political role is not clear because Ibrāhīm al-Imām, the crucial figure of the revolution, died in Marwān II's prison before the arrival of the troops in Iraq. The point is, however, that the leaders of the revolution would appear to have known no better: there is nothing in Abū Salama's bewildered convocation of 'Alids and 'Abbāsids for a prosaic *shūrā* to suggest that a priestly line had already been fixed among the latter, and the choice of Abū'l-'Abbās by impatient generals was certainly unforeseen.<sup>455</sup> Whatever the original programme, the result of the confusion was that the 'Abbāsids who had promised the climactic redemption were also the men who took the ongoing power; and if the meaning of their venture was to be preserved at all, they had of necessity to recast themselves as priests. What appears to have begun as a simple mess thus ended up as a formal ideology.<sup>456</sup>

The formal ideology combined an abstract title to power with rights arising from a concrete event in the past. As Hāshimites, that is as members of the Prophet's lineage, the 'Abbāsids claimed an ascribed right to the caliphate to the exclusion of all other Qurashīs, let alone non-Qurashīs:<sup>457</sup> all previous caliphs with the exception of 'Alī were thus rejected as usurpers.<sup>458</sup> And as leaders of the *dawla*, that is the revolution, they claimed to have encashed these rights to the exclusion of all other Hāshimites: 'Alī's descendants were thus also excluded.<sup>459</sup> The 'Abbāsids stress on their Hāshimite descent was a claim to membership of a priestly lineage, but the *dawla* was an apocalyptic event, a millenarian turn of fortune which had eliminated the Umayyad usurpers, avenged the Prophet's family, restored the rightful dynasty and filled the earth with justice:<sup>460</sup> the black banners of the avenging armies, the violence with which they treated the members of the offending dynasty,<sup>461</sup> the messianic names of the early caliphs,<sup>462</sup> and the analogies between the revolution and the rise of Islam<sup>463</sup> were all so many proclamations that political redemption had come.

Participation in the past event was the hallmark of the three crucial ranks of the 'Abbāsid aristocracy. Here too there is an analogy with the rise of Islam: the principle was that of *sābiqa*, priority in service.<sup>464</sup> The lowest of these ranks was that of the *abl al-dawla*, *ansār al-dawla*, *abl al-da'wa*, *abl al-shi'a* and so forth, that is the members of the Khurāsānī troops who had brought about the revolution in the past and who were

now spread all over the empire as garrisons in replacement of the Syrian troops.<sup>461</sup> Their title to nobility was a corporate one acquired on enrolment, for just as 'Abbāsid rule was known as the 'blessed *dawla*' long after the revolution, so the Khurāsānī soldiers knew themselves as 'people of the *dawla*' long after the original members of the revolutionary armies had died out.<sup>462</sup> The concept thus attempted to bridge the moral gap between the caliph and his soldiers on the one hand, and the soldiers and the caliph's subjects on the other.

Within the *ahl al-dawla* there was the more select group of the Abnā', that is *abnā' al-dawla*, *abnā' al-shī'a* or *abnā' al-dā'wa*. Generally, the Abnā' were the bodily, as opposed to institutional, descendants of the participants in the revolution,<sup>463</sup> and they are found as far afield as North Africa and Khurāsān.<sup>464</sup> Specifically, they were the descendants of those participants who had settled in Baghdad to become the new imperial troops,<sup>465</sup> and it is here that the sons of the greatest leaders of the revolution are found.<sup>466</sup> Either way, their status rested not only on membership of the Khurāsānī army, but also on descent, a combination which distinguished all the major families of the early 'Abbāsid period.<sup>467</sup> It was these men who were assigned the crucial role of forging moral bonds between the metropolis and Khurāsān. Thus on the one hand, they were flattered for their Khurāsānī origin, their mixed descent, and their Iranian nobility,<sup>468</sup> while Baghdad was described as the Khurāsān of Iraq.<sup>469</sup> And on the other hand, they held a virtual monopoly on the offices most intimately associated with the fortunes of the dynasty. In Baghdad they commanded the caliph's personal troops, his *shurṭa*,<sup>470</sup> held the leadership of his personal guard, the *baras*,<sup>471</sup> and commonly enjoyed the privilege of guarding his private seal.<sup>472</sup> In the provinces they held a large number of military commands and governorships;<sup>473</sup> and above all, they supplied the governors of Khurāsān.<sup>474</sup>

Finally, within the Abnā' there was the most select group of *ahl al-bayt*, the honorary kinsmen of the caliph. Primarily, of course, the *ahl al-bayt* were the real kinsmen of the caliph, the 'Abbāsid princes who ranked above the Abnā' and held an enormous number of governorships in all provinces except Khurāsān.<sup>475</sup> But in addition a number of Abnā' were bound to the 'Abbāsid house by nomination as members of the family<sup>476</sup> or fosterage,<sup>477</sup> and Jāhīz credits all Abnā' with the habit of naming their children after the caliphs.<sup>478</sup> Officially, these men were not known as *mawālī*,<sup>479</sup> but just as the Prophetic precedent for the nomination of kinsmen involved a Persian *mawla*,<sup>480</sup> so it was with *walā'* that fosterage and symbolic naming had typically been associated in the Marwānid period;<sup>481</sup> we doubtless have here the fictitious kinship tie with which the Marwānid generals

had raised their clients to honour. The honorary kinsmen would usually possess not one, but three titles to merit in the Islamic state. Khālid b. Barmak, for example, was one of the leading *abl al-dawla*, his descendants were among the most illustrious Abnā', and they were also members of the *abl al-bayt* by fosterage. It was thus as Islamic nobles, not as alien Khurāṣāñis, that they and their like enjoyed their enormous power in the Islamic state.<sup>486</sup>

In addition to the Khurāṣāñi aristocracy there were two non-Khurāṣāñi groups, both associated with the caliph by private ties. The first of these was the *sahāba*, the companions, an institution which is attested only under Mansūr and Mahdī, and which doubtless perpetuated the military companionship of the Marwānid period, now Islamized on analogy with the companionship of the Prophet. The companions were men who could claim no services to the *dawla*. Some were Umayyad princes,<sup>487</sup> and others were scholars,<sup>488</sup> but many and perhaps the majority were Syrian generals who had stayed on in the metropolitan army after the dynastic change.<sup>489</sup> They were now settled in Baghdad,<sup>490</sup> where indeed they would have to live to conform to the description of companions, and they held a number of military commands and governorships outside Baghdad.<sup>491</sup> Though some of the better known Syrian governors and generals are not identified as companions,<sup>492</sup> it is tempting to see in the *sahāba* the outcome of Ibn al-Muqaffa's advice to Mansūr that he single out a special group from among the Syrians to win them over to the dynasty.<sup>493</sup> If conciliation of the defeated Syrians was the main point of the institution, its ephemeral nature would certainly be less puzzling.<sup>494</sup>

The second group was the *mawālī*, the clients of the caliph.<sup>495</sup> like the honorary kinsmen they might be bound to the caliph's family by fosterage and symbolic naming,<sup>496</sup> but unlike them they were officially known as *mawālī*, and some of them were distinguished by the title *mawlā amīr al-mu minīn*. This title is clearly honorific and semantically equivalent to the Frankish *vassus domini*, and it is conceivable that these *vassi* were intended as a non-Khurāṣāñi counterpart to the *abl al-bayt*: one of the first men to bear the title was suggestively a governor of Syrian origin.<sup>497</sup> In practice, however, the difference between the clients and the kinsmen, or for that matter the rest of the service aristocracy, was a far more fundamental one. It is not merely that most of the clients were of non-Arab origin,<sup>498</sup> for so were many of the Khurāṣāñis; it is not even that most of them were of servile origin,<sup>499</sup> for there must similarly have been slaves among the ancestors of the Khurāṣāñis. It is rather that the clients had been chosen not despite but because of these origins: the *mawālī* of the caliph, like those of the Koran, were defined by the obscurity of their parentage.<sup>500</sup>

Some, it is true, were relatives of the caliph, but always on the female side and not always very reputable;<sup>101</sup> and the vast majority were freedmen of the 'Abbāsids themselves.<sup>102</sup> The honorary kinsmen were public servants who had been incorporated in the private household of the caliph as a final legitimation of their status; but the clients were private servants who had been pushed onto the public scene with perfunctory legitimation as caliphal vassals. The honorary kinsmen perpetuated the free clientage of the Marwānids; the clients by contrast represented a novel reliance on the servile tie.<sup>103</sup>

In itself this reliance on freedmen is not particularly remarkable. The *mawālī* were employed overwhelmingly where one would expect to find them, in private and semi-private functions associated with the household, the court,<sup>104</sup> the postal service, courier and espionage system,<sup>105</sup> the prisons and the like;<sup>106</sup> and though quite a number of them were already found in the less traditional roles of bureaucrats, governors and generals under Mansūr,<sup>107</sup> this was not so ominous in view of the fact that they rose in what was manifestly an uneasy period of political transition;<sup>108</sup> for all that there had been freedmen in Augustus' fisc, the Romans never handed over to their slaves. What was remarkable, then, was not that freedmen were used, but that within a century of the revolution they had taken control. The explanation is not far to seek: if they rose in a period of political transition, they stayed because the transition failed.

This failure is apparent in a number of ways. Doctrinally, the 'Abbāsids fell between two stools. The Shi'ites narrowed down the priestly lineage to the descendants of 'Alī, more particularly those of Ḥasan and Ḥusayn, so that other Hāshimites were excluded, while the Sunnīs conversely admitted all Quraysh to the caliphate, so that the Hāshimite lineage was devalued. In the face of this opposition the 'Abbāsids fidgeted. At one extreme they claimed to have inherited the imamate by bequest from an 'Alid,<sup>109</sup> and at the other extreme Mahdī claimed that it vested in the descendants of 'Abbas to the exclusion of 'Alī.<sup>110</sup> But neither argument of course satisfied the Shi'ites and both stood to offend the Sunnīs by their *rāfd*, rejection of the first two caliphs.<sup>111</sup> The 'Abbāsids did better when they shifted the argument from genealogy to deeds. The 'Alids were said to have been inactive and inefficient,<sup>112</sup> while the Umayyads were branded as iniquitous;<sup>113</sup> only the 'Abbāsids had brought about the *dawla* in the past and continued to uphold Islamic norms in the present. The Shi'ites of course rejected the *dawla* as having installed the wrong dynasty, but the Sunnīs could at least accept that it had eliminated the Umayyad 'kings'.<sup>114</sup> It is thus not surprising that the 'Abbāsids should have gravitated

towards the Sunnis. But in so doing, they were stripped of their priestly pretensions; and past events of course recede. They were thus coming back to where the Umayyads had ended.

The problems which the 'Abbāsids experienced with their ideology simply restate the problem of their marginality: the Shi'ites from whom they borrowed their ideas, and the Sunnis whom they wished to accept these ideas, were too far apart. It is certainly possible that the very accession of the 'Abbāsids catalysed the polarization between Sunnis and Shi'ites by forcing them to take up position *vis-à-vis* the new state; but if that is so, it merely illustrates the fact that whatever hopes the 'Abbāsids may have had of being a happy compromise, they could not be redeemers to Sunnis and Shi'ites alike. In fact, being no 'Alids, the 'Abbāsids could not be redeemers to the Shi'ites without handing over to an 'Alid.<sup>115</sup> It is true that just as sectarian lines may well have been less clear-cut before the revolution, so the Hāshimite family may well have enjoyed greater unity; but Sharik al-Mahri, for one, had no doubts that it was for an 'Alid, not an 'Abbāsid, ruler that he had taken up arms,<sup>116</sup> and when the accession of the 'Abbāsids forced the 'Alids into open revolt, the 'Abbāsid pretensions to having accomplished Shi'ite ambitions had to be given up. For practical purposes this was the moment when the long 'Abbāsid trek towards acceptance of the Sunnī role as guardians of the Muslim community began. For it was now from the Sunnis alone that the 'Abbāsids could hope to have their *daula* accepted, and the Sunnis had neither hoped nor worked for the 'Abbāsid redemption. The 'Abbāsid claim to having begun a new and better era thus shrivelled and withered on exposure to the sheer indifference of their Sunnī subjects. The Sunnis were not, on the whole, hostile to the 'Abbāsids; they dutifully learnt their lesson: the 'Abbāsids, so they knew, were of the house of the Prophet, though it did not really matter; they had defeated the impious Umayyads, though it did not make much difference. The Sunnis gathered that they had been redeemed, but they had never felt it.<sup>117</sup>

The marginality of the 'Abbāsids reappears in the fact that they made this trek towards the Sunnī camp, which they seem to have reached in the days of Hārūn,<sup>118</sup> without ever attempting a showdown with the '*ulamā'*.<sup>119</sup> They began with every available asset: troops, secretaries, theologians, religious prestige, and Ibn al-Muqaffa' provided the blueprint for precisely such a showdown when he submitted his *Risāla fi'l-sahāba*.<sup>120</sup> For Ibn al-Muqaffa' the caliph was the sole source of religious and political authority,<sup>121</sup> and the caliph is advised to use this authority to impose religious and legal uniformity,<sup>122</sup> to maintain a corps of religious representatives to whom people can turn for instruction,<sup>123</sup> to preserve the aristocratic

status of his public servants,<sup>524</sup> taking particular care to maintain the dignity of the military,<sup>525</sup> and to exclude menials from positions of authority at court.<sup>526</sup> It was a truly imperial vision of Islam presented without a single reference to Kisrā, Buzurjmehr or anything Persian,<sup>527</sup> and it was certainly one to which the caliph must have given serious thought. But Mansūr did not try it out;<sup>528</sup> and it was *zindiqs*, Manichaeans, not '*ulamā'*, who were the victims of Mahdi's inquisition.<sup>529</sup> In part, of course, Mansūr was simply too preoccupied with the post-revolutionary task of consolidation: the suppression of 'Abdallāh b. 'Ali's revolt, the liquidation of Abū Muslim and its aftermath.<sup>530</sup> But it was clearly the outbreak of the 'Alid revolts which effectively deprived the 'Abbāsids of what leverage they had on their traditionist rivals. Mahdi's outrageous rejection of every non-'Abbāsid caliph, be he a companion or the cousin of the Prophet, was a declaration of intent that could not very well become a programme of action: even a foolhardy caliph would hesitate to pick a fight with the *entire* Muslim world. The 'Abbāsids were thus forced into attempts at conciliation of the very men who had usurped their religious authority. And meanwhile the 'Abbāsid assets wasted.

As the creed of the 'Abbāsids wilted, the institutions which it was meant to support began to fall apart. Whereas the bureaucrats, overwhelmingly recruited from among converts in Iraq, kept up their professional commitment to the Persian political tradition and its attendant culture, the new generation of *Abnā'* who grew up in Baghdad forgot their Persian and their heretical views and settled down instead as the leaders of the *hashwiyā*.<sup>531</sup> There is no more striking illustration of the extent to which the secretaries and the soldiers of the 'Abbāsid caliphs went their different ways than the divergent careers of the grandsons of Khālid b. Barmak and Ḥanbal b. Hilāl. Both men were *Khurāsānīs*, the former a native of Balkh, the latter of Marw, and both joined the revolution; the descendants of both ended up in Baghdad where they counted among the *Abnā'*.<sup>532</sup> The sons of Khālid, however, went into the bureaucracy, where the third generation became the very embodiment of secretarial culture: the Barmakids were readers of Persian literature, patrons of the *Shu'ubīs*, sponsors of Greek philosophy and *kalām* who took a soft line on the 'Alids and an aristocratic line on trade.<sup>533</sup> But the son of Ḥanbal b. Hilāl stayed in the army, first in *Khurāsān* and next in Baghdad, and here his grandson became the archetypal Sunni 'ālim, Ibn Ḥanbal, who was in due course to lead the traditionist opposition to the Barmakid type of religion and culture as the hero of the obscurantist masses of Baghdad.<sup>534</sup> The distance between the pillars of the 'Abbāsid state thus widened into a gulf. And inasmuch as the caliphs could not afford a confrontation with the

'*ulamā'*, it was the secretaries that they kept trying to bring into line: the execution of Ibn al-Muqaffā', the Manichaean purges which hit the court and the bureaucracy, and finally the crash and splinter as the Barmakids themselves came down, can all be seen as violent adjustments to the outlook of the '*ulamā*'.<sup>335</sup> That the cultural policy of the early caliphs was always consistent is unlikely; but it was the chief *qādī*, not the chief secretary, who drew up a treatise on taxation for Hārūn.<sup>336</sup>

At a provincial level the failure of the 'Abbāsid ideology is reflected in the high incidence of political disturbance. Some of the provincial troubles, of course, were of the type liable to accompany any major transfer of power: for instance, the secession of Spain, the revolt on behalf of the Umayyads in Syria and the Jazīra in 750 [132f],<sup>337</sup> or the Syrian attempt at a come-back by support of 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī's bid for the throne in 754 [137].<sup>338</sup> Others clearly reflect the shift from a loose conquest society to an integrated state, witness the frequency with which fiscal or administrative oppression acted as a trigger. The Coptic *jacqueries* in Egypt,<sup>339</sup> very likely also Bundār's rising in Christian Lebanon,<sup>340</sup> the Khārijite rebellions in Sīstān,<sup>341</sup> possibly also those in the Jazīra,<sup>342</sup> the massive peasant revolts under the leadership of syncretic prophets in Transoxania, Khurāsān, the Jibāl and Azerbayjan,<sup>343</sup> and the Transoxanian revolt of Rāfi' b. Layth;<sup>344</sup> all these were in their very different ways attempts to shake off the heavy hands of the 'Abbāsid governors. But it would certainly be wrong to see no more than that in these revolts. On the one hand, it is clear that, for all their governmental machinery, the 'Abbāsids could not cope. Spain was written off from the start, though Mansūr and probably also Mahdī went through the motions of an attempt at reconquest.<sup>345</sup> In 789 [172] when Morocco passed into the hands of Idrīs, an 'Alid refugee from Fakhkh, Hārūn is said to have arranged for his poisoning; but as for attempts at reconquest, he did not even go through the motions.<sup>346</sup> And in 800 [184] he practically sold Tunisian North Africa to Ibrāhīm b. al-Aghlab, the son of a Khurāsānī soldier.<sup>347</sup> On the disappearance of tribal and factional ties the Muslim state had become too big: the 'Abbāsids had found no alternative ways of keeping it together.

On the other hand, the revolts were all too often directed not merely against the agents of the state, but also against the state itself. That was certainly so in Syria which never came round to acceptance of 'Abbāsid rule. When Amīn tried to enrol ex-Umayyad soldiers for a defence of the *dawla* in the fourth civil war, the outcome was Syrians and Khurāsānis at each others' throats in a minor reenactment of the revolution,<sup>348</sup> and Umayyad legitimism provided the aegis both for the urban take-over of local power in Damascus at the time of the civil war,<sup>349</sup> and for the rural

insurrection in Palestine towards the end of the reign of Mu'taşim.<sup>150</sup> Similarly, the Khārijites who kept the 'Abbāsid governors out of the Sīstānī countryside were under no illusion that the caliph would be on their side if only he knew what was going on, as were Robin Hood or Oleksa Dovbuš in respect of their kings.<sup>151</sup> The Sīstānī Khārijites were rural bandits, but they were also Muslim heretics and thus politicized: unlike their many counterparts throughout the world, they forced the head of state to *argue*. And it is indicative of the threadbareness of the 'Abbāsid title to power that in this argument Hārūn did none too well.<sup>152</sup>

The revolts in Transoxania are of particular importance in that they illustrate the continuing gulf between the syncretic frontier province from which the 'Abbāsid armies came and the straightlaced Iraq in which they settled. The followers of the Iranian prophets belonged to the same population from which the 'Abbāsids had recruited their *Rāwandiyya*, the most extreme heretics among their soldiers, a number of whom had to be liquidated in Iraq in 758 [141].<sup>153</sup> Whatever the repercussions of this incident in the east, the eastern heretics had already concluded from the murder of Abū Muslim that the 'Abbāsid state was an Arab state,<sup>154</sup> and they rose in revolt inspired by hopes of the imminent collapse of foreign domination, in precisely the same manner as the Bantu or Bakongo prophets, the Amerindian Ghost Dancers, the Judaizing Maori, and a host of other syncretic rebels, who were in due course to act upon apocalyptic visions of the end of the white man's rule.<sup>155</sup> Unlike the peasants who had gone to the Arab garrisons, the semi-Islamized populations of rural Transoxania and, as the westward spread of the revolts was to show, also those of the Jibāl and Azerbayjan, still saw the Muslim state as one of alien colonists.<sup>156</sup> Given both the extreme syncretism and the rural locus of these rebels, they clearly could not be fatal to the political status of the 'Abbāsids as long as the wielders of power in the east were not infected by them; and on the whole they were not.<sup>157</sup> But something of the same contrast between a colourful local society and a state perceived as alien recurs in the revolt of Rāfi' b. Layth, and here it was very damaging. Rāfi' was an Arab Muslim of a family settled in Khurāsān for generations,<sup>158</sup> he was a member of the Khurāsānī army,<sup>159</sup> and he became a rebel, according to some, to avenge his private honour.<sup>160</sup> But no sooner had he begun than the recently pacified Transoxania once more went up in flames.<sup>161</sup> What was so particularly undermining about this revolt was that for Rāfi' the soldier, as also for Muqanna' the prophet, the Turks of the area were more acceptable members of the local scene than the representatives of the Baghhdadi state: the Turks were called in<sup>162</sup> and the 'Abbāsids were rejected, according to Ibn Ḥazm for an Umayyad restoration.<sup>163</sup>

And worse still, a number of the local Abnā' joined the insurrection.<sup>64</sup> Just as the Abnā' went their different ways in the army and the bureaucracy, so they went their different ways in Iraq and eastern Iran.

Only in Iraq, and above all in Baghdad, did the new dynasty succeed in winning acceptance. In the fourth civil war the Baghdadi populace fought for the Abnā' with precisely the same passion with which the Ḥimsī populace had defended their *ashrāf* against the *Yamaniyya* in Marwānid Syria;<sup>65</sup> and the fury with which the mob, the semi-naked criminals, vagabonds and riff-raff threw themselves into the battle against Tāhib's troops<sup>66</sup> was at the same time a superb illustration of the loyalties which the 'Abbāsidhs had hoped to inspire and a pathetic attestation of their failure. For the Abnā' had been designed as an imperial aristocracy, and they had ended up instead, like the *ashrāf*, as nothing but the heroes of a local mob.

Yet there was a crucial difference between the Marwānid and the 'Abbāsid predicaments. The Marwānid problem had been that outside Syria the *ashrāf* could have no power, but there had at least been hopes that the generals who took the power could also inherit the legitimacy when the *ashrāf* were swept away. But the 'Abbāsid problem was that outside Baghdad the Abnā' could have no legitimacy, and it was obvious that the '*ulamā'* who took the legitimacy could not also take the power if the Abnā' were to disappear. Given that the Abnā' had failed as a pillar of the state, who then were to inherit their power? In Khurāsān an Iranian aristocracy was still in existence, but the Muslim world at large had been denuded of heirs: here the caliphs had only their dependents.<sup>67</sup>

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## THE EMERGENCE OF THE SLAVE SOLDIERS

The large-scale encroachment of the dependents on the territory of the service aristocracy began under Mahdī and Hārūn. Mahdī turned the clients of the 'Abbāsid house into a servile army fighting under its own commanders'<sup>68</sup> and filled a substantial number of governorships with men of this kind;<sup>69</sup> much resented by the Khurāsānīs,<sup>70</sup> this policy was continued by his successors.<sup>71</sup> Hārūn in addition recruited free clients among the non-Arabs of Khurāsān. The enrolment of foreigners was not without precedent. Already in 766[149] a Christian churchman had been scandalized by the 'locust swarm' of Alans, Khazars, Kufans, Ethiopians, Medians, Persians and Turks who went on summer campaign in that year, worshipping the sun and carrying with them the false gods of their nations.<sup>72</sup> But the scale of Hārūn's enterprise was doubtless new. Altogether half a million Iranians are said to have been recruited, presumably on making a formal renunciation of their false gods, and like the locust swarm they became *mawālī* of the caliph.<sup>73</sup> Graced with the name of '*Abbāsiyya*', some twenty thousand were transferred to Baghdad where, if the figures are at all correct, they were numerically on a par with the *Abnā'*.<sup>74</sup> Though the freedmen and the Iranians were different types of clients, they were inspired by the same concern. The point of the former was their utter dependence,<sup>75</sup> that of the latter their utter alienness; and the contrast with the *Abnā'* is obvious: with the *dawla* the 'Abbāsids had tried to identify their servants with the norms of Islam, but with *walā'* they bound them to a ruler who could not exercise his power without transgressing these norms.

The creation of the *mamlūk* institution consisted in a simple fusion of the two components which had hitherto remained discrete, servile status and alien origin. Freedmen reared in an Islamic environment and free mercenaries recruited abroad, for all that they became extremely common in the Muslim armies, were so to speak approximations to the ideal type: the classical *mamlūk* is characterized by *both* personal dependence and cultural dissociation.

Given that within fifty years of the revolution it had already become

clear that politics and religion were to go their separate ways, one might have expected the *mamlük* institution to have already emerged by then. It is in fact between 800 and 820 [184–204] that slave armies begin to make their appearance, first in Ibrāhīm b. al-Aghlab's North Africa,<sup>76</sup> and next in Ḥakam I's Spain,<sup>77</sup> and a similar army was under formation in the secessionist Egypt of 'Ubaydallāh b. al-Sari.<sup>78</sup> But it was not until thirty years later that Mu'taṣim made slave armies a standard Muslim institution by creating one in the metropolis itself. Why did it take so long?

The problem was Khurāsān. If Khurāsān could not accept the hegemony of Baghdad in the shape of the Abnā', *a fortiori* it would reject it when the Abnā' were replaced by private dependents. The failure of the Islamic aristocracy thus meant that the Islamic heartlands and the eastern frontier had to separate: if the *mamlūks* were to inherit the former, the local nobility were the obvious heirs to the latter. But though it came easy enough to Hārūn to sell North Africa, granting Khurāsān autonomy was a different matter; and the caliphal road to the *mamlük* institution was accordingly a tortuous one which passed through civil war.

Hārūn can be seen groping for a solution in the governors he appointed to the troublesome province. The first were Abnā',<sup>79</sup> and two were relatives on the female side – private dependents in disguise;<sup>80</sup> but in 806f [191] he appointed Harthama b. A'yān, a native Khurasānī, with the title of *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn*.<sup>81</sup> Harthama's *walā'* was double-faced, its meaning depending on the side from which it was read: neither a Banawī nor a freedman of the caliph, he was more of a local representative than the Abnā' to the Khurasānis and more of a dependent *vis-à-vis* Hārūn. And precisely the same ambiguity was to recur in the *walā'* which bound Tāhir and his successors to the caliphal house. Unlike Tāhir, however, Harthama is not known to have had noble blood, and he certainly had no independence.

Both noble blood and independence arrived with Ma'mūn, who replaced Harthama on Hārūn's death in 809 in accordance with the dispositions Hārūn had made as far back as 802 [186] for the division of the empire between his sons.<sup>82</sup> In this solution kinship replaced *walā'*, and once again the tie was double-faced: an Iranian by maternal descent<sup>83</sup> to the Khurasānis, Ma'mūn was an 'Abbāsid *vis-à-vis* Baghdad, and his interest in the continuance of the unitary state was further guaranteed by the fact that he was also an heir-apparent. To that extent the solution was an ideal one. But as Hārūn himself was painfully aware, the dynastic arrangement positively invited civil war;<sup>84</sup> and civil war was not slow in coming.

The fourth civil war dealt the *coup de grâce* to the 'Abbāsid rationale in that it set Khurāṣānīs against the Abnā'. Had the Abnā' won, the *dawla* would of course have been vindicated, and the Abnā' could have prided themselves on having saved it as well as having brought it about in the first place.<sup>85</sup> But they could not have saved its Khurāṣānī identification: just as the Syrians had been discredited as *Zawāqil* by the civil war,<sup>86</sup> so the Khurāṣānīs would have stood condemned as '*ajamī* traitors to the 'Abbāsid revolution.<sup>87</sup> A Banawī victory might have been followed by a straightforward Iraqi domination of Khurāṣān, but in all likelihood Iraq and Khurāṣān would soon have parted ways.

Instead the Khurāṣānīs defeated the Abnā': in 813 as in 750 a caliph and his Sunnī notables were swept away by Persian-speaking troops. Admittedly, the Abnā' did not immediately disappear from the political scene,<sup>88</sup> and as late as 870 [256] Muhtadī could try to play them against the Turks.<sup>89</sup> But the *dawla* had been discredited,<sup>90</sup> and it was thus a Khurāṣānī domination of Iraq which preceded the parting of the ways.

There were three components to the Khurāṣānī interlude. Firstly, in 813, as not in 750, the capital was transferred to eastern Iran: not even during the civil war did Ma'mūn leave Marw. Secondly, where Hārūn had gravitated towards the Sunnīs, Ma'mūn by contrast made a bid for the Shī'ites. In common with his predecessors he based his title to power on membership of the Hāshimite lineage, but the *dawla* having lost its legitimatory force, he gave up the 'Abbāsid claim to have excluded the 'Alids by their deeds: he was thus free to invert the testament of Abū Hāshim and designate an 'Alid as his heir on the ground of personal merit.<sup>91</sup> Finally, where Hārūn had resorted to dependents, Ma'mūn by contrast relied on princes. The tie, now as then, was *walā'* – what other ties were left? But the change of capital made for a crucial difference. In the first place, *walā'* had locally assumed the character of royal vassalage. Pre-Islamic Iran had been familiar with a tradition for local kinglets to surrender their crown and their throne to the King of Kings, receiving them back as his vassals.<sup>92</sup> Sāsānid measures of centralization on the one hand, and the nature of the Arab conquest on the other, had combined to eradicate this tradition from the central Iranian provinces; but it survived along the frontier, where it fused with *walā'* *al-islām*. Thus when Qutayba restored Bukhārā to the Bukhārkhudā, the latter converted to become the *mawlā* *islām* of the man to whom he owed his crown and his throne,<sup>93</sup> in the same way the Sāmānkhudā became a *mawlā* *islām* of Asad al-Qasrī when the latter restored him to Sāmān;<sup>94</sup> and a similar behavioural pattern is exemplified in the story that Barmak had gone to the caliph's court to convert.<sup>95</sup> Mahdi may well have been the first to make extensive use of this

tie in Khurāsān,<sup>596</sup> but it was Ma'mūn who took it up for a systematic legitimization of the eastern Iranian principalities: invited to submit to God and the caliph, the local rulers were confirmed in their positions as caliphal clients.<sup>597</sup> In the second place, the *mawālī* who ruled the empire at large were now public rather than private servants. It is not that they were all of different origin from those of Hārūn; some in fact had served under Hārūn,<sup>598</sup> though obviously most of them were new.<sup>599</sup> But with the change of capital they ceased to rule as aliens: Hārūn had valued them for their distance from the metropolitan tradition of Iraq; under Ma'mūn by contrast it was their affinity to the tradition of Khurāsān which was rewarded.

The cultural flexibility characteristic of the Shī'ite heresy and the eastern frontier thus came together for a brief moment under Ma'mūn, generating a remarkable openness to secular learning and secular elites alike.<sup>600</sup> Had Ma'mūn been content with a Khurāsānī successor state, he might have stayed on as an 'Abbāsid Tāhirid: the graceful surrender of Rāfi' b. Layth,<sup>601</sup> the delight in Ma'mūn's Iranian mother,<sup>602</sup> and the general pacification of his eastern domains all go to demonstrate that in Khurāsān at least he was at home. But to the Islamic world at large his policy was an affront, merely a partial admission of their rights in the eyes of the Shī'ites,<sup>603</sup> and a straightforward Zoroastrian plot against Islam in the eyes of the Sunnis.<sup>604</sup> And when the Baghdadis rebelled under the leadership of the Abnā', rejecting Ma'mūn as a traitor to his house and raising up a son of Mahdi,<sup>605</sup> Ma'mūn was forced to return. Ruefully liquidating his Iranian minister and 'Alid heir on the journey back,<sup>606</sup> he entered Baghdad in 819, [204], where the Baghdadis, in a supreme effort to conciliate the caliph, awaited him dressed in the obnoxious green which was to have symbolized his new and better era.

But although he returned, Ma'mūn did not thereby regain the capacity to glorify the *dawla* and the Abnā' with which his predecessors had tried to persuade the Sunnis to accept an imperial state, and he might well have given in completely to the Sunnis at this point. But give in he would not; and because there was no longer any point in trying to conciliate the '*ulamā'*, whom the return to Baghdad had brought back into prominence, the caliphal showdown with the traditionist rivals finally came. Claiming for himself the prerogatives of the Shī'ite imam,<sup>607</sup> Ma'mūn unpacked his priestly insight as Mu'tazilite theology and proceeded to make what was to be the first and the last attempt in Islam to bring the traditionists under inquisitorial control.<sup>608</sup> But for all the inventiveness and nerve with which he persisted in his manipulation of the symbols of religious authority, his efforts were not only inefficient, but also to some extent

superfluous: even granted a fair measure of success, his abstract imamate could not easily have served to sanctify concrete and intimate bonds. It was thus Ma'mūn's return to Baghdad, not the Sunnī restoration under Mutawakkil, that marked the final parting of the ways.

In both Khurāsān and the Islamic heartlands the heirs of the Abnā' were *mawālī*. But in Khurāsān the *mawālī* were caliphal vassals. The province received its autonomy in 821 [205] on the appointment of Tāhir, a member of the local nobility,<sup>609</sup> with the title of *mawālī amīr al-mu'minīn*,<sup>610</sup> while at the same time the leadership of the Baghdadi *shurṭa*, traditionally associated with Khurāsān, was granted to the Iraqi branch of his family by way of reinforcement of the tie.<sup>611</sup> Less controllable than Harthama, Tāhir was also less dangerous than Ma'mūn, and though he is said to have declared himself independent shortly after his appointment,<sup>612</sup> the arrangement was kept up with his descendants. In due course, as the caliphs lost their power to the Turks, it was to work out as an alliance for the protection of Iraq.<sup>613</sup>

In the Islamic heartlands, by contrast, the *mawālī* were unfree clients. Already Ma'mūn himself was credited with large-scale purchases of Turkish slaves;<sup>614</sup> it was certainly in his lifetime and with his blessing that Mu'taṣim, his brother and successor, began to accumulate his servile army;<sup>615</sup> and on his accession Mu'taṣim systematized the practice.

As a legacy of the past Mu'taṣim's armies were a peculiar mixture of princes and slaves. The princes came as *mawālī islām* from Transoxania precisely as they had done under Ma'mūn,<sup>616</sup> but they came no longer as representatives of the metropolitan tradition, but as foreigners to it: witness the Afshīn, whose renunciation of the false gods of his nation had not extended to a renunciation of its ancestral culture.<sup>617</sup> The combination was thus not quite so odd as it might look. As the princes eventually disappeared they were replaced by Daylamites, Kurds, Africans, bedouin and other peoples marginal to the settled Islamic world: all were mercenaries and nobility simply did not matter.

The slaves were largely Turks captured among the tribes beyond the Muslim border in Transoxania, though some were still purchased in Iraq.<sup>618</sup> Usually they were manumitted, and they were virtually always converted,<sup>619</sup> but both were somewhat perfunctory concessions to traditional values. It is not for nothing that unlike ordinary freedmen they continued to be known as *mamlūks*,<sup>620</sup> and unlike ordinary converts to be called by their ancestral names, for all that these names were as barbarous on the tongues of the believers as those of the crassest Shu'ubīs.<sup>621</sup>

Manumission was dispensable and in time increasingly dispensed with,<sup>622</sup> and conversion, though far more *de rigueur*, was rarely more than a formality:<sup>623</sup> Bughā, who, wondering what the trial of Ibn Hanbal was about, revealed that he knew only two things about Islam, had lost no more of his ancestral ignorance than had the Afshin of his ancestral culture.<sup>624</sup> And the whole point of Mu'tasim's Samarra was to keep both the slaves, their specially imported wives and their descendants in this state.<sup>625</sup>

The combination of cultural dissociation and personal dependence was a very forceful one in that it obliterated the soldier's public personality. Legally and psychologically aliens do not belong, and mercenaries do not usually have strong views on public issues in the polity which recruits them. Similarly, dependents do not count, and slaves are usually as indifferent to public issues as are women,<sup>626</sup> children and private servants. Samarra may be viewed as both a ghetto and as a harem: the ruler would bring up his foreign slaves as his *children*,<sup>627</sup> and they existed in the Muslim polity only through him. It was this extinction of the soldier's autonomy which made the *mamlük* such a superb instrument of his master's will when it was coupled with personal obedience; by the same token, of course, it made the loss of personal obedience the more disastrous. And it was a feature which sharply differentiated a servile army from a feudal one. The barons were no aliens, but members of their own polity who subscribed, with whatever cynicism, to its political values, whereas the *mamlüks* had to be born in Islam to acquire a comparable commitment to the political norms of Islam;<sup>628</sup> and precisely for this reason home-born *mamlüks* were eventually excluded from the army: where the sons of barons hoped to honour their ancestors as soldiers, those of *mamlüks* had to forget theirs as scholars.<sup>629</sup> Equally, the barons were free men participating in a public culture: their code of private fidelity and chivalry became itself a public one. The *mamlüks* by contrast had only a superficial Islamic veneer unless they acquired sovereign power of their own,<sup>630</sup> and when they did so, it was not a servile code that went public: their court culture might be Arabic, Persian or Turkish, but it was invariably *imported*.<sup>631</sup> *Mamlüks* were not supposed to think, but to ride horses,<sup>632</sup> they were designed to be not a military elite, but military automata.<sup>633</sup>

Once endorsed by the caliphs, the *mamlük* institution soon spread throughout the settled Middle East; and as eastern Iran brought itself into line with mainstream Islam under its successor dynasties, even this last bastion of princes fell: 'slaves upon horses', far from a topsy-turvy vision, became in Islam the most everyday of sights.<sup>634</sup> Free, native soldiers did not of

course vanish altogether from the Muslim armies,<sup>635</sup> but from the eastern to the western borders of the caliphate and from the mid ninth century into modern times, the crack troops at least of the settled rulers were composed of slaves.<sup>636</sup>

The incidence of the *mamlük* institution elegantly confirms the diagnosis of the disease of which it was a symptom. Among the Muslims of the Middle East it became both general and chronic. Yet it was not as if the outcome of the 'Abbāsid experiment had been apt to encourage prospective imitators;<sup>637</sup> nor were slaves always easy to obtain: Africans, Slavs, Indians, Greeks, Abyssinians and Circassians might replace the Turks, but the greatest of all *mamlük* institutions had to fall back on its own Balkan peasantry, enslaved in flagrant contravention of the law.<sup>638</sup> Against the ubiquity of the institution in the Muslim Middle East we have its total absence in the pre-Islamic and the non-Islamic Middle East. If the Muslims braved both offputting experiences and daunting obstacles to procure their *mamlüks*, their non-Muslim neighbours by contrast signally failed to borrow the idea. It was not that slaves were always difficult to get in the Christian world,<sup>639</sup> still less was the *mamlük* institution always inefficient; there were no religious objections, and there were certainly men who entertained the idea of imitating their Muslim neighbours.<sup>640</sup> Yet there were no *mamlüks* in Spain after the expulsion of the Muslims, and none on Byzantine soil before the Muslim conquest; and there were only mercenaries in northern Europe.<sup>641</sup>

The *mamlük* institution is thus a specifically Muslim institution.<sup>642</sup> There are, however, two illuminating exceptions to this rule. Within the Muslim world the ubiquity of the *mamlüks* in the Middle East is balanced by their total absence beyond the frontiers of the culturally destructive conquests, where the rulers could continue to seek their legitimating resources in the pre-Islamic traditions.<sup>643</sup> And conversely, within the non-Islamic world the general failure to borrow the institution is matched by the independent invention of comparable institutions precisely where political meaning had for one reason or another been destroyed.<sup>644</sup> The convergences thus point unambiguously to the Islamic deprivation of legitimating resources as the root from which the institution grew.<sup>645</sup> Evidently, the meaning of power has always been a problem wherever power has existed, and there have been few states in which its wielders have not made at least occasional use of their private dependents, even at the best of times: witness the eunuchs of Confucian China, Sāsānid Persia and Byzantium. Conversely, wherever slaves have existed, there have always been those who would enrol them for the exercise of power, if only at the worst of times: witness the gladiators in the Roman

civil wars<sup>646</sup> or the enrolment of prisoners-of-war by Mukhtār.<sup>647</sup> But the systematic handing over of power to slaves (or for that matter to women) to the more or less complete exclusion of the free males of the community bespeaks a moral gap of such dimensions that within the great civilizations it has been found only in one.

## I I

# THE EMERGENCE OF THE MEDIEVAL POLITY

The adoption of the *mamlük* institution by the 'Abbāsids was followed almost immediately by *fainéance* of the caliphal office and disintegration of the caliphal state. It is clearly not the case that slave armies necessarily entail either one or the other: the caliphs might have stayed in power, if only in Iraq,<sup>648</sup> just as the unitary state might have survived, if only as a sultanate.<sup>649</sup> But it is not very likely that the adoption of the new armies and the onset of general disorder simply happened to coincide. How then is the disorder to be explained? The key to the explanation must clearly lie in the manner in which the peculiar nature of the *mamlük* institution interacted with the peculiar legacy of the 'Abbāsids.

It is in the nature of slave armies that they can easily get out of hand: because they are private in character, their discipline turns to a greater extent than is usually the case on the personal forcefulness of the ruler. There were various ways in which the institution could be rendered more sensitive to such forcefulness, and the 'Abbāsids might have been better off if they had not been beginners. Both the isolation and the homogeneity of the Samarran slaves probably exceeded the safety limit;<sup>650</sup> when the ruler and his troops came out of their joint quarantine, generational recruitment of new slaves replaced Mu'tasim's grandiose attempt to breed them,<sup>651</sup> and free mercenaries and other elements were brought in to balance the Turks;<sup>652</sup> the institution thus certainly became more amenable to control.<sup>653</sup> But it was far more important that the presence of the forcefulness itself could not be guaranteed. No dynasty can be relied on to produce an unbroken succession of able rulers; and even if it could, no state can ensure the constant availability of a military scene in which the rulers can display what ability they have. Of the two most long-lived *mamlük* institutions one was non-dynastic while the other combined dynastic succession with the brutal selective pressure of fratricidal war. Either way the principle was the survival of the fittest; and in both cases the principle depended for its proper function on continuing external war: when warfare petered out, the Mamluk power struggles degenerated into mere anarchy, while the Ottomans withdrew from the command, stopped their fratricidal struggles and followed the 'Abbāsids into *fainéance*.<sup>654</sup>

Mu'taşim's successors may well have been men of some ability, but it was in the nature of their office that they lacked a military scene. The meaning of the caliphate had never lain in warfare. Internally, the caliphs were too exalted to go into the field against mere rebels in the manner of simple *amirs*. Externally, not even the 'Abbāsids had ever been committed to the personal conduct of frontier campaigns; and, given the sheer physical extent of the caliphate, they could not easily adopt the role of *ghāzīs*. The incessant campaigns of Mu'taşim himself do indeed recall those of the early Ottoman sultans; but for all the brilliance of his capture of Amorium, the summer expeditions on the Byzantine frontier had long been a ritual display, while conversely the real expansion of the Muslim frontier in Transoxania and North Africa necessarily had to be the work of local governors. There was no warfare for the 'Abbāsids to conduct; and for this reason they did not even get the proverbial run of three generations before being relegated to the harem, but lost control of their slaves within some thirty years.

It was, however, not in the nature of the *mamlük* institution that the vacuum at the top should have continued for so long. In themselves slave armies can be restored as easily as they can get out of hand, and to some extent, of course, the caliphs regained their power under Muwaffaq and his immediate successors.<sup>6,15</sup> But the caliphal restoration was ephemeral, and no stable sultanate emerged until the arrival of the Büyids in 945 [334], so that for the better part of a century no one person was in firm control. The explanation for this prolonged vacuum doubtless has to be sought primarily in the nature of the 'Abbāsid heritage. It was crucial for the 'Abbāsids that they adopted the *mamlük* institution against a background of failure: there never had been an Islamic empire. The imperial past was located outside Islam altogether, so that where the Ottoman officials were restorationists for ever looking back to the days of Sulaymān the Magnificent, the 'Abbāsid secretaries were merely alienated: there was no hankering for the magnificent days of Mansūr. The caliphs accordingly had little support to derive from the one pillar of the administration on which they ought to have been able to rely. Increasingly Shī'ite in recruitment,<sup>6,16</sup> the secretaries had become a species of administrative *mamlüks* who were scarcely more committed to the wider interests of the caliphate than were the slaves; and since their own interests lay in keeping military power fragmented, they could be relied on to put spokes in the wheels of whoever threatened to alter the status quo: in 908 [295] they flagrantly called a halt to the 'Abbāsid restoration by elevating a minor to the throne;<sup>6,17</sup> and throughout the period it took the threat of external conquest to make them search for Badr al-Jamālis and Köprülü viziers.<sup>6,18</sup>

It was thus up to the soldiers to take over. But the ecology of Iraq was such that the power struggle there could not easily issue in a definitive victory for any one of the parties involved. A flat rural plain, it had no local niches of the kind which enabled Mahmūd of Ghazna to conquer the Sāmānid metropolis;<sup>659</sup> even after the creation of the chief emirate in 936 [324] none of the competitors managed to retain it: Ibn Rā'iq, Bajkam and Mu'nis all rose on the flimsy basis of Iraq or its immediate environs and fell within a few years.<sup>660</sup> At the same time, the combination of secretarial intrigues, rival generals and public insolvency which confronted the potential conquerors of Iraq was unlikely to attract them, and morally the caliphate did not signify enough to make them come. Even after the chief emirate was there for the taking, the only interested candidates outside lower Iraq were the Hamdānids of Mosul: the Ikhshid, for all that he was willing to have a caliph for his sultanate, refused to play the sultan to the caliphate.<sup>661</sup> Iraq thus had to await the anti-'Abbāsid animus of the Būyids, who set out with the idea of removing the caliph, and the pro-'Abbāsid sentiments of the Seljuqs, who entertained the idea of saving him, for the conquerors finally to arrive.<sup>662</sup>

The loss of *both* political meaning *and* personal control by the 'Abbāsids thus combined to make over the Islamic world to foreign slaves for almost a hundred years. Because *mamlük* armies are essentially bodyguards writ large, they have all the virtues of elite troops at their best, but all the vices of private servants and foreign mercenaries at their worst: the facility with which palace officials can manipulate the state apparatus without ever considering the wider interests of politics, and that with which a hired soldiery can mutiny, ravage, loot and enter rebel service without ever going home, came together in the persons of the military slaves. A well-controlled *mamlük* army might have kept the unitary state intact, but an uncontrolled one could not fail to bring about its total disintegration.

Between foreign slaves and alienated secretaries, politics degenerated into mere intrigues and bickerings for the proceeds of a state apparatus which either party could permanently control, both parties squandering resources on an impressive scale while few indeed were reinvested in the state. At the same time the political horizon tended to narrow down to Iraq and its immediate environs. One by one the provinces were thus left to fall to obstreperous, dexterous or undisturbed governors,<sup>663</sup> rebels, heretics or robbers,<sup>664</sup> while Iraq itself was slowly laid waste as dykes broke, peasants fled, and bedouin advanced in the tracks of *mamlük* desolation.<sup>665</sup> Meanwhile, in the provinces the combination of foreign governors and a passive populace meant that there were few local buffers

against the chaos spreading from Baghdad.<sup>666</sup> Had the chaos broken out before the 'Abbāsids adopted the *mamlūk* institution, such buffers might have appeared in the form of provincial warlords: the descendants of local *asbrāf* and Umayyad governors who took over Syria during the fourth civil war and its sequel and promised to be exactly that.<sup>667</sup> Equally, had the chaos been brought under sufficient control for the 'Abbāsids to obstruct the formation of local states, *asbrāf* and *mamlūks* might have merged as *a'yān* and *derebeys*.<sup>668</sup> But because the adoption of the *mamluk* institution was immediately followed by loss of control, the men who took over were all *mamlūks*, foreign mercenaries or mercenary bedouin, whose states faithfully replicated the metropolis from which they had broken away. In terms of origin, they were all Muhammad 'Alīs.

The disintegration of the 'Abbāsid state was an intensely painful process in which it seemed at times as if the very venture of Islam was coming to an end, like that of Alexander the Great before it.<sup>669</sup> While Byzantine armies marched into Syria to the accompaniment of euphoric Byzantine prophecies of a Jerusalem regained,<sup>670</sup> the astrologers in a depopulated Baghdad stricken by military infighting, popular disorder, brigandage and famines, serenely predicted both a Persian restoration and the supercession of Islam by a new faith.<sup>671</sup> Indeed, that Islam was soon to disappear was the very premise upon which the Ismā'īlī revolutionaries held out their promise of a moral and material recovery: nothing less than a restoration of Adam's faith in a post-physical world could now save the marriage between religion and power to which the Islamic polity owed its existence.<sup>672</sup> And whether this polity could survive the divorce proceedings was still an open question.

Yet for all its agony the divorce was also a source of great relief to the Sunnī world. The state had ceased to lay claim to religious authority, so that for the '*ulamā'* it was no longer a competitor, and its very presence soon became sporadic. Hence where the '*ulamā'* in the 'Abbāsid cities had devoted enormous energy to defining their stand *vis-à-vis* the state, their successors in the Büyid cities were free to devote their attention to sorting out their position in whatever local society they found themselves. This was the development which permitted the emergence of the local notable, the distinctive figure of the medieval polity. The local notables were the obverse of the imported *mamlūks*: an urban elite, they were distinguished in negative terms by their lack of military and, except on a very minor scale, governmental functions,<sup>673</sup> and in positive terms by their combination of both landed and commercial wealth and religious learning. They represented a fusion of the urban '*ulamā'*, who had so far

made a living by trade and craftsmanship, and the landed *ex-asbrāf*, ex-governors and generals who had begun to take an interest in scholarship,<sup>674</sup> a fusion which took place throughout the provincial cities of the Islamic world,<sup>675</sup> and which is epitomized by the appearance of the *sharīf* in the medieval sense of *sayyid*, descendant of the Prophet. The medieval *sharīf* is an 'Alid who is *not* a political pretender, usually not even a Shi'ite,<sup>676</sup> and who instead encashes his Prophetic genealogy as a title to local status. Such 'Alids can be seen to have made their appearance in Hamadhān by the 870s,<sup>677</sup> in Qazvīn by the 940s,<sup>678</sup> in Nīshāpūr by the 960s,<sup>679</sup> and in Bayhaq by the end of the tenth century A.D.<sup>680</sup> Wherever they appear,<sup>681</sup> they are a sure sign that morally states have ceased to matter. And whenever they appear, the old fear of judicial office gives way to endless quarrels between such men and other local notables for precisely this office and the city headmanship.<sup>682</sup> It was a development whereby the '*ulamā'* took on a role quite unlike that of any rabbi. Where the '*ulamā*' in caliphal Iraq had seen themselves as the leaders of a Muslim diaspora subjected to a Pharaonic yoke,<sup>683</sup> their successors in the days when the yoke had collapsed took advantage of the fact that the Pharaohs had in fact been their own. The '*ulamā*' inherited the land; they made themselves at home, founded dynasties of learned men, wrote local chronicles and engrossed themselves in the intricacies of family politics. And in that diversion of interests there was a great release of tension.

The peculiarity of the polity that ensued can be set out against the contrast of both Sāsānid Persia and medieval Europe. In Sāsānid Persia and the medieval West, landownership was vested in a military aristocracy, while religious learning was the monopoly of a church closely associated with this aristocracy in terms of both revenues and recruitment. The cities stood outside this framework. In Persia they were non-Iranian assets, and in Europe they were a late growth. Being centres of non-landed wealth and non-clerical learning, they were also rivals to the traditional holders of power: they supplied professional skills to the royal bureaucracy on the one hand, and bred religious dissidents on the other — Christians and Manichaeans in Persia, Waldensians in Europe. In one respect, of course, there is complete continuity between Sāsānid Persia and medieval Islam. The cities continued to produce professional men for the ruler's administration and court; witness the doctors, astrologers and above all secretaries who upheld the tradition of secular learning in Islam, and who maintained the continuity of administrative practice which lay behind the endless political vicissitudes of the time.<sup>684</sup> As in the days of the Sāsānids they were frequently recruited from among members of the minority religions, especially Christianity;<sup>685</sup> even when they were not, they tended to stand

out against society at large.<sup>686</sup> But what they stood out against had drastically changed. In Sāsānid Persia their distinctiveness had arisen from the fact that they were an urban elite and what is more an Aramaean one, in a society which located its power in the Iranian countryside. But in medieval Islam the ethnic difference had disappeared and power had moved to the cities; and had this transfer represented a bourgeois revolution such as was eventually to take place in Europe, the professional men would have been its leading exponents. But it did not. *Dhimmis* and converts, the professional men stood out against the rest of society because they collaborated with a state from which the rest of society had withdrawn. It was not the bourgeoisie that had taken over, but the Muslims at large that had walked out. The commercial wealth of the cities, the landed property of the aristocracy and the religious learning of the church had *all* come together in a non-political elite; and the bourgeois appearance of medieval Muslim society arises precisely from its non-political character. The characteristic contrast in European history may be between city and countryside, but in medieval Islam it is between society and state.

There is another way of putting the same point. Just as Islam is unique among the great civilizations in the extent to which the state has ceased to embody public norms, so it is unique among pre-industrial societies in the extent to which government service has ceased to be associated with the ownership of land. The slave soldiers were no barons. Where the point of the European fief was to invest a native soldiery with land, that of the Muslim *iqtā'* was precisely to dissociate a foreign soldiery from it, so that unlike the baron who was the apex of local society, the *muqta'*, whatever his usurpation of governmental functions, was merely the local tax-collector:<sup>687</sup> slaves *vis-à-vis* their lord, the *mamlūks* were mercenaries *vis-à-vis* the land. Equally, the notables were no patricians. They did indeed combine landed and commercial wealth, urban residence and cultural leadership in a manner reminiscent of the elites of the medieval Italian and other cities.<sup>688</sup> But the patricians of the European cities and city states, not to mention those of ancient Rome, were the wielders of public power, whereas the distinctive feature of the notables was precisely that the many assets they combined did not suffice to give them a share in such power.<sup>689</sup> To that extent the medieval polity was comparable to a conquest society.

It is precisely the fact that the medieval polity was in the nature of a conquest society that explains some of its more striking features. Politically, the lack of integration between an alien state and a local society meant that there was far less to obstruct the workings of the central government, when a central government was present, than there was in medieval or

early modern Europe, and that conversely governors and notables alike were badly placed to take over the maintenance of local order if the central government collapsed.<sup>690</sup> And the same disjunction explains why government so often took the form of manipulation. As the governor could play notables against each other by dangling official rewards such as the city headmanship, the *qadā'*, local tax-farms, perquisites, reliefs and benefits of all kinds, so the notables could bring their influence to bear on the governor by a judicious handling of the information and advice on which he depended to rule what to him was a foreign land. Hence the political pattern that accompanied this disjunction was one of oscillation between the extremes of despotism and anarchy on the part of the state,<sup>691</sup> and ritual avoidance and factionalism on the part of the notables.<sup>692</sup> It was a pattern on which the local variations are considerable, interesting and to a large extent still unexplained.<sup>693</sup> But it only disappeared with the medieval polity itself.

Intellectually, it is the very totality of the disjunction between the exponents of state and religion that explains why the relationship between the two could come to be seen even by the medieval Muslims as a symbiosis: once the divorce was finalized, there was nothing to obstruct an improvement in the relationship between the divorcees. Having won the battle for religious authority, and lacking Shi'ite hopes of future glory, the Sunnī '*ulamā'* certainly showed themselves at their most generous, and in two ways an organic link between religion and politics remained. Internally, the ruler kept his providential role: he protected the *Shari'a*, enabled the community to prosper, kept the roads safe,<sup>694</sup> and for practical purposes that was enough. To be sure, Suyūṭī could still adduce a vast array of proof-texts in defence of his refusal to pay the customary visit to the sultan,<sup>695</sup> and avoidance of the state remained the norm. But Suyūṭī's intransigence reflects his own considerable self-esteem rather than a genuinely widespread fear of the polluting touch of power.<sup>696</sup> The truth of the matter was that where the Umayyad loss of sanctity had been outrageous, the openly profane nature of a stage such as that of Mamluk Egypt was really very comforting; so that where the early traditionists had lost no time in rejecting the Umayyads as Pharaohs, their medieval successors accepted even Pharaoh as a representative of divine providence.<sup>697</sup> In theory the ruler was a shepherd; and in practice the *mamlūks*, for all that they might fleece their sheep, directed their predatory instincts mainly against their own kind.

Externally, the ruler retained the obligation of *jihād*. The doubts which the jurists of Aghlabid North Africa had evinced as to the status of holy war conducted by an illegitimate ruler<sup>698</sup> never resulted in an unambiguous

internalization of *jihād* among the Sunnīs as it did among the Shi'ites;<sup>699</sup> holy war remained an exoteric activity in the performance of which even a ruler by usurpation could gain for himself a certain instrumental sanctity. Certainly, for all his services to Islam even so great a warrior as Saladin held only profane power; but for all their unashamed profanity even so alien a set of rulers as the slaves of Mamluk Egypt could legitimate their rule by brilliant defence of Islam.<sup>700</sup> It is thus not surprising that when a Muslim empire rose again, it did so as a *gharraq* state.

At the same time the occlusion of sacred politics opened up a new dimension of *jihād* in holy war against corrupt believers. In itself of course the phenomenon was not new. Long before medieval times Muslims had raised armies in the backlands for a conquest of the settled states; witness the Ibādīs, Zaydīs, Carmathians and Fātīmids. But there was a significant doctrinal shift. Just as the imamate ceased to generate new heresies, so the desert ceased to be the breeding-ground of heretics: it was now Sunnīs who enrolled the tribes. The ease with which the orthodox learning of the urban '*ulamā'*, be it reformist or *Šūfi*, passed into programmes of militant activism at the hands of Almoravids and Almohads, or for that matter Wahhābīs and Sanūsīs, is quite without precedent in classical Islam.

We thus have the elements for the alternation between tribal and servile rule which became so characteristic a feature of medieval Islamic history. At one extreme we have the religious conquerors from the desert such as the Arabs themselves or their Berber imitators, at the other extreme the Central Asiatic slaves imported by the 'Abbāsids and the successor dynasties; and in between we have their permutations. Central Asian conquerors followed in the wake of the imported slaves,<sup>701</sup> Central Asian slaves took over from their importers,<sup>702</sup> while mercenary tribesmen set up their local dynasties and once more imported slaves.<sup>703</sup> But it was a coming and going of states over a society which, for all the chaos and factionalism which it experienced, remained extremely stable.

By way of epilogue we may return to the subject with which this study began, the contrasting relationship between tribes and civilization in the Chinese and the Middle Eastern worlds. We left the Turkish and Mongol barbarians to their fate of Sinification in China, and we have now been through the formation of one aspect of the civilization which the Arabs created for the Middle East. How then do the Chinese and the Muslim views of tribal conquerors compare? There is one irresistible contrast here, that between the Confucian theorists and Ibn Khaldūn, both celebrated propounders of cyclical theories of history. For the Confucians as for Ibn Khaldūn, history consisted of dynastic cycles punctuated, *inter alia*, by

tribal conquest; but the moral evaluations of this scheme are radically dissimilar, and it is the dissimilarity that we must proceed to consider.

The attention of the Chinese was riveted on the inevitable decline of settled dynasties. Such dynasties were seen as running out of a quality defined now as virtue and now as a Spenglerian life-force, through the gradual loss of which they would sooner or later reach the nadir where a fresh dynasty must take over.<sup>704</sup> Tribal conquest belonged at the rock bottom of the cycle,<sup>705</sup> and of tribal decay the Chinese had no real notion: being barbarians, the tribesmen possessed no virtue that could be corrupted. That barbarians could not govern China as such was taken as axiomatic.<sup>706</sup> But were the tribesmen to lose their ancestral rudeness, the Chinese would construe the loss, which the barbarians themselves usually lamented, as acquisition of the very virtues which Chinese government represented:<sup>707</sup> the transition from tribal to settled rule could not fail to be a transition to better, stronger and more enduring government.<sup>708</sup> Ibn Khaldūn, by contrast, was fascinated by the inevitable decline of tribal dynasties, and where the Chinese tried to define the properties of virtue, Ibn Khaldūn laboured to identify the nature of tribal solidarity. In his scheme tribal conquest marks the high point of the cycle, and the loss of tribal ties is seen as a proof not that settled government will win out, but that tribal conquest must of necessity recur. The idea that the transition to settled rule could be a transition to better, stronger and more enduring government never suggested itself to him, and he would certainly have been puzzled by Manchu or Frankish history, had he known of them: as far as he was concerned, civilization equalled effeminate corruption.<sup>709</sup> Ibn Khaldūn, in short, saw the cycles from the barbarian's point of view: we have here the Muslim fixation on the tribal past restated in the secular terms of macro-history.

Ibn Khaldūn's theory, however, has to be seen in the light of his evaluation of the *mamlūk* institution. In a celebrated passage he praises this institution as a gift from God for the salvation of Islam.<sup>710</sup> Its benefit consists in the fact that it enables the Turkish tribes which are imported from the land of heathendom to embrace Islam with the determination of true believers, all while retaining their nomadic virtues undefiled by lustful pleasure, untouched by the excess of luxury, unmarred by the habits of civilization. The passage brilliantly describes the *mamlūks* as institutionalized tribal conquerors. What this means is that Ibn Khaldūn saw the medieval polity as consisting of a settled non-political society and a tribal state, be it imported or imposed by conquest. He saw, in other words, that the medieval polity was in the nature of a conquest society, and if the idea of applauding the transition to settled rule did not suggest itself

to him, it was for the simple reason that Islam, in such contrast to China, lacked a form of settled government to which the transition could have been made. Politics in Islam had remained the domain of the barbarians: it was precisely the non-political nature of settled society that gave Ibn Khaldūn so strong a feeling that civilization was effeminate.

The reason why Ibn Khaldūn had so clear a view of the nature of Islamic politics is partly that he was a very clever man, and more particularly that he was a highly cultured man of urban origin whose lifelong ambition was to be a great politician.<sup>711</sup> In his failure the political evolution of Islam has come full circle. It was because the Arab fixation on the tribal past had been religiously fixed that the Muslims handed over power to slaves and tribes; and it was because power had thus been handed over to slaves and tribes that a medieval Muslim became a statesman *manqué* who could do no better than to sublimate his disappointment into a theory of the circulation of tribal elites.



# APPENDIX I

## THE *ASHRĀF* OF SYRIA AND IRAQ

Virtually all the families included in this list are said to have been sharifian in the technical sense of the word (*sharif labu bayt qadīm* or statements to similar effect), but ambiguities do of course occur: the pretensions may be spurious or the nobility may lie in the character. Where such doubts arise, this is stated. Since the number of sharifian families in an Arab settlement was necessarily considerable, the list is by no means exhaustive. With a few exceptions only families that can be followed for a minimum of three generations have been included.

### A. SYRIA (WITHOUT QINNASRĪN)

- (1) *Bahdal b. Unayf al-Kalbī*. Bahdal belonged to the chiefly house of the B. Hāritha b. Janāb/Kalb and made his fortune by marrying off a daughter to Mu'āwiya (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v.; cf. also Lammens, *Études sur le règne du Calife Omayade Mo'āwiya*, pp. 286f). Three of his descendants dominated the political scene of Sufyānid Syria. Ḥassān b. Mālik b. Bahdal commanded the Qudā'a of Damascus at Ṣifīn for Mu'āwiya (Naṣr b. Muzāhim, *Waq'at Ṣifīn*, p. 233; Dīnawarī, *Akbār*, p. 184), governed Jordan and Palestine for Mu'āwiya and Yazid (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 468; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 65, vol. v, p. 128), and led the movement in favour of an Umayyad candidate after the death of Yazid I (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 63ff); though at first he supported Khālid b. Yazid, he was brought to accept Marwān at Jābiya (*ibid.*, vol. v, pp. 128, 130), fought for him at Marj Rāhit (*ibid.*, vol. v, p. 138) and agreed to change the succession in favour of his sons (*ibid.*, vol. v, p. 150). Later he supported 'Abd al-Malik against 'Amr b. Sa'id al-Ashdaq (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 785; cf. also *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'Ḥassān b. Mālik'). A Ḥassān b. Mālik appears as the issuer of a bilingual *entagion* dated 70 A.H. and a Ḥassūn who is perhaps identical with him is mentioned in two slightly earlier Greek documents (P. Col. 67, 92f in Kraemer,

*Non-literary Papyri*, pp. 196f 290ff). The reading of the names is uncertain and the chronicles do not remember Ḥassān as having resumed his governorship of Palestine after the civil war, but this is clearly not impossible. Sa‘id b. Mālik b. Bahdāl, his brother, was governor of Qinnasrīn for Yazīd I (*Aghānī*, vol. xix, p. 195). Ḥumayd b. Hurayth b. Bahdāl, his cousin, was head of Yazīd's *shurṭa* (*Balādhurī*, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 6, 60) and leader of the tribal feuds between Kalb and Qays after Marj Rāḥīt (*ibid.*, vol. v, pp. 308ff); under ‘Abd al-Malik he supported Ashdaq (*Ṭabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 784ff).

The family disappeared almost completely in the Marwānid period. It made a brief reappearance in the third civil war when Khālid b. ‘Uthmān b. Sa‘id b. Bahdāl fought against the *Yamaniyya* as the head of Walīd II's *shurṭa* (*ibid.*, p. 1803; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧamhara*, s.v. ‘Hālid b. ‘Utmān'), while an unnamed member of the family fought on the other side as a Yemeni commander who was sent to reinforce the Syrians in Iraq in 132 (*Ṭabarī*, ser. iii, p. 19). It reappeared again in the reign of Hārūn when ‘Āsim b. Muḥammad b. Bahdāl al-Kalbī emerged as the leader of the Yemenis in the factionalism between Qays and Yemen in Damascus (Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. vii, pp. 129f).

- (2) *Dhū Aṣbah* and *Dhū'l-Kala'* were the two major Ḥimyarī families in Ḥims. Abraha b. al-Ṣabbāh and Abū Shamir, his son, were among the conquerors of Egypt where most of the Aṣbahīs settled (*Ṭabarī*, ser. i, pp. 2586f, cf. ser. ii, p. 211; Kindī, *Governors*, p. 12, cf. p. 19). Kurayb b. Abraha Abū Rishdīn was head of Ḥimyar in Syria under Mu‘āwiya and fought for the latter in the civil war (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧamhara*, s.v.). He later went to Egypt, supported Ibn al-Zubayr in the second civil war, negotiated the treaty with Marwān after the Egyptian defeat, and was sent by ‘Abd al-Malik to Byzantium together with Ḥumayd b. Hurayth b. Bahdāl to negotiate yet another treaty for the caliph (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 41f, 44; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 300; cf. also *Ṭabarī*, ser. ii, p. 786). A cousin of his, Ayyūb b. Shurahbīl b. al-Ṣabbāh, was governor of Egypt for ‘Umar II (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 67ff). Naḍr b. Yarīm b. Ma‘dikarib b. Abraha b. al-Ṣabbāh stayed in Syria where he was head of Ḥimyar and governor of Palestine for ‘Umar II (*Khalifa*, *Ta’rikh*, p. 465; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧamhara*, table 278 and s.v. ‘al-Naḍr b. Yarīm'). Thereafter the family disappears. One hears only of the South Arabian branch of Aṣbahīs in the third civil war, in which they appear as followers of Abū

Hamza al-Khārijī (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 592, 596, 619; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, pp. 168, 172f., 174, 176; cf. Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1982). But the Nadr b. Yarīm who conducted a *sā'ifa* under Abū'l-'Abbās was perhaps a member of this family (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 633).

Samayfa' b. Nākūr Dhū'l-Kalā', the founder of the other family, was among the conquerors of Syria (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.; Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 2082, 2085, 2094, 2151ff., 2389). He also settled in Hims and fought for Mu'awiyah at Siffin, where he fell (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 220, 222; Naṣr b. Muzāhim, *Waq'at Siffin*, pp. 233f., 239, 269; Tabarī, ser. i, p. 3314). Another two members of his family are supposed to have participated in the battle, but their names are clearly Aṣbahī (Naṣr b. Muzāhim, *Waq'at Siffin*, pp. 234, 358; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 219; Dīnawāri, *Akkhār*, p. 184). Shurahbīl b. Dhī'l-Kalā' was sent by Nu'mān b. Bashīr, the Zubayrist governor of Hims, to reinforce Dahhāk b. Qays against the Umayyads in the second civil war (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 474; but the Zubayrist sympathies of the family were perhaps limited, for it was also Kalā'is who hunted down Nu'mān after the defeat, *ibid.*). He later joined the army of 'Ubaydallāh b. Ziyād, fought against the Tawwābūn and fell against Ibn al-Ashtar at Khāzir (*ibid.*, pp. 553, 557ff., 711, 715). Several other Kalā'is are known, though their precise relationship cannot be reconstructed. Thus Khālid b. Ma'dān b. Abī Karib al-Kalā'i was head of the *shurṭa* of Yazid I, a participant in Maslama's expedition against Constantinople, and a traditionist (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. v, p. 86; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1315). Imrān b. al-Nu'mān al-Kalā'i was governor of Sind for 'Umar II (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 430). Saqr b. Ṣafwān al-Kalā'i is supposed to have participated in the battle of Marj Rāhit, though on what side is not stated; in the third civil war he was among the Himsī *asbrāf* whom Yazid III took great care to conciliate after he had suppressed their revolt and received their allegiance (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. vi, p. 444; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1830f.).

- (3) *Haywīl b. Yasār Abū Kabsha al-Saksāki/Kinda*. Abū Kabsha, whose *ism* is also given as Jabawīl or 'Ulāqa, was one of the few Syrian *asbrāf* to found a family of generals. He is said to have been '*arīf* of Sakāsik (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. v, p. 22), but that is probably a misreading of his tribal group, 'Ariq of Sakāsik (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, table 243), for he was scarcely less than a *ra's al-qabila*. Like so many other Syrian

*asbrāf* he is said to have been sent by Yazid I to Ibn al-Zubayr to demand allegiance from the latter (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 20), and he was one of the men who met at Jābiya to elect Marwān (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 128). Ibn al-Kalbī lists him as the father of Yazid and Ziyād (*Gambara*, table 243). Yazid b. Abī Kabsha was head of 'Abd al-Malik's *shurṭa* for a while (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 349). In 79 he was in Iraq where Hajjāj sent him on a campaign against a Khārijite (*ibid.*, p. 358) and appointed him head of his *shurṭa* in Wāsit (*ibid.*, p. 411, where Abu 'Ulāfa should be emended to Abū 'Ulāqa; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 270). In 94 he conducted a campaign against the Byzantines (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1256), and in 95 he became governor of Iraq for a short while on the death of Hajjāj (*ibid.*, pp. 1268f). Sulaymān appointed him governor of Sind where he seized Muḥammad b. al-Qāsim al-Thaqafī, the governor and relative of Hajjāj, and where he died soon after his arrival (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 429f; Ibn al-Athīr, *Kāmil*, vol. iv, p. 465). Nothing is known of Ziyād b. Abī Kabsha, but Sari b. Ziyād, his son, was among the conspirators against Walid II and he is doubtless identical with the Abū 'Ulāqa al-Saksākī who appears among the leaders of the *Yamaniyya* in Syria in 127 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1778, 1800, 1878, 1894).

- (4) *Hubaysh b. Dalja al-Qaynī*. Dalja b. al-Mushammit, a Qudā'i sharif who settled in Jordan, is said to have visited the Prophet and to have wintered at Balda in 36 (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gambara*, s.v. 'Dalga b. al-Musammit'). Hubaysh b. Dalja Abū 'Abd al-Rahmān, his son, commanded the Jordanian Qudā'a at Ṣiffin for Mu'āwiya (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 222; Naṣr b. Muzāḥim, *Waq'at Ṣiffin*, p. 234). In 47 and 48 he wintered at Antioch (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 244, 245; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 84, 85); in 63 he commanded the Jordanian troops with Muslim b. 'Uqba in the Hijāz (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 299; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 41, 47); and in 65 he was put in command of an army which was sent by Marwān against Ibn al-Zubayr and which was defeated at Rabadha where he fell (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 150ff; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 578ff). The family then disappears completely until 126 when Jordan rebelled against Yazid III. The formal leader of the revolt was Muḥammad b. 'Abd al-Malik (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1831), but when Yazid III sent Sulaymān b. Hishām to Jordan it was Ḥakam b. Jurw and Rāshid b. Jurw al-

Qaynī that he was concerned to mollify (*ibid.*, p. 1832); they may therefore be taken to have been the real leaders of what feeble resistance there was in the district. Their full *nasab* is never given, but there can scarcely be any doubt as to their identity; Ibn al-Kalbī, whose list of Qaynī is extraordinarily detailed, only has four Qaynīs by the name of Jurw, and of these three are related to Dalja b. al-Mushammit (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gambara*, tables 313 and 324): in all likelihood it was two grandsons of Ḥubaysh who led the movement against Yazīd III in Jordan just as it was descendants of Sufyānid *asbrāf* who led it in the other districts.

- (5) *Huṣayn b. Numayr al-Sakūnī*. Huṣayn was one of the most famous members of the Sufyānid nobility. Sayf has his career start already in 11 (Tabarī, ser. i, p. 2004, cf. p. 2220) which seems unduly early for a man who was killed fifty-six years later, and we are on firmer ground when we are told that he conducted summer campaigns in 58 and 62 (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 271, 288). He was governor of Hims for Yazīd I and commanded the *jund* of Hims in Muslim b. ‘Uqba's expedition to the Hijāz, where he succeeded to the general command on Muslim's death (*Encyclopaedia of Islām*, s.v. ‘Huṣayn b. Numayr'). On the news of the death of Yazīd he offered Ibn al-Zubayr his allegiance on condition that the latter come to Syria, but Ibn al-Zubayr refused (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 43off) and Huṣayn returned to Syria to participate in the election of another caliph at Jābiya, where he came out in support of Marwān (*ibid.*, pp. 474, 487; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 134). He was then sent against Iraq, fought the Tawwābūn and fell at Khāzir against Ibn al-Ashtar (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 557ff, 714). Yazīd b. Huṣayn, his son, also participated in the battle against the Tawwābūn (*ibid.*, p. 560). He was later governor of Hims for ‘Umar II (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 465). Mu‘āwiya b. Yazīd b. Huṣayn is not heard of until 126 when the populace of Hims mutinied on hearing of Walīd's murder, destroyed the house of ‘Abbās b. Walīd, elected Mu‘āwiya their leader and refused to pay homage to Yazīd III (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1826). Yazīd easily put down the revolt, showered honours on the disgruntled *asbrāf*, and appointed Mu‘āwiya governor of Hims (*ibid.*, pp. 1826ff, 1830f, 1834), but Mu‘āwiya and other *ru’ūs* nonetheless could not wait to pay allegiance to Marwān II when the latter came to Syria (*ibid.*, p. 1892), and Numayr b. Yazīd, the brother of Mu‘āwiya b. Yazīd, went with Marwān's governor to Egypt (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 88).

- (6) *Khuraym/Huraym* b. ‘Amr al-Murri. The sharifian status of this family is doubtful in the extreme. Khuraym does appear at Mu‘awiya’s court, but only in connection with a spurious story (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 137), and he certainly receives none of the attention accorded to ‘Abdallāh b. Mas‘ada al-Fazārī (cf. no. 7) or Hammām b. Qabīṣa al-Numayrī, the head of the Damascene Qays who commanded a *rub‘* for Mu‘awiya at Ṣifīn and fell at Marj Rāhiṭ in support of Ibn al-Zubayr (Naṣr b. Muzāḥīm, *Waq‘at Ṣifīn*, p. 233; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 137). It is thus not surprising that whereas Hammām’s family disappears in the Marwānid period, that of Khuraym becomes increasingly prominent. Khuraym himself figures at the court of Sulaymān and he would seem to have been implicated in the revolt of Qutayba (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1300, 1312). Junayd b. ‘Abd al-Rahmān, his nephew, was governor of Sind under Yazid II and Hishām (*ibid.*, p. 1467; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 538, cf. p. 484 where he has become ‘Abd al-Ḥamīd; Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 442), and in 112 he was appointed to Khurāsān where he died in 115 or 116 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1527ff., 1564; cf. also Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, table 127). He is said only to have appointed Mudarīs (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1529). ‘Umāra b. Khuraym was in the service of Junayd in Khurāsān and was briefly deputy governor there (*ibid.*, pp. 1529, 1532, 1565). ‘Uthmān b. ‘Umāra b. Khuraym was a member of Manṣūr’s *sahāba* and probably identical with the Abū Yahyā b. Khuraym who fought against Ibrāhīm b. ‘Abdallāh in Basra in 145 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 281, 305); according to Ibn al-Kalbī he was also governor of Armenia and Khurāsān for Mahdi, which is certainly wrong (*Gāmbara*, s.v.); but under Hārūn he was governor of Sīstān (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 745; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 152f where he has become Khuzayma al-Muzānī). Khuraym b. Abī Yahyā was an authority on the Syrian Qays (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1300, cf. p. 1302). ‘Āmir b. ‘Umāra b. Khuraym Abū l-Haydhām was the leader of Qays in the factionalism which broke out in Damascus in 176 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1565, ser. iii, pp. 624f; Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdhib*, vol. vii, pp. 176ff).
- (7) *Mas‘ada* b. Ḥakama al-Fazārī. Mas‘ada is said to have been killed in Zayd b. Ḥāritha’s raid on Fazāra, as a result of which ‘Abdallāh b. Mas‘ada was brought to the Prophet (Tabarī, ser. i, p. 1557). ‘Abdallāh and ‘Abd al-Rahmān, his brother, both settled in Damascus where they were among the *asbrāf* of Qays. ‘Abd al-Rahmān conducted summer campaigns under Mu‘awiya and is said to have gone with other *asbrāf* and his brother to extract an oath of alleg-

iance from Ibn al-Zubayr under Yazid (Ibn al-Kalbi, *Ḡambara*, s.v.; *Aghānī*, vol. i, p. 33; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 20). 'Abdallāh fought for Mu'āwiya in the civil war, conducted summer campaigns, and commanded the Damascene troops in Muslim b. 'Uqba's expedition to the Hijāz (Tabarī, ser. i, p. 3446; Ibn al-Kalbi, *Ḡambara*, s.v.; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 47, 50, 57f; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 299). After Yazid's death he was one of the men who elected Marwān at Jābiya, and he was still around under 'Abd al-Malik (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 147, vol. v, p. 128). Thereafter the family disappears completely until Mughīra b. 'Abdallāh b. Mughīra b. 'Abdallāh b. Mas'ada, who turns up in 131 as Marwān II's governor of Egypt, whether as a Qaysī or a disaffected *sharif*, or both (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 92f).

- (8) *Qays b. Thawr al-Sakūnī*. Qays was a minor *sharif* from Hims who is found in the entourage of Mu'āwiya (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 49). 'Amr b. Qays, his son, was sent to reinforce Maslama in Azerbayjan in 98 and/or he conducted a summer campaign in that year (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1317); in 100 he conducted another summer campaign with Walid b. Hishām al-Mu'aytī (*ibid.*, p. 1349); and in 126 he was able to assist Walid II with 500 men, though there is no indication that he was governor of Hims (*ibid.*, p. 1802). Insofar as his career is known, it is thus a distinctively military one, and one would have expected him to have joined the *Yamaniyya*; if nonetheless he not only assisted Walid, but also supported the revolt of the *asbrāf* against Yazid III (*ibid.*, pp. 1826f), it was perhaps because his career had been enacted on the Syro-Byzantine frontier rather than in Iraq, with the result that behaviourally he was a Qaysī. He is not, it is true, mentioned among the generals who joined Marwān on the latter's arrival, but that was scarcely to be expected of a very old man: he died in 140 at the age of a hundred (Ibn Hibbān, 'Ulāma', p. 117). His son 'Isā Abū Jamal, however, must have been one of them, for he commanded the *jund* of Qinnasrin in the army of Marwān's governor in Egypt (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 88). It is worth noting that 'Isā's career continued under the 'Abbāsids: he was governor of Basra for Mansūr in 143 and 152 (Ibn al-Kalbi, *Ḡambara*, s.v. "Isā b. 'Amr"; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 646, 660, 674f, where he has become a Saksakī). Abū Thawr b. 'Isā was reduced to the local role of governor of Hims under Hārūn before the family disappeared (Ibn al-Kalbi, *Ḡambara*, s.v.).
- (9) *Rawḥ b. Zanbā' al-Judbāmi*. Zanbā', the founder of the family, is

credited with *shabba* (Lammens, *Califat de Yazid*, ch. 20, with other details on the family). Salāma b. Zanbā' appears in a *majlis* with 'Amr b. al-Āṣ at the latter's estate in Beersheba in 36 (Tabarī, ser. i, p. 3250; for the location of 'Amr's estate see *ibid.*, p. 2967). Rawḥ b. Zanbā' was the most successful member of the family. Yazid I sent him along with other *asbrāf* to demand an oath of allegiance from Ibn al-Zubayr (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 20) and he commanded the Palestinian troops in Muslim b. 'Uqba's expedition to the Hijāz (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 299; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 424). His rivalry with Nātil b. Qays over the *riyāsa* has already been described (above, p. 34). At Jābiya he supported the candidature of Marwān (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 134f), and he became one of the most influential advisers of 'Abd al-Malik, who is said to have made him his secretary (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1164; Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, p. 35). He was deputy governor of Palestine for 'Abd al-Malik in the reign of Marwān, and he also assisted Bishr b. Marwān in Iraq (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 149; Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, pp. 36f; Maṣ'ūdī, *Muṣṭaqib*, vol. v, pp. 254ff). His sons certainly inherited a good deal of prestige, and it is not surprising that Sa'īd b. Rawḥ could be described as *ra's ahl Filastīn* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1831). But they inherited little of their father's power, and they are never heard of during the Marwānid period until they rebelled in 126 under the nominal leadership of Yazid b. Sulaymān b. 'Abd al-Malik (*ibid.*, pp. 1831f). The revolt was not a source of much danger to Yazid III, who offered Dab'ān b. Rawḥ the governorship of Palestine in the expectation that he would find the offer irresistible, as indeed he did (*ibid.*, p. 1832). Ḥakam b. Dab'ān, however, continued the family's attempt to recover its former prominence. According to one version he took control of Palestine on the death of Yazid III with the help of Lakhm and Judhām, giving his allegiance to Sulaymān b. Hishām (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 152); another version has him take over at the time of Marwān's defeat at the Zāb (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 47); while finally a third version states that he rebelled with 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī in 136, on which occasion several members of his family got killed (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 103ff; cf. Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', p. 185). 'Abdallāh b. Yazid b. Rawḥ, by contrast, remained loyal to Marwān (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 47; Azdi, *Mawṣil*, p. 136). However this may be, the family scarcely mattered politically thereafter. Rawḥ [b. ?] b. Rawḥ b. Zanbā' did indeed rise to the position

of deputy governor of Egypt for Ibrāhīm b. Ṣalīḥ in 176 (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 135). But ‘Abdallāh b. Yazīd b. Rawḥ and Rajā’ b. Salāma b. Rawḥ are known only as transmitters (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 374, 1831). The contrast between the sharifian descendants of Rawḥ b. Zanbā‘ with their popular and semi-tribal support on the one hand, and the upstart soldier Thābit b. Nu‘aym with his Palestinian troops on the other, is perhaps the single most illuminating illustration of the Marwānid evolution (cf. Appendix IV, no. 34).

- (10) *Simṭ b. al-Aswad al-Kindī*. Simṭ and his son Shurahbil figure as staunch Muslims in the wars of the *ridda* (Ṭabarī, ser. i, pp. 2004f), and both distinguished themselves in the wars of conquest, the one in Syria and the other in Iraq (*ibid.*, pp. 2225, 2265 etc.; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 131, 137f, 145, 245). Simṭ settled in Hims and Shurahbil in Kufa, but when the latter came up against the rivalry of Ash‘ath b. Qays al-Kindī, he left to join his father in Hims (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 133f; cf. below, no. 21). Shurahbil was a firm supporter of Mu‘āwiya in the first civil war, and he is described as one of the most important men in Syria at the time (Naṣr b. Muzāhim, *Waq’at Siffin*, pp. 49ff). Nonetheless he and his descendants seem to have lost out completely to Huṣayn b. Numayr. There is virtually no information about them until the third civil war, though an Ibn al-Simṭ b. Shurahbil is mentioned as having been in Iraq at the time of Yazīd b. al-Muhallab’s revolt during which he was taken prisoner and apparently executed by the rebels (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 58; the reversal of the two names is commonplace). In 126, however, Simṭ b. Thābit b. Yazīd b. Shurahbil b. al-Simṭ came forward as the second leader of the revolt against Yazīd III side by side with Mu‘āwiya b. Yazīd b. Huṣayn b. Numayr with whom he is said to have been on bad terms (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1827f). Like his rival he received a great deal of honorific attention from Yazīd III after the revolt had been put down (*ibid.*, p. 1830), but unlike him he would appear to have found Marwān II no more to his liking, for he is said to have been crucified by him after participation in the Himsī revolt against him (Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muhabbar*, p. 485; Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 404; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambara*, s.v.); according to another version, however, he and his son were both crucified in the reign of Hārūn (*sic*), presumably for ‘asabiyā (Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muhabbar*, pp. 487f; cf. Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, p. 495; perhaps a later generation

of the family is intended). The B. al-Simṭ who took control of Hims during the fourth civil war and its aftermath, were doubtless descendants of this family (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, p. 541).

- (11) *Yazid b. Asad b. Kurz al-Qasri*. Asad b. Kurz is said to have been now a runaway slave and now the chief of Bajila, and his sharifian status is correspondingly uncertain (Gabrieli, *Il Califatto di Hishām*, pp. 6f). However this may be, Yazid b. Asad, his son, settled in Syria, where he is said to have been a fervent 'Uthmānī throughout the first civil war (Ṭabarī, ser. i, pp. 2985, 3265; Naṣr b. Muzāḥīm, *Waq'at Ṣiffīn*, pp. 49, 190, 271f etc). He commanded the Damascene troops in 'Amr b. al-'Āṣ' reconquest of Egypt and conducted a summer campaign for Yazid in 64 (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 226; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 319). 'Abdallāh b. Asad, his brother, conducted a similar campaign in 62 (*ibid.*, p. 288). 'Abdallāh b. Yazid, his son, fought for Ibn al-Zubayr at Marj Rāhiṭ (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 794; differently Ibn Habib, *Muhabbar*, p. 262); he also supported the revolt of 'Amr b. Sa'īd al-Ashdaq, fled to Muṣ'ab and eventually got *amān* from 'Abd al-Malik (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 794; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 138f, vol. v, pp. 299, 354). His two sons were among the most prominent men of the Marwānid period. Khālid b. 'Abdallāh was perhaps governor of Rayy in 83 (Gaube, *Numismatik*, p. 79); he was certainly governor of Mecca for Walīd from 89 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1199, 1231, 1305; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 400, 415, 428); and in 105 Hishām appointed him to Iraq, where he stayed for fifteen years, making vast profits, enthusing the Yemenis and indulging the Christians until he was dismissed and imprisoned in 120, harassed for a number of years, and finally sold to Yūsuf b. 'Umar al-Thaqafī, his successor in office, who had him killed under torture in 126 (Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 328ff, 358f). Asad b. 'Abdallāh, his brother, was governor of Khurāsān in 116–9 and 117–20 (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v.). Several of his relatives were among the *Yamāniyya* of the third civil war. Yazid b. Khālid fought on the side of Yazid III, apparently as the head of his *shurṭa*, and led the Damascene revolt against Marwān II who had him executed (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 152; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1841f, 1878, 1893f). Muḥammad b. Khālid rebelled in Kufa in favour of the approaching Khurāsānī armies (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 18ff). Ismā'il b. 'Abdallāh fled from Marwān to Iraq where he participated in the faction fighting between Qays and Yemen and became governor of Kufa for 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar

(*ibid.*, ser. ii, pp. 1881ff, 1902, ser. iii, p. 66; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 616). And Abū'l-Asad, a client of Khālid or more probably of Asad al-Qasrī under whom he had served in Khurāsān, was likewise among the soldiers of Yazid III (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 163 of, 1806f, 1841f, 1878f). After the revolution Muḥammad b. Khālid was governor of Mecca, Medina and Tā'if for Mansūr (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 137, 141, 143, 161ff), while Ismā'il b. 'Abdallāh became governor of Mosul and a member of Mansūr's *sahāba* (Azdi, *Mawṣil*, pp. 178, 214f, 217; cf. Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 402). Yazid b. Jarīr b. Yazid b. Khālid b. 'Abdallāh al-Qasrī was governor of the Yemen for Ma'mūn (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 857, 863f).

- (12) *Ziml al-'Udhri* and *Ziml al-Saksakī*. These two Yemeni *ashrāf* have become somewhat mixed up in the sources. Ziml (Zāmil, Zumayl) b. 'Amr al-'Udhri is said to have visited the Prophet with a delegation of 'Udhra (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. v, p. 383). He settled in Gerasa (cf. Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 478), fought for Mu'āwiya in the first civil war, and appears as one of the witnesses to the arbitration agreement of Ḫiṣn (ibid., ser. i, p. 3338). Either he or his Saksaki namesake was head of Mu'āwiya's *shurṭa* (*ibid.*, ser. ii, p. 205; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. v, p. 383). Yazid I made him his secretary and also sent him to Ibn al-Zubayr along with the other *ashrāf* (Mas'udi, *Tanbih*, p. 306 = 397; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 20). After Yazid's death he was one of the men who gathered around Ḥassān b. Bahdāl at Jābiya and he fell at Marj Rāhit (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 128; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 478). An Ibn Ziml al-'Udhri is mentioned under 'Abd al-Malik, but the family would appear to have played no further role in politics (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 164). Mudlij b. Miqdād b. Ziml and Ḥārith b. Hāni' b. Mudlij b. Miqdād al-Zimli were transmitters (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. 'Mudliğ b. Miqdād'; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. iii, p. 460; the Ibn Mudlij al-'Udhri who is mentioned as having received property in Damascus at the time of the conquests by Ibn 'Asākir, *Ta'rikh*, vol. ii, p. 126, was doubtless a member of this family).

Ziml b. 'Abd al-Rahmān al-Saksakī was a *shāfi* from Bayt Lihya in the district of Damascus and the father of Dāhhak and 'Abbās (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. vii, p. 2; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, table 243 and s.v.). As mentioned already, he himself may have been head of Mu'āwiya's *shurṭa*. A son of his is found in the entourage of Mu'āwiya (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 49).

Dahhāk b. Ziml (commonly Ramal) was governor of the Yemen for Yazīd or Walīd II and an authority on Syrian affairs (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 552; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdhib*, vol. vii, p. 3; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 15, 136). Hajjāj b. Ziml accompanied Marwān II on his flight from Syria, refusing to leave a man who had honoured him (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 136f.).

Ibn 'Asākir notwithstanding, Zāmil b. 'Amr al-Hubrānī who was governor of Damascus for Marwān II, was not a member of either family (*Tabdhib*, vol. v, p. 346; cf. Appendix IV, no. 82).

#### B. QINNASRĪN AND THE JAZĪRA

- (13) 'Adī b. 'Amīra al-Kindī. 'Adī was the head of Banū Arqam, a small branch of the Mu'āwiya al-Akramūn/Kinda who had gone to Kufa after the conquests, but who migrated to the Jazīra on the outbreak of the first civil war; here they settled in Edessa as adherents of Mu'āwiya, and 'Adī fought in the battle of Ṣiffin on his side (Ibn Ḥabib, *Muhabbar*, p. 295; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 205; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gambara*, s.v. "'Adī b. 'Amīra", cf. also table 237). Some remained in Kufa, where Arqam b. 'Abdallāh was among the followers of Hujr b. 'Adī al-Kindī (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, pp. 220, 228; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 136, 139, 144); but in the Jazīra 'Adī b. 'Adī b. 'Amīra appears in the rather different role of commander for Muḥammad b. Marwān, who sent him against the local Khārijite (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 887ff); he was also among the Jazīran soldiers who were called in to deal with Shabīb for Hajjāj in Iraq (*ibid.*, pp. 897, 899, 921); and finally he was governor of Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Jazīra at various times for Sulaymān and 'Umar II (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 205; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 426, 464; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gambara*, s.v. "'Adī b. 'Adī'). 'Urs b. Qays, who was the last of the family to leave Kufa, became governor of the Jazīra for Yazīd II (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 485; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gambara*, s.v.). Fā'id b. Muḥammad al-Kindī, who was likewise governor of the Jazīra for Yazīd II, was perhaps also a member of this family (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 485). There appears to be no further information on the family, but it is scarcely to be doubted that they could easily have joined the *Qaysiyya* despite their Yemeni genealogy.
- (14) Hātim b. al-Nu'mān al-Bābilī. Hātim was yet another Jazīran of Iraqi provenance. Having settled in Basra, he was exiled by 'Ali

and participated in the battle of Ṣifīn on Mu‘āwiya’s side, where he appears under a variety of garbled names (Jāhīz, ‘Risāla fī l-hakamayn’, p. 428; Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. iii, p. 429; Naṣr b. Muzāḥim, *Waq’at Ṣifīn*, pp. 207, 233; Hinds, ‘Banners and Battle Cries’, p. 26, cf. p. 24 where a Basran relative of his appears on ‘Ali’s side). In the second civil war he was governor of Ḥarrān and Edessa for Ibn al-Ashtar (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 251; cf. also Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, table 137 and s.v.). ‘Abdallāh, his son, was governor of Armenia and Azerbayjan for Muhammad b. Marwān in 85 (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 393; cf. Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 205 where the chronology is wrong). ‘Abd al-‘Azīz, another son, participated in the feuds of Qays against Taghib together with ‘Umāyr b. al-Ḥubāb in the second civil war; later he was governor of the Jazira, Armenia and Azerbayjan (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 323; *id.*, *Futūh*, p. 205; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, pp. 393, 426, 431, 464, 476; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1346; Ghevond, *Histoire*, p. 34; Movsēs Dasxuranci, *History*, pp. 280f.). ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Abd al-‘Azīz b. Ḥātim joined the *Qaysiyā*; he was one of Marwān’s commanders in the service of Ibn Hubayra (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 162).

- (15) *Qa’qā’ b. Khulayd al-‘Absī*. This family would seem to have no Sufyānid history; they are first mentioned under ‘Abd al-Malik, who married Wallāda, the cousin of Qa’qā’ and mother of Walīd and Sulaymān (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 146). ‘Abd al-Malik (or Walīd) granted them the land near Qinnasrin on which they were settled (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 146; Yāqūt, *Wörterbuch*, vol. ii, p. 373), and Qa’qā’ became the secretary of Walīd (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 837). Walīd b. al-Qa’qā’, who was no doubt named after his caliphal kinsman, served in Armenia under Maslama and in Khurāsān under Junayd (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 206; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1529, 1550); in 119 he was back in Syria where he conducted a summer campaign and was appointed governor of Qinnasrin by Hishām (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1593, 1783). ‘Abd al-Malik b. al-Qa’qā’, who was similarly named after a caliphal kinsman, became governor of Hims (*ibid.*). The family got involved in several succession disputes. Qa’qā’ would appear to have supported Walīd’s efforts to deprive Sulaymān of the succession, and his sons similarly supported Hishām’s efforts to deprive Walīd II of the succession (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1312; Ibn al-Athīr, *Kāmil*, vol. v, p. 198), but unlike their father they did not get away with it: on his accession Walīd sent Yazīd b. ‘Umar b. Hubayra as governor

of Qinnasrīn to seize the two brothers and torture them to death together with other members of the family (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 1783). Thumāma b. al-Walīd b. al-Qa‘qā‘ survived to conduct summer campaigns for the ‘Abbāsids (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 447, 485, cf. p. 493; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, pp. 670, 685; Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 486; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 189). ‘Uthmān b. Thumāma emerged as one of the local rulers of Syria in the Qinnasrīn area in the chaotic years after the fourth civil war (Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 541; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 363; Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, pp. 494, 507, 510 = vol. iii, pp. 27, 49, 53).

- (16) *Rabi’ā b. ‘Āsim al-‘Uqaylī*. *Rabi’ā* was a Basran *shārif* who fell in the battle of the Camel in support of ‘Ā’isha (*Tabarī*, ser. i, p. 3208); the family then emigrated to the Jazīra in the tracks of the Banū Arqam and Banū Hātim (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. ‘Muslim b. Rabi’ā’; cf. also table 102). Muslim b. Rabi’ā fought with Zufar b. al-Hārih at Qarqisiya’ (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 303), ‘Abd al-Malik b. Muslim was one of Maslama’s commanders in Armenia and Azerbayjan (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 206), and perhaps also governor of Armenia for Marwān II (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.). Ishāq b. Muslim similarly served in Armenia and Azerbayjan (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 206; *Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 1635), and in 126 Marwān put him in charge of the Qays who were stationed at Bāb and/or appointed him governor of Armenia (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 1871; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 209; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 564; Ghevond, *Histoire*, p. 113). In 128 he was in Mesopotamia with Marwān (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 1941; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, pp. 574f.). In 132 he was back in his post as governor of Armenia, and it was from here that he set out to join the Mesopotamian revolt against the ‘Abbāsids (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 56ff.; Walker, *Umayyad Coins*, pp. 229f.). The ‘Abbāsids pardoned him and he became one of the most influential members of Mānsūr’s *sahāba* (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 57f., 281). Bakkār b. Muslim, his brother, likewise joined the revolt and was presumably pardoned; he rebelled again with ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Alī and must have received a second pardon, for in 150 he was in Khurāsān campaigning against Ustādhis, and in 153 Mānsūr appointed him to Armenia (*ibid.*, pp. 57, 96, 356, 371). Isā b. Muslim, the third brother, appears among Marwān II’s generals, but he does not seem to have survived into the ‘Abbāsid period (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1877, 1909). Muslim b. Bakkār b. Muslim is credited by sons with a campaign against a Khārijite in the Jazīra in 180 which others ascribe to

Sā'īd b. Salm b. Qutayba; in 177 he was head of the *shurṭa* of Ishāq b. Sulaymān in Egypt (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 645 (contrast Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 728 and Azdi, *Mawṣil*, p. 291); Kindī, *Governors*, p. 136).

- (17) 'Umar b. *Hubayra al-Fazārī*. 'Umar's title to sharifian status rests on the claim that his maternal grandfather was chief of the B. 'Adī (Ibn Qutayba, *Ma'ārif*, p. 179), but nothing is heard of his family until he appears as a general under the Marwānids. He served under Sufyān b. al-Abrahān al-Kalbī in Iraq in 77, and participated in Maslama's expedition to Constantinople in 97–8 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 973, 996, 1306, 1315; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 423, 425; Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 453 = vol. ii, p. 484). 'Umar II or Yazīd II appointed him to the Jazīra in 100 or 102 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1349; Azdi, *Mawṣil*, p. 16), and Yazīd II appointed him to Iraq and Khurāsān in 102 or 103; he was dismissed in 105, put to torture, but freed on paying up (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1433f., 1467f; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 85). Yazīd b. 'Umar, his son, was governor of Qinnasrin for Walid II (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1783), and he was one of the *wujūb* of Qays who joined Marwān II when the latter came to Syria (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 564; Azdi, *Mawṣil*, p. 61). Marwān appointed him to Iraq where he was killed by the 'Abbāsids in 132 after the famous siege of Wāsiṭ (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1913ff., ser. iii, pp. 61ff.; Miles, *The Numismatic History of Rayy*, pp. 18f.; Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 550f.). Dāwūd b. Yazīd, who was with his father at Wāsiṭ, and Muthannā b. Yazīd, who was governor of the Yamāma for his father, were likewise killed (Ibn Qutayba, *Ma'ārif*, p. 179; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 69). Mukhallad b. Yazīd, however, survived in Syria where he is said to have had much influence and many sons (Ibn Qutayba, *Ma'ārif*, p. 179). One of them, Yazīd b. al-Mukhallad, was governor of Tarsus for 'Abd al-Malik b. Sāliḥ, but the Khurāsānī soldiers could not bear his *Hubayriyya* and drove him out (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 170); later he commanded summer campaigns against the Byzantines, and he fell on such a campaign in 191 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 709, 712; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 738).
- (18) 'Umāyr b. *al-Hubāb al-Sulamī*. 'Umāyr was a Qaysī from the Balikh area in Mesopotamia who participated in the conquest of an Armenian fortress in 59 (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 314; *id.*, *Futūh*, p. 184). He is better known for his role in the second civil war. Having paid homage to 'Abd al-Malik after the battle of Marj Rāhit, he fought under 'Ubaydallah b. Ziyād against the

Tawwābūn and Ibn al-Ashtar, considered deserting to the Iraqis, but opted for joining Zufar b. al-Hārith at Qarqisiyā', where he organized raids on Kalb, started the wars with the Taghib and acquired a reputation as one of the mightiest men of the day (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 707ff; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 248f, 268, 308, 313ff, 345). Despite this display of tribal valour, his brother and his sons all appear as generals. Tamīm b. al-Hubāb was sent to Kufa under Yazid II to assist in the campaigns against the Khārijites (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1376; Azdi, *Mawṣil*, p. 7). Dhufāfa and Khālid b. ‘Umayr both served under Maslama in Armenia, and Khālid also participated in Maslama's campaign against Constantinople (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 206; Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. v, p. 84). No members of the third generation appear to be known (though a rebel in Aghlabid North Africa counted ‘Umayr among his ancestors (Talbi, *Emirat Aglabide*, p. 148)). They ought to have been among the *Qaysiyā*.

- (19) *Zufar b. al-Hārith al-Kilābī*. Zufar was yet another Iraqi *sharīf* who migrated to the Jazīra in the first civil war. He had settled in Basra (Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. v, p. 376) and commanded the B. Āmir (b. Sa’sa'a) in the battle of the Camel for ‘Ā’isha (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 3179, 3208f, 3216; the Hārith b. Yazid al-‘Āmirī who appears on p. 2479 as a participant in the conquest of Hīt and Qarqisiyā' is doubtless meant to be his father). His is credited with the usual combination of participation in the battle of Ṣiffin (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 222), a journey to Ibn al-Zubayr under Yazid I (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 20), and a command in Muslim b. ‘Uqba's expedition to the Hijāz (Ya’qubī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 299). On the death of Yazid I he gave allegiance to Ibn al-Zubayr, and may or may not have fought the battle of Marj Rāhit (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv, b, p. 59; vol. v, pp. 132, 140). After the battle, however, he fled to Qarqisiyā' where he fortified himself against ‘Abd al-Malik until eventually a *sulh* was brought about between them (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 69, 145, 157f; vol. v, pp. 140f, 301; vol. xi, pp. 24f). Back in Qinnasrīn Zufar was the neighbour of Maslama who owned a castle at Na’ūra (Yāqūt, *Wörterbuch*, vol. iv, p. 732), and Maslama married one of Zufar's daughters while Hudhayl b. Zufar became a general in Maslama's service (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 307; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1402). Zufar's family were considered to be the very incarnation of *Qaysiyā* (cf. Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1300, 1455), and they were certainly among the followers of Marwān II; Kawthar

b. Zufar was his governor of Mar'ash (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 189), while Majza'a b. al-Kawthar Abū'l-Ward and Wathiq b. Hudhayl b. Zufar were among the *wujūb* of Qays who joined him on his arrival in Syria (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 564; Azdi, *Mawṣil*, p. 61). Majza'a is described as one of Marwān's *ashab*, *qurwād* and *fursān* (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 52); he served Marwān in Syria (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1894), submitted to the 'Abbāsid s after Marwān's defeat, but was later brought to revolt when an 'Abbāsid general was settled among the descendants of Maslama at Na'ūra (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 52ff; Ibn al-'Adīm, *Zubda*, vol. i, pp. 53ff).

## C. IRAQ

- (20) *'Abbād b. al-Husayn al-Habatī.* 'Abbād appears to have no pre-Islamic history. He is first mentioned in Basra at the time of Mu'āwiya, when he accompanied 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Samura to Sīstān as the head of the latter's *shurṭa* (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 396). In 64 he participated in the tribal feuds in Basra as the leader of the B. 'Amr b. Tamīm for Ahnaf (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 112, where Hanzalī is doubtless to be emended to Habatī; cf. also *ibid.*, p. 108; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 453f). In the Zubayrid period he was twice head of the *shurṭa*, participated in the campaign against Mukhtār, fought against the pro-Umayyad *Jufriyya*, and became deputy governor of Basra for Muṣ'ab on the latter's departure for Maskin (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 681, 720ff, 725, 733ff, 738f, 748f, 807; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 155f, 159f). At Rustaqābādh he was loyal to Hajjāj, but in decrepit old age he sided with Ibn al-Ash'ath and fled to Kābul where he was killed (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 289, 343; Ibn Qutayba, *Ma'ārif*, p. 182). Jahdām, his son, who similarly joined Ibn al-Ash'ath, was executed by Hajjāj (Ibn Qutayba, *Ma'ārif*, p. 182). Miswar b. 'Abbād (or b. 'Umar b. 'Abbād) participated in the suppression of the revolt of the Muhallabids in 101 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1383). In 126 he was head of the *shurṭa* and/or *ahḍāth* in Basra for Ibn 'Umar, but he was dismissed by 'Amr b. Suhayl, Ibn 'Umar's deputy, whereupon a *fitna* broke out which lasted till the arrival of Ibn Hubayra (*ibid.*, p. 1875; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 185). Ibn Hubayra at first chose Miswar as his civilian deputy in Basra, but he later had to cancel the appointment in favour of a *qādī*, with whose appointment the tumults seem to have come to an end (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 615). A son of Miswar

by the name of 'Abbād is listed by Ibn al-Kalbī, but nobody seems to have anything to say about him (*Ḡambara*, table 81).

- (21) *Ash'ath b. Qays al-Kindī*. *Ash'ath*, who founded one of the best known sharifian houses in Iraq, was chief of the B. Mu'āwiya al-Akramūn in South Arabia, where he is said to have been among the most influential men of the B. Ḥārith/Kinda (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. 'Ma'dikarib b. Qais'). After a number of pre-Islamic exploits, conversion and a celebrated apostasy, he joined the wars of conquest and settled in Kufa where he soon acquired the leadership of Kinda: Shurahbil b. al-Sim̄, his rival, withdrew from the contest and went to Syria (Balādhuri, *Futūh*, pp. 135f; cf. above, no. 10). Under 'Alī he was governor of Armenia and Azerbayjan, and he fought on his side at Sīffīn, where his performance earned him the everlasting hatred of the Shī'ites (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'al-Ash'ath b. Ḳays'). He married in accordance with his status: one of his wives was a sister of Abū Bakr (*ibid.*), and he gave two daughters as wives to the family of 'Uthmān (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.vv. 'Habbāna' and 'Qarība bint Ma'dikarib').

The next generation is represented by Qays and Muḥammad, both of whom held the leadership of Kinda after their father's death (*ibid.*, s.v. 'Muhammad b. Ma'dikarib'; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 386). Qays b. al-Ash'ath commanded the *rub'* of Kinda and Rabī'a at Karbalā' (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 326), and Muḥammad b. al-Ash'ath was one of the witnesses against Hujr b. 'Adī (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 221); he was also governor of Tabaristān for 'Ubaydallāh b. Ziyād and of Mosul for Ibn al-Zubayr (Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 325; *id.*, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 229). He fled to Mus'ab after Mukhtār's take-over of Kufa and fell in battle against the latter at Ḥarūrā' (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 241, 259f). His daughter was married to 'Ubaydallāh b. Ziyād (*ibid.*, vol. iv b, p. 83).

With the third generation we reach the period in which the tribal chiefs begin to give way to generals. Muḥammad's sons all appear as commanders in the old *muqātila*; Ishaq fought against the *Azāriqa* in western Persia and Tabaristān (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 857, 1018); Qāsim and Ṣabbāh similarly fought in Tabaristān (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 324); and 'Abd al-Rahmān was sent against Shabib in Iraq and against the local ruler in Sīstān (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 930, 1042ff). But the campaigns were all to the discredit of their commanders; Ishāq deserted from the wars against the *Azāriqa*; it was Syrians who finally dealt with

Shabib; it was similarly Syrians who provided the backbone of the army in Tabaristān; and 'Abd al-Rahmān's expedition to Sīstān culminated in the spectacular revolt which meant the definitive reduction of the old *muqātila* to a local police force (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 857ff., 1018ff.; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'Ibn al-Ash'ath'). Thereafter the *Ashā'itha* never played any major role in politics. Two became rebels: Muḥammad b. Ishāq and 'Uthmān b. Ishāq both joined the revolt of Yazid b. al-Muhallab (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1397, 1411). Four were satisfied with a modest role in the local politics of Kufa: Mundhir b. Muḥammad commanded the division of Kinda and Rabī'a in the old *muqātila* against Zayd b. 'Ali in Kufa in 126; Ṭalha b. Ishāq b. Muḥammad was deputy governor of Kufa in 137; Ishāq b. al-Ṣabbāḥ b. Imrān b. Ismā'il b. Muḥammad was likewise governor of Kufa between 156 and 159 and for three months under Hārūn; and Fadl b. Muḥammad b. al-Ṣabbāḥ was briefly appointed to the same office by the supporters of Ibrāhīm b. al-Mahdi in 202 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1702; ser. iii, pp. 92, 465f., 1019, 1022; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 695, 744; Miles, *Rare Islamic Coins*, p. 117). One seems to have become a Shi'ite: Muḥammad b. Muḥammad b. al-Ash'ath, the tenth-century Kufan who transmitted *Ash'athiyāt* in Egypt, was presumably a member of the *Ashā'itha* (Madelung, 'Sources' pp. 33f.). And one consoled himself with the pursuit of abstract truth: Ya'qūb b. Ishāq b. al-Ṣabbāḥ b. Imrān b. Ismā'il b. Muḥammad is better known as al-Kindī, the philosopher of the Arabs (Ibn al-Nadīm, *Fibrīs*, p. 255 = 615; for other members of the family, see Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 816; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdīb*, vol. iii, p. 82).

- (22) *Dhu'l-Ghuṣṣa al-Hārithī*. Huṣayn b. Yazid Dhū'l-Ghuṣṣa was a chief of Ba'l-Hārith in the Yemen, where he fell in a tribal war with the Murād (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v.). Shihāb b. al-Huṣayn avenged his father (*ibid.*, s.v.), 'Abdallāh b. al-Huṣayn inherited his chieftainship (*ibid.*, s.v.), and Qays b. al-Huṣayn is credited with a visit to the Prophet who gave him the chieftainship (Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqāt*, vol. v, p. 528). Having settled in Kufa, the family supplied *ashrāf* for the Sufyānid set-up. Kathīr b. Shihāb b. al-Huṣayn appears as the head of Madhhij and one of the *ru'ūs al-Yamaniyya* who bore witness against Hujr in 51 (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v.; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, pp. 218, 221), and in 60 he was one of the men who were sent with their following to dissuade the adherents of Muslim b. 'Aqil from rebellion (Tabarī,

ser. ii, pp. 256ff). He was also governor of Rayy for Ziyād b. Abīhi (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 136). Qaṭan b. ‘Abdallāh b. al-Ḥusayn, his cousin who likewise appears among the witnesses against Ḥujr, was governor of Azerbaijan for Ziyād (*ibid.*, pp. 136, 221); he commanded the division of Asad and Madhhij at Maskin as a lukewarm supporter of Muṣ‘ab, and briefly held the office of governor in Kufa after ‘Abd al-Malik’s victory (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 341, 344, 351, 354).

With the fourth generation we reach the Marwānid period and the family begins to recede. ‘Uthmān b. Qaṭan was one of the men who remained loyal to Ḥajjāj when the army mutinied at Rustaqābādh in 75 (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 284f); he fell in 76 against Shabīb (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 911, 919, 929ff). Khālid b. Qaṭan, his brother, joined the revolt of ‘Abdallāh b. Mu‘āwiya in 127 (*ibid.*, p. 1880). Muhammad b. Zuhra b. al-Ḥārith b. Qays b. Kathīr b. Shihāb was greatly esteemed in the time of Rashīd, under whom he held a minor administrative office (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.).

- (23) Ḥārith b. ‘Amr al-Riyākī. Qa‘nab b. ‘Attāb b. al-Ḥārith seems to be the earliest member of this family to have been equipped with a history: the *fāris* of the B. Yarbū‘, he died in the early sixth century A.D. (Ṭabarī, ser. i, p. 986; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.). Other members appear in the armies of conquest: ‘Attāb b. Nu‘aym and Nu‘aym b. ‘Amr fought at Qādisiyya, while Warqā’ b. al-Ḥārith and Ḥabīb b. Qurra were among the conquerors of Tustar (Ṭabarī, ser. i, pp. 2307, 2554f; compare Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, table 68). The family settled in Kufa where little is heard about them in the Sufyānid period. Hurr b. Yazīd, however, commanded the division of Tamīm and Hamdān at Karbalā‘, where he is said to have deserted the Ḥusayn (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 326). In the Zubayrid period ‘Attāb b. Warqā’ was governor of Isfahan (*ibid.*, pp. 762ff; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 118). He fought half-heartedly for Muṣ‘ab at Maskin and was later one of the many Kufans who campaigned unsuccessfully against the *Az̄āriqa* and Shabīb (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 341, 344; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 878, 940ff). Khālid b. ‘Attāb who also fought against Shabīb was governor of Madā‘in and Rayy for Ḥajjāj; he had been one of the drinking companions of Bishr (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 961, 965f, 1002, 1069; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 172).

The subsequent history of the family is one of discontent and disappearance. Abrad b. Qurra, who had known better days under

Muṣ‘ab, joined the revolt of Ibn al-Ash‘ath, while Ḥanzala b. ‘Attāb supported that of Yazid b. al-Muhallab (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 773f, 1076, 1397). There was, however, a branch of the family in Khurāsān. Ḥabīb b. Qurra had been governor of Balkh for ‘Uthmān in 29 (*ibid.*, ser. i, p. 2831), Abrad b. Qurra had married off a daughter to a Khurāsānī soldier (*ibid.*, ser. ii, 1691), and Samharī b. Qa‘nab who was with Junayd in Khurāsān was presumably a member of the same family (*ibid.*, p. 1530). Perhaps it was also in Khurāsān that ‘Attāb b. Warqa’ had acquired his *Shākiriyya* (*ibid.*, p. 965). Here, at all events, ‘Abbād b. al-Abrad and Abrad b. Dāwūd appear among the generals of Naṣr b. Sayyār in the struggle against Ḥārith b. Surayj and in the faction fighting towards the end of the Marwānid period (*ibid.*, pp. 1917f, 1921).

- (24) *Hudayn b. al-Mundhir al-Shaybānī*. Hudayn b. al-Mundhir was a minor *sharif* in Basra who is said to have fought for ‘Ali in the first civil war as a young man endowed with *hasab*, and even to have commanded the Basran Bakr b. Wā'il in the battle of Siffin (Ṭabarī, ser. i, p. 3312; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 221; Dīnawarī, *Akhbār*, p. 182). His brother would appear to have settled in Kufa (cf. Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 223). Though a number of stories play up his standing in Basra, Hudayn was clearly a less impressive figure than Shaqīq b. Thawr or Mālik b. Misma’, the major Bakrī chiefs (Ṭabarī, ser. i, p. 3414, ser. ii, pp. 434f; cf. below, nos. 28 and 32), and it was perhaps for this reason that he chose to go to Khurāsān where he is found under Yazid b. al-Muhallab and Qutayba and where he was the head of the Bakrī b. Wā'il in 96 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1141f, 1289f, 1291). His son accordingly had a very different career from that of the *asbrāf* who stayed in Iraq. While the descendants of Shaqīq and Mālik were reduced to mere subjects of Hajjāj and his Syrian troops, Yaḥyā b. Hudayn became a general who commanded the Bakrī division in the Khurāsānī army, participated in the wars of conquest, fought against Ḥārith b. Surayj, came up for nomination to the governorship of Khurāsān, and joined the faction fighting of the late Umayyad period (*ibid.*, pp. 1445, 1571f, 1577, 1581, 1609, 1660, 1662, 1692, 1865, 1921). On the outbreak of the revolution he joined Ibn Hubayra and the Syrian troops in Iraq, where he was among those who claimed to have killed Qahtaba and where he is met for the last time, besieged by the ‘Abbāsid troops in Wāsiṭ (*ibid.*, ser. iii, pp. 15, 62f). Mujāhid b. Yaḥyā

- b. Ḥudayn, a close companion of Naṣr b. Sayyār, was caught and killed by Abū Muslim (*ibid.*, ser. ii, p. 1995). ‘Ubaydallāh b. Yahyā b. Ḥudayn joined the revolt of Ibrāhīm b. ‘Abdallāh, the ‘Alid in Basra in 145 (*ibid.*, ser. iii, pp. 290, 299).
- (25) *‘Imrān b. al-Faḍil al-Burjumī*. What little is known of this family illustrates the same contrast between Iraq and Khurāsān as seen above, no. 24. ‘Imrān b. al-Faḍil (or Faṣil) al-Burjumī participated in the conquest of eastern Iran in 29, settled in Basra, and set out for Khurāsān with Salm b. Ziyād in 61 (Ṭabarī, ser. i, pp. 283 of, ser. ii, pp. 392f). One of his sons, Hudhayl b. ‘Imrān, stayed in Basra where he was the drinking companion of Bishr, and where he came up against Ḥajjāj; he mutinied against him at Rustaqābādh and was executed in 75 (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 178, vol. xi, pp. 279ff, 286, 291f). Another son, however, must have gone to Khurāsān, for Bishr b. Bisṭām b. ‘Imrān appears as a soldier there under Naṣr b. Sayyār in 128; a Marwānid loyalist, he joined the Syrian troops of Ibn Dubāra at Isfahan to fight against Qaḥṭaba in 131 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1918, 1991, ser. iii, p. 5). The Rabī‘ b. ‘Imrān al-Tamīmī, who converted Transoxania with Abū'l-Šaydā' in 110 (*ibid.*, ser. ii, pp. 1507f), was probably yet another son of this *sharif*.
- (26) *Jarīr b. ‘Abdallāh al-Bajalī*. Jarīr is presented as the head of the B. Hazīma of Qasr and the rival of Asad b. Kurz in the *Jābilīyya*, and he is celebrated as an early convert, a participant in the wars of conquest and the unifier of his scattered tribe in the time of Islam (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, s.v. ‘Garīr b. ‘Abdallāh'; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. ‘Badjila'). He settled in Kufa, where he would seem to have been the leader of one of the sevenths at the time of the Ḥujr affair, and where his son Bashīr b. Jarīr led Bajila in the sharifian revolt against Mukhtār (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 215; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 652, 656). Even in its reconstituted form, however, Bajila was not a very important tribe and the family scarcely found it hard to exchange their sharifian role for one of loyal assistants to the Syrian governors in Iraq. Bishr b. Jarīr fought the Azāriqa among the *abl al-Madīna* in 74 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 857); Ziyād b. Jarīr was head of Ḥajjāj's *shurṭa* and deputy governor of Kufa for several years, and he retained this office under Ḥajjāj's successor (*ibid.*, pp. 1182, 1191, 1208, 1266; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, pp. 410, 414, 427); Khālid b. Jarīr fought against Ibn al-Ash’ath with Kufan recruits originally destined for Khurāsān (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1099); and Muḥammad b. Jarīr was sent against Khārijites

in 1006 (*ibid.*, pp. 1348, 1375). There is little change in this pattern in the next generation except for an involvement with the Syrian *Yamaniyya*. Muhammad b. Ziyād b. Jarīr was governor of Bahrayn for Khālid al-Qasrī (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 538); Ibrāhīm b. 'Abdallāh b. Jarīr commanded the *ahl al-Madīna* in the old army against Zayd in 126 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1702); Jarīr b. Yazīd b. Jarīr was deputy governor of Basra for Mansūr b. Jumhūr and he also appears briefly in the service of Mansūr (*ibid.*, ser. ii, p. 1837, ser. iii, p. 104; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 559). 'Abbās b. Jarīr b. Yazīd b. Jarīr b. 'Abdallāh al-Bajalī was briefly governor of Armenia for Hārūn (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 516). And yet another Jarīr b. Yazīd was governor of Basra for Hārūn and of the Yemen for Amīn (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 740; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 528), but it is not clear whether he is a descendant of Jarīr or of Khālid al-Qasrī (compare above, no. 11).

- (27) *Jārūd b. 'Amr al-'Abdī*. Jārūd appears as one of the leaders of 'Abd al-Qays at the time of the death of the Prophet; he is credited with a visit to the latter, a refusal to join the *ridda*, and participation in the wars of conquest in the course of which he fell in Fars in about 20 (Ibn al-Kalbi, *Gāmbara*, s.v. 'Bishr b. 'Amr al-Ğārūd'; Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 1958ff, 2699). His family settled in Basra. Here Mundhir b. al-Jārūd became one of the more distinguished *asbrāf* of the Sufyānid period; he had already been governor of Iṣṭakhr for 'Alī (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 240), and he now became head of a *khums* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 240), governor of Qandābil or Hind (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 287; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 434), and father-in-law of the Umayyads: one of his daughters married 'Ubaydallāh b. Ziyād, another 'Abd al-'Azīz b. 'Abdallāh b. Khālid b. Asid (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 78, 164). It is thus not surprising that Ḥakam b. al-Mundhir b. al-Jārūd joined the pro-Umayyad *Jufriyya* in Basra in the second civil war (*ibid.*, p. 162).

Under the Marwānids, however, the family displayed many signs of disaffection. 'Abdallāh b. al-Jārūd instigated the mutiny against Ḥajjāj at Rustaqābād (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 28off); Bishr b. al-Mundhir and 'Abd al-Rahmān b. al-Mundhir both joined the revolt of Ibn al-Ash'ath (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1106, 1109, 1125; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 343, where the names are slightly different). And Jayfar (or Jafir) b. al-Ḥakam (or Ḥakīm) al-'Abdi and his son Mundhir, the Shi'ite traditionists, were perhaps also members of this family (Najāshī, *Kitāb al-rijāl*, pp. 95, 297; Sprenger, *Tūsy's List of Shy'ab Books*, pp. 79, 338f.

I owe both references to Professor W. Madelung). Ziyād b. al-Mundhir, who participated in Zayd's revolt and founded the *Zaydī Jāridiyya*, was clearly taken to be a member of this family by some, for he sometimes appears with the *nisba* al-'Abdi (thus Ibn al-Nadīm, *Fibrīst*, p. 178 = 443; Mas'ūdī, *Murūj*, vol. v, p. 474); but the consensus is that he was a Hamdānī (Van Arendonk, *Débuts*, p. 282; drawn to my attention by Professor Madelung); Mālik b. al-Mundhir, however, kept a clean record. He fought against Mukhtār as the leader of the 'Abd al-Qays under Muṣ'ab, similarly commanded the 'Abd al-Qays against Yazīd b. al-Muhallab, and later became the head of Khālid al-Qasrī's *shurṭa* (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 253, 259; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1831, 1837, 1487). Ash'ath b. 'Abdallāh b. al-Jārūd was governor of Bahrayn for Yazīd b. al-Muhallab, but apparently stayed out of the revolt (Khalīfa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 430). Under the 'Abbāsids another two members of the family appear in similarly modest roles. 'Abdallāh b. Sulaymān b. al-Mundhir was governor of Bahrayn for Abū l-'Abbās (Khalīfa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 632), and Mundhir b. Muḥammad al-Jārūdī commanded a thousand Basran volunteers in 'Abd al-Malik b. Shihāb al-Misma'i's expedition to Hind in 159 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 461; cf. below, no. 28). There was also one who took to scholarship: 'Abdallāh b. Sulaymān b. Yūsuf b. Ya'qūb b. al-Mundhir was known as a traditionist (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdhib*, vol. vii, p. 443).

- (28) *Misma'* b. *Shibāb al-Shaybānī*. Jahḍar b. Dubay'a, the legendary ancestor of the *Masāmī*'a, is one of the heroes in the story of the war of Basūs (*Aghānī*, vol. v, pp. 37, 41, 43, 46). *Misma'* himself appears in the *ridda* in which apparently he fell (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 84; Ṭabarī, ser. i, p. 1971). Three of his sons are found in Basra. Mālik b. *Misma'* is said to have commanded the Bakr b. Wā'il in the battle of the Camel for 'Ā'isha (Ṭabarī, ser. i, p. 3179), to have protected Marwān after the battle (*ibid.*, pp. 3220f), and to have joined Mu'āwiya in Syria (*ibid.*, ser. ii, pp. 765f), all of which is proffered in explanation of the later Marwānid sympathies of the family. Whatever his activities in the first civil war, he emerged as one of the most prominent men in Basra in the second, when he negotiated the *hilf* with the recently arrived Azd, took a leading role in the tribal debacle of 64, and definitively usurped the *riyāsa* from the family of Shaqīq b. Thawr (*ibid.*, pp. 448ff; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 105ff; cf. below no. 32). Under Muṣ'ab he commanded the *kbums* of Bakr against Mukhtār, sided

with the pro-Marwānid *Jufriyya* in 71, and fled to Yamāma after its failure; he returned to Basra after Muṣ'ab's death and died shortly afterwards, amply rewarded by 'Abd al-Malik (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 720, 726, 799ff; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 156ff, 160ff, 165). His two brothers are much less heard of. Muqātil b. Misma' is said to have encouraged Mālik to protect Marwān after the battle of Camel, but he is nonetheless listed among 'Ali's commanders at Ṣifīn (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 322of; Hinds, 'Banners and Battle Cries', p. 24). Under Muṣ'ab he commanded the infantry against Mukhtār at Ḥarūra', and after 'Abd al-Malik's victory he was appointed to Ardashīr Khurrah by Khālid b. 'Abdallāh. He fell in battle against the Khārijites in 72 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 725, 822f, 825; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 168; cf. Gaube, *Numismatik*, p. 70). 'Āmir or 'Amr b. Misma' was appointed to Sābūr by Khālid (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 822, cf. p. 460). According to Khalifa he was also head of the *shurṭa* in Basra for Hajjāj, which is doubtless a confusion with 'Abdallāh b. 'Amir (*Ta'rikh*, p. 410; cf. below).

The next generation is represented by three cousins. Misma' b. Mālik b. Misma' was governor of Fasā and Darabjird for Khālid in 72 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 822); he was loyal to Hajjāj at Rustaqābādh (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 286, 288) and died as governor of Sīstān in 86 (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 387; Ya'qubī, *Buldān*, p. 283 = 93; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 118). 'Abdallāh b. 'Āmir b. Misma' was head of Hajjāj's *shurṭa* in Basra, but nonetheless joined the revolt of Ibn al-Ash'ath much to Hajjāj's disappointment (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1062, 1065; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 343, 346). Ziyād b. Muqātil b. Misma' was killed either at Rustaqābādh or in the revolt of Ibn al-Ash'ath, probably the latter, but either way on the side of the rebels (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 302, 345, 351; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1066f). Thereafter the family remained loyal. Nūḥ b. Shaybān b. Mālik b. Misma' commanded the *rub'* of Bakr b. Wā'il against the Muhallabids in Basra; Mālik b. Misma' and 'Abd al-Malik b. Misma' were both executed by the Muhallabids; 'Imrān b. 'Āmir b. Misma' is said to have joined the rebels, but the passage is garbled (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1381f (where the Yazid in question would seem originally to have been the caliph), 1396; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 471). But they also lost greatly in importance. Under 'Umar II 'Abd al-Malik b. Misma' was admittedly governor of Sind for a short while, and Sarī b. 'Abdallāh b. 'Aṣim b. Misma' governor of

- Sīstān (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 463; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 284 = 94). But their activities scarcely mattered in the power politics of the Syrians and the Khurāsānis: Misma' b. Muhammad b. Shaybān b. Mālik b. Misma' is noted in passing to have been an adherent of Marwān in the third civil war; that is all (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 224). And when 'Abd al-Malik b. Shihāb al-Misma'i emerged on the public scene in 159 it was precisely as a commander of the losers: he was sent to India with a motley army of Asāwira, Sayābjā, local Syrians and Basran volunteers; they conquered Bārbad with much recitation of the Koran and returned in 160, decimated by gales and disease (*ibid.*, pp. 460f, 476f). 'Abd al-Malik went to India again in 161 as the deputy of the new governor, but the governorship was cancelled and he had to go home (*ibid.*, p. 491). 'Amīr b. 'Abd al-Malik was an authority on Jahādar's exploits in the wars of Basūs (*Aghānī*, vol. v, pp. 37, 42ff; cf. Sezgin, *Geschichte*, vol. i, p. 265, where he is wrongly placed in the Umayyad period).
- (29) *Rib'i b. 'Amīr al-Riyābi*. According to Sayf, Rib'i was made head of his Ḥanzalī following by 'Umar on the eve of the conquests (Tabarī, ser. i, p. 2188); he participated in the conquest of Syria, crossed over to Iraq after the fall of Damascus (*ibid.*, p. 2154; differently p. 2188f), distinguished himself in the conquest of Iraq and Persia and settled in Kufa together with his son Shabath (*ibid.*, pp. 2269f, 2294, 2479, 2554, 2569, 2619, 2683). Shabath was a man of much religious enthusiasm; he began as a follower of Sajāh, the prophetess, continued as an adherent of 'Alī, went on to become a Khārijite, and is soon after found as a fervent ex-Khārijite (*ibid.*, pp. 1919, 3270ff, 3349, 3380, 3388; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 100). None of this, however, prevented him from inheriting the chieftainship from his father (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 2188f), and in Kufa he dutifully bore witness against Hujr (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 221), commanded the infantry at Karbalā' despite an earlier involvement with Husayn (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 325f), combated the Khārijites (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 140), and joined the opponents of Mukhtār (*ibid.*, vol. v, pp. 218, 224, 226f, 232, 234f). After the death of Mukhtār he was head of the *shurṭa* in Kufa (*ibid.*, pp. 274f). 'Abd al-Mu'min b. Shabath would appear to have fought on the side of Mukhtār (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 654), and later he was certainly one of the rebels with Ibn al-Ash'ath (*ibid.*, p. 1054). Hātim b. al-Sharqī b. 'Abd al-Mu'min b. Shabath was apparently a local notable; 'Abdallāh b. Mu'āwiya married one of his daughters (*ibid.*, p. 1880). Azhar b. 'Abd al-'Azīz b. Shabath lived

as a poet in Sīstān in the early 'Abbāsid period (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.).

- (30) *Ruwaym b. 'Abdallāh al-Shaybānī*. Ruwaym seems to be remembered primarily for the circumstance that a daughter of his was the mother of Jārūd b. 'Amr (Khalifa, *Tabaqāt*, p. 61; cf. above, no. 27). Yazīd b. Ruwaym is said to have seen the rise of Islam (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.). His descendants settled in Kufa. Ruwaym b. al-Hārith (b. Ruwaym) appears as the commander of the Kufans at Sīffīn (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 221). 'Adī b. al-Hārith b. Ruwaym was governor of Bahurasīr for 'Alī (Dīnawarī, *Akkābār*, p. 163). Yazīd b. al-Hārith b. Ruwaym was among the *ashrāf* who bore witness against Hujr (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 221), invited Husayn to Kufa (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 235), and fought against Mukhtār (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 207, 218, 224, 226, 232); he was governor of Madā'in and Rayy for Muṣ'ab (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 775f, 817; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 118); according to some he was also appointed to Rayy by 'Abd al-Malik, but according to others 'Abd al-Malik appointed Hawshab, his son (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 354). Hawshab, who had also fought against Mukhtār, was head of Ḥajjāj's *shurṭa* in Kufa and his deputy governor there for some years (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 735, 918, 1127, cf. pp. 966, 1121). Khirāsh b. Hawshab was similarly head of Yūsuf b. 'Umar's *shurṭa* in Kufa in 122 (*ibid.*, p. 1715, cf. p. 1774), and finally Thumāma b. Hawshab was head of Mansūr b. Jumhūr's *shurṭa*, apparently in Wāsiṭ (*ibid.*, p. 1850). A *qā'id* of the Ruwaym family also appears in the entourage of Khālid al-Qasrī (*ibid.*, p. 1625). 'Awāmm b. Hawshab and Shihāb b. Khirāsh b. Hawshab were traditionists in Wāsiṭ (Ibn Ḥibbān, *'Ulamā'*, p. 176; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdhib*, vol. vi, p. 342).
- (31) *Sa'īd b. Qays al-Hamdānī*. Sa'īd was supposedly a descendant of one of the kings of Ḥimyar (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.), and he was certainly one of the major *ashrāf* in Kufa (cf. Tabarī, ser. i, p. 3371). He participated in the wars of conquest (*ibid.*, p. 2619), became governor of Hamadhān and Rayy under 'Uthmān (*ibid.*, pp. 2927f, 3058), commanded the Kufan seventh of Ḥimyar and Hamdān for 'Alī in the battle of the Camel and at Sīffīn, and led another campaign for 'Alī in 39 (Dīnawarī, *Akkābār*, p. 155; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 221; Tabarī, ser. i, p. 3446). Under the Sufyānid s he appears as one of the *ru'ūs al-Yamaniyya* (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 218). 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Sa'īd was appointed to Mosul by Mukhtār at the time of the uneasy alliance between the

rebel and the nobles, but he later rebelled against Mukhtār together with the other *asbrāf* and fell in the attempt to recover control of Kufa (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 620, 631, 635, 643f, 650f, 656, 659). The majority of Mukhtār's adherents, however, were drawn from 'Abd al-Rahmān's own tribe of Hamdān (cf. *ibid.*, pp. 614, 665f). There was thus scarcely any *riyāsa* for Muḥammad b. 'Abd al-Rahmān to inherit, and he and his friend Ibn al-Ash'ath are said to have been merciless in their treatment of the prisoners they took when eventually Kufa was reconquered (*ibid.*, p. 740). Muḥammad's subsequent career followed the usual pattern. He fought halfheartedly for Mus'ab at Maskin (*ibid.*, pp. 807, cf. p. 804), commanded the *rub'* of Tamīm and Hamdān in the wars against the Azāriqa and deserted on the news of the death of Bishr (*ibid.*, pp. 857, 859). In 77 he commanded the right wing in 'Attāb b. Warqā's army against Shabīb; he showed much valour, but was defeated, and as he and Ibn al-Ash'ath walked home on foot with their faces covered in dirt, even a Khārijite could feel sorry for them (*ibid.*, pp. 949, 952, 955). Jarīr b. Hāshim b. Sa'īd b. Qays joined Ibn al-Ash'ath's rebellion (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 340).

- (32) *Shaqīq b. Thawr al-Sadūsī*. This family does not appear to have remembered or acquired a pre-Islamic history; Shaqīq b. Thawr is first met with as the leader of Sadūs in the wars of conquest (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.), and Majza'a b. Thawr appears at Tustar where he fell (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 2548, 2552, 2556; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 308f). The family settled in Basra. Shaqīq commanded the Basran Bakr b. Wā'il for 'Alī in the battle of the Camel, and he also fought for him at Ṣiffīn (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 3174f, 3203, 3311, 3316); under Ziyād he participated in a fray with Khārijites (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, pp. 151f; Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 264). Shaqīq's position was threatened by the presence of Mālik b. Misma' (above, no. 28), and it was scarcely helped by rampant intrigues in the family (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 92); Ashyam b. Shaqīq did inherit the *riyāsa* on the death of his father, but he had to go to Yazīd I to get it back from Mālik, and part of the Bakr b. Wā'il refused to accept him (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 448); his role in the tribal feuds in Basra in 64 was accordingly a minor one (*ibid.*, pp. 455, 464). In 75 he was among the mutineers at Rustaqābādh together, apparently, with his brother Abū Ruhm, who is also said to have joined the revolt of Ibn al-Ash'ath (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 292, 302). La'y b. Shaqīq, who

was in Kerman at the time of Ibn al-Ash'ath, stayed loyal to Hajjāj (*ibid.*, p. 333; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 362). Shaybān b. Zuhayr b. Shaqīq b. Thawr was an expert on genealogy (Ibn 'Abd al-Barr, *Inbāb*, p. 56).

- (33) *Ziyād b. 'Amr al-'Atakī/Azd*. 'Amr b. al-Ashraf al-'Atakī is supposed to have fallen in the battle of the Camel in defence of 'A'isha (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 3201, 3204), but the 'Atik were Azd 'Umān who only migrated to Basra in the Sufyānid period, and there is no mention of the family until the second civil war (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'Azd'; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v. "Amr b. al-Asraf"). In 64, however, *Ziyād b. 'Amr* was the leader of Azd in the tribal feuds which broke out on the death of Yazid I (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 461f; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 98f, 112, 121), in 67 he commanded the *khums* of Azd in Muṣ'ab's army against Mukhtār (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 720, 726; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 259), and in 69 he was a member of the *Jufriyya* who prepared for an Umayyad take-over of the city (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 156, cf. p. 163). After the second civil war he became head of Hajjāj's *shurta* in Basra and his deputy governor there (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 284, 304, 305; differently p. 285), and his sons settled down for a career as assistants to the governor. Hafṣ b. *Ziyād* fought the Zanj with the Basran *muqātila* as his father's deputy (*ibid.*, p. 305); Hawārī b. *Ziyād* fled from Basra on the outbreak of the revolt of Yazid b. al-Muhallab, and Mughīra b. *Ziyād* commanded the *khums* of Azd in the suppression of the revolt (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1387f, 1381; cf. also Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 121, 156 on the rivalry between the families of Muhallab and *Ziyād*). Mukbir b. al-Hawārī was killed in the revolt of 'Abdallāh b. Mu'āwiya (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1885; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 567). Musabbih b. al-Hawārī was governor of Nishāpūr towards the end of the Umayyad period (Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, p. 105, where his name is *Masīh*); after the revolution he was sent by Abū'l-'Abbās to combat a Khārijite as governor of Bahrayn (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 632; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 163). Tasnim b. al-Hawārī would appear to have been governor of Oman for Manṣūr in 158 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 385), and his son, Hasan b. Tasnim, was certainly governor for Hādī there in 169 (*ibid.*, p. 568). Both Tasnim and Sa'id b. Tasnim appear as transmitters on the revolt of Muḥammad al-Nafs al-Zakiyya (*ibid.*, pp. 206, 293).
- (34) *Zurāra b. 'Udus al-Dārimī*. The B. Zurāra were chiefs of the B.

*Appendix I: Asbrāf*

Dārim of Tamīm, and occasionally of all the B. Hanzala, heroes of a large number of pre-Islamic *ayyām*, men of renowned generosity, and perhaps the most celebrated noble family among the northern Arabs (Ibn Habib, *Muhabbar*, pp. 154, 458; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'Hādjib b. Zurāra'; Ibn al-Kalbi, *Gāmbara*, table 60). They busied themselves with their *ayyām* into the caliphate of 'Alī (Ibn al-Kalbi, *Gāmbara*, s.v. 'Nu'aym b. al-Qa'qā'), and not much is heard about them before the first civil war: Ḥisn/Husayn b. Ma'bād b. Zurāra is said to have participated in the wars of conquest (Dīnawarī, *Akbbār*, p. 119; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 354); a descendant of 'Alqama b. Zurāra is listed among the first settlers in Kufa (Khalifa, *Tabaqāt*, p. 141); and 'Umayr or Muḥammad (b. 'Umayr) b. 'Utārid figures as a commander of the Tamīm for 'Alī at Siffin (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 221; Dīnawarī, *Akbbār*, p. 183). After the civil war, however, most of the family had come together in Kufa where they continued to flaunt their tribal pride. Labīd b. 'Utārid having endured the humiliation of having his face slapped in a crowded *majlis*, Nu'aym b. al-Qa'qā' promptly assembled his Tamīmis to slap the offender threefold; but Ziyād the governor, was not impressed, and the heroes were either lashed or had their hands cut off (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 84f). Nu'aym accordingly became a Zubayrist in the second civil war and was executed as such by Bishr (*ibid.*, vol. v, p. 180). Muḥammad b. 'Umayr has been endowed with the traditional sharifian biography: he bore witness against Ḥujr together with Labīd (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 133), invited Husayn to Kufa together with other *asbrāf* (*ibid.*, p. 345), and fought against Mukhtār, unless he was in Azerbaijan where Mukhtār had appointed him governor (*ibid.*, pp. 635, 655, 685); next he betrayed Muṣ'ab at Maskin as a member of the *Marwāniyya*, and was appointed to Hamadhān after the victory of 'Abd al-Malik (*ibid.*, pp. 804, 817). A daughter of his was married to a son of Ziyād b. Abihi, who had himself married a daughter of Qa'qā' b. Ma'bād (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 74, 83). Unlike other *asbrāf*, however, Muḥammad is not said to have held the leadership of the *rub'* a governorship or a major command under the Sufyānids, with the single exception of a campaign against Rayy whose population had rebelled on the death of Yazīd (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 328). The family would appear to have been just a little too much for the Sufyānids.

In return, however, Hajjāj was much too much for the B. Zurāra. Muḥammad b. 'Umayr disliked Hajjāj's introductory

speech and automatically reached for a pebble, but he never managed to throw it (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 865; *Balādhurī*, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 267, 269); at Rustaqābādh he insolently refused to come to Hajjāj's assistance, though unlike other *asbrāf* he appears to have escaped execution (*Balādhurī*, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 286, 292f). 'Uṭārid b. 'Umayr was given a major command in the Peacock Army and presumably rebelled with Ibn al-Ash'ath: Halqām b. Nu'aym b. al-Qa'qā' certainly did; he was executed, confessing that he had fancied becoming caliph (*ibid.*, p. 319; *Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1044, 1109, 1111). Thereafter there is silence around the family in Kufa. But a branch of them reappear under the early 'Abbāsids and that as generals, doubtless made in Khurāsān: 'Umar b. al-'Abbās b. 'Umayr b. 'Uṭārid was appointed to Sīstān by Abū Muslim, who esteemed him highly, and his brother Ibrāhīm was appointed to Sind. The outcome was an unhappy one. 'Umar made the departure of his brother for Sind an occasion of public festivity, the populace of the city of Sīstān being assembled to see him off. An incident involving a Tamīmī, however, sparked off a mutiny by the Tamīm and next a revolt by the entire city, and both 'Umar and his brother lost their lives (*Tārīkh-i Sīstān*, pp. 136f; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 285 = 96; Khalifa, *Tā'rīkh*, pp. 617, 632). A certain Qa'qā' of Al Zurāra was head of 'Isā b. Mūsa's *shurṭa* in 147 (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 347).

## APPENDIX II

### THE SUBGOVERNORS OF SYRIA, 685-744 [65-126]

Since the governors of Syria receive scant attention in the sources, this list is necessarily fragmentary. The pattern, however, should be clear.

#### 'ABD AL-MALIK (65-86)

- (1) *Abān b. Marwān*. A brother of 'Abd al-Malik who was governor of Palestine; Hajjāj began his career as the head of this man's *shurṭa* (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v., p. 166).
- (2) *Abān b. al-Walīd b. 'Uqba*. An Umayyad who was governor of Hims, Qinnasrīn (which then included the Jazīra) and Armenia for both Marwān and 'Abd al-Malik (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 307; *id.*, *Futūḥ*, p. 188; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Čambara*, s.v.). 'Uthmān b. al-Walīd, his brother, was also governor of Armenia, whether as the deputy of his brother or in his own right (Balādhurī, *Futūḥ*, p. 205; cf. Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 853). One of Abān's subgovernors was Dīnār b. Dīnār, a *maulā* of 'Abd al-Malik, who defeated a Byzantine army in 75 and who was later secretary to his patron (Balādhurī, *Futūḥ*, p. 188; Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, p. 54; Guidi, *Chronica Minora*, p. 232 = 175f). It is characteristic that it is on the frontier that the first *maulā* general appears in Syria.
- (3) *'Abdallab b. 'Abd al-Malik*. The son of the caliph who was governor of Hims for his father according to Khalifa (*Ta'rīk*, p. 394). According to Balādhurī, he was in charge of a summer campaign in 84, but only appointed to Hims by Walīd I (*Futūḥ*, p. 165; *id.*, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 156; cf. Guidi, *Chronica Minora*, p. 232 = 176). He was later governor of Egypt (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 156; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1165, 1200).
- (4) *'Abd al-Rahmān b. Umm al-Hakam al-Thaqafī*. The nephew of Mu'āwiya who had been governor of Kufa for his uncle (cf. below, note 230), and who was appointed to Damascus by 'Abd al-Malik (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 181, 784; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 269,

- 337). According to Balādhurī, he had also been governor of the Jazīra, Mosul and Egypt (*Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 5; cf. Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 260; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 157; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 42, 44).
- (5) *Abū 'Uthmān b. Marwān*. A brother of the caliph who was governor of Jordan (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 394).
- (6) *Khālid b. Yazīd b. Mu'āwiya*. The son of Yazīd I who was governor of Hims (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 69).
- (7) *Maslama b. 'Abd al-Malik*. Maslama, who became one of the most celebrated generals of the Umayyad house, was governor of Qinnasrīn for his father according to Michael the Syrian (*Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 449 = vol. ii, p. 474). Muslim sources only seem to remember his later governorship of the Jazīra, Armenia and Azerbaijan.
- (8) *Muhammad b. 'Umar al-Thaqafī*. The brother of Yūsuf b. 'Umar and a relative of Hajjāj, who was himself an affinal kinsman of the caliph (cf. below, note 289). Muhammad administered the Balqā' (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 394).
- (9) *Qurra b. Sharīk al-'Absī*. A *sharīf* from Qinnasrīn who was governor of his home province (Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 449 = vol. ii, p. 474). He later became secretary to Walīd and governor of Egypt (cf. Abbott, *The Kurrah Papyri from Aphrodisio in the Oriental Institute*, pp. 57ff.; for his sharifian status see Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧamhara*, s.v. 'Qurra b. Šarīk').
- (10) *Sulaymān b. 'Abd al-Malik*. The future caliph who was governor of Palestine (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 394). 'Abd al-Malik had similarly been governor of Palestine as heir apparent (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 149).
- (11) *'Ubayda b. 'Abd al-Rahmān al-Sulamī*. A Jordanian *Sharīf* of Qays who was governor of Jordan (*Aghānī*, vol. ix, p. 313). He was the nephew of Abū'l-A'war al-Sulamī, the famous conquerer of Syria, general at Ṣiffīn and governor of Jordan under Mu'āwiya (Yāqūt, *Wörterbuch*, vol. i, p. 326; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'Abū'l-A'war al-Sulamī), and he was later appointed to North Africa by Hishām where, *sharīf* or no *sharīf*, he was drawn into the faction (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 142).
- (12) *Walīd b. 'Umar* and *Hārith b. Ka'b*. Two unidentifiable governors of Qinnasrīn mentioned by Michael the Syrian (*Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 449 = vol. ii, p. 474).
- (13) *Yahyā b. al-Hakam b. Abī'l-Ās*. Uncle of 'Abd al-Malik and governor of Palestine (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 163; cf. Sharon, 'An Arabic Inscription from the Time of 'Abd al-Malik', p. 371).

## WALĪD I (86–96)

- (14) ‘Abbās b. al-Walīd. A son of the caliph who was appointed to Hims (Khalifa, *Ta’rīk*, p. 417). Like Maslama he became a celebrated soldier (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v.).
- (15) ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Abd al-Malik. An earlier governor of Hims according to Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 156 (cf. above, no. 3).
- (16) ‘Abd al-‘Azīz b. Walīd. Another son of the caliph who was appointed to Damascus (Khalifa, *Ta’rīk*, p. 417).
- (17) *Farwa*, *Nadr*, *Muhammad* and *Layth*. Four unidentifiable governors (or subgovernors?) of the Qinnasrīn area mentioned by Michael the Syrian (*Chronique*, vol. iv, pp. 456f = vol. ii, p. 489).
- (18) *Marīthad* b. *Sharīk al-‘Absī*. The brother of Qurra who was governor of Qinnasrīn after Qurra’s appointment to Egypt (Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 451 = vol. ii, p. 478).
- (19) *Sulaymān* b. ‘Abd al-Malik. The future caliph who continued in office as governor of Palestine (Khalifa, *Ta’rīk*, p. 417; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 143).
- (20) ‘Umar b. al-Walīd. A son of the caliph who governed Jordan (Khalifa, *Ta’rīk*, p. 417).

## SULAYMĀN (96–99)

- (21) *Muhammad* b. *Suwayd* b. *Kulthūm al-Fibrī*. A relative of Dahhāk b. Qays who was governor of Damascus (Ṣafadī, *Umarā'*, p. 78; cf. Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gambara*, table 34). Kulthūm b. Qays was Dahhāk’s brother; but Suwayd (or Sa’id) b. Kulthūm is nonetheless supposed to have been governor of Damascus in the days of Abū ‘Ubayda! (Ṣafadī, *Umarā'*, p. 40; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gambara*, s.v. ‘Sa’id b. Kulthūm’). There were perhaps, as Ṣafadī implies, two men of this name. However this may be, Muhammad b. Suwayd was known as a traditionist (Ibn Ḥajar, *Tabdhib*, vol. ix, p. 210).

## ‘UMAR II (99–101)

- (22) *Dahhāk* b. ‘Abd al-Rahmān b. ‘Arzab (or ‘Arzam) al-Ash‘arī. A Jordanian traditionist who was governor of Damascus on two occasions, at least one of them for ‘Umar II (Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdhib*, vol. iv, p. 446; Ṣafadī, *Umarā'*, p. 44).

- (23) *Hārith b. 'Amr al-Tā'i*. One of the few generals to receive office in Syria: he administered the Balqa' (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 465; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tahdhīb*, vol. iii, p. 453). His antecedents are not known, but he was later governor of Armenia for Yazid II (Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 206; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1526, 1532; Ghevond, *Histoire*, p. 99; Mowsēs Dasxuranci, *History*, p. 209), and he may conceivably have been in North Africa (cf. Van Ess, 'Untersuchungen zu einigen ibādītischen Handschriften', p. 29).
- (24) *Hilāl b. 'Abd al-A'lā*. Governor of Qinnasrin and possibly the brother of 'Uthmān (Ibn al-'Adīm, *Zubda*, vol. i, p. 46; cf. below no. 43).
- (25) *Muhammad b. Suwayd al-Fibri*. The relative of Dahhāk b. Qays who had been governor of Damascus under Sulaymān and who apparently continued in office under 'Umar (Ibn Hajar, *Tahdhīb*, vol. ix, p. 210; cf. Ibn 'Asākir, *Ta'rīkh*, vol. ii, p. 41; cf. above, no. 21).
- (26) *Nadr b. Yarīm b. Ma'dikarib b. Abraha b. al-Şabbāb*. A Himyarī *shārif* who was governor of Palestine (cf. Appendix I, no. 2).
- (27) *'Ubāda b. Nusayy al-Kindī*. A traditionist of unknown tribal status who governed Jordan (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 465; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧamhara*, s.v.).
- (28) *'Umayr b. Hāni' al-Ansī*. A general who was appointed to the Thaniyya and Hawrān and whose sons were among the *Yamanīyya* (cf. Appendix III, no. 43).
- (29) *'Uthmān b. Sa'id al-'Udbī*. A general who appears as commander of a *rub'* in the Syrian army which was sent against Shabib in Iraq in 77 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 970) and who was governor of Damascus according to Ṣafadī (*Umarā'*, p. 55). According to Khalifa, however, the name of the governor was 'Ubayd b. al-Hashās al-'Udhri (*Ta'rīkh*, p. 465). 'Ubayd is presumably identical with the 'Abd al-Rahmān b. al-Hashās al-'Udhri who was *qādī* of Damascus for 'Umar II (Waki', *Akbbār al-qudāh*, vol. iii, pp. 203f, cf. p. 201); he is also said to have been *qādī* for Yazid II (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 81).
- (30) *Walīd b. Hishām b. Walīd b. 'Uqba*. An Umayyad who governed Qinnasrin (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 465; Ibn al-'Adīm, *Zubda*, vol. i, p. 46f).
- (31) *Yazid b. Husayn b. Numayr al-Sakūnī*. A Himṣī *shārif* who was governor of Himṣ (cf. Appendix I, no. 5).

YAZID II (101–105)

- (32) *'Abdallāh b. 'Abd al-Rahmān b. 'Utbā al-Fibrī*. A Qurashī who was governor of Damascus (*Şafadī, Umarā'*, p. 48). His father was governor of Egypt for Ibn al-Zubayr and fell in battle against Marwān I's troops (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 41ff). He himself had been in charge of the *sadaqāt* in Syria under 'Umar II (*Şafadī, Umarā'*, p. 48).
- (33) *Masrūr (or Bishr) b. al-Walīd*. A brother of the caliph who was governor of Qinnasrīn (Ibn al-'Adīm, *Zubda*, vol. i, p. 49).
- (34) *Walīd b. Talīd al-Murri*. Walīd was head of the *shurta* of Muḥammad b. Marwān while the latter was governor of Mosul, the Jazīra, Armenia and Azerbaijan (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 332), governor of Damascus for Yazid II (*Şafadī, Umarā'*, p. 95), and governor of Mosul for Hishām from 114 to 120 (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 33, 35f, 38, 40; cf. Walker, *Umayyad Coins*, pp. 283f). A nephew of his was apparently governor of Mosul in 126 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1821). According to Azdī, Walīd was not of Murra, but of 'Abs.

## HISHĀM (105–25)

- (35) *Ishāq b. Qabīsa b. Dhu'ayb al-Khuza'i*. Ishāq's father was a Medinese brother-in-law and secretary of 'Abd al-Malik (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 155, 160; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 787, 837; Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqāt*, vol. v, p. 176). He himself was governor of Jordan (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. ii, p. 499).
- (36) *Kulthūm b. 'Iyād al-Qushayrī*. Governor of Damascus for Hishām (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1814; Şafadī, *Umarā'*, p. 71). In 123 he was sent to suppress the revolt of the Khārijites in North Africa, but was defeated and killed (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 232; Khalīfa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 528f; cf. *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'Baldj b. Bishr'). He is sometimes described as a Qasrī, and Dīnawarī even has it that he was a cousin (or fellow-tribesman, *ibn 'amm*) of Khālid al-Qasrī (*Akbār*, p. 345; similarly Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, p. 344n). The genealogists, however, are agreed that he was of Qushayr (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Āmbarā*, table 105; Ibn Hazm, *Jambarā*, p. 290; cf. also Ibn al-Qūtiyya, *Iftitāh*, pp. 40f).
- (37) *Walīd b. al-Qā'qā b. Khulayd al-'Absī*. A *sharīf* from Qinnasrīn who was governor of Qinnasrīn (cf. Appendix I, no. 15).
- (38) *Walīd b. Talīd al-Murri*. Yazid II's governor of Damascus, who

continued in office under Hishām (Şafadī, *Umarā'*, p. 95; cf. above, no. 34).

WALĪD II (125–6)

- (39) *'Abd al-Malik* (or '*Abd al-Samad*) b. *Muhammad b. al-Hajjāj*. A grandson of Hajjāj b. Yūsuf who was governor of Damascus as the deputy of Ḥakam b. al-Walīd (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1789; Şafadī, *Umarā'*, pp. 52f.).
- (40) *Ḥakam b. al-Walīd*. Walīd's son and heir apparent who was appointed to Damascus (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 51).
- (41) *Marwān b. 'Abdallāh b. 'Abd al-Malik*. Governor of Ḥims (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1826ff.).
- (42) *Sa'īd b. 'Abd al-Malik*. Walīd's uncle who was governor of Palestine (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1831). He had previously been governor of Mosul and commanded summer campaigns (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 332; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1462, 1472).
- (43) *'Uthmān b. 'Abd al-A'lā b. Surāqa al-Azdī*. Governor of Damascus according to Şafadī (*Umarā'*, p. 55), but Şafadī is unlikely to be right (cf. above, no. 39). 'Uthmān, who was perhaps a brother of Hilāl (above, no. 24), was later a general in the service of Marwān II who appointed him to Mosul (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 162). He never forgave Marwān his ignominious flight from the Zāb (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 98) and repeatedly sought honourable death in battle himself. In 132 he rebelled against 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī (*ibid.*, p. 53; differently Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 144), and when 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī himself rebelled in 137, 'Uthmān joined in, was appointed to Damascus, killed Muqātil b. Ḥakīm for 'Abdallāh, and held forth on the virtues of fighting to the bitter end (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 94, 98; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 164; Şafadī, *Umarā'*, p. 55; Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', p. 185); and having failed to be killed with 'Abdallāh, he possibly rebelled once more on his own behalf against Mānsūr (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧamhara*, s.v. "Utmān b. Surāqa"). Thereafter he is no more heard of. According to Şafadī, he was a Damascene and also a *qādī* (*Umarā'*, p. 55).
- (44) *'Uthmān b. al-Walīd*. Another son and heir apparent of Walīd II who was appointed to Ḥims (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 51).
- (45) *Yazīd b. 'Umar b. Hubayra al-Fazārī*. A general, reputedly of sharifian descent, who was governor of Qinnasrīn (cf. Appendix I, no. 17).

## APPENDIX III

### THE SUBGOVERNORS OF IRAQ AND ITS DEPENDENCIES, 694–744

[75–126]

This list excludes most governors said to have been appointed by the caliph, all governors of Mecca and Medina (which were dependencies of Iraq under Hajjāj and Yūsuf b. ‘Umar), and all governors between 99 and 102. The last omission is due to the fact that between 99 and 102 Iraq was first shared between two men, ‘Abd al-Ḥamīd b. ‘Abd al-Rahmān al-Qurashī and ‘Adī b. Artāḥ al-Fazārī who were appointed to Kufa and Basra respectively, and next given over to Maslama who was in office for less than a year, so that the number of subgovernors appointed by each of the three is very small. Within these limits the list should be reasonably complete.

#### HAJJĀJ B. YŪSUF AL-THAQAFĪ/QAYS (75–95)

- (1) *‘Abdallāh b. Abī ‘Uṣayfir al-Thaqafī/Qays*. Governor of Madā’ in 76 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 899). He had apparently been governor there already in the Zubayrid period and possibly stayed on till he was dismissed by Hajjāj in the course of the Shabīb affair in 76 (*ibid.*, p. 929; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 192).
- (2) *‘Abdallāh b. ‘Amīr al-Shaybānī/Rabī‘a*. A local *sbarīf* who was head of the *shurṭa* in Basra (cf. Appendix I, no. 28).
- (3) *‘Abd al-Rahmān b. Muḥammad b. al-Ash‘ath al-Kindī/Yemen*. A Kufan *sbarīf* who was governor of Sīstān (cf. Appendix I, no. 21).
- (4) *‘Abd al-Rahmān b. Sulaym al-Kalbī/Yemen*. A Syrian of ‘Amīr/Kalb and thus probably from either Mizza near Damascus or Palmyra (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, table 289). He fought for ‘Abd al-Malik against ‘Amr b. Sa‘īd al-Ashdaq and for Hajjāj against Ibn al-Ash‘ath (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 785, 1075), and was appointed to Sīstān, Oman and/or Fars (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v.; Khalīfa, *Ta’rīk b.*, pp. 387, 415; Ya‘qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 283 = 93, where he has become a *Kinānī*). He was governor of Basra for Maslama (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1417; cf. Khalīfa, *Ta’rīk b.*, pp. 474, 483). In 104 he was back in Syria where he conducted a summer cam-

- paign (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 478, cf. p. 487). His son Ya'qūb was among the conspirators who planned the revolt against Walīd II (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1778, 1794, 1799).
- (5) *'Abd al-Rahmān b. 'Ubayd b. Tāriq al-'Absbāmī/Mudār*. A Kufan who was head of Hajjāj's *shurta* in both Kufa and Basra (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 410; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1034), and who is said to have been deputy governor of Kufa already under Ziyād in 50 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 101). He figures in many of Abū Mikhnaf's *isnāds*.
- (6) *'Adī b. Wattād al-Iyādī/Nizār*. One of the rare members of the ancient tribe of Iyād to appear in the sources, 'Adī was governor of Rayy in 77 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 996ff.). He was doubtless from Kufa where most of the remaining Iyād had settled (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. 'Iyād b. Nizār').
- (7) *'Amr b. Sa'īd al-'Awḍbī/Yemen(?)*. A Damascene subgovernor of Basra, who is otherwise unknown (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 414). 'Awḍh b. Sūd was a tribe of Azd, 'Awḍh b. Ghālib a branch of 'Abs, and 'Awḍh b. al-Hārith counted as Bajila (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.vv.), so 'Amr may well have been a Qaysī, but Bajila seems the most likely tribe for a Damascene.
- (8) *Ashhab b. Bisbr al-Kalbī(?) /Yemen(?)*. A Khurāsānī appointed to Sistān (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 400; *Tārikh-i Sistān*, pp. 119f., where he is a Yarbū'i/Mudar; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 283 = 93).
- (9) *Barā' b. Qabiṣa al-Thaqafī/Qays*. A member of Hajjāj's family who was governor of Isfahan in 77 and who was later appointed to Kufa (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, table 118; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 385; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 994, 996f., 1004).
- (10) *Hakam b. Ayyāb al-Thaqafī/Qays*. A relative and son-in-law of Hajjāj who was governor of Basra from 75 to 86 except for the period of Ibn al-Ash'āt's revolt (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 872, 973, 1061f.; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 348, 384f., 414).
- (11) *Hakam b. Nabīk al-Hujaymī/Mudār*. Governor first of Fars and next of Kerman for Hajjāj (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 392; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.).
- (12) *Hasan b. Abī l-'Amaratṭa al-Kindī/Yemen*. Hasan's father had been executed as a fervent adherent of Hujr b. 'Adī al-Kindī in Kufa (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 120f., 125; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, pp. 216f., 233). Hasan himself claimed descent from Ākil al-Murār, the king of Kinda (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1485). According to Ibn al-Kalbī he was head of Hajjāj's *shurta* before he went with Jarrah b. 'Abdallāh to Khurāsān, where Asad al-Qasrī appointed him to Samarcand (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. 'Hasan b. 'Umair');

- Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1446, 1485); he was still governor there when Abū'l-Šaydā' set out to convert the Sogdians in 110 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1507f).
- (13) *Hawshab b. Yazid al-Shaybāni/Rabi'a*. A Kufan *sharif* who was head of the *shurta* in his native city (cf. Appendix I, no. 30).
- (14) *Ibn al-Hadramī*. A *halif* of Quraysh. 'Āmir b. al-Hadramī, Ibn al-Hadramī's grandfather, figures in the *Sīra* where his desire to avenge his brother contributes to the decision of Quraysh to fight the disastrous battle of Badr (Ibn Ishāq, *Leben Muhammed's*, vol. i, pp. 424ff, 441f = 287ff, 298). 'Abdallāh b. 'Āmir b. al-Hadramī is said to have been governor of Mecca for 'Uthmān and a keen 'Uthmānī (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 3057, 3097ff); he was also an agent for Mu'āwiya in Basra (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'Ibn al-Hadramī'). 'Abd al-Rahmān b. 'Abdallāh b. 'Āmir was 'āmil of Kufa for Hajjāj (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 353).
- (15) *Ikrīma b. al-Awsāfi or Wassāfi al-Himyāri/Yemen*. An unknown Syrian who was head of Hajjāj's *shurta* in Wāsit (Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 411).
- (16) *Jarrāh b. 'Abdallāh al-Hakamī/Yemen*. Jarrāh is the paradigmatic general. He was a Syrian, doubtless from Jordan (*pace* Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 206), and must have come to Iraq with the troops of Sufyān b. al-Abrahān al-Kalbī and 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Ḥabīb al-Hakamī in 77 (cf. Ya'qubī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 328); he was certainly there in 82 when he fought against Ibn al-Ash'ath (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1077, 1091). In 87 or a few years later he became governor of Basra for Hajjāj, and he stayed in this office until Yazid b. al-Muhallab was appointed to Iraq and Khurāsān in 96 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1191, 1208, 1266; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 414). Yazid made him his deputy governor in Iraq before going to Khurāsān (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1310; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 427f), and 'Umar II appointed him to Khurāsān as the successor to Yazid (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1346; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 463; Kračkovskaya and Kračkovsky, 'Dokument', p. 55). He was dismissed in 100 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1352ff), seems to have fought with Maslama against Yazid b. al-Muhallab (*ibid.*, pp. 1413f), was appointed to Armenia by Yazid II in 104 (*ibid.*, p. 1453; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 477; Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 102), dismissed by Hishām in 107 (Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 492) and reappointed by him in 111 (*ibid.*, p. 500; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1526). He fell in battle against the Khazars in 112 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1530f; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 502ff; Theophanes, *Chronographia*, A.M. 6220;

- Movsēs Dasxurançi, *History*, pp. 209f; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'Djarrāh b. 'Abd Allah').
- (17) *Khalid b. 'Attāb al-Riyāhi/Mudar*. A Kufan *sharīf* who was governor of Rayy and Madā'in (cf. Appendix I, no. 23).
  - (18) *Khiyār b. Abī Sabra al-Mujāshi'i/Mudar*. One of Muhallab's former generals who was appointed by Hajjāj to Oman and later killed there by Ziyād b. al-Muhallab, apparently because he had had a hand in the dismissal of Yazid b. al-Muhallab from Khurāsān in 85 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1140; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Āgambarā*, s.v.). According to Khalifa, it was 'Abd al-Jabbār b. [Abī] Sabra who was appointed (*Ta'rikh*, p. 415).
  - (19) *Mawdūd (al-Thaqafī/Qays)*. A nephew of Hajjāj who was head of his *shurbā* in Kufa (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 410).
  - (20) *Misma' b. Mālik al-Shaybāni/Rabi'a*. A Basran *sharīf* who was governor of Sistān in 86 (cf. Appendix I, no. 28).
  - (21) *Mugbīra b. Abdallāh b. Abī 'Aqīl al-Thaqafī/Qays*. A member of Hajjāj's family who served as his deputy governor in Kufa (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1032, 1182; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 385).
  - (22) *B. al-Mugbīra b. Shu'ba al-Thaqafī/Qays*. Three sons of Mu'āwiya's famous governor were employed by Hajjāj. 'Urwa was deputy governor of Kufa in the seventies and again in 95 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 873, 916, 960; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 385, 414); Hamza was governor of Hamadhān; and Mu'tarrif, who became a Khārijite rebel, was governor of Madā'in (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 979ff). They are said to have counted as *ashrāf* despite the ignoble birth of their father (*ibid.*, p. 979).
  - (23) *Muballab b. Abī Ṣufra* and *Yazīd b. al-Muhallab al-Aṣdī/Yemen*. Governors of Khurāsān (cf. Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 427ff). Yazīd later rose in revolt against Yazīd II and was killed with a large number of his relatives (cf. Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 312ff), but his family was by no means wiped out. Sulaymān b. Ḥabīb b. al-Muhallab was one of the *ru'üs al-Yamaniyya* who interceded for Thābit b. Nu'aym in the reign of Hishām, governed Ahwāz for 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar after the Yemeni take-over, and joined 'Abdallāh b. Mu'āwiya in Fars after his defeat at the hands of Marwān's troops (cf. Appendix IV, no. 46). He was later crucified by Abū l-'Abbās (Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muhabbar*, p. 486). 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Yazīd b. al-Muhallab also joined Ibn Mu'āwiya in Fars, fled to Oman after the latter's defeat, and was killed (in Oman?) despite a grant of *amān* in 133 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1978f, ser. iii, p. 74). Accord-

ing to others Abū Salama sent him to 'Ayn al-Tamar on the arrival of the Khurāsānīs in Iraq (*Akhbār al-dawlat al-'abbāsiyya*, p. 378). Sufyān b. Mu'āwiya b. Yazīd rebelled in Basra in 132 on behalf of Qaḥṭaba, joined the *Yamaniyya* and Rabi'a, but was defeated. After the revolution, however, he was governor of Basra for Mānṣūr. But when al-Nafs al-Zakiyya rebelled in 145, Sufyān's son and deputy surrendered Basra without resistance, apparently because of his and his father's 'Alid sympathies (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 21f, 126f, 138, 142, 189, 291, 297, 300; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 610, 674). Abū Sa'id b. Mu'āwiya b. Yazīd appears as a general in Ṣalīḥ b. 'Alī's army in Egypt shortly after the revolution (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 103). And Khālid b. Yazīd b. al-Muhallab is supposed to have lived long enough to have been head of the *shurṭa* of an equally long-lived Rawḥ b. Rawḥ b. Zanba' in Egypt in 176 (*ibid.*, p. 135; presumably the less illustrious links in their genealogies have been omitted).

The most successful Muhallabids of the early 'Abbāsid period, however, were descendants of Qabiṣa b. al-Muhallab. 'Umar b. Hafṣ b. 'Uthmān b. Qabiṣa, nicknamed Hazārmard, was governor of Basra and Bahrayn for Abū'l-'Abbās, and of Basra and Sind for Mānṣūr. According to one version he fought under 'Isā b. Mūsā against al-Nafs al-Zakiyya, but another has it that he stayed in Sind where, having 'Alid sympathies, he protected al-Nafs al-Zakiyya's son until he was dismissed in 151. However that may be, he was appointed to North Africa in 151 and fell there two years later in the revolt of Abū Ḥātim al-Ibāqī (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 138f, 236, 359ff, 370f; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 630, 632, 639, 674, 677, 680; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 232f, 445; for the dynasty of governors which the Muhallabids established in North Africa, see Talbi, *Emirat Aglabide*, p. 76). Rawḥ b. Ḥātim b. Qabiṣa participated in the siege of Wāsit on the 'Abbāsid side in 132, campaigned in Tabaristān in 142, governed Kufa (or Sind) in 159 and Sind in 160–1, received appointment for a campaign against Byzantium planned by Hādī, governed Basra in 166, and was appointed to North Africa in 170; he died there in 174 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 64f, 69, 139f, 461, 482, 484, 487, 491, 517, 569, 606, 609; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 191, 338). Dāwūd b. Rawḥ b. Ḥātim was charged with *zandaqā* in 166, but he was soon released (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 517). Fadl (or Mufaddal) b. Rawḥ was killed in North Africa in 178 when the Muhallabids were expelled (*ibid.*, p. 630; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 233). Yazīd

b. Hātim b. Qabīṣa is found in the entourage of Abū Ja'far after the surrender of Wāsit. He campaigned against a Khārijite in 137, governed Egypt from 143 or 144 to 152, and North Africa from 154 to 170 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 67, 120, 142, 189, 313, 353, 370f, 373, 379, 470, 503, 518, 569; Balādhurī, *Futūḥ*, p. 233; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 111ff; Miles, *Glass Weights*, pp. 113ff; Grohmann, *Arabic Papyri in the Egyptian Library*, pp. 177f. Muḥammad b. Yazid b. Hātim was governor of Ahwāz for Amīn and fell in the civil war (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 851ff; Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 756). Khālid b. Yazid b. Hātim was governor of Mosul in 190 (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 310). Dāwūd b. Bishr b. Hātim was governor of Egypt and Sind for Hārūn (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 649; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 133f). Bishr b. Dāwūd stayed on in Sind as a rebel governor until he was finally dislodged by Ma'mūn in 216 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1098, 1100, 1105).

A branch of the Muḥallabid family settled in Nishāpūr in the mid tenth century; by the early eleventh century they had become frequent holders of the *riyāsa* at Bayhaq where they intermarried with the local *sayyids* (Bosworth, *The Ghaznavids*, p. 198).

- (24) *Muhammad b. Hārūn b. Dhīrā' al-Numayrī/Qays*. One of Hajjāj's governors of Sind (Balādhurī, *Futūḥ*, pp. 435f; Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, pp. 358, 435f). He was presumably a Basran.
- (25) *Muhammad b. al-Qāsim al-Thaqafī/Qays*. A member of Hajjāj's family who was governor of Sind for many years (Balādhurī, *Futūḥ*, pp. 435ff; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1200, 1257, 1271). On the accession of Sulaymān he was seized and brought to Iraq where he was tortured together with the rest of Āl Abī 'Aqīl (Ibn al-Athīr, *Kāmil*, vol. iv, p. 465; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1282f).
- (26) *Muhammad b. al-Ša'sha'a al-Kilābī/Qays*. One of Hajjāj's governors of Bahrayn and Oman (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, pp. 358, 391f).
- (27) *Muhammad b. Yūsuf al-Thaqafī/Qays*. Hajjāj's brother and Hishām's father in law (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 533). He was governor of Fārs for Hajjāj (Le Strange and Nicholson, *Farsnāma*, pp. 132, 169f = Le Strange, 'Description of the Province of Fars in Persia', pp. 26, 83f), and later of the Yemen (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, pp. 384, 417). He is hardly identical with the Muḥammad b. Yūsuf who fell in North Africa in 124 (*ibid.*, p. 530).
- (28) *Muhibbāt b. Subaym al-Tā'i/Yemen*. A Syrian from Hims who was head of Hajjāj's *shurta* in Wāsit and later one of his deputy governors in Basra (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, pp. 411, 414). It is tempting to

identify him with the Suhaym b. al-Muhājir who was governor of Atrābulus for 'Abd al-Malik and who assisted in the suppression of the Jarājima (Ibn 'Asākir, *Ta'rikh*, vol. vi, pp. 65f; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 300).

- (29) *Mujjā'a b. Si'r al-Tamīmī/Mudar*. One of Hajjāj's governors of Sind. He had held a command in Oman and is said to have been a candidate for the governorship of Khurāsān which went to Qutayba (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 435; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 39off; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1140ff).
- (30) *Mūsā b. al-Wajib al-Himyāri/Yemen*. A Syrian who became head of Hajjāj's *shurṭa* in Wāsiṭ (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 411). He was still in Iraq in 99 when 'Umar II's governor of Basra sent him to seize Yazīd b. al-Muhallab, the ex-governor (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1346, 1350); he fell in battle against the Muhallabids in 101 or was executed by them along with other prisoners (*ibid.*, p. 1384; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 58). A Kalā'i, he was probably from Hims.
- (31) *Qaṭān b. Mudrik al-Kilābi/Qays*. Governor of Basra, and probably a Basran himself (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 406f, 414).
- (32) *Qaṭān b. Qabīṣa b. al-Mukhāriq al-Hilālī/Qays*. A Basran who was governor of Kerman and Fars (Khalifa, *Tabaqāt*, pp. 56, 184; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 392). According to Ibn al-Kalbī, he was also governor of Sīstān (*Gāmbara*, s.v.). It was, however, not he but his son Ḥarb b. Qaṭān who was governor there; he was appointed by Yūsuf b. 'Umar in the reign of Hishām or Walid II, dismissed by Manṣūr b. Jumhūr, and reappointed for a short while by 'Abdal-lāh b. 'Umar (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 538, 553, 560; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 128ff). He then joined the armies of Marwān II, where he is found together with Ibn Nubāṭa in 129 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1981; compare Ibn al-Athīr, *Kāmil*, vol. v, p. 284, who has got his *nisba* right). Muhammad b. Qaṭān, doubtless another son of this Basran, was one of the trusted men of Naṣr b. Sayyār in Khurāsān where he was killed by Abū Muslim (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1995, cf. pp. 1917, 1921). Muhammad b. Ḥarb b. Qaṭān was head of the *shurṭa* of Ja'far b. Sulaymān and 'Abd al-Ṣāmād b. 'Ali in Medina and Basra under Manṣūr and Hārūn (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v.).
- (33) *Qutayba b. Muslim al-Bābilī/Qays*. Qutayba's father, Muslim b. 'Amr, was a Syrian who was greatly esteemed and favoured by the Umayyads, in particular by Yazīd I (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 11, vol. v, p. 341; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 252). He is said to have been

in Basra already under Ziyād and at all events went there under 'Ubaydallāh b. Ziyād, staying on as a supporter of Muṣ'ab in the second civil war; he fell at Maskin (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 83f, 239ff, 252, 773, 806; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, pp. 148f, vol. v, pp. 342, 345). Whatever his status in Syria, Qutayba was thus no *shārif* in his adoptive home, and he is said to have obtained his first command as a protégé of 'Anbasa b. Sa'īd, Ashdaq's brother (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 962f); later Hajjāj appointed him to Rayy (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 342), and in 85 he became governor of Khurāsān, where he was killed in his attempt to raise a revolt on the accession of Sulaymān (Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 429ff).

His family, however, by no means disappeared. Muslim b. 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Muslim, his nephew, was governor of Balkh and its provinces for Junayd and Naṣr b. Sayyār and a supporter of Naṣr in the faction (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1529f, 1664, 1723, 1920, 1927, 1929); Qaṭān b. Qutayba, his son, was governor of Bukhārā and its provinces for Junayd and Naṣr (*ibid.*, pp. 1529, 1548, 1664); and Salm b. Qutayba, another son, was governor of Basra for Yazid b. 'Umar b. Hubayra in the third civil war (*ibid.*, ser. iii, pp. 21ff; Khalīfa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 610, 621). All three are said to have been candidates for the governorship of Khurāsān which eventually went to Naṣr b. Sayyār (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1559f, 1663, 1721). Under the 'Abbāsids they rose to even greater prominence. Salm became governor of Basra and Rayy for Mānsūr (*ibid.*, ser. iii, pp. 206, 305, 319, 327; Khalīfa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 625, 675; Miles, *Numismatic History of Rayy*, pp. 27f). Miswar b. 'Abdallāh b. Muslim, presumably one of Qutayba's nephews, was in charge of the *ahdāt* of Basra in 159 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 466). And Qutayba's grandsons held an enormous number of offices until the fourth civil war. 'Amr b. Muslim b. Qutayba and 'Amr b. Salm b. Qutayba both fought against Ustādhīs in 150 (*ibid.*, pp. 357f). Muthannā b. al-Hajjāj b. Qutayba was governor of Ṭabaristān in 176 (*ibid.*, p. 613; Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta'rīk*, vol. i, p. 189 = 132). Muhammad b. al-Muthannā appears in the entourage of Ṭalha b. Tāhir (Tayfūr, *Kitāb Baghdād*, pp. 170f). Kathīr b. Salm b. Qutayba was governor of Sīstān for Hādī and later deputy governor of Sind for his brother Sa'īd (Khalīfa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 745, 746; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 151). Sa'īd b. Salm campaigned against Yūsuf al-Barm in 160 (Khalīfa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 670), governed Mosul, Ṭabaristān, the Jazīra and Sind at various times under Hārūn, and

participated in the latter's campaign against the Byzantines in 191 (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 269, cf. p. 291; Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta'rikh*, vol. i, p. 189 = 132; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 645, 647, 746; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 746). Ibrāhīm b. Salm was governor of the Yemen under Hādī (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 568, cf. pp. 576, 587). Muthannā b. Salm appears in the army of the governor of Sīstān in 199, and the Aḥmad b. 'Amr b. Muslim al-Bāhilī who fell against Khārijites in Sīstān in 216 was presumably also a member of this family (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 173, 183). Aḥmad b. Sa'īd b. Salm b. Qutayba conducted an unsuccessful campaign against the rebellious Zuṭṭ in the reign of Mu'tashīm and was later appointed to the *thughūr* by Wāthiq and was responsible for the ransom of Muslim prisoners-of-war from the Byzantines in 231 (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 576, 588; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1352ff; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 797). Abū'l-Aḥwaṣ b. Aḥmad b. Sa'īd b. Salm b. Qutayba participated in the repression of the Zanj against whom he fell together with his son in 256 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1786, 1837; cf. also p. 1809). But Sa'īd b. Aḥmad b. Sa'īd b. Salm al-Bāhilī, who can scarcely fail to have been his brother, took his cue from the Zanj and set himself up as a highway robber in the marshes with his Bāhilī companions; he was executed in 258 (*ibid.*, pp. 1858f).

- (34) *Sa'īd b. Aslām b. Zur'a al-Kilābī/Qays*. Sa'īd's ancestor has something of a pre-Islamic history and may have been a *sharif* (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v. 'Zur'a b. 'Amr'). Aslām b. Zur'a was a Basran who went to Khurāsān several times, and who became governor there for 'Ubaydallāh b. Ziyād in 55 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 65, 81, 168, 172); on his dismissal in 59 he had to pay up 300 000 dirhams (*ibid.*, p. 189). Sa'īd b. Aslām was among the men who stayed loyal to Hajjāj at Rustaqābādh (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 287, 289), and was rewarded with the governorship of Makrān; when he was killed there, Hajjāj brought up Muslim b. Sa'īd together with his own children (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 435; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1457). Muslim was later appointed to Khurāsān by 'Umar b. Hubayra (*ibid.*; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 484; cf. Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 415, 454f).
- (35) *Sa'īd b. Ḥassān al-Usaydī/Mudār*. A governor of Basra and Oman who appears to be unidentifiable. He was presumably a Basran (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 391f).
- (36) *Siñān b. Salama b. al-Muḥabbīq al-Hudbalī/Qays*. A Basran *muhaddith* who was governor of Sind for Ziyād and 'Ubaydallāh

- b. Ziyād, and who was appointed to Bahrayn by Hajjāj. He died there, leaving his son Mūsā as his successor (Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqat*, vol. vii, p. 124; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 433ff; Khalifa, *Tā'rikh*, pp. 245, 249f, 391). Mūsā b. Sinān was also governor of Oman for Hajjāj (Khalifa, *Tā'rikh*, p. 391).
- (37) *Sufyān b. Sulaym al-Azdī(?)/Yemen*. A Syrian who was head of Hajjāj's *shurṭa* in Wāsiṭ (Khalifa, *Tā'rikh*, p. 411). Since the reading of his *nisba* is conjectural, there are two possibilities of identification. Either he is the Sufyān b. Sulaymān al-Azdī with whom Yazīd b. al-Muhallab deposited his baggage in Palestine on his escape from prison (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1211), or else he was the brother or possibly the nephew of the Sulaymān b. Sulaym al-Kalbī who was among the Syrian troops in Iraq under Yūsuf b. 'Umar. Sulaymān commanded the Bukhāriyya and Qīqāniyya in Kufa at the time of Zayd's revolt (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1708); he was among the few men who protected Yūsuf on the outbreak of the civil war just as Sufyān b. Salāma b. Sulaym, his nephew, was one of the few men who left with Yūsuf (*ibid.*, pp. 1838ff), and he was eventually crucified by Abū'l-'Abbās (Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbar*, p. 486). Back in Syria the B. Sulaym b. Kaysān similarly assisted the beleaguered Walid II against the *Yamaniyya* of Yazid III (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1802). No explanation of their unusual allegiances is offered.
- (38) *Suwayd b. 'Abd al-Rahmān al-Minqārī/Mudar*. A Kufan who was appointed to Hulwān and Māsabadhān, where he assisted in the suppression of Muṭarrif b. Mughīra's revolt (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 989ff). He had previously fought against Mukhtār in Kufa under Ibn Muṭī' who appointed him to his *shurṭa* (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 225f), and he similarly fought against Shabīb and Ibn al-Ash'ath under Hajjāj (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 911, 990). Qa'qā' b. Suwayd assisted his father against Muṭarrif, fought under Maslāma against the Muḥallabids (*ibid.*, pp. 990, 1402), and was appointed by Ibn Hubayra to Sīstān (Ya'qubī, *Buldān*, p. 284 = 95; *Tā'rikh-i Sīstān*, p. 125; Khalifa, *Tā'rikh*, p. 484, where he is appointed by Yazid II and dismissed by Ibn Hubayra). According to Ibn al-Kalbī, he was a *sharīf* (Ǧambarā, s.v.).
- (39) *Talha b. Sa'īd al-Juhāni/Yemen*. A Damascene who was deputy governor of Basra (Khalifa, *Tā'rikh*, p. 414). He later reappears as the commander of Juhayna in Yazid III's revolt (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1792). The longevity seems excessive, and it is possible that two generations have been run together.
- (40) *Tufayl b. Husayn al-Bahrānī/Yemen*. A general who was briefly

- governor of Oman (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 391; Ibn al-Kalbi, *Gambara*, s.v. 'Tufayl b. Hisn'). Judging from his *nisba*, he was a Syrian from Hims.
- (41) *'Ubaydallāh b. Abī Bakra al-Thaqafī/Qays*. A son of a famous *mawlā* and companion of the Prophet (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'Abū Bakra'). '*Ubaydallāh* was governor of Sīstān, first under Ziyād and next under Hajjāj (cf. Bosworth, "Ubaidallāh b. Abī Bakra and the 'Army of Destruction' in Zābulistān").
- (42) *'Umāra b. Tamīm al-Lakhmī/Yemen*. One of Hajjāj's Syrian commanders at Dayr al-Jamājm who was later sent to Sīstān to hunt down Ibn al-Ash'ath (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1076, 1101, 1104, 1123, 1133; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 375, where it is suggested that he was of Qayn/Yemen; Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, pp. 67f). He celebrated his victory over the rebels in 85 by issuing the last Arab-Sasanian coin so far known (Gaube, *Numismatik*, pp. 76f).
- (43) *'Umayr b. Hāni' al-'Ansī/Yemen*. A Damascene who was employed by Hajjāj to repress the Kurds, and who was later appointed deputy governor of Kufa (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 385; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 323f, where he has become an 'Absī). Under 'Umar II he became governor of the Thaniyya and Hawrān, and he is said to have survived until 132, when he was killed by one of Marwān's men (Ibn Hibbān, *'Ulāma'*, p. 112). Qays b. Hāni', his brother, and Ya'qūb b. 'Umayr b. Hāni', his son, were both among the supporters of Yazid III; Ya'qūb commanded the troops of Dārayyā in the revolt against Walid and was later sent to deal with the disgruntled *asbraf* in Hims (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1792, 1826f); Qays was killed by Marwān II (*ibid.*, pp. 1835f). Like so many other followers of Yazid III they were Ghaylānis (Van Ess, 'Les Qadarites et la Gailāniya', pp. 273ff).
- (44) *Yazīd b. Abī Kabsha Abū 'Ulāqa al-Saksakī/Yemen*. A Syrian general of sharifian descent who was head of Hajjāj's *shurṭa* in Wāsit and later his successor (cf. Appendix I, no. 3).
- (45) *Ziyād b. 'Amr al-'Atākī/Yemen*. A Basran *sbarīf* who was head of the *shurṭa* and deputy governor in Basra (cf. Appendix I, no. 33).
- (46) *Ziyād b. Jarīr al-Bajalī/Yemen*. A Kufan *sbarīf* who was head of the *shurṭa* and deputy governor in Kufa (cf. Appendix I, no. 26).
- (47) *Ziyād b. al-Rabi' and Qaṭān b. Ziyād al-Hārithī/Yemen*. Governors of Bahrayn (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 360, 391, 415). Their ancestor, Dayyān, was also the ancestor of the 'Abd al-Madān family with whom the 'Abbāsids intermarried, and he is said to have been

chief of Madhhij before Dhū' l-Ghuṣṣa in pre-Islamic times (Ibn al-Kalbi, *Ḡambara*, table 259 and s.v. 'Yazid b. Qaṭan al-Daiyān'). They were thus accredited *asbrāf*. Rabi' b. Ziyād, however, had settled in Basra where Madhhij were very few, and he had spent most of his time in eastern Iran, where he participated in the wars of conquest together with his brother Muḥājir and became governor first of Sīstān and next of Khurāsān (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 377, 382, 391, 393, 397, 410; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 455ff; Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, pp. 21ff). After having served Ḥajjāj, Ziyād b. al-Rabi' b. Ziyād (or a son of his named Rabi') was taken prisoner by the Muḥallabids during their revolt in 102, but spared execution because of his *sharaf* and *bayt qadīm* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1409; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 58). Thereafter they seem to disappear, though the Yaḥyā b. Ziyād b. al-Ḥārith al-Ḥārithī who was governor of Bahrayn for Khālid al-Qasrī was doubtless a member of this family (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 539).

## YAZID B. AL-MUHALLAB AL-AZDI/YEMEN (96–9)

- (48) *'Abdallāb b. Hilāl al-Kilābī/Qays*. One of Yazid's governors of Basra and the sole Qaysī in an almost wholly Yemeni staff (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1310; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 428, where Hilāl has become Bilāl). Kilābī might be a mistake for Kalbī, in which case he would be a Yemeni, but there seems to be no variant in support of this conjecture.
- (49) *Ash'atib b. 'Abdallāb b. al-Jārūd al-'Abdi/Rabi'a*. A Basran *sharif* who was governor of Bahrayn (cf. Appendix I, no. 27).
- (50) *Bashīr b. Ḥassān al-Nahdī (or Mabri)/Yemen*. One of Yazid's governors of Kufa and, judging by his *nisbas*, a Syrian (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1314; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 429).
- (51) *Habib b. al-Muhallab al-Azdi/Yemen*. Yazid's brother and governor of Sind; he is said to have been appointed by Sulaymān or Ṣāliḥ b. 'Abd al-Rahmān, presumably at Yazid's request (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 429; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 441).
- (52) *Harb b. 'Abdallāb*. Head of Yazid's *shurṭa* in Wāsiṭ (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 427). He seems unidentifiable. Ibn al-Kalbi does know a Harb b. 'Abdallāb of Tamīm whose son and nephew joined the 'Abbāsid troops in Khurāsān (*Ḡambara*, s.vv. "Uqba b. Ḫarb" and "Ri'āb b. Shaddād"); but since the head of the Wāsiṭi *shurṭa* was invariably a Syrian, they are unlikely to be identical.
- (53) *Harmala b. 'Umāyr al-Lakbī/Yemen*. Yazid's first governor of

- Kufa; he had apparently been appointed by Yazid b. Abi Kabsha, Hajjāj's successor in office, and was probably a Syrian (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 429).
- (54) *Imrān b. al-Nū'mān al-Kalā'i/Yemen*. One of Yazid's governors of Sind (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 430). Dhū'l-Kalā' having settled in Hims, he was presumably a Syrian (cf. Appendix I, no. 2).
  - (55) *Jarrāh b. 'Abdallāh al-Hakāmi/Yemen*. A Syrian general who had been deputy governor of Basra for Hajjāj, and who was appointed deputy governor of Iraq by Yazid (cf. above, no. 16).
  - (56) *Marwān b. al-Muhallab al-Azdī/Yemen*. Yazid's brother and last deputy governor of Basra (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1310; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 429).
  - (57) *Mu'āwiya b. Yazid b. al-Muhallab al-Azdī/Yemen*. Yazid's son who was appointed to Sīstān after Mudrik (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 429; Ya'qubī, *Buldān*, pp. 283f = 94; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 121).
  - (58) *Mudrik b. al-Muhallab al-Azdī/Yemen*. Yazid's brother and first governor of Sīstān (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 429; Ya'qubī, *Buldān*, pp. 283f = 94; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 121).
  - (59) *Mukballad b. Yazid al-Azdī/Yemen*. Yazid's son who was governor of Khurāsān before his father's arrival (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 429).
  - (60) *Sufyān b. 'Abdallāh (or 'Umayr) al-Kindī/Yemen*. A governor of Basra from 96 to 98 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1305, 1335; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 428, where the date is obviously wrong). He is not otherwise known, and the possibilities of identification are endless. If Khalifa's version of his name is right, he might be a brother of Hasan b. 'Umayr Abi'l-'Amaraṭa al-Kindī who went to Khurāsān with Jarrāh (cf. above, no. 12) and intermarried with Azd (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1485). But he might as well be somebody else.
  - (61) *'Uthmān b. al-Hakam b. Thā'laba al-Hunā'i/Yemen*. The head of Yazid's *shurta* in Basra (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 427). Another version has Yazid appoint him to his *shurta* at the time of his revolt (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 59). He appears to be otherwise unknown.
  - (62) *Yazid b. Abi Kabsha al-Saksakī/Yemen*. A Syrian general of sharifian descent who had been Hajjāj's successor in office and who was appointed to Sind by Sulaymān or Salīḥ b. 'Abd al-Rahmān, presumably in concert with Yazid (cf. Appendix I, no. 3).
  - (63) *Ziyād b. Jarīr b. 'Abdallāh al-Bajalī/Yemen*. A Kufan sharif who was head of the *shurta* in Kufa (cf. Appendix I, no. 26).

- (64) *Ziyād b. al-Muhallab al-Azdī/Yemen*. Yazid's brother and governor of Oman (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 430).

'UMAR B. HUBAYRA AL-FAZĀRĪ/QAYS (102-5)

- (65) *Firās b. Sumayy al-Fazārī/Qays*. An affinal relative of Ibn Hubayra, who appointed him to Basra (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 483).
- (66) *Hassān b. 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Mas'ūd al-Fazārī/Qays*. A Damascene who was governor of Basra (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 483). His father had commanded a summer campaign under Mu'awiya in 56 and conducted the enquiry into the Iraqi complaints against Hajjāj under 'Abd al-Malik (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 173; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 295f; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 268, where the name is somewhat different).
- (67) *Hawthara b. Subayl al-Bābili/Qays*. Hawthara is said to have been head of Ibn Hubayra's *shurta* in Wāsit (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 488), but that is presumably a doublet of his role under the later Ibn Hubayra in Wāsit. He was governor of Egypt for Marwān II from 128 to 131 (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 88ff), sent to Iraq to reinforce Yazid b. 'Umar b. Hubayra in 131 (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 601; Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 10, 13), and killed by the 'Abbāsids after the surrender of Wāsit in 132 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 69). According to Severus, however, he was killed in Egypt by Marwān himself (Severus, *Patriarchs*, p. 186, cf. *ibid.*, pp. 117, 160ff, 168, 171, 173, 183).
- (68) *Ibn Rayyāt*. The head of Ibn Hubayra's *shurta* in Basra. He is completely unidentifiable and his name probably corrupt (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 488).
- (69) *Ibrāhīm b. al-'Arabī al-Kinānī/Mudār*. A Syrian who is known only from Muslim *aggada*. His maternal grandfather had the honour of occasioning a piece of Koranic revelation: the verses on *lī'ān* were revealed because of his adultery. His mother was the nurse of Marwān b. al-Hakam, so she saved him at the time of the murder of 'Uthmān by sheltering him in the *bayt al-qarātīs* in Medina (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. i, pp. 21f, vol. v, p. 79). And in precisely the same manner Ibrāhīm saved Walid b. 'Abd al-Malik at the time of Ashdaq's revolt by sheltering him in the *bayt al-qarātīs* in Damascus (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 790, cf. p. 792; Bravmann contrives not to see a doublet here, whence the notorious state archives in Medina, the existence of which has been accepted even by Van Ess (Bravmann, 'The State Archives in the Early Islamic

- Era'; Van Ess, *Anfänge*, p. 27; *id.*, 'The Beginnings of Islamic Theology', p. 99)). 'Abd al-Malik appointed Ibrāhīm to the Yamāma, where he stayed until the death of Walīd (Balādhūrī, *Ansāb*, vol. i, pp. 21f, vol. v, p. 79; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 393, 416, where 'Adī should be emended to 'Arabī). He was re-appointed by Ibn Hubayra (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 485).
- (70) *Junayd b. 'Abd al-Raḥmān al-Murri/Qays*. A Damascene general who was appointed to Sind (cf. Appendix I, no. 6).
- (71) *Muhammad b. Marzūr al-Asadī/Mudar*. The head of the *shurta* in Kufa (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 488; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, s.v.). His son later held the same position in Kufa under 'Abbās b. Mūsā b. 'Īsā (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, s.v. 'al-'Alā'b. Muhammad').
- (72) *Muslim b. Sa'īd al-Kilābī/Qays*. Hajjāj's Basran foster-son who was appointed to Khurāsān (cf. above, no. 34).
- (73) *Qa'qā' b. Suwayd al-Minqari/Mudar*. A Kufan who was governor of Sīstān (cf. above, no. 38).
- (74) *Sa'īd b. 'Amr al-Harashī/Qays*. A general from Qinnasrīn whose descendants remained prominent far into the 'Abbāsid period. Sa'īd probably came to Iraq with Maslama in 101 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1378, but cf. p. 1092), and here 'Umar b. Hubayra appointed him governor first of Basra and next of Khurāsān in 103–4 (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 483, where 'Amr has become 'Umar; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1436f, 1453ff). Having returned to Syria, he was sent to Armenia by Maslama or Hishām (Balādhūrī, *Futūh*, p. 206; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1531), fell into disgrace by making an ill-fated attack on the Khazars, but was restored to favour and later appointed governor of Armenia by Hishām (Balādhūrī, *Futūh*, pp. 206f; Ghevond, *Histoire*, pp. 100f). One of his sons, Yazid b. Sa'īd, was killed on service in North Africa under Kulthūm b. 'Iyād (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 529). Another, Naḍr b. Sa'īd, was among the leaders of the *Qaysiyā* in Iraq in 127, where Marwān had appointed him governor; 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar, the governor appointed by the *Yamaniyya*, refused to relinquish his position and Naḍr eventually returned to Syria (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1885ff, 1900, 1905, 1913, 1917). A third, 'Anbasa b. Sa'īd, commanded the troops from Qinnasrīn in the Syrian army which Fadl b. Ṣalih brought with him to Egypt in 169 (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 129, where Jurashī should be emended to Harashī). Yazid b. 'Anbasa conducted a summer campaign in 171 (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 522). Sa'īd [b. ? b. Sa'īd] al-Harashī is never explicitly identified as a grandson of the Umayyad general, but that he was

one is very likely (similarly von Zambaur, *Manuel de généalogie et de chronologie pour l'histoire de l'Islam*, vol. i, p. 13). Mahdī employed him in Khurāsān where he defeated Muqanna' in 163 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 484, 494) and in Ṭabaristān (*ibid.*, pp. 521, 705). 'Abdallāh b. Sa'īd was appointed to Ṭabaristān in 185 by Hārūn (*ibid.*, p. 650; Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 196ff, cf. p. 207 = 141ff, cf. p. 147), and to Ḥimṣ in 194 by Amin (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 795). He and his brother Ahmād both fought for Amin in the civil war (*ibid.*, pp. 831f, 859). After the civil war he became governor of Wāsit where he was defeated by Abū'l-Sarāya in 199 (*ibid.*, p. 979). Yahyā b. Sa'īd al-Ḥarashī was governor of Egypt in 162 (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 122f, where his name is garbled; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 493), of Isfahan in 163 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 500; differently Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 122f), of Ṭabaristān, Ruyyān and Jurjān from 164 to 167 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 503, 518, 520; cf. Miles, *Numismatic History of Rayy*, p. 77), of Mosul from 180 to 181 (Azdi, *Mawṣil*, pp. 286ff, 290, 293), and of Jabal in 184 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 649). Sindī b. Yahyā al-Ḥarashī accompanied Hārūn to Tūs, was sent on to Ma'mūn, but returned to Iraq where he fought for Amīn in the civil war (*ibid.*, pp. 680, 734, 856). A family in Seljuq Nishāpūr claimed descent from a certain Sa'īd b. 'Abd al-Rahmān al-Ḥarashī, supposedly the deputy governor of Ibn 'Amīr in Khurāsān, whose grandson, Ahmād b. 'Amr b. Sa'īd al-Ḥarashī, died in Nishāpūr in 226 – some 180 years after his grandfather's dismissal! (Bulliet, *Patricians of Nishapur*, p. 90). That it was the above family that the Nishāpūrī Ḥarashīs claimed descent from is not in doubt, but the genealogical charter had clearly got into disorder.

- (75) *Sayyāl b. al-Mundhir b. 'Auf b. al-Nu'mān al-Shaybānī/Rabī'a*. A second governor of Sīstān (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 484; Yāqūbī, *Buldān*, p. 284 = 94; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 123, where he is named Sabbāk and appointed by Jarrāḥ b. 'Abdallāh; cf. also Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, pp. 69, 72). Despite his lavish *nasab* he resists identification.
- (76) *Si'r b. 'Abdallāh al-Murri/Qays*. Ibn Hubayra's deputy governor in Kufa (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 483). His name is perhaps more likely to have been Ṣaqr, but he remains unknown.
- (77) *Suwayd al-Murri/Qays*. The head of Ibn Hubayra's *shurṭa* in Wāsit (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 488). Ziyād b. Suwayd, his son, was later head of the *shurṭa* of Yazīd b. 'Umar b. Hubayra, so Khalīfa may be guilty of yet another doublet. However this may be, Ziyād was

among the *wujūb* of the Qaysiyya in Wāsit where he fell or was executed by the 'Abbāsids in 132 (*ibid.*, pp. 607, 623; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 68; Dīnawarī, *Akhbār*, p. 371, where he is Ziyād b. al-Hārith al-Muzanī).

- (78) 'Ubaydallāh b. 'Alī al-Sulamī/Qays. A governor of Sind appointed in 103 (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 484). He might be identical with the Kufan of the same name who is found in Khurāsān in 96 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1291).

#### KHĀLID AL-QASRĪ/YEMEN (105–20)

- (79) *Abān b. Dubāra al-Yazanī/Yemen*. A Syrian from Hims and member of the famous Ḥimyārī family of Dhū Yazan, who was governor of Basra (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1506; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 535; cf. Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. 'Dū Yazan').
- (80) 'Abdallāh b. Abī Burda al-Ash'arī/Yemen. A grandson of Abū Mūsā, the celebrated companion, conqueror and arbiter who had settled in Kufa (cf. *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'al-Ash'arī, Abū Mūsā'). 'Abdallāh was Khālid's last governor of Sīstān. On the appointment of Yūsuf b. 'Umar to Iraq he was seized and sent to Iraq where he was killed under torture (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 384; *id.*, *Buldān*, p. 284; Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, pp. 73f.).
- (81) 'Abdallāh and 'Āsim b. 'Amr al-Bajalī/Yemen. Two brothers who were governors of Kufa (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 536). They are not otherwise known.
- (82) 'Abd al-Malik b. Jar' b. Hidrijān al-Azdī/Yemen. A Palestinian who was governor of Kufa for a while (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 535). According to Ibn al-Kalbī, he was a *sharif* from Damascus who had held office at the time of Hajjāj (*Ḡambara*, s.v.; cf. also Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 571).
- (83) Asad b. 'Abdallāh al-Qasrī/Yemen. Khālid's brother and governor of Khurāsān (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*,<sup>2</sup> s.v.).
- (84) Asfah b. 'Abdallāh Abū Khalid al-Kindī(?) /Yemen. Governor of Sīstān (Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, p. 73). He is now a Kindī (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 537), now a Kalbī (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 284 = 95; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, table 285) and now a Shaybānī (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 126). Since the Basran Kindā counted as Rabi'a, Khalifa and the *Tārikh-i Sīstān* are perhaps both right (cf. Caskel in Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, vol. i, p. 33n). Asfah's son was governor of Wāsit under Mansūr b. Jumhūr, and he must

- have participated in the siege, presumably on the Syrian side, for he is an authority on the death of Qahtāba (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. ‘Hālid b. al-Asfahān’; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 15). He also transmitted poetry dealing with the faction (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1251).
- (85) *Bilāl b. Abī Burda al-Ash‘arī/Yemen*. Another grandson of Abū Mūsa. Bilāl was head of the *shurṭa*, civil governor and *qādī* in Basra; on the appointment of Yūsuf b. ‘Umar to Iraq he fled to Syria, but was sent back and killed under torture (Khalifa, *Ta’rīkh*, p. 535; Ya‘qubī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 388; Pellat, *Le Milieu basrien et la formation de Ḡahiz*, pp. 288f).
- (86) *Dabīs b. ‘Abdallāh al-Bajalī/Yemen*. One of Khālid’s governors of Kufa (Khalifa, *Ta’rīkh*, p. 536). He is not otherwise known.
- (87) *Hakam b. ‘Awāna al-Kalbī/Yemen*. A Syrian who was deputy governor of Khurāsān for Asad al-Qasrī in 109 and governor of Sind for Khālid al-Qasrī some years later (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 428, 444; Khalifa, *Ta’rīkh*, p. 538). His son stayed in Kufa where he wrote Umayyad history and died about 150 (*Encyclopaedia of Islām*,<sup>2</sup> s.v. ‘Awāna b. al-Hakam’).
- (88) *Hazzān b. Sa‘id al-Ruhāwī/Yemen*. Governor of Bahrayn (Khalifa, *Ta’rīkh*, p. 538). He was among the prisoners taken by the ‘Abbāsids after the surrender of Wāsiṭ in 132, but must have escaped execution, for he later appears as a member of Mansūr’s *sahāba* (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 68f; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 178, 233, where his name is Hazzār and Marār). According to Ibn al-Kalbī, he was a Syrian *sharīf* (*Ḡambara*, s.v. ‘Zahrān b. Sa‘id’).
- (89) *Ismā‘il b. Awsat al-Bajalī/Yemen*. Head of the *shurṭa* in Kufa and/or deputy governor there (Khalifa, *Ta’rīkh*, p. 536; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.). His father was a Damascene traditionist who had been governor of Hims for Yazid I (Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabādib*, vol. iii, p. 153). He is also said to have been from Hims himself (Khalifa, *Tabaqāt*, p. 308).
- (90) *Junayd b. ‘Abd al-Rahmān al-Murri/Qays*. A lone Qaysī among Khālid’s men, Junayd retained his office as governor of Sind for two years after the dismissal of Ibn Hubayra (Khalifa, *Ta’rīkh*, p. 538; cf. Appendix I, no. 6).
- (91) *Mālik b. al-Mundhir al-‘Abdī/Rabī‘a*. A Basran *sharīf* who was head of the *shurṭa* in his native city (cf. Appendix I, no. 27). Since the Rabī‘a were *būlafā* of Yemen, he is not really an exception.
- (92) *Muhammad b. Hujr b. Qays al-Kindī(?)*/Yemen. A governor of

- Sīstān (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 127). According to Khalifa, he was appointed by Yūsuf b. ‘Umar (*Tārikh*, p. 538). Khalifa also thinks he was an ‘Abdī/Rabī‘a, but he has the name Hujr and the authority of Ibn al-Kalbī against him (*Ḡambara*, s.v. ‘Muhammad b. Huqr’). Presumably, then, he was a Basran Kindī (cf. above, no. 84).
- (93) *Muhammad b. Ziyād al-Bajalī/Yemen*. A Kufan *sharīf* who was governor of Bahrayn (cf. Appendix I, no. 26).
- (94) *Nadr b. ‘Amr b. al-Muqri’ al-Himyarī/Yemen*. A Damascene who was civil governor of Basra (Khalifa, *Tārikh*, p. 535, cf. p. 498). He was later a prominent member of the *Yamaniyya*: he commanded the troops of Jurash, Ḥadītha and Dayr Zakkā in Yazīd’s revolt and was appointed to Yazīd’s *shurṭa*, *ḥaras*, *diwān al-kbarāj* and lesser seal (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 839, 1792; Khalifa, *Tārikh*, p. 562, who has ‘*jund*’ for ‘*shurṭa*’; Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tārikh*, vol. x, p. 257; Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣara*, p. 69). Sulaymān b. ‘Amr al-Muqri’ commanded the troops of Jordan in Khurāṣān under Asad al-Qasrī in 119 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1609, where ‘*Azd*’ is an obvious mistake for ‘*Urdunn*’). That one brother should appear as a Jordanian and the other as a Damascene is not particularly problematic as Jurash was part sometimes of the Jordanian and sometimes of the Damascene *jund*.
- (95) *Nauf al-Ash’arī/Yemen*. A governor of Kufa or head of the *shurṭa* there (Khalifa, *Tārikh*, p. 536). He is otherwise unidentifiable.
- (96) *Tamīm b. Zayd al-Qaynī/Yemen*. A Syrian, presumably a Jordanian, who replaced Junayd b. ‘Abd al-Rahmān as governor of Sind (Khalifa, *Tārikh*, p. 538; Balādhurī, *Futuh*, p. 443, where Qaynī has become ‘Utbī; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, table 308). He reappears in 126 when he tried to smuggle a pomegranate drink to Khālid, who was being carted back to Iraq as the prisoner of Yūsuf b. ‘Umar (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1822, where he is Zayd b. Tamīm al-Qaynī).
- (97) *Yahyā b. Ismā‘il*. A governor of Bahrayn (Khalifa, *Tārikh*, p. 539). Perhaps he was a son of Ismā‘il b. ‘Abdallāh al-Qasrī, Khālid’s brother, but no son of that name appears to be recorded.
- (98) *Yahyā b. Ziyād b. al-Ḥārith al-Ḥārithī/Yemen*. Yet another governor of Bahrayn and probably a member of the Dayyān family (cf. above, no. 47).
- (99) *Yazīd b. al-Gharif al-Hamdānī/Yemen*. A Jordanian who was governor of Sīstān (Khalifa, *Tārikh*, p. 537; Ya‘qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 284 = 95; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 126, where his father is ‘Arīf).

- (100) *Ziyād b. 'Ubaydallāh al-Hārithī/Yemen.* Ziyād was a member of the 'Abd al-Madān family, the second and more famous branch of the B. al-Dayyān (cf. above, no. 47). They were natives of South Arabia where their memorable deeds are said to have included wars against the B. Zubayd, a delegation to the Prophet, administration of Najrān under 'Alī, and an unsuccessful battle against Mu'āwiya's envoy in the first civil war (Tabarī, ser. i, p. 3452, ser. ii, p. 384; *Aghānī*, vol. xvi, p. 266; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v. "Abdalhīgr b. 'Amr ('Abdalmadān)'). There is no record of when they left for the Fertile Crescent. Rayṭa bint 'Ubaydallāh must have married Muḥammad b. 'Alī about the turn of the century: she was the mother of Abū l-'Abbās (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 88). And in 105 Ziyād b. 'Ubaydallāh appears as a recent recruit in the Syrian army where Khālid picked him up (cf. above, p. 55). He is said to have taught himself to read and write so as to qualify for a full governorship in Rayy, but having been rejected by the fiscal governor, he ended up with the more familiar job of running Khālid's *shurṭa* in Kufa (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1470f; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 536). Presumably he stayed in Iraq after Khālid's fall; he is at all events found among the beleaguered Syrian troops in Wāsiṭ in 132 when he deserted to the 'Abbāsids (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 66). In 133 he was appointed to Mecca, Medina, Ṭā'if and Yamāma, where he stayed until the accession of Mansūr (*ibid.*, pp. 73, 81, 91; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 630f, 672). Muḥammad b. Yazīd b. 'Abdallāh b. 'Abd al-Madān was appointed to the Yemen, where he was succeeded by 'Alī b. al-Rabi' b. 'Ubaydallāh b. 'Abd al-Madān in 134, and he in turn was replaced by 'Abdallāh b. al-Rabi' b. 'Ubaydallāh b. 'Abd al-Madān under Mansūr (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 73, 80, 81, 265, 318; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 673; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 489, where Mansūr's governor is Rabi' b. 'Abdallāh). Yazīd b. Ziyād Abū Ghassān became chamberlain to Abū l-'Abbās (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 91f). The family appears to have settled in Basra and environs, where a Hārith Abū Ghassān of theirs impressed his contemporaries as a soothsayer, and where a number of them were outrageously massacred by a bad-tempered general in 134, a scandal which provided much fuel for residual Yemeni feelings (*ibid.*, pp. 21, 76f).

## YŪSUF B. 'UMAR AL-THAQAFĪ/QAYS (120-6)

- (101) *'Abbās b. Sa'īd al-Murri/Qays.* The head of Yūsuf's *shurṭa*

- (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1702, 1707, 1711, where Murī has consistently become Muzanī; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 99; Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 556, who specifies Murra/Ghaṭafān; similarly Ibn al-Kalbi, *Gambara*, s.v. ‘Abbās b. Sa‘d’).
- (102) *‘Abdallāh b. Sharīk al-Numayrī/Qays*. Governor of Bahrayn (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 539). He is not otherwise known.
- (103) *Abū Umayya b. al-Mughīra al-Thaqafī/Qays*. A member of Āl Abī ‘Aqīl, Yūsuf’s own family; he was Yūsuf’s last governor of Kufa (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 536, 553).
- (104) *‘Amr b. ‘Abd al-Rahmān al-Qārī/Muḍar*. The head of the *shurṭa* in Kufa at the time of Zayd b. ‘Ali’s revolt; he had probably been appointed by Ḥakam b. al-Ṣalt al-Thaqafī, Yūsuf’s governor of Kufa (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 556, cf. below, no. 107). The choice is explained by the fact that the B. Qārā were *akhwāl* of Qays (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1699).
- (105) *Bishr b. Sallām al-‘Abdī/Rabi‘a*. Bishr is mentioned as governor of Bahrayn at the time of Walīd’s death and had presumably been appointed by Yūsuf b. ‘Umar; he managed to hang on, apparently without official sanction, until he was confirmed in office by Yazīd b. ‘Umar b. Hubayra. He died soon after and was succeeded by his sons, Sayyār and Salm (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 617).
- (106) *Fayd b. Muḥammad b. al-Qāsim al-Thaqafī/Qays*. Governor of Oman (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1780; Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 553, where his name has been run together with that of Kardam b. Bayhas, cf. below, no. 111). He was another member of Yūsuf’s family.
- (107) *Ḥakam b. al-Ṣalt al-Thaqafī/Qays*. Governor of Kufa in 122 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1699, 1701, 1712; Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 536). He was yet another member of Yūsuf’s family and had previously served in Khurāsān under Junayd; apparently it was Yūsuf’s wish to substitute him for Naṣr b. Sayyār as governor of Khurāsān (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1718f.).
- (108) *Ḩarb b. Qatān al-Hilālī/Qays*. One of Yūsuf’s governors of Sīstān (cf. above, no. 32).
- (109) *Ibrāhīm b. ‘Āsim al-‘Uqaylī/Qays*. A general from the Jazīra who is found in Khurāsān under ‘Āsim b. ‘Abdallāh al-Hilālī and Asad al-Qasrī, and who became governor of Sīstān under Yūsuf, on whose behalf he killed and confiscated the property of his predecessor, or, according to others, had him seized and sent on to Iraq where he was killed under torture by Yūsuf. He himself died in Sīstān in 126 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1579, 1594ff.;

Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 538; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 127ff; cf. above, no. 80).

- (110) *Juday'* b. 'Alī al-Azdī/Yemen. On his appointment to Iraq Yūsuf is said to have dismissed Ja'far b. Hanzala al-Bahrānī/Yemen from Khurāsān with the intention of appointing Salm b. Qutayba/Qays. Hishām, however, refused to ratify the choice and Yusuf appointed *Juday'* b. 'Alī instead, evidently as a stop-gap, for he was soon replaced by Naṣr b. Sayyār al-Laythī/Mudar, Hishām's candidate (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1659ff).
- (111) *Kardam* b. *Bayhas* [*al-Kilābī/Qays* (?)]. Governor of Oman (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 553, where his name has been run together with that of Fayd b. Muhammad, cf. above, no. 106). He was doubtless a son of Bayhas b. Zumayl al-Kilābī, a Damascene who held Walid II's seal and who is found in Walid's entourage at the time of Yazid's attack (Ibn 'Asākir, *Ta'rikh*, vol. x, p. 396; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1795f; Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, p. 68). There was admittedly another Damascene *shārif* by the name of Bayhas b. Şuhayb al-Jarmī/Yemen, a man of Basran origin whose son Sa'īd is said to have been imprisoned by Walid for his failure to support the change of succession (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. iii, p. 323; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 54, 1776); but he is evidently a less likely candidate. Both families survived into the 'Abbāsid period. Sāliḥ b. Bayhas al-Kilābī was sent to Constantinople in 184 to redeem Muslim prisoners-of-war (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 731). Yahyā b. Sāliḥ and Muhammad b. Sāliḥ took control of Damascus in the chaotic years after the fourth civil war as supporters of an Umayyad pretender (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 363; Şafadī, *Umarā'*, pp. 78, 97). And a Yemeni Ibn Bayhas was among the *ahl al-buyūtāt* who supported the Sufyānī in his rebellion against Mu'tasim and Wāthiq in 227 according to Tabarī (ser. iii, pp. 1320, 1322); according to Ya'qūbī, however, he was yet another Ibn Bayhas al-Kilābī (*Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 586). Michael the Syrian supplies no *nisba* (*Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 542 = vol. iii, p. 103).
- (112) *Katbīr* b. 'Abdallāh al-Sulamī/Qays. Governor of Basra from 120 to 122 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1667; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 535). In 126 he was head of the *shurṭa* for 'Abd al-Malik b. Muhammad b. al-Hajjāj, the governor of Damascus (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1789f). He was probably a Damascene like his employers.
- (113) *Khirāsh* b. Hawshab al-Shaybānī/Rabi'a. A Kufan *shārif* who was head of the local *shurṭa* (cf. Appendix I, no. 30).

- (114) *Muhammad b. Ḥassān b. Sa‘d al-Usaydi/Mudār*. A Basran who was governor of Bahrayn (Khalīfa, *Ta’rīkh*, p. 539; cf. Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, s.v. ‘Hassān b. Sa‘d’).
- (115) *Muhammad b. Hujr b. Qays al-Kindī (?)/Yemen*. A governor of Sistān who was appointed by Yūsuf according to Khalīfa, but by his predecessor according to the local tradition (cf. above, no. 92).
- (116) *Muhammad b. Nubāṭa al-Kilābī/Qays*. Governor of Wāsiṭ, where he was taken prisoner by the *Yamaniyya* on the arrival of Mansūr b. Jumhūr in 126 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1837). Muhammad’s father, Nubāṭa b. Ḥanzala, was a Syrian who is said to have participated in the bombardment of the Ka‘ba in the second civil war (Ibn Qutayba, *Ma‘ārif*, p. 184); he came to Iraq in the course of the third civil war, and he and his sons were among the *wujūb al-Qaysiyya* there in 127 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1885, 1905); Yazid b. ‘Umar b. Hubayra sent Nubāṭa to Jurjān where he fell against Qaṭaba in 130 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 2003ff; Khalīfa, *Ta’rīkh*, pp. 591f). Muhammad stayed in Iraq, endured the siege of Wāsiṭ, and was among the *wujūb al-Qaysiyya* who were executed by the ‘Abbāsids in 132 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 15ff, 65, 68f; Khalīfa, *Ta’rīkh*, pp. 607, 610; the names of the various members of the family are hopelessly confused, cf. Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1885 as compared with Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, table 94).
- (117) *Qāsim b. Muḥammad al-Thaqafī/Qays*. Yūsuf’s relative and governor of Basra (Khalīfa, *Ta’rīkh*, pp. 535, 552; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 153).
- (118) *Qāsim b. ‘Umar al-Thaqafī/Qays*. Yūsuf’s brother and governor of Yemen (Khalīfa, *Ta’rīkh*, p. 534). He was still in the Yemen in 129 when he was defeated by the Ibādīs; apparently Marwān II had appointed him to either San‘ā’ or the entire province (*ibid.*, pp. 582f; Caetani, *Chronografia Islamica*, p. 1621).
- (119) *‘Ubaydallāh b. al-‘Abbās al-Kindī/Yemen*. A Kufan who is said to have been governor of Fars for Khālid al-Qasrī, of Kufa for Yūsuf b. ‘Umar, of Qinnasrīn for Abū l-‘Abbās and of Armenia for Mansūr, a wildly improbable career for a Kufan *shurṭī* (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, s.v.). He may have been governor of Kufa for Yūsuf or the head of his *shurṭa* there (Khalīfa, *Ta’rīkh*, pp. 536, 552). But according to Ṭabarī, he was merely a fairly prominent member of the local *shurṭa* under Yūsuf, and governor of Kufa only under Mansūr b. Jumhūr, the representative of Yazid’s *Yamaniyya*, and that is doubtless the correct version (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1699, 1855). Ibn al-Kalbī also advances great claims on behalf of the

founders of the family: Yazīd b. al-Aswad was blessed as a child by the Prophet, Jabala b. Sa'd b. al-Aswad also visited the Prophet, and Masrūq b. Yazīd parcelled out the land of the B. Yazīd in Kufa (*Gāmbara*, s.vv., cf. also table 237). But the family was clearly a product of the local police force. Aktal b. al-'Abbās commanded the archers in Maslāma's army against the Muhallabids (thus at least Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v.); 'Ubaydallāh similarly fought together with Syrian troops in 126 when he assisted in the suppression of Zayd's revolt, and in 127 when he fought against the Khārijites (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1699, 1705; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 569). Ja'far b. 'Ubaydallāh also fought against Zayd, apparently as a commander of Syrian troops; he was head of the *shurta* of 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar in 127, when he fell in battle against the Khārijites (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1701f., 1701; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 570); Silsila b. al-Husayn b. al-'Abbās is credited with the defeat of the Khārijite 'Ubayda, Dāhhāk's successor who fell in 129 (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v.; cf. Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1945); and Nu'mān b. al-Masrūq b. Yazīd fell in Khurāsān at an unspecified time (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gāmbara*, s.v.).

- (120) *'Umar (or 'Amr) b. Muhammad b. al-Qāsim al-Thaqafī/Qays.* Yūsuf's governor of Sind and yet another member of the Āl Abī 'Aqil (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 526, 538, 553). His father had been governor of Sind for Hajjāj (cf. above, no. 25). He himself committed suicide on the outbreak of the civil war to avoid torture at the hands of his Yemeni successor (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1839; cf. Appendix IV, no. 24).
- (121) *Yūsuf b. Muhammad b. al-Qāsim al-Thaqafī/Qays.* A brother of the above and one of the governors of Kufa (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 536).
- (122) *Ziyād b. Šakhr al-Lakhmī/Yemen.* A Syrian, presumably from Palestine, who was one of Yūsuf's governors of Kufa (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 536). He is the only significant exception to Yūsuf's preference for Qays and Muḍar, and his involvement with the *Qaysiyya* was permanent: he later held an administrative post in Palestine under Rumāḥis b. 'Abd al-'Azīz al-Kinānī, Marwān II's governor there (Grohmann, *Arabic Papyri from Hirbet el-Mird*, nos. 26f., 43, 60f., 87). He is also known as a traditionist (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdhib*, vol. v, p. 403).

## APPENDIX IV

### THE YAMANIYYA AND THE *QAYSIYYA*

This appendix is a list of the Syrian soldiers who conducted the civil war in Syria and Iraq between 126 and 132. It omits all Qurashis (largely Umayyads), all Syrians who fought elsewhere, and, with the exception of no. 46, all earlier representatives who fail to reappear in the civil war itself. Iraqis have been included when they received appointment from the Syrians. The list should have the vast majority of the named protagonists and certainly all who were in the least important.

#### A. THE YAMANIYYA

- (1) '*Abd al-Rahmān b. Thābit al-'Anṣī/Yemen*. An adherent of Yazid III who had served in Khurāsān and who later became a fiscal officer under Manṣūr and Mahdi; he was a Qadarī (Van Ess, 'Les Qadarites et la Gailāniya', p. 273).
- (2) '*Abd al-Rahmān* and '*Abdallāh b. Yazid al-Sulamī/Qays*. Another two Qadarīs who participated in Yazid's revolt (Van Ess, 'Les Qadarites et la Gailāniya', pp. 273, 275). They were doubtless Jordanians.
- (3) '*Abd al-Sallām b. Bukayr b. Shammākh al-Lakbī/Yemen*. One of the murderers of Walid II (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1800, 1806; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 549). There is much disagreement on his father's position. He is said to have been head of Yazid III's *sbūra* (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 562; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. x, p. 257), but others think that it was Yazid b. Shammākh who enjoyed this position (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 402); he is also said to have been secretary to Yazid III (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. x, p. 257), but others think that he enjoyed this position under Walid II, which seems rather unlikely (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 838). However this may be, the family was Damascene (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. x, p. 257).
- (4) '*Abd al-Şamat b. Abān al-Anṣārī/Yemen*. One of 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar's governors of Kufa (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 616). 'Abd al-Şamat's great-grandfather, Bashīr b. Sa'd, was a Medinese com-

panion of the Prophet credited with various expeditions in the Prophet's lifetime, a major role in the day of the *saqīfa* and a minor role in the conquest of 'Ayn al-Tamr, where he fell (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 1592f, 1597, 1843f; Balādhurī, *Futūb*, pp. 244, 248). Nu'mān b. Bashir, his better known grandfather, was an 'Uthmāni who refused to give allegiance to 'Ali and who fought for Mu'āwiya in the first civil war; the sources characteristically send him to 'Ayn al-Tamr (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 3070, 3255, 3444f). Mu'āwiya appointed him to Hims, where he had settled, perhaps also to the Hadramawt, and certainly to Kufa in 59 (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 137; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 188, 195). Yazid confirmed him in office on his accession, but replaced him soon after in the course of the Muslim b. 'Aqil affair in 60 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 216, 228, 238f). He is also mentioned among the men who were sent by Yazid to extract an oath of allegiance from Ibn al-Zubayr (Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 316). On the death of Yazid, however, he gave his allegiance to Ibn al-Zubayr, who appointed him to Hims, from where he supplied Dahhāk b. Qays with reinforcements for the battle of Marj Rāhit (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 468, 474; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 59; vol. v, p. 127). He fled from Hims after Dahhāk's defeat, but was caught and killed by a local Kalā'i (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 480). At least three of his descendants were known as *muhadditibūn* (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdhib*, vol. iii, pp. 260f, 270f), but nothing is heard of them outside the world of scholarship until 126, when the B. Nu'mān b. Bashir came to assist Walid II against Yazid III (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1802). How 'Abd al-Şamad ended up on the other side is hard to tell in the absence of further information, but one would guess that he had become a soldier.

- (5) 'Amr b. Huwayy al-Saksāki/Yemen. The descendant of a Damascene *shāfi* who commanded the *rub'* of Kinda for Mu'āwiya at Siffin, and who claimed to have felled 'Ammār b. Yāsir (Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 222; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, s.v. 'Huwayy b. Māti'; Ibn Ḥabib, *Muhabbar*, p. 296). His appearance on Yazid's side is a little odd in that an Ibn Huwayy is also listed among the disgruntled *asbrāf* on whom Yazid showered honours after having put down their revolt (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1831); but whatever the relationship between the two, 'Amr commanded Yazid's right wing in the attack on Walid, and Nūḥ b. 'Amr figures as an authority on the death of Wālid (*ibid.*, pp. 1797f, 1801). His previous career is unknown.

- (6) '*Amr b. Yazid al-Hakami/Yemen*. A somewhat shadowy figure who appears in the quintessentially Yemeni, but not very illuminating, roles of bringing *amān* to Yazid b. al-Muhallab and advising Yazid III at the time of their respective revolts (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1387f, 1784). If he is identical with the 'Amr/'Umar b. Yazid/Zayd al-Hakamī who supported Ibn al-Zubayr in Damascus in the second civil war, he must have been extraordinarily long-lived (*ibid.*, pp. 471, 817; *Balādhurī, Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 133, 354). He was probably a brother of 'Abdallāh b. Yazid al-Hakamī, the head of 'Abd al-Malik and Walid I's *shurṭa* (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 335; *Ibn Habīb, Muhibbar*, p. 373; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 395, where his father's name is Zayd). 'Abdallāh must also have enjoyed unusual longevity, for he is later found in the *sahāba* of Mansūr (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 178). Perhaps two generations have been run together.
- (7) '*Anbasa b. Sa'id al-Saksakī/Yemen*. A participant in Yazid's revolt in 126 and apparently a *sharif* (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1784, 1799). He is unidentifiable.
- (8) '*Aṣbagh b. Dhu'āla al-Kalbi/Yemen*. A Palmyrene who had served in Khurāsān under Asad al-Qasri in 119 (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 1595, 1892f), and who may have been in Kufa in 122 (*Ibn al-Kalbi, Ġambara*, s.v.). In 126 he was one of the conspirators against Walid II and a supporter of Sulaymān b. Hishām (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1778, 1878); in 127 he commanded the Yemeni troops in Iraq together with his sons and rebelled against Marwān II back in Syria (*ibid.*, pp. 1892ff, 1900, 1902); and after the 'Abbāsid revolution he joined forces with Qays and participated in the revolt of Abū'l-Ward b. Zufar in 132 (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 55; cf. Appendix I, no. 19). According to another version he was executed by Marwān (*Ibn Habīb, Muhibbar*, p. 484).
- (9) '*Bisr b. Shaybān, mawlā of the Kināna b. 'Umayr of Kalb/Yemen*. One of the murderers of Walid II (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1806, 1809). He is not otherwise known.
- (10) '*B. Dihya b. Khalifa al-Kalbi/Yemen*. Dihya b. Khalifa was a companion of the Prophet credited with outstanding beauty and a mission to Heraclius; he settled in Mizza near Damascus (*Encyclopaedia of Islam<sup>2</sup>*, s.v.). Three of his descendants figure in the third civil war. Harim b. 'Abdallāh b. Dihya commanded a minor detachment in Yazid's battle against Walid (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 1794); Sulaymān b. 'Abdallāh b. Dihya also participated, as is indicated

by the presence of a client of his (*ibid.*, p. 1805); and 'Abd al-'Azīz b. Hārūn b. 'Abdallāh b. Dihya was offered the governorship of Iraq, but declined because he had no *jund* (*ibid.*, p. 1836).

- (11) *Hajjāj b. Artāb al-Nakha'i/Yemen*. A Kufan *faqīh* who was head of the *shurta* for Mānsūr b. Jumhūr and 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 559, 578). He later entered the service of Abū'l-'Abbās for whom he was briefly *qādī* of Basra (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 61; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 634). Mānsūr made him his *kātib* and employed him in the construction of Baghdad (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 276, 322; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 269; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, pp. 241f, 249 = 17f, 31). He accompanied Mahdī to Rayy, where he died in 150 (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.; Khalifa, *Tabaqāt*, p. 167; differently Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 648).
- (12) *Hakam b. Utayba al-Asadī/Mudār*. A Syrian who was appointed to the *shurta* in Kufa by 'Umar b. 'Abd al-Hamid al-Qurashī, the subgovernor of 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar in 126 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1902).
- (13) *Humayd b. Habib al-Lakhmī/Yemen*. A rebel against Walīd who commanded the troops from Dayr Murrān, Arza and Saṭrā (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1792, 1794f).
- (14) *Humayd b. Nasr al-Lakhmī/Yemen*. One of the soldiers who planned the conspiracy against Walīd and who participated in the battle against him (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1778, 1800).
- (15) *Hurayth b. Abī'l-Jahm al-Kalbī/Yemen*. Hurayth's father was among the Syrians who were sent with Sufyān b. al-Abrahān al-Kalbī to Ṭabaristān in 77 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1020), and from there he must have gone first to Iraq, where he appears as executioner for Hajjāj in 83 (*ibid.*, p. 1098), and next to Khurāsān, where he served Yazīd b. al-Muhibbān (*ibid.*, p. 1328). Hurayth himself was in Iraq at the time of Yazīd's revolt and became governor of Wāsiṭ for Mānsūr b. Jumhūr (*ibid.*, pp. 1836f, 1839). He was a member of the Kalbī subtribe of Āmir and thus presumably from either Mizza near Damascus or Palmyra (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, table 288).
- (16) *Janāb b. Nu'aym al-Kalbī/Yemen*. A rebel against Walīd (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1798). He was presumably the brother of Ḥamala b. Nu'aym al-Kalbī, a commander of the Damascene troops in Khurāsān under Asad al-Qasrī in 119 (*ibid.*, p. 1609. cf. p. 1721).
- (17) *Jarīr b. Ya'qūb al-Bajalī/Yemen*. A Kufan *shāfi'* who was governor of Basra for Mānsūr b. Jumhūr (cf. Appendix I, no. 26).
- (18) *Khālid b. al-Asfāḥ al-Kindī (?)/Yemen (?)*. A governor of Wāsiṭ

- for Mansūr b. Jumhūr who was probably a Basran Kindī (cf. Appendix III, no. 84).
- (19) *B. Khālid al-Qasrī/Yemen.* The members of Khālid's family were among the leaders of the *Yamaniyya* in the third civil war (cf. Appendix I, no. 11).
- (20) *Mansūr b. Jumbūr al-Kalbī/Yemen.* One of the most important generals of the *Yamaniyya*. A coarse soldier equally devoid of nobility and piety, Mansūr was shunned by devout contemporaries as an *ārābī* possessed of only one genuine feeling, *viz.* anger at the murder of Khālid; religious creeds, by contrast, he regarded merely as tickets of entry to whatever party he found of use at a given time (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1837). He presumably began his career in Iraq together with his fellow-tribesmen of the B. ‘Āmir (cf. *ibid.*, p. 1098), but he first appears in Syria with a Ghaylānī ticket to plan and carry out the murder of Walīd (*ibid.*, pp. 1778, 1797f, 1800, 1803f, 1809, 1837). Thereafter he was sent to take control of Iraq, perhaps as the deputy of Hārith b. al-‘Abbās b. al-Walīd (*ibid.*, pp. 1835ff), but his tenure was of short duration, and he was replaced by ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Umar b. ‘Abd al-‘Azīz in the same year (*ibid.*, pp. 1854f). Apparently he returned to Syria, but he was back in Iraq in 127, when he participated in the faction fighting and combated the Khārijites under Ibn ‘Umar; and since the Khārijites had the upper hand, he pronounced himself a sinner wishing to obey God's word and became a proselyte (*ibid.*, pp. 1902, 1906f). Allied with the Khārijites he set himself up in western Persia and fought Ibn Hubayra until he and his allies were decisively beaten, whereupon he hastily deposited his money with a *sayrafi* in Madā'in and fled to Fars, where a motley crowd of enemies of Marwān had congregated around ‘Abdallāh b. Mu‘āwiya (*ibid.*, pp. 1915f, 1946f, 1977, cf. p. 1883; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 165). Meanwhile he forgot *tahkīm* and adopted love of the *qurbā* instead (Miles, *Numismatic History of Rayy*, pp. 15ff). Even in Fars, however, the Yemenis were being rounded up. Defeated by Ibn Hubayra's generals, the motley crowd dispersed and Mansūr fled to India where he succeeded in setting himself up as governor, apparently with a hurriedly acquired mandate from the ‘Abbāsids (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1979, ser. iii, pp. 72, 75; Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 407). But his luck was out. In 134 Mūsā b. Ka‘b was sent to deal with him, and having been defeated once again he fled into the desert where he died of thirst (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 80; cf. Omar, *‘Abbāsid Caliphate*, pp. 161f).

Several members of Mansūr's family similarly participated in the civil war. Hibāl b. 'Amr, his cousin, was among the conspirators (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1778, 1880). Jahshana, a nephew of his, fell in battle against the Khārijites at Wāsiṭ (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 571). Manzūr, his brother, was sent to take control of Khurāsān, but met with no success (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1846f). He was later murdered in India by Rifa'a b. Thābit al-Judhāmī who had fled to Mansūr and who was the worst of Thābit's brood. Mansūr got hold of the murderer and immured him alive in a pillar (*ibid.*, p. 1895; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 407, where the story is somewhat different).

- (21) *B. Maṣād al-Kalbī/Yemen.* There were two Kalbī families by the name of Maṣād in Syria if Ibn al-Kalbī is right. B. Maṣād b. Ka'b of 'Ulaym were sharifian; Zubayr b. al-'Awāmm had inter-married with them and Yazid III likewise took a wife from among them (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s. vv. 'Ribāb bint Unaif' and 'Hadramī b. al-Asbag'; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 67); there is no evidence that they participated in the third civil war. B. Maṣād b. Qays of 'Āmir, on the other hand, were scarcely sharifian, though Ibn al-Kalbī describes them as the leading clan of 'Amīra/Āmir (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. 'Maṣād b. Qays'); but they provided several members of the *Yamaniyya*. Yazid III took great pains to win over Mu'āwiya b. Maṣād, the *sayyid* of the people of Mizza (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1789), and presumably he succeeded, for 'Abd al-Rahmān and Hishām b. Maṣād appear among his followers on several occasions (*ibid.*, pp. 1791, 1793, 1795, 1828). Walid b. Maṣād is said to have been head of his *ḥaras* or *shurṭa* (*ibid.*, p. 1878, cf. p. 1893), and Yazid b. Maṣād was among Sulaymān b. Hishām's men (*ibid.*, p. 1828).
- (22) *Miswar b. 'Abbād al-Habatī/Mudar.* Miswar can be adduced as a minor exception to the general rule that the *Yamaniyya* appointed only Yemenis: he was appointed to the *shurṭa* and *ahdātih* in Basra by 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar (cf. Appendix I, no. 20).
- (23) *Mu'āwiya b. 'Abdallāh al-Saksākī/Yemen.* A Syrian who fought on the side of Sulaymān b. Hishām against Marwān II in Hims, where he was taken prisoner and executed (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1893, 1909, 1911; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 404; cf. Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, table 243, where his father is 'Abd al-A'lā).
- (24) *Muhammad (or Yazid) b. 'Azzār (or 'Arār, 'Adhār, 'Irzān, Ghazzān etc.) al-Kalbī/Yemen.* Mansūr b. Jumhūr's governor of

Sind and Sistān (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1839; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 560; Bosworth, *Sistān under the Arabs*, p. 75). Muhammad had served in Sind under Ḥakam b. ‘Awāna al-Kalbī, who designated him his successor; the new governor of Iraq, Yūsuf b. ‘Umar, however, appointed ‘Umar b. Muhammad al-Thaqafī who sent Muhammad to Iraq where he was asked to pay a large sum of money and subjected to torture which cost him the use of one hand and some fingers (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 538; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1839; Ya‘qubī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 389). When Muhammad returned to Sind as Mansūr’s governor, ‘Umar b. Muhammad committed suicide in his prison to avoid the torture in store for him (cf. Appendix III, no. 120). Muhammad installed himself comfortably in Sind until Mansūr b. Jumhūr himself arrived and proved deaf to the appeal to the *qarāba* between them; in the ensuing battle Muhammad was defeated, and according to Ya‘qubī it was this man who was immured in a pillar (cf. above, no. 20; *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 407; Ya‘qubī also thinks that Muhammad had been appointed already under Walid, *ibid.*, pp. 399f.).

- (25) *Muhammad b. Rāṣibid al-Khurā‘i/Yemen*. A Ghaylānī adherent of Yazid III who later developed a soft spot for ‘Ali and ‘Amr b. ‘Ubayd (Van Ess, ‘Les Qadarites et la Gailāniya’, pp. 273f.). He figures as a visitor of Yūsuf b. ‘Umar and/or the sons of Walid in their prison and is also Madā‘ini’s *rāvī* on the revolt of Palestine which he himself was sent to suppress (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1832, 1843; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 146).
- (26) *Muhammad b. Sa‘id b. Mutarrif al-Kalbī/Yemen*. A general of Yazid III who was sent to catch Yūsuf b. ‘Umar al-Thaqafī at his home in the Balqā’ (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1841f.).
- (27) *Nadr b. ‘Amr al-Himyari/Yemen*. A Damascene rebel who had served in Iraq under Khālid al-Qasrī (cf. Appendix III, no. 94).
- (28) *Qays b. Hāni’* and *Ya‘qub b. ‘Umayr b. Hāni’ al-‘Ansī/Yemen*. Two Damascenes whose brother/father had served in Iraq (cf. Appendix III, no. 43).
- (29) *Rawb b. Muqbil*. A participant in Yazid’s attack on Walid who appears unidentifiable (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1800, 1809).
- (30) *Rib‘i b. Ḥashim al-Haribī/Yemen*. A leader of a group of ‘Udhra and Salāmān in Yazid’s revolt (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1792).
- (31) *Sarī b. Ziyād b. Abī Kabsha al-Saksākī/Yemen*. A general of sharifian descent (cf. Appendix I, no. 3).
- (32) *Shabib b. Abī Malik al-Ghassānī/Yemen*. One of the conspirators

against Walid (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1778). Shabīb's father, Hārith b. Mu‘āwiya, had served in Khurāsān under Salm b. Ziyād (*ibid.*, p. 392). He himself had been interim governor of Basra in 102 (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 483). His son, ‘Isā b. Shabīb, participated in Yazid's revolt as the commander of the troops from Dūma and Harastā (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1792). They appear with the *nisba*s of Hārithī, Māzīni and Taghlabī in addition to that of Ghassānī; Taghlabī should be emended to Tha’labī, but they all refer to the same tribe at different levels of segmentation (cf. Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡamhara*, tables 176, 194).

- (33) *Talha b. Sa‘id al-Juhāni/Yemen*. A Damascene who had been governor of Basra for Hajjāj (cf. Appendix III, no. 39).
- (34) *Thābit b. Nu‘aym al-Judhāmī/Yemen*. One of the chief opponents of Marwān after the outbreak of the civil war. He was a Palestinian of unknown ancestry who had served under Kulthūm b. ‘Iyād in North Africa; here his career came to an end when Hanzala b. Ṣafwān had him sent back to Syria on the ground that he was corrupting the army, and he was imprisoned by Hishām. The leading Yemenis in Syria, however, interceded with Marwān, who got him out of Hishām's prison and took him to Armenia, where he was stationed at Bāb. On the death of Walid, Marwān left Thābit in charge of the Yemenis at Bāb; Thābit, however, persuaded them to desert, whereupon they were all intercepted by Marwān, who detained Thābit and let the rest of the Syrians go home (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1871ff). By 127 he was free again, and when the Syrian *ajnād* were told by Marwān to elect their own governor, the Palestinians chose Thābit (*ibid.*, p. 1892). But no sooner had Marwān left than he rebelled again, assuming the name of *al-Asfar* or *al-Asqar al-Qabiānī* (Azdi, *Mawsil*, p. 66; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 566). Marwān returned, put down the revolt, and sent an army against its leader, who was defeated first by Jordan and next in Palestine; apparently, however, he managed to escape to Egypt, where he had been trying to mobilize support for some time (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1892ff; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 85ff). But in the end he was caught by Marwān's governor and had his hands and legs cut off (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 90; cf. Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 567, where it takes place in Syria).
- (35) *Thawr b. Yazid al-Kalā'i/Yemen*. A Ghaylānī adherent of Yazid III from Hims who had to flee from his native city at the time of the sharifian revolt against the Yamaniyya (Van Ess, ‘Les Qadarites et la Gailāniya’, p. 273). Like other supporters of Yazid

III he had been in Iraq, though in what capacity is not stated (Ibn Hibbān, '*Ulamā'*, p. 181, where he is a *Kindī*).

- (36) *Tufayl b. Hāritba al-Kalbī/Yemen*. One of the conspirators against Walid II and a leading Yemeni in the subsequent events (Tabārī, ser. ii, pp. 1778, 1829f, 1893, 1896). A brother of his served in Armenia shortly before the outbreak of the civil war (*ibid.*, p. 1852).
- (37) *Tufayl b. Zurāra al-Habashī(?)*. A commander of Sulaymān b. Hishām's left wing at Hims in 126 (Tabārī, ser. ii, p. 1829, cf. p. 1912). Ibn al-Kalbī thinks him a Ḥarashī/Qays and moreover has his full genealogy (*Ǧambarā*, table 101); but it looks as if his erudition has got the better of him, for he also knows that Tufayl had been a member of Hishām's *ḥaras* (*ibid.*, s.v. 'Tūfa'il b. Zurāra'), and the *ḥaras* was wholly or largely staffed by non-Arabs in the Umayyad period.
- (38) 'Ubaydallāh b. al-'Abbās al-Kindī/Yemen. A Kufan *shurṭī* who was deputy governor of Kufa for Mansūr b. Jumhūr (cf. Appendix III, no. 119).
- (39) 'Umar b. al-Ghadbān al-Shaybānī/Rabi'a. A Kufan *sharīf* who became head of the *shurṭa* in Kufa under 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar b. 'Abd al-'Azīz (Tabārī, ser. ii, pp. 1855, 1902). His father, Ghadbān b. al-Qaba'ītharā, had been an arbitrator between the feuding tribes in Basra in 64 (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 114, 121), a traitor to Muṣ'ab at Maskin (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 341, 344), and a rebel against Hajjāj at Rustaqābādh, after which he had either escaped to Syria or been imprisoned, but at all events was pardoned in the end (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 284, 291f, cf. p. 197; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 347f). 'Umar similarly appears in the role of go-between. In 126 'Abdallāh b. 'Umar's decision to pay stipends to the Kufans occasioned a brawl between the Syrian and Kufan soldiers in the course of which 'Ubaydallāh b. al-'Abbās occupied the castle; Ibn Ghadbān, however, managed to get him out and to restore order, whereupon he was richly rewarded and appointed to the *shurṭa* as well as other offices (Tabārī, ser. ii, pp. 1855, 1882). In 127 he paid homage to 'Abdallāh b. Mu'āwiya (*ibid.*, p. 1883) and/or once more performed the service of getting a rebel out of the castle in Kufa when he obtained a general *amān* for 'Abdallāh, himself and his people, and the Zaydis (*ibid.*, p. 1887). Whatever his exact involvement with Ibn Mu'āwiya, he was dismissed from the *shurṭa* for it (*ibid.*, p. 1902).

- (40) ‘Umāra b. Abī Kultbūm al-Azdī/Yemen. One of Khālid al-Qasrī’s *tbiqāt*, and a commander in Yazid’s army against Walid (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1797, 1819). He was executed by Marwān II (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.).
- (41) Walīd b. Hassān al-Ghassānī/Yemen. A head of the *shurṭa* in Kufa under ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Umar in 127 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1902). He was doubtless a Syrian.
- (42) Ya‘qūb b. ‘Abd al-Rahmān b. Sulaym al-Kalbī/Yemen. A conspirator against Walid whose father had served in Iraq (cf. Appendix III, no. 4).
- (43) Yazīd b. al-‘Aqqār al-Kalbī/Yemen. A participant in the revolt against Walid. He was head of Yazid’s *ḥaras* or *shurṭa* and died in Marwān’s prison (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1878).
- (44) Yazīd b. Ḥajara al-Ghassānī/Yemen. A participant in the revolt against Walid who is praised for his religious merit. He is said to have advised Yazid against the appointment of Mansūr b. Jumhūr to Iraq on the ground that Mansūr was an irreligious bedouin (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1837).
- (45) Ziyād b. Ḥusayn al-Kalbī/Yemen. A rebel against Walid II who fell in the battle against him (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1797).
- (46) Three *ru’ūs al-Yamaniyya* are mentioned as having interceded for Thābit b. Nu‘aym al-Judhāmī, the prisoner of Hishām: ‘Abd al-Rahmān b. Dakhm, Ka‘b b. Hāmid al-Absī, and Sulaymān b. Ḥabib, his *qādī* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1871; for Thābit see above, no. 34). Apparently then we have a case of Qaysis described as members of the *Yamaniyya*. In fact, however, all three men were of Yemeni descent. The first was of ‘Ans. Dakhm b. Qurra is listed by Ibn al-Kalbī as a *sharīf* of ‘Ans in Damascus (*Ḡambara*, table 272 and s.v.) and ‘Abd al-Rahman was doubtless his son; a grandson, Yazid b. Ya‘lā b. Dakhm is also found at Hishām’s court: he was head of the *shurṭa* (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 544, where he has become an ‘Absī; Ibn Ḥabib, *Muhabbar*, p. 374, where he is correctly given as an ‘Ansī). The second was likewise of ‘Ans. Ka‘b b. Hāmid was head of the *shurṭa* of ‘Abd al-Malik, Walid, Sulaymān, Yazid, and Hishām at various times (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1342; Ibn Ḥabib, *Muhabbar*, pp. 373f; Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 377, 393, 349, 359). He is all but invariably given as an ‘Absī, but Ibn Ḥabib has him as an ‘Ansī and there is no doubt that he is right; the change of ‘Ans into the better known ‘Abs is commonplace, and moreover the Syrian ‘Ans are known to have been concentrated in Damascus (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v.).

‘Ans b. Mālik’). That leaves Sulaymān b. Ḥabīb. Now the *qādī* of that name was certainly of Muḥārib/Qays, and since he died in 126 he could just be the man envisaged (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 557; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1226, 1338). But there was another Sulaymān b. Ḥabīb who was governor of Ahwāz for Ibn ‘Umar in the civil war and later fled to Ibn Mu‘āwiya in Fars, and this Sulaymān was of course a Muḥallabid, a well-known *ra’s al-Yamaniyya* (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1946f, 1977f; cf. also Van Vloten, ‘Zur Abbasidengeschichte’, p. 26, and Appendix III, no. 23). ‘His *qādī*’ is evidently a gloss, and that a wrong one.

#### B. THE QAYSIYYA

- (47) *Abān b. ‘Abd al-Rahmān b. Bistām al-Numayrī/Qays*. A little known collaborator of Yūsuf b. ‘Umar al-Thaqafī who was executed by the ‘Abbāsids after the fall of Wāsit (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1779f; Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡamhara*, s.v.).
- (48) *‘Abdallāh b. ‘Abd al-‘Aṣṭār b. Hātim al-Bāhili/Qays*. A Mesopotamian general of sharifian descent who served under Ibn Hubatra (cf. Appendix I, no. 14).
- (49) *‘Abd al-Malik b. Muḥammad b. ‘Atiyya al-Sa‘dī/Mudar*. A general, doubtless from the Jazīra, who campaigned against the Ibādīs in Arabia for Marwān in 130 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 2012ff; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, pp. 595ff). He was accompanied by his nephew, Walid b. ‘Urwa b. Muḥammad, who became governor of Medina in 130f (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 2014, ser. iii, p. 11; cf. Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 603).
- (50) *‘Abd al-Rahmān b. Bashīr al-‘Ijlī/Rabi‘a*. A governor of Kufa for Ibn Hubayra in 127 who was also head of the Kufan *shurṭa* in 132 (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1916, ser. iii, pp. 18, 20); after Muḥammad b. Khālid al-Qasrī’s revolt in favour of the ‘Abbāsids he fled to Ibn Hubayra in Wāsit and endured the siege with him (*ibid.*, ser. iii, p. 64), and he is presumably to be identified with the ‘Abdallāh b. Bishr who was executed by the ‘Abbāsids (Dinawarī, *Akbbār*, p. 371). Judging by his *nisba*, he was a Kufan.
- (51) *Abū Bakr b. Ka‘b al-‘Uqaylī/Qays*. A governor of Khuwār for Marwān II who ended up among the *wujūb al-Qaysiyya* in Wāsit and was executed after the siege (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1, 68; Dinawarī, *Akbbār*, p. 371).
- (52) *‘Āmir b. Dubāra al-Murri/Qays*. A general who is first met on a summer campaign against Byzantium in A.D. 726 (Theophanes,

*Chronographia*, A.M. 6218); he was later one of the major assistants of Ibn Hubayra who appointed him to Hamadhān and apparently also Sīstān (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1885, 1945, 1947ff, 1978ff, ser. iii, pp. 2, 21ff; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 586, 600, 617; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, pp. 160ff; Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, pp. 77f).

- (53) *Asīd b. Zāfir al-Sulamī/Qays*. A Mesopotamian general who served both Muhammād b. Marwān and Marwān b. Muhammād in Armenia (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 205, 207). Nothing is known of his ancestors, but his descendants were around in the area until the end of the third century. Yazīd b. Asīd became governor of Armenia under Abū'l-Abbās and of Mosul, apparently together with the Jazīra, for Mansūr (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 81, 84; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 217; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 265); in 155 he was appointed to Armenia and Azerbaijan where he campaigned against the Khazars (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 209f; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 664); and in 157 he conducted a summer campaign (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 666). He disliked Yemenis and was full of 'asabiyā against them (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 259). Khālid b. Asīd was appointed deputy governor of Armenia by Faḍl b. Yaḥyā al-Barmakī (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 516), while Ahmād b. Yazīd became governor of Mosul and later also of Armenia thanks to the patronage of Yaḥyā b. Khālid al-Barmakī; but Ahmād had to be recalled because the Khurāsānīs could not bear him; he also had to be protected when he ventured to Baghdad and got pelted with stones for his prejudice against them (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 295). Like his father he thought there were too many Yemenis in the world, but his plans to reduce their number fell through when their *wujūb* absconded from his camp and returned to Mosul where they refused to let him in; whereupon Ahmād went burning and killing in the environs, refusing to believe that the government could disapprove of this reaction to such manifest insubordination. Apparently he was right, for the caliph sent a cousin of his to reinforce him, though not to much avail (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 296f). After this inglorious affair there is silence for a generation. Under Ma'mūn, however, Yaqzān b. 'Abd al-A'lā b. Ahmād b. Yazīd became governor of Armenia; he fell on Byzantine territory in 210 (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 565; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 192). And yet another descendant of Ahmād appears in 281 in the form of Abū'l-Agharr Khalifa b. al-Mubārak, the lord of Sumaysāt and apparently a rebel against the government at the time (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 2410; cf. Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 295). Abū'l-Agharr later

became a great supporter of the caliphs, assisting them against their own insubordinate servants and protecting the pilgrims from bedouin attack on their behalf (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 2191f, 2199, 2216); Muktafi counted him among the *wujuh al-quwwād* (*ibid.*, p. 2248) and sent him against the Carmathians in Syria in 290, when he had the satisfaction of commanding the *Farāqbinā* and other caliphal troops; but he was nonetheless defeated and is last met on a *sā'ifa* in 297 (*ibid.*, pp. 2222, 2231f, 2275).

- (54) *‘Aṣim b. ‘Abdallāh b. Yazīd (or Burayd) al-Hilālī/Qays*. A Mesopotamian who makes his first appearance as governor of Khurāsān in 116–17 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1482, 1564ff, 1573ff; Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 461f, 466f). Having returned to the Jazīra, he became governor of Armenia for Marwān II in 126, and he was one of the leaders of Qays who joined the latter when he set out for Syria; according to others, he stayed in Armenia where he was killed in 127 (Azdī, *Mawsil*, pp. 56, 61; Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 404f). His son Zufar supported the revolt of ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Alī who appointed him to Aleppo or Qinnasrīn and entrusted him with the murder of Ḥumayd b. Qaḥṭaba, which he failed to accomplish (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 94; Ibn al-‘Adīm, *Zubda*, vol. i, p. 57; Omar, ‘*Abbāsid Caliphate*, p. 185, where Zufar has become a Muḥallabī). Despite the revolt Zufar’s career was unimpaired. He conducted summer campaigns in 154, 156 and possibly also in 157, became governor of Medina in 160 and was appointed to the Jazīra in 163 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 373, 378, 380, 482, 498ff). Mu‘āwiya b. Zufar conducted summer campaigns in 178 and 180 (*ibid.*, pp. 637, 645) and may have been governor of Rayy (Miles, *Numismatic History of Rayy*, pp. 56, 65f). ‘Abbās b. Zufar was one of Hārūn’s governors of Armenia (Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 519) and also served in Tabaristān (Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta’rikh*, vol. i, p. 197 = 141). After Hārūn’s death he was one of the *Zawāqil* whom Amīn tried to enrol for his war against Ma’mūn (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 845) and one of the local rulers who emerged in Syria in the chaotic period after the civil war (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 363; Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, pp. 495, 497, 499f = vol. iii, pp. 27, 31, 36, 38); it was doubtless in this capacity that he protected the Hāshimites of the Aleppo area against marauding bedouins (Balādhuri, *Futūh*, pp. 145f).

- (55) *‘Atīf b. Bisr al-Sulāmī/Qays*. One of the generals with whom Marwān II reinforced ‘Amir b. Dūbāra in Mosul (Tabarī, ser. ii,

- p. 1945; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 162, where he is mentioned together with a certain Shaqīq al-Sulamī). He was later sent to Rayy to reinforce Naṣr b. Sayyār, which he did not do (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 32), and finally he is said to have reinforced Ibn Ḏubāra once more in 131, this time in Fars (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 600).
- (56) *Bisr b. Sallām al-'Abdī/Rabī'a*. Governor of Bahrayn for Yazīd b. 'Umar b. Hubayra (cf. Appendix III, no. 105).
- (57) *Habib b. Budayl al-Nabshālī/Mudar*. Ibn Hubayra's governor of Rayy (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 2f; Miles, *Numismatic History of Rayy*, p. 19). He left with the Syrian troops on the approach of the Khurāsānīs and is no more heard (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 3). But his son, Waddāh b. Ḥabīb Abū Budayl, who had been in Khurāsān under Naṣr, reappears in the service of Maḥdī (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1888, ser. iii, p. 496).
- (58) *Habib b. Murra al-Murri/Qays*. One of Marwān's *fursān* and *qurwād* who rebelled against the 'Abbāsids in the Balqā' and Hawrān area in 132 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 52f). He is probably identical with the Ḥabib b. Murra who was head of the *shurṭa* of Junayd b. 'Abd al-Rahmān al-Murri in Khurāsān (*ibid.*, ser. ii, p. 1529). It is true that Ṭabarī calls this second Ḥabib an 'Absī, but he lists him just after another 'Absī, so this *nisba* can probably be put down to dittography.
- (59) *Hakam b. Yazīd al-Usaydī/Mudar*. A Basran who was one of Yūsuf b. 'Umar al-Thaqafī's candidates for the governorship of Khurāsān in 120, and who was appointed to Kerman by Yazīd b. 'Umar b. Hubayra under Marwān (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1663, where Asadi should be emended to Usaydi, cf. Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gambara*, table 83). 'Umar b. Yazīd al-Usaydi, his brother, had been head of the *shurṭa* and *ahdātih* in Basra for Maslama and a fervent anti-Yemeni who paid for it with his life under Khālid al-Qasrī (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1417, 1468, 1495f; cf. the garbled passage in Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 410; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, pp. 87f).
- (60) *Harb b. Qatān al-Hilālī/Qays*. Yūsuf b. 'Umar's governor of Sīstān who joined Marwān's troops (cf. Appendix III, no. 32).
- (61) *Hawthara b. Subayl al-Bābilī/Qays*. Marwān's governor of Egypt who was executed after the siege of Wāsiṭ or in Egypt (cf. Appendix III, no. 67).
- (62) *Hisbām b. 'Amr al-Taḡlabī/Rabī'a*. A Mesopotamian general who was governor of Mosul for Marwān together with Bishr b. Khuzayma al-Asadi/Mudar; after the battle of the Zāb they refused to open the gates for the defeated caliph and deserted to 'Abdallāh

- b. ‘Ali (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 47; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 133 where Hishām is a Zuhayrī; cf. Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, table 165). Hishām did well under the ‘Abbāsids. Manṣūr employed him during the construction of Baghdad and appointed him to Sind in 151 (Ya‘qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 242 = 18; *id.*, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 448f., 462; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 359; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 444f.). His brother Bistām b. ‘Amr was deputy governor of Sind under Manṣūr (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 678); yet another brother, Sufayh b. ‘Amr, was governor of Sind for Mahdī (*ibid.*, p. 697); and finally a nephew of his, Muḥammad b. ‘Adī, was governor of Sind for Hārūn (*ibid.*, p. 746).
- (63) *Ishaq* and *Īsā b. Muslim al-‘Uqaylī/Qays*. Two descendants of a Mesopotamian *sharīf* (cf. Appendix I, no. 16).
- (64) *Ja’wana b. al-Hārith al-‘Amiri/Qays*. A general from Edessa (Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. iii, p. 392). Muḥammad b. Marwān employed him in a campaign against a local Khārijite (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 351); ‘Umar II appointed him to the *durūb* (Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. iii, p. 391; cf. Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 196); and Maslama sent him to Armenia with Sa‘id al-Ḥarashi (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 206). He was known as an eager adherent of Marwān II (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. ‘Ḡa’wana b. al-Hārit’), and his son Manṣūr b. Ja’wana was both the leader of the Edessene revolt against the ‘Abbāsids in 132 and a supporter of ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Ali in 137 (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 192; Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. iii, p. 392; cf. Omar, ‘Abbāsid Caliphate, p. 185, where he has become a Kalbi).
- (65) *Kawthar b. al-Aswad al-Ghanawī/Qays*. The head of Marwān’s *shurṭa* in 127 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1910; Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muhabbar*, p. 374). His son ‘Abd al-Malik was governor of Qinnasrīn (Ibn al-‘Adīm, *Zubda*, vol. i, p. 50). Kawthar was among the few men who stayed by Marwān after his defeat on the Zāb, accompanying him on his flight to Syria and beyond (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 136).
- (66) *Majrā’ā b. al-Kawthar Abū'l-Ward al-Kilābī/Qays*. A descendant of Zufar b. al-Hārith, the *sharīf* from Qinnasrīn (cf. Appendix I, no. 19).
- (67) *Mālik b. Adham b. Muhriz al-Bābilī/Qays*. The son of a Ḥimṣī who had fought for Mu‘āwiya in the first civil war and for Marwān in the second, and who had been one of Hajjāj’s *quurwād* (Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. ii, p. 364; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 553). Mālik served in Armenia under Maslama in 105 (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 480). In the third civil war he sided with Marwān and un-

successfully defended Hamadhān against Qaḥṭaba; having entrenched himself at Nihāwand together with his Syrian troops and the refugees from Khurāsān, he finally surrendered with *amān* for himself and the Syrians, leaving the Khurāsānis to be executed (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 2, 6f; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 600f). In 142 he commanded the Syrian troops at Adhana (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 168), and he frequented the court of Mansūr (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 439).

- (68) *Ma'n b. Zā'ida al-Shaybānī/Rabi'a*. A general, doubtless from Mesopotamia, who was sent against 'Abdallāh b. Mu'āwiya and the residue of the *Yamaniyya* in Fārs in 129 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1978f); he returned to Iraq and fought against the 'Abbāsids at Wāsit, where he was one of the men who claimed to have killed Qaḥṭaba (*ibid.*, ser. iii, pp. 15, 63). After the 'Abbāsid victory he kept a low profile until 141, when he came out of hiding to deal with the *Rāwandiyya*, doing so well that Mansūr gave him *amān*, incorporated him in his *sahāba*, and appointed him first to the Yemen and next to Sīstān, where he fell in battle against the Khārijites in 152 (*Ibid.*, pp. 131ff, 394, 368f; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 659, 677; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 143ff; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 401f). Zā'ida b. Ma'n, his son, succeeded him as governor of the Yemen (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 462f), while another son, Sharāhīl b. Ma'n, is found on Hārūn's campaign against the Byzantines in 190 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 709). Ma'n's maternal uncle was Ibn Abī'l-'Awjā', the notorious *zindiq* who was crucified in the 150s (Vajda, 'Les Zindiqs', pp. 193ff), but no heresy is attested for the branch of the family that stayed in the army.

It was Ma'n's paternal nephews rather than his sons who rose to great prominence under the early 'Abbāsids. Yazīd b. Mazyad had been with his uncle in Sīstān (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 143ff); under Mahdī he campaigned against Yūsuf al-Barm in Khurāsān, participated in a summer campaign in 165, and was sent with Hādī to Jurjān in 167 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 470, 503, 519; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 478f); Hādī enlisted his support for the annulment of Hārūn's succession and appointed him to Armenia where he stayed until 172 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 572, 607); Hārūn employed him against a Khārijite in the Jazīra in 179 and appointed him to Armenia and Azerbaijan in 183; he died there in 183, leaving Asad b. Yazīd as his successor (*ibid.*, pp. 648, 650; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 515ff). Asad b. Yazīd was among the generals who were sent to Ma'mūn in Marw in 193, but he returned

to fight for Amīn in the civil war, fell into disgrace with the latter, and was replaced by his uncle Ahmad b. Mazyad (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 734, 833ff); he may have been governor of Rayy in 181 (Miles, *Numismatic History of Rayy*, p. 70). Muhammad b. Yazid suppressed a Khārijite revolt in 190 and participated in Hārūn's Byzantine campaign in 191 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 711, 712). 'Ubaydallāh b. Yazid came to Egypt with the Afshīn in 216 (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 191), and Muhammad b. 'Ubaydallāh b. Yazid b. Mazyad, his son, was governor of Alexandria in 252 under Mu'tazz (*ibid.*, p. 205). Khālid b. Yazid was governor of Kufa at the time of Abūl-Sarāya's revolt for Hasan b. Sahl, campaigned against Egyptian rebels for Ma'mūn and governed Armenia for both Ma'mūn and Wāthiq (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 543, 555f, 565, 588; cf. Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1075; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 174ff). Ahmad b. Khālid was governor of Damascus for Mu'tazz (Ṣafadi, *Umarā'*, p. 5). Muhammad b. Khālid took over the governorship of Armenia on his father's death, was re-appointed by Mutawakkil, and stayed on under Musta'in for whom he fought in Baghdad in 251 (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 588, 599; Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1577, 1615). Muhammad and his brothers Haytham and Yazid founded the dynasty of the Yazidīs in Shirwān who lasted down to the Seljuq invasions and were among the rare Arabs to exchange their native genealogy for a Persian one (Madelung, 'The Minor Dynasties of Northern Iran', pp. 243ff).

- (69) *Miswar b. 'Abbād al-Habatī/Mudar*. A Basran *sharif* who was employed by both Yemenis and Qaysis (cf. Appendix I, no. 20).
- (70) *Nadr b. Sa'īd al-Harashī/Qays*. A Mesopotamian general who was Marwān's first governor of Iraq (cf. Appendix III, no. 74).
- (71) *Nubāta b. Ḥarqala and Muhammad b. Nubāta al-Kilabī/Qays*. Two Syrian *wujūb al-Qaysiyya* in Iraq (cf. Appendix III, no. 116).
- (72) *Qatrān b. Akama al-Shaybānī/Rabi'a*. A Jazīran who was appointed to Mosul by Marwān II in 127 and killed by Dahhāk al-Khārijī in the same year (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1938; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 68f).
- (73) *Rumāhis b. 'Abd al-'Azzīz al-Kinānī/Mudar*. One of the leaders of Marwān's *shurṭa* and later his governor of Palestine (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambara*, s.v.; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1895; Grohmann, *Arabic Papyri from Hirbet el-Mird*, nos. 43, 87). He fled with Marwān to Egypt and escaped from there to Spain where he became gover-

- nor of Algeciras and later rebelled (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 46; Ibn 'Idhārī, *Bayān*, vol. ii, p. 56; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tahdhib*, vol. v, p. 328). Ibn al-Kalbi attributes the same career to his son 'Abd al-'Azīz b. Rumāhīs (*Ḡambara*, s.v.).
- (74) *Salm b. Qutayba al-Bābili/Qays*. Ibn Hubayra's governor of Basra (cf. Appendix III, no. 33).
- (75) *Saqr or Safar b. Ḥabib al-Murri/Qays*. One of Marwān's men who killed 'Umar b. Hāni' al-'Ansī (Van Ess, 'Les Qadarites et la Gailāniya', p. 277; Ibn Ḥibbān, '*Ulāmā*', p. 112). He was perhaps a son of Habib b. Murra (above, no. 58).
- (76) *Sulaymān b. 'Abdallāh b. 'Ulātha al-'Uqayli/Qays*. A governor of the Jazira appointed by the son of Marwān in 126 on the news of the murder of Walid II (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 187of). The *nisba* is provided by Ibn al-Kalbi, who also knows that Sulaymān had been *qādī* for Hishām (*Ḡambara*, table 102 and s.v.). Muhammad b. 'Abdallāh, his brother, similarly appears in the service of Marwān, who sent him to convey his oath of allegiance to Yazīd III in Syria (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1873). Under the 'Abbāsids Muhammad became *qādī* in Baghdad under Mansūr and Mahdi (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 462, 472, 529; Ibn al-Kalbi, *Ḡambara*, s.v.).
- (77) *Tāriq b. Qudāma*. A general in the service of Ibn Hubayra at Wāsit, where he was executed by the 'Abbāsids (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 68; Dīnawarī, *Akbār*, p. 37of). According to Dīnawarī he was of Qasr/Yemen; Tabarī, however, enumerates him among the *wujūb al-Qaysiyya* and *Mudāriyya*; in all likelihood, therefore, he was not a Qasrī, but a Qushayrī.
- (78) *Tha'laba b. Salāma al-'Amīl/Yemen*. A general who had commanded the Jordanian troops in Kulthūm b. 'Iyād's North African expedition, and who was governor of Jordan for Marwān II; he fled with Marwān from Syria (Lafuente, *Ajbar*, p. 30, cf. pp. 44, 46; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 46; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 136f). His Yemeni genealogy is not in doubt (cf. Ibn al-Kalbi, *Ḡambara*, table 244), and why he should have thrown in his lot so thoroughly with the *Qaysiyya* is not clear; it would seem also to have surprised his contemporaries (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 136f).
- (79) *'Utbān b. 'Abd al-A'lā b. Surāqa al-Azdī/Yemen*. One of Marwān's governors of Mosul (cf. Appendix II, no. 43).
- (80) *Wathiq b. Hudhayl al-Kilābī/Qays*. A descendant of Zufar, the *sharīf* from Qinnasrīn (cf. Appendix I, no. 19).
- (81) *Yazīd b. 'Umar b. Hubayra al-Fazārī/Qays*. Marwān's governor of Iraq (cf. Appendix I, no. 17).

- (82) *Zāmil b. ‘Amr al-Hubrānī/Yemen*. A somewhat enigmatic figure who became governor of Damascus by local choice after Marwān's arrival there in 127, but who was wholly on Marwān's side in the revolt which broke out after Marwān's departure (*Ṭabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1892, 1894; cf. Ibn Ḥabib, *Muhabbar*, p. 485). He is also said to have been governor of Ḥims, where he was wholly on the side of rebels such as Thābit b. Nu‘aym al-Judhāmī (*Kindī, Governors*, p. 86; Ibn ‘Asākir, *Tahdhīb*, vol. v, p. 346). It is thus hard to decide on which side he belonged. His *nisba* also varies a good deal, but most of them are clearly variations on Hubrānī (of Ḥimyar), the reading suggested by Ibn al-Kalbī (*Ḡambara*, s.v. ‘Zāmil b. ‘Amr').
- (83) *Ziyād b. Ṣakhr al-Lakhmī/Yemen*. A Syrian who had been deputy governor of Kufa under Yūsuf b. ‘Umar and who held some administrative office in Palestine under Marwān (cf. Appendix III, no. 122).
- (84) *Ziyād b. Sāliḥ al-Hārithī/Yemen*. Ziyād's grandfather is supposed to have fought at Qādisiyya (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ḡambara*, s.v. ‘al-Aswad b. Ziyād'), so Ziyād was presumably an Iraqi. He was governor of Kufa for Ibn Hubayra in 132 (*Ṭabarī*, ser. iii, p. 18; Khalifa, *Ta’rīk*, pp. 607, 616; he is not to be confused with the ‘Abbāsid *naqib* of the same name who was of Khuza‘a). When Muḥammad b. Khālid al-Qasrī rebelled in favour of the approaching Khurāsānīs, Ziyād went to Wāsiṭ, where he is said to have been among Ibn Hubayra's closest companions and to have been entrusted by him with the *harāsa* of the city; nonetheless, he was among the generals who responded to the Yemeni propaganda of the future Mansūr and defected to the ‘Abbāsids (*Ṭabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 18, 65f; Dīnawarī, *Akbār*, pp. 368f). The sources offer no explanation for this unusual companionship.
- (85) *Ziyād b. Suwayd al-Murri/Qays*. The head of Ibn Hubayra's *shurṭa* in Wāsiṭ (cf. Appendix III, no. 77).

## APPENDIX V

### THE 'ABBĀSID SERVANTS, 750–813 [132–98]

This appendix is a list of Khurāsānīs and clients who held office under the early 'Abbāsids. The list is selective, but should include the best known representatives of the two groups. The information is largely restricted to offices and commands. Where possible, the fortunes of the families have been traced beyond 198, but none of the men who make their appearance under Ma'mūn have been included.

#### A. KHURĀSĀNIYYA (AHL AL-DAWLA AND ABNĀ')

- (1) 'Abd al-Jabbār b. 'Abd al-Rahmān al-Azdī. A dā'i and general of the revolution who was appointed head of Abū'l-'Abbās' *shurṭa* on his arrival in Iraq (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 2003f, ser. iii, pp. 76, 100f, cf. p. 67). He kept this position under Mansūr until he was appointed governor of Khurāsān in 140; here he began a purge of the army and ended up by rebelling in favour of the 'Alids (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 469; Omar, '*'Abbāsid Caliphate*', pp. 205ff; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*², s.v. "Abd al-Djabbar b. 'Abd al-Rahmān"). His brother 'Abd al-'Azīz was governor of Basra for Mansūr (Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 674); he is also mentioned as having combated a Khārijite in the Jazīra in 128 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 122). 'Umar b. 'Abd al-Rahmān, another brother, is said to have been in charge of the *shurṭa* of Baghdad at the time of Mansūr's death, or, alternatively, to have replaced his brother as head of Mansūr's *shurṭa* on the latter's appointment to Khurāsān (*ibid.*, pp. 458f; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 469). On 'Abd al-Jabbār's revolt 'Umar was replaced by Mūsā b. Ka'b (cf. below, no. 16). 'Abd al-Sallām b. 'Abd al-Rahmān was appointed to the *sawāfi*, *qatā'i* and *kharṣa'* in by Abū Salama on the arrival of the Khurāsānīs in Iraq (*Akbār al-'dawlat al-'abbāsiyya*, p. 377). 'Abd al-'Azīz b. 'Abd al-Rahmān b. 'Abd al-Jabbār appears as an officer in Ḥātim b. Harthama's army in Egypt under Amīn (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 147); he was still there at the time of Ma'mūn's designation

- of al-Ridā, when he headed the local revolt (*ibid.*, p. 168).
- (2) *Abū'l-'Abbās Faḍl b. Sulaymān al-Tā'i al-Tūsī*. A member of a family long established in Khurāsān (cf. Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1422, 1521). He was *dā'i* in Abīward and a prominent general in the revolution (*ibid.*, pp. 1950, 1963, 2001, ser. iii, p. 20). In 141 he was appointed head of the *haras* of Mansūr who also entrusted him with his seal (*ibid.*, p. 131, cf. p. 455; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 684; Jahshiyārī, *Wurqarā'*, p. 124), and in 142 he became governor of Ṭabaristān (Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta'rikh*, vol. i, p. 189). He retained his leadership of the *haras* under Mahdī until 165 or 166 when he was appointed to Khurāsān, where he stayed until the early years of Hārūn (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 689, 696, 700, 706, 745; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 483; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 517, 521, 740). On his return to Baghdad in 171 he was put in charge of Hārūn's seal, but he died soon after (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 751; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 605f). 'Abdallāh Abī'l-'Abbas was head of Mahdī's *haras* after his father's appointment to Khurāsān (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 700). Muḥammad b. Abī'l-'Abbas was a member of Ma'mūn's army and a brother-in-law of Tāhir (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1040f; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 569; Tayfūr, *Kitāb Baghdād*, pp. 28f).
- (3) *Abū 'Awn 'Abd al-Malik b. Yaqṣid*, *mauli* of Hunā'a/Azd. A native of Jurjān whose names reveal a pro-Umayyad background. He joined the revolution in 129, followed Qaḥṭaba to Iraq and 'Abdallāh b. 'Ali to Syria and Egypt, where he was twice governor between 133 and 141 (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v.; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 101ff; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 72, 75, 81, 84; Grohmann, *Corpus Papyrorum Raineri*, vol. i, part two, nos. 120f; Margoliouth, *Catalogue*, pp. 28ff; Miles, *Glass Weights*, pp. 103ff; *id.*, *Supplement*, pp. 19ff). By 150 he was back in Khurāsān where he participated in the suppression of Ustādhīs and became governor in 159, only to be dismissed in disgrace in the following year (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 358, 459, 477; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 676, 696, where he has unaccountably become a Ḥimsī). Though rarely seen there, he had settled in Baghdad together with his *ashab*, similarly natives of Jurjān (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 249 = 32).
- (4) *Abū Ghānim 'Abd al-Hamīd b. Rib'i al-Ta'i*. A *dā'i* in Marw and cousin of Qaḥṭaba who fought under the latter in the revolution; he was head of Qaḥṭaba's *shurta* (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, table 257; Omar, 'Abbāsid Caliphate, p. 352; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 2001, ser. iii, p. 15). On his arrival in Iraq he was among the

generals who elected Abū l-‘Abbās when Abū Salama prevaricated (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 28, 36). He participated in the battle of the Zāb, followed ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Alī to Syria, became governor of Damascus, and was among the Khurāṣānis who supported ‘Abdallāh’s claim to the caliphate on Abū l-‘Abbās’ death (*ibid.*, pp. 38, 53f, 93; Ṣafadī, *Umarā'*, p. 50). His subsequent fate appears unknown to the published sources.

His sons seem initially to have stayed in Khurāṣān. Aṣrām b. ‘Abd al-Ḥamīd was sent from there to Sīstān where he died as governor under Hārūn (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 745f; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 152, 155). Ḥumayd b. ‘Abd al-Ḥamīd was similarly governor of Sīstān, first as his brother’s deputy and next in his own right (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 152, 155). It was in his house in Tūs that Hārūn died in 193 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 737f). Ḥumayd, however, came to Iraq as a member of Ma'mūn’s army, and he fought against the rebel Baghdadis under Ḥasan b. Sahl in 201–3 (*ibid.*, pp. 1005f, 1012, 1018f, 1030, 1032ff). He died in 210 (*ibid.*, p. 1085). Muḥammad b. Ḥumayd doubtless came west the same way. He fought against Bābak together with his cousin, Mahdi b. Aṣrām, and fell in battle in 214 (*ibid.*, pp. 1099, 1101; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 564f). Ghānim b. Abī Muslim b. Ḥumayd al-Tūsī was military governor of Mosul for Wāthiq in 231 when he suppressed a Khārijite revolt (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1351). ‘Abdallāh [b. Abī Muslim?] b. Ḥumayd al-Tūsī fell together with his son in battle against the Zanj in 256 (*ibid.*, p. 1837).

- (5) *Abū Ḥumayd al-Marwarrūdhī*. A general who fought under Qaḥṭaba in the revolution. He later served under ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Alī in Syria where he was appointed to Manbij, but quit on ‘Abdallāh’s declaration of revolt (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 2001, ser. iii, pp. 47, 94). Ibrāhīm b. Ḥumayd al-Marwarrūdhī, presumably a relative of his, was governor of Sīstān for Mansūr and an agent of Hārūn in the fall of the Barmakids (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 677; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 285 = 97; Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 679f).
- (6) *Asīd b. ‘Abdallāh al-Kburī*. A dā'i from Nasā who commanded the troops of Nasā and Abīward for Abū Muslim and Qaḥṭaba during the revolution (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1950, 1963f, 1972, 1987, 2002ff; Omar, ‘Abbāsid Caliphate, p. 73). On his arrival in Iraq he was briefly appointed governor of Basra (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 23; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 616, where Asīd has become Asad). Next he was put in charge of the ḥaras and seal of Abū l-‘Abbās (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 635; cf. Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 433).

- where it is his son Abū Bakr b. Asad (*sic*) who held this office). Finally, he was appointed to Khurāsān by Mansūr; he died in office (Khalifa, *Tā'rikh*, p. 676; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 303 = 130).
- (7) *The Barmakids.* Only a simple enumeration of the offices held by this famous family need be given here; for further details, see Sourdel, *Vizirat*, pp. 127ff.

Khālid b. Barmak was the son of a leader of a Buddhist monastery in Balkh and a *mawlā islām* of Khuzā'a; he fought in the revolution under Qahtāba who entrusted him with the distribution of booty (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1964); Abū l-'Abbās appointed him to the *diwan al-kharāj* and later to the entire administration; Mansūr appointed him to Fars, Tabaristān and Mosul; and Mahdī appointed him to Fars once more (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'Barāmika'). He was the foster-father of Rayṭā, the daughter of Abū'l-'Abbās (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 840). Abū 'Ubayd Mu'āwiya b. Barmak al-Balkhī, who is mentioned as a settler in Baghdad, was presumably his brother (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 252 = 38).

Muhammad b. Khālid b. Barmak was governor of the Yemen and the Jazīra for Hārūn for whom he was also chamberlain (Khalifa, *Tā'rikh*, pp. 742, 747, 752; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 638). Yahyā b. Khālid b. Barmak was the foster-father of Hārūn, his wife and Khayzurān having exchanged sons, and Hārūn addressed him as his father (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 599, cf. p. 545; Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, p. 177). Having become secretary to Hārūn under Mahdī, he was put in charge of the entire administration and the seal on Hārūn's accession (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 491f., 497, 500, 631; Khalifa, *Tā'rikh*, p. 751).

Faḍl b. Yahyā b. Khālid, Hārūn's foster-brother, similarly held the seal and the vizierate under Hārūn (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 603f., 606). In 176 he was appointed to Armenia, Azerbayjan, Tabaristān, Jibāl and other Persian provinces and fought against the 'Alid rebel Yahyā b. 'Abdallāh; in 177 he also received Khurāsān, where he campaigned against Ushrūsana, organized Hārūn's Iranian army, and had allegiance taken to Amīn, the heir apparent (*ibid.*, pp. 611, 612ff., 629, 631). He was also tutor to Amīn (Sourdel, *Vizirat*, p. 147). Ja'far b. Yahyā b. Khālid likewise held the seal at various times under Hārūn (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 609, 644). He was governor of Egypt and Khurāsān which he administered by deputy (*ibid.*, pp. 626, 629, 644; Khalifa, *Tā'rikh*, pp. 745, 747) and also head of Hārūn's *haras* to which he appointed Harthama b. A'yan deputy (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 644f.;

Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 751). In addition he was head of the postal service, the Mint and the textile manufacture, and tutor to Ma'mūn (Sourdel, *Vizirat*, pp. 150f). Finally, he was commander of the army which was sent to suppress the 'asabiyya in Syria in 180 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 639ff). Mūsā b. Yaḥyā b. Khālid was appointed to Syria in 176 on the first outbreak of 'asabiyya (*ibid.*, p. 625). Having been released from prison by Amin, he made a minor political come-back under Ma'mūn who appointed him to India; here he was succeeded by his son, 'Imrān b. Mūsā, who was killed in office during an outbreak of 'asabiyya under Wāthiq (Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, p. 297; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 445; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 557).

- (8) *Harthama b. A'yan, mawlā* of B. Ḏabba. A Khurasānī who makes his first appearance in 153 when he was brought to Baghdad in chains as a result of his support of 'Isā b. Mūsā, the heir apparent who had been forced to resign (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 371). He stayed in Baghdad, played a major role in the enthronement of Hārūn (*ibid.*, pp. 599f), and rose to great prominence under this caliph. He was governor of Palestine, Egypt, North Africa and Mosul at various times (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 630, 645; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 233; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 747, 748; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 294f, 303), conducted two summer campaigns (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 712; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 169), became head of Hārūn's *ḥaras*, first as the deputy of Ja'far al-Barmakī and next in his own right (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 645, 667, 704; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 751), assisted Hārūn in the destruction of the Barmakids (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 679f), and finally, in 191 he was appointed to Khurāsān with the title of *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn* which he kept under Ma'mūn (*ibid.*, pp. 716, 927, cf. also p. 913). He was in Khurāsān at the time of Hārūn's death, and in contrast with the Abnā' he sided with Ma'mūn in the civil war. Having been appointed to Ma'mūn's *ḥaras*, he went with Tāhir to Iraq, where he stayed on after Amin's death to fight Abū'l-Sarāya (*ibid.*, pp. 734, 775, 777, 802, 840 etc., 971ff). He then returned to Khurāsān with the intention of denouncing Fadl b. Sahl to Ma'mūn, but Ma'mūn refused to listen and had him thrown in jail where he was killed (*ibid.*, pp. 996ff; cf. *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'Harthama b. A'yan').

Hātim b. Harthama was governor of Egypt for Amin, and later of Armenia and Azerbaijan where he tried to raise a revolt on the news of his father's death (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 147;

De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 350; Azdi, *Mawsil*, p. 339). A'yan b. Harthama, who was governor of Sīstān in 205, was doubtless also a son of the famous general (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 176; Miles, *Rare Islamic Coins*, p. 73). Muḥammad b. Hātim b. Hartama was governor of Armenia under Mutawakkil (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 1380). Ahmad b. Muḥammad b. Hātim b. Harthama was governor of the right bank of Baghdad under Musta'in in 249 (*ibid.*, p. 1511; the text has Khālid for Hātim). Yet another relative of Harthama's is known in 'Abd al-Wāhid b. Sallāma al-Ṭahlāzī, who was one of the leaders of Ma'mūn's *haras* (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 574). But Ya'qūbī notwithstanding, the Muḥammad b. Harthama who appears in Barqa and Fustāt under Ibn Tulūn cannot have been a grandson of this general (*ibid.*, p. 623, cf. Kindī, *Governors*, p. 216. His grandfather was doubtless Nadr, cf. *Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 1603).

- (9) 'Isā b. Māhān. 'Isā was *dā'i* in Marw, deputy *naqib* and probably the brother of Bukayr b. Māhān, the chief *dā'i* in Kufa; if so, he was a *mawlā* of the B. Musliya (Omar, *'Abbasid Caliphate*, pp. 74, 349). A fifteenth-century source, however, calls him a *mawlā* of Khuzā'a (Kaabi, 'Les Origines tāhirides', p. 161). Whatever his antecedents, he mutinied after the revolution and was put to death at the order of Abū Muslim (*ibid.*, pp. 160f). Nonetheless he was the founder of a celebrated Banawī family. 'Ali b. 'Isā b. Māhān was head of the *haras* of Mahdī in 163, for Hādi both before and after his accession, and for Hārūn for a while (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 456, 494, 519, 548; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 709, 751). Under Hādi he was also chamberlain, director of the treasuries and head of the *dīwān al-jund* (Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, p. 167; *Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 548; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 709). Hārūn appointed him to Khurāsān where he misgoverned the province for eight years, accumulating vast wealth and fighting a spate of rebels until he was finally replaced by Harthama (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 648f, 702ff, 713ff and *passim*; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, pp. 304f = 133; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 737, 738, 745). His disgrace notwithstanding, Amin honoured him as *shaykb bādhībī'l-dawla* (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 810), put him in charge of the affairs of his heir apparent (*ibid.*, p. 794), and appointed him to the eastern provinces. He set out with 50 000 Baghdaidi troops and reached Rayy where he was defeated and killed by Ṭāhir (*ibid.*, pp. 796ff). Approximately, he fell with a cry for the Abnā' (*ibid.*, p. 824).

'Isā b. 'Ali b. 'Isā was deputy governor of Sīstān for his father

(*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 155ff); he also assisted him in Khurāsān, where he was killed by supporters of Rāfi' b. Layth in 191 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 650, 708, 712). Husayn b. 'Alī b. 'Isā was similarly deputy governor of Sīstān for his father (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 155; Khalifa, *Tārikh*, p. 745). Amīn sent him to Syria in 195 to suppress the revolt of the Sufyānī, and he was back in Syria in the following year during the attempt to recruit the Syrians for Amīn (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 830, 844; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 532). On his return to Iraq he switched allegiances, attempted a coup in favour of Ma'mūn, and managed to throw Amīn into jail; the Baghdadi troops, however, freed Amīn and killed Husayn (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 846ff). 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī, Yahyā b. 'Alī and Muḥammad b. 'Alī all appear to have surrendered to Tāhir towards the end of the siege of Baghdad (*ibid.*, pp. 882, 904). 'Abdallāh, who had participated in the battle at Rayy, was later subjected to *hadd* punishment by Ḥasan b. Sahl, a humiliation which greatly enraged the Abnā' and contributed to their proclamation of Mansūr b. al-Mahdī as caliph in 201 (*ibid.*, pp. 824f, 1001). And Yahyā, who had also been in the field against Tāhir, is duly found among Mansūr b. al-Mahdī's supporters (*ibid.*, pp. 821, 827f, 1006; Dīnawarī, *Akbbār*, p. 394). Ḥamdayah b. 'Alī first appears in 200 when he was sent to Mecca and Medina to deal with the Tālibids; having been appointed to the Yemen, he proceeded to make himself independent and had to be dislodged by force (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 986, 995, 1002; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 544, 553f; cf. Van Arendonk, *Débuts*, pp. 94f, 100f).

- (10) *Jibrīl b. Yahyā al-Bajalī*. A Khurāsānī who had probably participated in the revolution; at least he is found in Syria under Sāliḥ b. 'Alī already in 140 or 141 (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 166; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 135). Under Mansūr he was sent with troops from Syria, Mesopotamia and Mosul to reinforce Yazīd b. Asīd al-Sulamī in Armenia (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 446f; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 328). In 150 he was back in Khurāsān where he campaigned against Ustādhīs (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 354), in 159 he was appointed to Samarqand, and in 161 he was in action against Muqanna' (*ibid.*, pp. 459, 484). He had settled in Baghdad (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 252 = 37). Maslama b. Yahyā, his brother, commanded the Khurāsānīs on an expedition with the Syrians under Sāliḥ b. 'Alī and governed Egypt under Hārūn (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 168; Kindī, *Governors*, p. 133). Ibrāhīm b. Jibrīl, his

- son, was governor of Sīstān in 178 for Fadl b. Yahyā al-Barmakī and also head of the latter's *shurta* and *haras* (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 634; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 154; Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, p. 192). Sulaymān b. Ghālib b. Jibril was head of the *shurta* in Egypt on several occasions and also governor of Egypt himself under Ma'mūn (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 146, 148, 165ff). Muhammad b. Sulaymān b. Ghālib b. Jibril was head of the *shurta* in Egypt in 236f (*ibid.*, p. 199). 'Abbās b. Muhammad b. Jibril administered the right bank of Baghdad in 231 under Wāthiq (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1346).
- (11) *Khāzim b. Khuzayma al-Tamīmī*. A deputy *naqib*, apparently from Marw al-Rudh, who was one of the most important generals of the revolution (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1959, 1964, 2001, ser. iii, pp. 2f, 9, 12f, 20, 62, 68f; Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', p. 354). After the revolution he was endlessly in the field, campaigning against 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī in Syria in 137 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 96), a Khārijite in the Jazīra in 138 (*ibid.*, pp. 123f), 'Abd al-Jabbār in Khurāsān in 141 (*ibid.*, pp. 134f), the Ispahbādh of Ṭabaristān in 141f (*ibid.*, pp. 136, 139; Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 338), Ibrāhīm b. 'Abdallāh in Basra in 145 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 305f), and Ustādhīs in Transoxania in 150 (*ibid.*, pp. 354ff). Unlike his son he does not appear to have held any governorships. Khuzayma b. Khāzim participated in the revolution with his father (*ibid.*, ser. ii, pp. 1959f, 1997). He is said to have been appointed to Ṭabaristān by Mansūr in 143 (Dīnawarī, *Akbbār*, p. 381), but his main career fell under Hārūn whom he had helped to the throne (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 602f). Under Hārūn he campaigned in Armenia, where he became governor (*ibid.*, pp. 648, 705; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 515). He was also governor of Basra (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 740; cf. Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 743), and of northern Syria and the Jazīra on behalf of Qāsim b. Hārūn (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 730; Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 747; Ibn al-'Adīm, *Zubda*, vol. i, p. 64). In addition he was head of Hārūn's *shurta* (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 750; Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbat*, p. 375; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 520). Under Amīn he remained governor of northern Syria and Mesopotamia, first as the deputy of Qāsim b. Hārūn and next in his own right (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 775f; Ibn al-'Adīm, *Zubda*, vol. i, p. 64). He was against Amīn's decision to depose Ma'mūn, but fought for the caliph until 198 when he sought *amān* from Tāhir (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 809f, 856, 903ff). In 201 he was among the leaders of the Baghdaði revolt under Mansūr b. al-Mahdī (*ibid.*, pp. 1002, 1004, 1006, 1011). Ibrāhīm b. Khāzim was governor

of Nisibis for Hārūn; he was killed by a Khārijite in 178 (*ibid.*, p. 631). ‘Abdallāh b. Khāzim was head of the *shurṭa* for Mahdī on the latter’s summer campaign in 163, for the future Hādī during his campaign in Jurjān, and for Amīn at the end of his reign (*ibid.*, pp. 495, 519; Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 537; Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbat*, p. 375). Under Hārūn he was governor of Ṭabaristān (Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta’rīk*, p. 189 = 132). In the civil war he fought for Amīn until 197 when he fled to Madā’in with his family (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 826, 899). Shu‘ayb b. Khāzim b. Khuzayma was governor of Damascus for Hārūn (Ṣafadī, *Umarā’*, p. 41; the text has Hāzim for Khāzim, a mistake which recurs elsewhere). Hubayra b. Khāzim appears as a Banawī general shortly after the civil war in which he had clearly fought for Amīn (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 935). Nahshal b. Ṣakhr b. Khuzayma b. Khāzim was still a member of the ‘Abbāsid army in 251 when he deserted from Mustā‘īn to Mu‘tazz (*ibid.*, p. 1631).

- (12) *Mālik b. al-Haytham al-Khurāṣī*. One of the twelve *naqībs* (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1358, 1988). Mālik became head of the *shurṭa* of Abū Muslim on the outbreak of the revolution, fought under him in Khurāsān and elsewhere and almost shared his death (*ibid.*, pp. 1968, 1987, 1989, 1993, 2001, ser. iii, pp. 64, 71, 116ff.). In 142 Mansūr appointed him to Mosul where he stayed until 145 (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 177ff., 194). ‘Awf b. al-Haytham, his brother, similarly fought in the revolution (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ǧambarā*, s.v.). Ḥamza b. Mālik, his son, was head of the caliph’s *shurṭa* (as opposed to the *shurṭa* of Baghdad) under Mansūr and Mahdī (Khalīfa, *Ta’rīk*, pp. 683, 699; Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbat*, pp. 374f.; Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 483). He was appointed to Sīstān by Mahdī in 159 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 459; Khalīfa, *Ta’rīk*, p. 696 (garbled); *Tārīkh-i Sīstān*, p. 149; Miles, *Numismatic History of Rayy*, pp. 40f.), to an expedition against the Byzantines by Hādī in 169 (Balādhūrī, *Futūh*, p. 191), and to Khurāsān by Hārūn in 176; he stayed for a year (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 626, 629, 740). He was also among the men who held Hārūn’s seal (Khalīfa, *Ta’rīk*, p. 751). He died in 181 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 646). ‘Abdallāh b. Mālik was head of the *shurṭa* under Mahdī, Hādī and Hārūn (*ibid.*, pp. 548, 583, 602, 692; Khalīfa, *Ta’rīk*, pp. 699, 709, 750; Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 483, 491, 520), and according to Khalīfa he was also governor of Khurāsān under Mansūr (*Ta’rīk*, p. 676). Hārūn appointed him to Mosul in 173, dismissing him in 175 (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 271,

‘Abdallāh b. Mālik was head of the *shurṭa* under Mahdī, Hādī and Hārūn (*ibid.*, pp. 548, 583, 602, 692; Khalīfa, *Ta’rīk*, pp. 699, 709, 750; Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 483, 491, 520), and according to Khalīfa he was also governor of Khurāsān under Mansūr (*Ta’rīk*, p. 676). Hārūn appointed him to Mosul in 173, dismissing him in 175 (Azdī, *Mawṣil*, pp. 271,

273, 275), and to Ṭabaristān, Qūmis, Hamadhān and other Persian provinces in 189 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 705; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 307). In 190–1 he participated in Hārūn's campaign against Byzantium (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 709, 712); in 192 he campaigned against the *Khurramiyya* of Azerbaijan (*ibid.*, p. 732); and in 193 he accompanied Hārūn to Khurāsān, travelling on to Ma'mūn in Marw (*ibid.*, pp. 734, 772f). His prominence under Hārūn is all the more remarkable in that he had supported Hādi's attempt to exclude Hārūn from the succession (*ibid.*, pp. 571f, 603). He stayed in Marw during the civil war, but was one of the *ru'asā'* who excused themselves when offered the position which ultimately went to Faḍl b. Sahl, and his relations with Ma'mūn were not particularly happy (*ibid.*, pp. 713f; Jahshiyārī, *Wuqāra'*, pp. 278, 313, 315f).

'Abbās b. 'Abdallāh b. Mālik was governor of Rayy for Ma'mūn in 194, but was dismissed for his sympathies with Amin (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 777f; Miles, *Numismatic History of Rayy*, pp. 93f). Muṭalib b. 'Abdallāh b. Mālik administered the oath of allegiance to Ma'mūn in Mosul in 196 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 857) and governed Egypt for this caliph in 198 and again in 199f (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 152f, 154ff; Grohmann, *Corpus Papyrorum Rainieri*, vol. i, part two, pp. 142f). But in 202 he administered the oath of allegiance to Ibrāhīm b. al-Mahdī in Baghdad, horrified by the news of Ma'mūn's designation of an 'Alid heir (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1016; compare his previous attitude, p. 1011; cf. also Lapidus, 'Separation of State and Religion', p. 373).

Qāsim b. Naṣr b. Mālik was head of the *shurta* of the future Hādi at the time of Manṣūr's death and later for Hārūn (*ibid.*, p. 455; Ibn Ḥabib, *Muhabbar*, p. 375). Thābit b. Naṣr b. Mālik was in charge of the Syrian frontier provinces between 192 and 197; here he ransomed Muslim prisoners-of-war in 192, conducted a number of summer campaigns, and made himself independent during the civil war; he died or was killed soon after Ma'mūn's accession (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 730, 732; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 537, 541, 553). Ahmad b. Naṣr b. Mālik was a Baghdadi who frequented the *ashbāb al-ḥadīth* and was violently opposed to the tenet of the created Koran; his traditionist friends incited him to revolt, stressing the role of his father and grandfather in the 'Abbāsid *dawla*, and his own role in Baghdad in 201 when he had been the leader of the populace of the eastern bank during Ma'mūn's absence. The revolt came to nothing, but

Aḥmad was brought before Wāthiq's inquisition and executed (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1343ff; cf. Laoust, *La Profession de foi d'Ibn Battā*, pp. xxxivf; Lapidus, 'Separation of State and Religion', pp. 381f). A namesake of his who appears as 'āmil of Kufa in 251 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1617) was presumably a member of the same family.

Muhammad b. Ḥamza b. Mālik was head of the *shurṭa* for Amīn (Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbat*, p. 375; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 537). Nasr b. Ḥamza b. Mālik was appointed to the eastern bank of Baghdad by Ḥasan b. Sahl in 201 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1002); he was sent to deal with the revolt of his kinsman Thābit b. Naṣr, whom he is said to have poisoned, and he became governor of Damascus for 'Abdallāh b. Tāhir (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 553; Ṣafadī, *Umarā*, p. 91). He was still in the army under Wāthiq (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1357).

Muhammad b. Naṣr b. Ḥamza b. Mālik was taken prisoner during the war between Musta'in and Mu'tazz in 251; as a Baghdadi he had supported the former (*ibid.*, p. 1595, cf. p. 1732). Mansūr b. Naṣr b. Ḥamza was governor of Wāsiṭ and a custodian of Musta'in in 252 (*ibid.*, p. 1670, cf. p. 1657). 'Abdallāh b. Naṣr b. Ḥamza, though never explicitly identified as such, was doubtless his brother; he was a general in the service of Muhammad b. 'Abdallāh b. Tāhir whom he assisted in the suppression of a Zaydi revolt in 250 and he fought for Musta'in in 251 (*ibid.*, pp. 1518, 1573, 1588, 1602f). Muhammad b. 'Abdallāh b. Naṣr b. Ḥamza was sent from Baghdad to conciliate mutinous troops in Fars under Musta'in (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 609).

Ja'far b. Mālik and Dāwūd b. Mālik are both said to have been appointed to the *shurṭa* of early 'Abbāsid caliphs (Ibn al-Kalbī, *Gambara*, s.vv.). Naṣr b. Mālik was head of the *shurṭa* under Mahdī (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 699; Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbat*, p. 375; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 483). He died in 161 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 491).

- (13) *Mu'ādb b. Muslim, mawlā* of the B. Dhuhl. A native of Khuttal or Rayy who settled in Baghdad (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 253 = 39; *id.*, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 455; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdhīb*, vol. ii, p. 455). He is first mentioned in 149–50 when he was among the troops from Marw al-Rūdh who were defeated by Muqanna' (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 354; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 656). In 160 he was appointed to Khurāṣān, in 161 he was once more in the field against Muqanna', and in 163 he was dismissed (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 477, 484, 500;

Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 687, 696; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 303 = 131). In 169 he fought against the 'Alids at Fakhkh (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 558); he probably died soon after. Husayn b. Mu'ādh b. Muslim, his son, was a foster-brother of Hādī (*ibid.*, p. 586). Yahyā b. Mu'ādh b. Muslim, another son, was governor of Syria in 191–2 and campaigned against a local rebel (*ibid.*, pp. 711, 732; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 143f.). He accompanied Hārūn to Khurāsān, was sent on to Ma'mūn in Marw and stayed there during the civil war, but excused himself when offered the position which was taken by Faḍl b. Sahl (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 734, 770, 772, 773f., 1026; Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, p. 278). He became governor of the Jazīra and Armenia for Ma'mūn, campaigned against Bābak, and died in 206 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1033, 1039, 1045; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 554, 563). Ahmād b. Yahyā b. Mu'ādh appears in the service of Ma'mūn as one of the prison guards of Ibrāhīm b. al-Mahdi (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1075). Ishāq b. Yahyā b. Mu'ādh was governor of Damascus for Mu'taṣim in the reign of Ma'mūn and later for Wāthiq (*ibid.*, p. 1134; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tabdbib*, vol. ii, p. 455), head of the *haras* for Mu'taṣim, Wāthiq and Mutawakkil (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1303, 1331; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 602), and governor of Egypt for Muntasir in the reign of Mutawakkil (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 198f.). He had transferred from Baghdad to Samarra (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 260 = 32). Sulaymān b. Yahyā b. Mu'ādh was head of the *haras* of Mutawakkil after his brother (Ya'qūbī *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 602), and in 251 he was one of the few generals not to follow Musta'in to Baghdad (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1543). 'Alī b. Ishāq b. Yahyā was in charge of the *ma'ūna* of Damascus for Sūl Artakin in 226 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1313). It was Ishāq b. Yahyā b. Sulaymān b. Yahyā who was head of Wāthiq's *haras* according to Ya'qūbī, not Ishāq b. Yahyā b. Mu'ādh (*Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 590). Yahyā b. al-Hasan b. 'Alī b. Mu'ādh b. Muslim is found in the entourage of the Tāhirids at Raqqā (Tayfūr, *Kitāb Baghdād*, p. 157).

- (14) *Muhammad b. al-Ash'ath al-Kburā'i*. A deputy *naqib* (Omar, 'Abbāsid Caliphate, p. 354). He was appointed to Ṭabasayn, Fars and Kerman by Abū Muslim in 130 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1978, 2001, ser. iii, pp. 71, 75; Dīnawarī, *Akkhār*, pp. 373f.; differently Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 632, where he is appointed to Sīstān, doubtless a mistake), fought against Sunbādh at Rayy in 137 and/or against Jahwar b. Marār at Rayy in 138 (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 637; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 122), governed Egypt from 141 to 143

(Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 108f; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 138, 141; Miles, *Glass Weights*, pp. 111f; *id.*, *Supplement*, pp. 21f), and campaigned against the Ibādīs of North Africa (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 109; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 654, 680; differently Balādhūrī, *Futūh*, pp. 230, 232, where his tenure of North Africa is in the reign of Abū'l-'Abbās). He is said also to have been governor of Damascus for Maṇṣūr (Safadī, *Umarā'*, p. 76). He died on his way to a summer campaign in 149 (Balādhūrī, *Futūh*, p. 184; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 353).

Ja'far b. Muḥammad b. al-Ash'ath was head of Hārūn's *shurṭa* (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 520; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 751); he also held Hārūn's seal until it was made over to Abū'l-'Abbās al-Tūsī in 171 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 605f); in 173 he was appointed to Khurāṣān (*ibid.*, pp. 609, 740; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 745). Naṣr b. Muḥammad b. al-Ash'ath was governor of Palestine for Mahdi in 161 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 46, 485); he was appointed to Sind in the same year and died there in 164 (*ibid.*, pp. 491, 501, 502; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 697). 'Abbās b. Ja'far b. Muḥammad was governor of Khurāṣān after his father (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 609, 740; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 745); he participated in a summer campaign in 187 and was among the generals who accompanied Hārūn to Tūs, from where he was sent on to Ma'mūn (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 694, 734). He probably did not stay there. 'Uqbā b. Ja'far b. Muḥammad, at least, was an opponent of Ma'mūn (Khatīb, *Ta'rikh*, vol. i, p. 81 = Lassner, *Topography*, p. 62). If the Muḥammad b. al-Ash'ath whom Ma'mūn appointed to Sīstān in 197 was a grandson of his Khuzā'i namesake, he was of a branch of the family that had stayed in the east, for he is described as a Tārābī, sc. a native of one of the villages of Bukhārā; he ended up by fighting on the side of one of the many rebels in Sīstān and was executed by Layth b. al-Fadl (*Tarikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 171ff; cf. Yāqūt, *Wörterbuch*, vol. iii, p. 487). The Muḥammad b. al-Ash'ath al-Khuzā'i who was *sāhib al-barid* in Diyār Bakr under Mu'tazz was perhaps also a member or a client of this family (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 612).

(15) *Muqātil b. Ḥakīm al-'Akkī. Dā'i* in Nasā (Omar, 'Abbāsid Caliphate, p. 73). He fought under Qaḥṭaba in the revolution (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1972, 2001ff, ser. iii, pp. 4, 20), was appointed to the Jazīra by Maṇṣūr in the reign of Abū'l-'Abbās, assisted in the suppression of the revolt of the Sufyānī, and was killed by 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī in 137 for his refusal to join the latter's rebellion

(*ibid.*, pp. 93f; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 627, 633, 678; Ibn al-'Adīm, *Zubda*, vol. i, p. 56).

Muhammad b. Muqātil was not only a son of one of the *kibār* of the *abl al-dawla*, but also a foster-brother of Hārūn who appointed him to North Africa (Ibn 'Idhārī, *Bayān*, vol. i, p. 89). Īsā b. [Muqātil] al-'Akī was appointed deputy governor of Syria by Ja'far al-Barmakī in 180 (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 641; his brother is similarly known as Ibn al-'Akī, cf. Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 234).

- (16) *Müsā b. Ka'b al-Tamīmī*. A *naqib* and general of the revolution (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1358, 1586f, 1952, 1964, etc.). He participated in the battle of the Zāb, went on to Syria with 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī, became deputy governor of the Jazīra in 132, and fought against Abū'l-Ward and the pro-Umayyad rebels (*ibid.*, pp. 39, 56; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 611; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 186). Abū'l-'Abbās appointed him to his *shurṭa* and then sent him to India to subdue Mansūr b. Jumhūr (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 80, 81; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 632; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 429). He returned on the death of Abū'l-'Abbās, resumed his position as head of the *shurṭa* and then gave it up again to become governor of Egypt for a short while; he died in 141 (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 138; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 106ff; Miles, *Glass Weights*, p. 108). The *Müsā b. Ka'b* who is said to have been governor of the Jazīra under Mansūr is in fact *Müsā b. Muṣ'ab* (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 378, 381, 383; Azdī, *Mawṣil*, p. 222; cf. below, no. 37).

'Uayna b. *Müsā*, who had also been a *dā'i*, was deputy governor of Sind for his father, but rebelled and was killed by local Yemenis (Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', pp. 208f; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 448).

- (17) *Musayyab b. Zubayr al-Dabbi*. A deputy *naqib* who fought under Qaḥṭaba in the revolution (Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', p. 354; *Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 2003f, ser. iii, pp. 3, 21). In 134 he was appointed to the *shurṭa*, first as the deputy of *Müsā b. Ka'b* and next in his own right; most of the time he held only the *'adwa* (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 80, 138, 195, 384; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 682f (garbled); Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muhabbar*, p. 374). In 145 he is described as the head of Mansūr's *haras* which is doubtless wrong (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 293). He was head of the *shurṭa* of Muhammad b. Ibrāhīm on the latter's expedition to Malatya in 141 (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 188), governor of Khurāsān for Mahdī in 163–6 (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 500, 503, 517; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 687,

692, 696), governor of the Jazira for the same caliph (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 697), commander of an expedition to Hadath under Hādī (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 191), and once more head of the *shurṭa* under Hārūn (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 750; Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbār*, p. 375; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 520). He was a friend of Khālid b. Barmak (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 382). Muhammad b. al-Musayyab was head of the *shurṭa* ('adwa) of Hārūn according to Khalifa (*Ta'rikh*, p. 750). Amin transferred him to the *hirba* and later appointed him to Armenia (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 537; Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbār*, p. 375). Zuhayr b. al-Musayyab sided with Ma'mūn in the civil war. He was governor of Sīstān for him (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 170), participated in the siege of Baghdad under Tāhir (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 868, 890; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 756, 757), campaigned against Abū'l-Sarāya, administered the eastern bank of Baghdad and Jūkhā for Hasan b. Sahl, participated in the suppression of the revolt of the *Harbiyya*, and was killed in prison by the leader of the rebels in 201 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 977f., 999, 1001f., 1004). Hārūn b. al-Musayyab was sent with Ḥamdayah b. 'Alī b. 'Isā to Mecca, Medina and the Yemen to deal with the Tālibids after Abū'l-Sarāya's revolt (*ibid.*, pp. 986, 993). Azhar b. Zuhayr b. al-Musayyab fought with his father in Iraq (*ibid.*, pp. 976, 1002). 'Amr b. Zuhayr, his brother, was governor of Kufa from 155 to 158 (*ibid.*, pp. 375, 377, 384, 458; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 676). Azhar b. Zuhayr, a brother of Musayyab's, is mentioned as a settler in Baghdad, but is not otherwise known unless he is in fact the grandson (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 243 = 20).

'Abdallāh b. al-Musayyab b. Zuhayr was head of the *shurṭa* (*hirba*) for Mansūr at the time of the latter's death, presumably as his father's deputy (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 455; cf. Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, ser. iii, p. 455; cf. Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 683); he was also governor of Egypt under Hārūn as the deputy of Ja'far al-Barmakī and others between 176 and 179 (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 747; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 135, 137, 388). 'Abbās b. al-Musayyab is said to have been head of the *haras*, doubtless a mistake for *shurṭa*, of Mahdī in 163 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 495); he was later head of the *shurṭa* of Ja'far al-Barmakī on his expedition to Syria, and of that of Ma'mūn at the time of Hārūn's death (*ibid.*, pp. 639, 772). He appears to have retained his office until Ma'mūn's return to Baghdad when the family's traditional association with the *hirba* came to an end: 'Abbās was dismissed and replaced, not, as he had hoped, by his

son Muḥammad, but by Ṭāhir b. al-Ḥusayn (*Tayfūr*, *Kitāb Baghdād*, pp. 9, 11, 23).

- (18) *Qaḥṭaba b. Shabīb al-Ṭā’ī*. A *naqib* of Kufan origin and next to Abū Muslim the most important general of the revolution (cf. *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'Kaḥṭaba b. Shabīb'). He himself fell in Iraq, but his sons like Abū Muslim counted as members of the *ahl al-bayt* (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 64).

Ḥasan b. Qaḥṭaba had been deputy *naqib* in Khurāsān (Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', p. 354). After the revolution he became deputy governor of Armenia for the future Manṣūr (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 95, 99, 101), fought against 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī in Syria (*ibid.*, pp. 93, 95ff.), and conducted summer campaigns in 149, 162 and 163 (*ibid.*, pp. 353, 493, 495). He died in 181 (*ibid.*, p. 646). Ḥumayd b. Qaḥṭaba had similarly been deputy *naqib* (Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', p. 354). He followed 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī to Syria, where he briefly supported the latter's claim to the caliphate on Abū'l-'Abbās' death, changed his mind and escaped (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 53, 93ff.). In 137 he was governor of the Jazīra where he was hard pressed by a Khārijite (*ibid.*, pp. 120f.; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 679); in 142–3 he was governor of Egypt (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 141f.; Kindi, *Governors*, pp. 110f.); in 145 he assisted in the campaign against Muḥammad al-Nafs al-Zakiyya (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 225, 238, 246, 310, 313); in 148 he campaigned in Armenia (*ibid.*, p. 353); and in 152 he was appointed to Khurāsān where he died in 159 (*ibid.*, pp. 369, 458, 459; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 676; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 303 = 130).

Muḥammad b. al-Ḥasan participated in his father's summer campaign in 162 and became deputy governor of Khurāsān for Ja'far al-Barmaki in 180 (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 686; *Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 644). 'Alī b. al-Ḥasan was similarly deputy governor of Khurāsān for Ja'far (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 740); he was also governor of Sīstān for 'Alī b. 'Isā and of Damascus for Hārūn (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 155; Ṣafadi, *Umarā'*, p. 57). Sa'id b. al-Ḥasan was appointed to the western bank of Baghdad by the *Harbiyya* in 201 (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 1002). All Ḥasan's descendants had fought for Amīn and surrendered to Ṭāhir in 197 (*ibid.*, p. 882).

'Abdallāh b. Ḥumayd b. Qaḥṭaba was interim governor of Khurāsān after his father's death in 159 (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 677, 696). Under Hārūn he was governor of Sīstān (thus at least Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 745) and of Tabaristān (Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta'rikh*, vol. i, p. 189 = 132, where his name has been shortened).

In the civil war he was one of the chief supporters of Amīn who described him to the Abnā' as *ibn kabir da'watikum wa-man 'alā yaday abibi fakbrukum* (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 931). He had been sent to Ma'mūn in Marw in 193, but returned together with other generals, was appointed to Hamadhān by 'Alī b. 'Isā and commanded 20 000 Abnā' against Tāhir in 196; he surrendered in 197 (*ibid.*, pp. 790, 798, 840, 882). Shabīb b. Ḥumayd b. Qaḥṭaba was head of the *ḥaras* of Ja'far al-Barmakī during the latter's campaign in Syria (*ibid.*, p. 639). He was sent to Marw together with his brother in 193 and presumably returned with him (*ibid.*, p. 772). Nonetheless, he is said to have been head of Ma'mūn's *ḥaras* for a while, and to have been appointed by him to Qūmis (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 574).

- (19) 'Uthmān b. Nahik al-'Akki. A deputy *naqib* and *dā'i* in Abīward (Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', pp. 73f; cf. Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1963). Having served under Qaḥṭaba, he was appointed to the *ḥaras* of the future Mansūr in 132 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 2001, ser. iii, pp. 20f, 65); after Mansūr's accession he held both the *ḥaras* and the seal until his death in the *Rāwandiyā* incident in 141 (*ibid.*, p. 131; Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 684; Dīnawarī, *Akkābār*, p. 377). 'Isā b. Nahik, who had also been *dā'i* in Abīward, succeeded his brother as head of Mansūr's *ḥaras* (Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', pp. 73f; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 131; Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 684).

Ibrāhīm b. 'Uthmān b. Nahik is said to have been head of Hārūn's *shurṭa* followed by his son Wahb (Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbār*, p. 375). He conducted summer campaigns in 183, 185, 186 and 187 (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 522f), and was killed by Hārūn after the fall of the Barmakids in 187 (Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbār*, p. 375; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 523, but cf. p. 512; Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 699ff). All the members of the family fought for Amīn in the civil war. 'Uthmān b. 'Isā b. Nahik was placed in charge of the *ḥaras* of Amīn's son and heir apparent (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 794); he had previously been governor of Tabaristān for Hārūn (Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta'rīkh*, vol. i, p. 189 = 132, where his name has been shortened). Muḥammad b. 'Isā b. Nahik was placed over the *shurṭa* of Amīn's son (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 794; on p. 881 he appears as the head of Amīn's own *shurṭa*), and he was one of Amīn's most influential advisers (*ibid.*, pp. 778, 797, 813, 881f, 912). He deserted to Ma'mūn in 198 (*ibid.*, pp. 914, 916). 'Alī b. Muḥammad b. 'Isā b. Nahik was a commander in Amīn's service (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 534f).

## B. MAWĀLĪ

- (20) '*Abbās b. Sa'īd*. A *mawlā* of Hārūn's who was governor of the Yemen (Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 742; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 498).
- (21) *Abū'l-Khaṣib Marzūq*. A Sindī client of Muthannā b. al-Hajjāj [b. Qutayba b. Muslim] according to Ibn Isfandiyār (*Ta'rīk*, vol. i, p. 176 = 120; his name is garbled in the translation); other sources, however, identify him as a *mawlā* of Mansūr so that if Ibn Isfandiyār is right, Mansūr had presumably purchased the *walā'*. He makes his appearance in 137 when he was sent to count the booty taken from 'Abdallāh b. 'Ali's camp, an act of interference which greatly annoyed Abū Muslim (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 98, 102f). In 140 or 141 he was sent to Ṭabaristān together with a number of generals, tricked the Ispahbadh into defeat, and became the first governor of the province (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 136, 139; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 338; Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 176, 178 = 120, 122). He was one of Mansūr's chamberlains (Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 684; cf. Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 112).
- (22) *Abū Sulaym Faraj al-khādim*, *mawlā* of Hārūn. A Turkish eunuch who rebuilt Tarsūs for Hārūn in 170 and Adhana for Hārūn or Amīn in 193–4; he was civil governor of the *thughūr* for both caliphs (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 604; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 495, where he is *Abū Sulaymān*; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 168f; Yāqūt, *Wörterbuch*, vol. i, p. 179). After the civil war he is mentioned in a context which suggests that he had been a supporter of Ibrāhīm b. al-Mahdī (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1076).
- (23) *Faraj al-Rukkbkhajī*. A prisoner-of-war from Sīstān who became a slave of Hārūn's daughter and eventually a client of Hārūn, who appointed him to Ahwāz (Jahshiyārī, *Wuxarā'*, pp. 270f). Under Ma'mūn he administered the caliph's private estates, accompanied Khālid b. Yazīd b. Mazyad on his expedition to Egypt, and became one of the *a'yān al-kuttāb* together with his son 'Umar (Sourdel, *Vizirat*, p. 732; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 555f; Yāqūt, *Wörterbuch*, vol. ii, p. 770). 'Umar remained prominent in the administration until he was disgraced by Mutawakkil in 233 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1350, 1362, 1370, 1377; Khatīb, *Ta'rīk*, vol. i, p. 94 = Lassner, *Topography*, p. 79).
- (24) *Farāsha*. A *mawlā* of Mahdī's who was governor of Dunbāwand and Qūmis for Mahdī from 164 and of the same provinces plus Jurjān from 167; he bore the title *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn*

(Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 503, 518, 520, 521). Mahdī later sent him to Tabaristān with 10 000 men; he was defeated, taken prisoner and executed by the Ispahbadh (Ibn Isfandiyār, *Ta'rikh*, vol. i, pp. 185f = 128f). With that name he must have been a freedman. Ishāq b Farāsha, presumably his son, was in the service of Amin (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 960).

- (25) *Ghazwān*. A slave of the Qa'qā' b. Dirār family who had been bought and freed by Mansūr. In 145 he was given command of some troops to attack a number of merchant ships suspected of complicity in the revolt of Ibrāhim b. 'Abdallāh in Basra (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 295f). He also appears to have been a civil servant (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 462). The Yazid b. Ghazwān who conducted a summer campaign in 178 was probably his son (*ibid.*, p. 522).
- (26) *Hajjāj*. A *mawlā* of Hādī and governor of Jurjān in 169 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 568). Fath b. Hajjāj, a *mawlā* of Hārūn who was appointed to Sīstān by Ma'mūn, was presumably his son (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 170).
- (27) *Hamawayb*. A eunuch and client of Mahdī who was postmaster in Khurāsān under Hārūn; his deputy in Baghdad was his own client Sallām Abū Sulaym (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 712, 718, 764; cf. Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 252 = 38).
- (28) *Hammād al-Barbarī*. A freedman of Hārūn's who was appointed to Mecca and the Yemen in 184; he stayed in office for thirteen years, subduing local rebels and ruling with such harshness that the Yemenis sent a deputation to Hārūn imploring him to dismiss him (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 498; Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 649, 712; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 742, 743). Muhammād b. Hammād al-Barbarī was one of Amin's generals in the civil war (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 857f). The Ibn Hammād al-Barbarī who appears as an authority on the events of 255 was presumably a grandson rather than a son of Hammād (*ibid.*, p. 1700).
- (29) *Hasan or Husayn b. Jamil*. A *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn* who was governor of Basra and Egypt for Hārūn (Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 744, 747; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 740; Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 142ff). Muhammād b. Jamil was director of the *diwān al-kharāj* in Iraq for Hādī (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 548; Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā*, p. 167).
- (30) *Ibrāhim b. Dhakwān al-Harrānī*, *mawlā* of Mansūr. The son of a freedman of 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī who was vizier and finance director under Hādī (Sourdel, *Vizirat*, pp. 121ff).

- (31) 'Isā, *mawlā* of Ja'far. Mahdī's governor of Rayy in 165 (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 505).
- (32) *Layth, mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn*. A general who makes his first appearance under Mansūr who sent him to Kashgar to subdue the king of Farghāna (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 465). Mahdī employed him against Muqanna' (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 304 = 131; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 484) and later appointed him to Sind; he was recalled by Hādī, but reappointed by Hārūn (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 480; Khalīfa, *Tārikh*, pp. 697, 707, 746; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 505; *Aghānī*, vol. vi, p. 240). Barthold suggested that he was a son of Naṣr b. Sayyār (*Turkestan down to the Mongol Invasion*, pp. 205f); in fact, however, he was the son of a certain Ṭarīf, possibly Mansūr's client of that name, who was also the father of Mu'allā (Khaṭīb, *Tārikh*, vol. i, p. 96 = Lassner, *Topography*, p. 81; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 480; *Aghānī*, vol. vi, pp. 239f; cf. below, nos. 36 and 44). According to the *Aghānī* (vol. vi, pp. 239f), he and his brother had been acquired as slaves by Mansūr and given to Mahdī who freed them. He is not to be confused with Layth b. al-Fadl who was governor of Egypt and Sīstān for Hārūn and Ma'mūn respectively (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 139ff, 148, 402; Margoliouth, *Catalogue*, p. 105; Khalīfa, *Tārikh*, p. 747; *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 174ff, cf. p. 153). One of the two would seem to have been governor of Dīnawar in 180 (Khalīfa, *Tārikh*, p. 725).

'Abbās b. al-Layth, *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn* was among the generals who returned to Amin on the death of Hārūn in Tūs to fight against Ma'mūn in the civil war; like his father he was known as a *mawlā* of Mahdī (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 790, 801).

- (33) *Manāra*. A client of Mansūr who was sent to Baghdad with the news of Mansūr's death in 158, and who is also said to have been one of his '*ummāl*'. He is described as a *wasīf* and was evidently a freedman (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 462, 472; cf. *id.*, *Buldān*, p. 241 = 16; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 456).
- (34) *Masrūr al-khādim al-kabīr Abū Hāshim*. A eunuch who is mentioned already at the time of Mahdī's death, but who makes his first appearance in public life as one of Hārūn's agents in the downfall of the Barmakids; Hārūn also appointed him to the *barīd* (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 524, 678, 680, 685; Jahshiyārī, *Wuzara'*, pp. 234ff, 265). In 191 he accompanied Harthama b. A'yan on a summer campaign as general manager (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 295) and in 199 he campaigned against the 'Alids in Mecca (*ibid.*,

- p. 532). He was arrested by Ma'mūn after the civil war, presumably for having sided with Amīn, but was apparently released, for he is said to have guarded Muḥammad b. al-Qāsim in 219 (Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, p. 317; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 1166).
- (35) *Matar*. A slave bought by Abū Ayyūb and presented to Mansūr who freed him and appointed him postmaster of Egypt, Syria and Mesopotamia at an unknown date, and fiscal governor of Egypt in 157; he was dismissed in 159 (Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, p. 101; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 380, 467; Miles, *Gloss Weights*, pp. 120, 124).
- (36) *Mu'allā, mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn*. The brother of Layth b. Ṭarīf (above, no. 32). A freedman, general and drinking companion of Mahdī's, he directed the post and the *tirāz* of Khurāsān for the latter, fought against Yūsuf al-Barm and administered the districts of the Tigris, Kaskar, Ahwāz, Fars, Kerman, Bahrayn, Yamāma and Ghawṣ from 165 to 167 (Khaṭib, *Ta'rīk*, vol. i, p. 96 = Lassner, *Topography*, p. 81; *Agbānī*, vol. vi, pp. 239ff; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 505, 514, 518, 521; Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, p. 160).
- (37) *Mūsā b. Muṣ'ab*. A *mawlā* of the Khath'am whose *nisba* he often bears. Rabi', his grandfather, was apparently a Palestinian freedman and/or convert; Muṣ'ab, his father, was a secretary of Marwān II's who had sought *amān* from 'Abdallāh b. 'Alī in 132; he himself was the foster-brother of Mahdī (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 839, ser. iii, p. 46; Azdī, *Mawsil*, p. 227). He was governor of Mosul and the Jazīra with the title of *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn* on several occasions under Mansūr and possibly also under Mahdī (Khalīfa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 679; Azdī, *Mawsil*, pp. 225ff, 247ff, where he has become a Khawlānī; Poole, *A Catalogue of Oriental Coins in the British Museum*, p. 197; Chabot, *Chronique de Denys de Tell-Mahré*, pp. 108ff, 131ff, 146ff, 195ff and *passim* = 91f, 110f, 122ff, 161ff and *passim*; cf. above, no. 16; cf. also Cahen, 'Fiscalité, propriété, antagonismes sociaux'). In 167 he was appointed to Egypt, where he was killed in the following year (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 124ff, cf. p. 108).
- (38) *Rabi' b. Yūnus b. Muḥammad b. 'Abdallāh b. Abī Farwa*. A client of Mansūr who evidently affected descent from a secretary of Muṣ'ab (cf. Ibn Qutayba, *Ma'ārif*, p. 87), but who was either a foundling or a freedman or both (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v.). He began his career as a servant of Abū'l-Khasib, rose to the position of chamberlain under Mansūr and Mahdī, and became a commander of the caliph's *mawālī* under Hārūn (Ṭabarī, ser. iii,

pp. 112, 495f, 503; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 469, 483; Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 684, 700).

Hasan b. al-Rabī' was similarly chamberlain to Mahdī while Faḍl b. al-Rabī' held the same office under Hādī with whom he is said to have been extremely influential (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 700, 709; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 491). Faḍl received the title of *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn* under Hārūn, inherited the position of the Barmakids, and became a foster-brother (?) of Ma'mūn (Sourdel, *Vizirat*, pp. 183ff; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 1068, where the *ridā'a* may not be meant literally). On Hārūn's death he became counsellor to Amin while his son 'Abbās assumed the office of chamberlain, and he was the prime agent behind Amin in the fourth civil war. After his defeat he was also among the supporters of Ibrāhīm b. al-Mahdī. Ma'mūn did not find it easy to forgive him, and though eventually he was pardoned, he and his family disappeared from the public scene (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'al-Faḍl b. al-Rabī'; Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā*, p. 289; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 1068).

- (39) *Sā'īd, mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn*. Mahdī's governor of Rayy from 166 to at least 168 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 518; Miles, *Numismatic History of Rayy*, pp. 47f).
- (40) *Sāliḥ b. al-Haytham*. A client of Abū'l-'Abbās and/or Rayṭā bint Abī'l-'Abbās who was a foster-brother of Mansūr. He was doubtless a freedman or the son of one: women rarely if ever had free male clients. Abū'l-'Abbās employed him as chamberlain, and Mansūr appointed him head of the *diwān al-rasā'il* (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 840, ser. iii, p. 101; De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 215).
- (41) *Sālim al-Barallusī/Burnusī/Yūnusī*. A client of Ismā'il b. 'Alī who was a commander on the Syrian frontier in the reign of Mahdī (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 685; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 166); he was also governor of Sind for Hārūn (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 746; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 493). Presumably Barallusī is the correct *nisba* (cf. Yāqūt, *Wörterbuch*, vol. i, p. 593).
- (42) *Sallām*. A client of Mahdī who was in charge of the *marālīm* court for this caliph (Khalīfa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 700; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 253 = 39).
- (43) *Sindī b. Shābak*. A servant and client of Mansūr who bore the title of *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn* (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 98, 145, 146, 306). He would seem to have been sent to Syria to deal with the outbreak of factionalism in 176 (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 495; the Sindī could of course be Sindī b. al-Ḥarashī), and he is

mentioned as governor of Damascus for Mūsā b. 'Isā (Şafadî, *Umarā'*, p. 39). Later he was appointed to the *shurta* of Baghdad and assisted in the destruction of the Barmakids (Ibn Ḥabib, *Muhabbar*, p. 375; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 297, cf. p. 713). In the civil war he supported Amin (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 912, 915); after the civil war he was an eager adherent of Ibrāhīm b. al-Mahdi (*ibid.*, p. 1016). Ibrāhīm b. al-Sindī b. Shāhak was employed in Ma'mūn's intelligence service (Tayfūr, *Kitāb Baghdād*, pp. 66ff; the *kbayr* on p. 66 is to be emended to *khabar* as on p. 70).

- (44) *Tarif*. A client of Mansūr's who was appointed to the *barid* of Egypt, Syria and Mesopotamia (Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, pp. 100f). It is presumably this Tarif who was the father of Layth and Mu'allā (above, nos. 32 and 36).
- (45) *Tayfūr, mawlā* of Mahdi. A son of Mansūr's Ḥimyarite wife by her previous marriage to a North African tailor (Ibn Ḥazm, *Jambara*, p. 21). He was Mahdi's half-brother and is possibly identical with the Tayfūr whom Mansūr is said to have 'given to' Mahdi, though the phrase would imply that the latter was a freedman (Balādhurī, *Futūb*, p. 310); and he is probably identical with the Tayfūr, *mawlā* of Hādi, who was governor of Isfahan in 169 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 568). Muhammad b. Tayfūr al-Ḥimyārī, *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn*, was governor of Sind for Hārūn according to Khalifa, but according to Ya'qūbī the governor was Tayfūr b. 'Abdallāh b. Mansūr al-Ḥimyārī, that is a descendant of Mansūr's brother-in-law (*Ta'rīk*, p. 746; *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 493).
- (46) *'Umāra b. Hamṣa b. Maymūn*. A client of Mansūr and Mahdi whose grandfather had apparently been a freedman of 'Abdallāh b. 'Abbās; he claimed descent from a client of the Prophet (Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, pp. 90, 147; Khaṭīb, *Ta'rīk*, vol. i, pp. 87, 96 = Lassner, *Topography*, pp. 70, 82). He was governor of the districts of the Tigris, Ahwāz, Fars, Yamāma, Bahrayn and Ghaws in 156–7, director of the *diwān al-kbarāj* in Basra in 158, and in charge of the *abdāt* of Basra in 159 (Khaṭīb, *Ta'rīk*, vol. i, p. 96; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 379, 380, 459, 466, 469; Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, pp. 134, 149). He had also assisted in the construction of Baghdad where he received a plot (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, pp. 242, 252 = 18, 38). A collection of his correspondence was known to Ibn al-Nadīm (*Fibrīst*, p. 118 = 258).
- (47) *Waddāh, mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn*. A director of the arsenal under one of the early caliphs, probably Mansūr (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 245 = 24). He is doubtless identical with Waddāh b. Shabā

- al-Sharawī, a member of Muḥammad b. ‘Alī's *Sharawiyya* and client of Mansūr (Khaṭīb, *Ta'rikh*, vol. i, pp. 80, 89; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 517).
- (48) *Wādīb*, *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn*. A *mawlā* of Mansūr, Mahdī and Ṣalīḥ b. Mansūr and the ancestor of Ya‘qūbī. Mansūr employed him during the construction of Baghdad and later appointed him to Armenia (Ya‘qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 242, cf. p. 247 = 18, 28; *id.*, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 447, 462); Mahdī appointed him governor of Egypt (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 493; Kindī, *Governors*, p. 121; Miles, *Glass Weights*, pp. 128f; Grohmann, *Corpus Papyrorum Raineri*, vol. ii, no. 133); and under Hārūn he was postmaster in Egypt where he helped Idrīs escape to North Africa, a deed for which he was executed (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 561; cf. also Wiet in his introduction to his translation of Ya‘qūbī, *Buldān*, p. vii).
- (49) *Yahyā b. Muslim b. ‘Urwa*. A black *mawlā* and foster-brother of the ‘Abbāsids who was appointed to Armenia by Mansūr in 137 according to some (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 99). Apparently, he sided with ‘Abdallāh b. ‘Alī in the latter's revolt and was subsequently put to death (Goitein, *Studies*, p. 18on).

## APPENDIX VI

### *MAWLĀ IN THE SENSE OF 'KINSMAN'*

A number of passages relating to the Sufyānid period and second civil war at first sight suggest that client retinues were quite common already in the sixties. On closer inspection, however, it is clear that this impression is misleading. Most of the passages employ the term *mawlā* in its old sense of 'kinsman' and/or 'supporter', while the two passages in which the word certainly does mean 'client' are of dubious historicity.

- (1) The sources are agreed that the Umayyads were expelled from Medina in 63 together with their *mawālī*. These *mawālī* were later understood to have been clients; thus Abū Mikhnaf has an Umayyad freedman relate the events as an eye-witness (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 405ff); and the *mawālī* of Mu'āwiya, who according to one source played a crucial role in the events leading up to the expulsion, were doubtless freedmen (Kister, 'The Battle of the Harrā', pp. 45f). But those who left with the Umayyads were not. Thus according to 'Awāna the Umayyads were expelled *bi-'iyālātibim wa-nisā'ibim* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 469), and according to the Hispano-Muslim chronicle *cum omnibus liberis vel suis propinquis* ('Continuatio Byzantia Arabica', p. 346). Abū Mikhnaf himself enumerates the Umayyads *wa-mawālibim wa-man ra'ā ray'abum min Quraysh* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 405), which reappears as *mawālibim wa-man 'urifa bi'l-mayl ilayhim min Quraysh* in Balādhurī (*Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 32). What the variants enumerate are thus Umayyad relatives on the one hand and Qurashī supporters on the other, and the *mawālī* clearly overlap with both (cf. also Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 406, 407, where they are concatenated with *anṣār*).
- (2) After the expulsion Ibn Ziyād advised Marwān to expel Dāhhāk with the help of the people of Palmyra 'and those who were with him of the Umayyads, their *mawālī* and their following' whereupon Marwān received the homage of 'the Umayyads, their *mawālī*, their following and the people of Palmyra' (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 141). It is scarcely credible that these *mawālī*, placed second

only to the Umayyads themselves, should have been clients, and in fact they were not, for in Wahb b. Jarīr's version Marwān is advised to marry the widow of Yazid so as to win over 'the *mawālī* of Mu'āwiya and their following' (*ibid.*, p. 156). Here it is clear that the *mawālī* in question were Qurashis and *asbrāf* and that it was their following which it would be so advantageous to win over.

- (3) Slightly later Dahhāk b. Qays decided to switch allegiance from Ibn al-Zubayr to the Umayyads, and he therefore apologized to the Umayyads, displaying his gratitude for the favours they had shown 'to his *mawālī* and himself' (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 472). Balādhurī apparently found these *mawālī* incomprehensible, for he omitted them (*Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 133), and the context certainly militates against taking them as clients. But kinsmen and supporters make perfect sense.
- (4) On a few occasions we find Umayyad *mawālī* as a fighting force. Thus Walid b. 'Abd al-Malik is said to have fought against Ashdaq's brother with the *mawālī* of 'Abd al-Malik (Mas'ūdi, *Murūj*, vol. v, p. 239); similarly Khālid b. Yazid is said to have fought against Zufar b. al-Hārith with *mawālī* of Mu'āwiya and others, or with Kalb (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 301f); and finally, in the wars against the *Jarājima* we find a *jaysh* of *mawālī* of 'Abd al-Malik and the Umayyads and a *jund* of *thiqāt jundibī*, both under the command of Suhaym b. al-Muhājir (*ibid.*, p. 310). There can be little doubt that the first two passages refer to kinsmen (Kalb certainly were the kinsmen of Mu'āwiya). The third passage, however, is less clear-cut. If the commander was a client, as his name suggests, so presumably were the troops; but he may have been a Tā'i (cf. Appendix III, no. 28).
- (5) Husayn b. 'Ali is said to have assembled his *abl bayt* and *mawālī* when asked to pay homage to Yazid I (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 218); the variant version has *abl baytibī wa-man kāna 'alā ra'yibī* (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 13), and these *mawālī* were thus also relatives and other adherents. Later versions predictably interpreted them as freedmen and slaves (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 14; Dīnawarī, *Akkbār*, p. 231).
- (6) 'Amr. b. Sa'id al-Ashdaq is said to have performed the pilgrimage surrounded by a *jamā'a* of his *mawālī* for fear of Ibn al-Zubayr (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 21). That these *mawālī* were in fact clients is supported by the story that some 300 of his *mawālī* and *ghilmān* were arrested on his dismissal by his successor in

office or the Medinese (Kister, 'The Battle of the Harrā', p. 46). Nonetheless, the *mawālī* who appear in connection with his death are of dubious historicity. Abū Mikhnaf's version does not have them; according to him, 'Amr surrendered, was put in chains, tried to speak with his followers outside the castle, but was handed over to Abu Zu'ayzī'a for execution (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 139). All other versions, however, have some time elapse between the surrender and the execution with the result that the followers, whose presence is required by the story, are no longer assembled outside the castle. A substitute thus had to be found. Some equip 'Amr with a hundred *ashāb*, others give him a hundred *mawālī*, still others have his brother arrive with *ashāb*, with *ashāb* and *mawālī*, with *mawālī* from Ḥims or with slaves (*ibid.*, pp. 141, 143, 145; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 787, 789). These stories neatly array the types of retinues which were available to a soldier in the late Umayyad and early 'Abbāsid periods, but they scarcely furnish evidence for the existence of retinues maintained on a permanent basis at the time of the transition from Sufyānid to Marwānid rule.

- (7) The *mawālī* of 'Abbād b. Ziyād are similarly of dubious historicity. There are three relevant episodes. First, we are told that when 'Abbād was dismissed from Sīstān he distributed the contents of the treasury among his slaves, a thousand of whom joined him on his departure (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 392). Secondly, it is said that at the time of Marj Rāhit 'Abbād went with 2000 of his *mawālī* and others apparently to join the battle (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 136). Finally, after the battle we find him on his way to Dūma in search of neutrality; Mukhtār, however, sent an army against him on the ground that he was *ra's al-fitna*, and in the ensuing battle 'Abbād's army consisted of 700 *mawālī* and slaves in addition to the rest of his following (*ibid.*, pp. 267f). The third episode can be discounted. For one thing, it makes not the slightest sense: 'Abbād could scarcely be characterized as a *ra's al-fitna*, and if he had gone to Dūma in search of neutrality it is hard to see why Mukhtār should have gone out of his way to fight him. For another, it is manifestly a doublet of a previous battle between Mukhtār and Ibn al-Zubayr in the region: Mukhtār sent precisely the same man on the two occasions, Mukhtār's man quoted precisely the same poetry, and moreover he had gone with an army which was a precise mirror image of 'Abbād's troops, viz. *mawālī* and 700 Arabs as against 'Abbād's Arabs and 700 *mawālī* (*ibid.*,

p. 246f). That leaves the first two episodes. It is not of course in the least implausible that 'Abbād should have made use of slaves in the emergency situation in Sīstān, and it is tempting to assume that he formed them into a permanent bodyguard; but whether there actually is a connection between the two episodes is anybody's guess.

## NOTES

Where page references are given in the form 'p. 5 = 67', the first figure refers to the original text and the second to the translation.

### 1. HISTORIOGRAPHICAL INTRODUCTION

<sup>1</sup> P. Crone and M. Cook, *Hagarism, the Making of the Islamic World*, Cambridge 1977, p. 125.

<sup>2</sup> One can of course play up the fact that something was written, but Sezgin's argument that the tradition was basically written from the time of the Prophet, if not the *jābiliyya*, is very unconvincing (F. Sezgin, *Geschichte des arabischen Schriftiums*, vol. i, Leiden 1967, pp. 53ff, 237ff; cf. M. A. Cook, 'Monotheist Sages. A Study in Muslim and Jewish Attitudes towards Oral Tradition in the Early Islamic Period', unpublished typescript, note 17).

<sup>3</sup> Cf. Cook, 'Monotheist Sages'. Traditionist objections to history do not, in fact, hold that it should not be written down, but that it should not be cultivated at all (I. Goldziher, *Muslim Studies*, ed. S. M. Stern, London 1967–71, vol. ii, p. 206; *id.*, 'Historiography in Arabic Literature' in his *Gesammelte Schriften*, ed. J. Desomogyi, Hildesheim 1967–70, vol. iii, pp. 371ff; the story adduced by G. Rotter, 'Abū Zur'a ad-Dimashqī (st. 281/894) und das Problem der frühen arabischen Geschichtsschreibung in Syrien', *Die Welt des Orients* 1970–1, p. 103 is not, however, about history, but about companion *hadīth*).

<sup>4</sup> For the titles of Umayyad books see Sezgin, *Geschichte*, under the relevant headings. Most of it was concerned with Arabian antiquities. For the transition to a basically written transmission see N. Abbott, *Studies in Arabic Literary Papyri*, vol. i, Chicago 1957, p. 24; vol. ii, Chicago 1967, pp. 184, 196 and *passim*. Whether the late Umayyad fragment on the battle of Badr comes from a book or private notes, one cannot tell (A. Grohmann, *Arabic Papyri from Hirbet el-Mird*, Louvain 1963, no. 71).

<sup>5</sup> Cf. A. A. Duri, 'The Iraq School of History to the Ninth Century – A Sketch' in B. Lewis and P. M. Holt (eds.), *Historians of the Middle East*, London 1962.

<sup>6</sup> Compare the fact that three generations complete the transition from slave to freeborn, non-Arab to Arab, tribal conqueror to effeminate dynast, immigrant to American in search of his origins.

- <sup>7</sup> As Mani chose to do. That Muhammad did the same has recently been argued by J. Burton, *The Collection of the Qur'an*, Cambridge 1977.
- <sup>8</sup> E. Frauwallner, *The Earliest Vinaya and the Beginnings of Buddhist Literature*, Rome 1956, especially pp. 135, 153ff., 163f.
- <sup>9</sup> Compare also the transition from Jesus the Jew to Jesus the God within two generations. That Christian scholars have some hope of being able to trace this transition is due entirely to the good luck that Christian doctrine was reduced to writing fairly rapidly.
- <sup>10</sup> Ibn Ishāq died ca 150 – about 130 years after the Prophet; and his work survives only in the recension of Ibn Hishām who died in 213 or 218 – about 200 years after the Prophet. Consider the prospect of reconstructing the origins of Christianity on the basis of the writings of Clement or Justin Martyr in a recension by Origen.
- <sup>11</sup> The refusal of the Koran to yield its secrets comes across very strongly in J. Wansbrough, *Quranic Studies*, Oxford 1977. Less original scholars have been content to conclude that it has no secrets.
- <sup>12</sup> What the rabbis remembered, or rather managed to forget, about Jesus and his time is a typical example (cf. R. Travers Herford, *Christianity in Talmud and Midrash*, Edinburgh 1903). Cf. also the contrast between the focused account of Paul given in the Judeo-Christian source of 'Abd al-Jabbār, and the woolly version of the same story which the rabbis preserved in the *Toledoth* (P. Crone, 'Islam, Judeo-Christianity and Byzantine Iconoclasm', forthcoming in *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam*).
- <sup>13</sup> Thus B. Gerhardsson, *Memory and Manuscript*, Uppsala 1961, pp. 194ff.
- <sup>14</sup> R. Sellheim, 'Prophet, Chalif und Geschichte. Die Muhammed-Biographie des Ibn Ishāq', *Oriens* 1967, p. 43.
- <sup>15</sup> The Constitution of Medina unambiguously depicts a society of Muhājirūn, Arab tribes and Jewish allies preparing for war in the name of a creed to which there is only the most cursory reference. The *Sira* nonetheless has Muhammad arrive as a peacemaker in Medina, where he spends a substantial part of his time expounding Islam to the Arab tribes and disputing with Jewish rabbis. A number of traditions even have him set up a major educational industry (for these see Abbott, *Studies*, vol. i, p. 28; for the Prophet as a teacher see also M. M. Azmi, *Studies in Early Hadith Literature*, Beirut 1968, pp. 183f.).
- <sup>16</sup> J. Schacht, *The Origins of Mubammadan Jurisprudence*, Oxford 1950.
- <sup>17</sup> As has been done by Schacht (*Origins*), by J. Van Ess, *Zwischen Ḥadit und Theologie*, Berlin and New York 1975, and by Cook, 'Monotheist Sages'.
- <sup>18</sup> Ibn Ishaq, *Das Leben Mubammed's nach Mubammed Ibn Ishāk, bearbeitet von 'Abd al-Malik Ibn Hischām*, ed. F. Wüstenfeld, Göttingen 1858–60, vol. i, p. 4 = *The Life of Muhammad*, tr. A. Guillaume, Oxford 1955, p. 691.
- <sup>19</sup> I owe both this point and the following example to M. A. Cook.
- <sup>20</sup> Nu'aym b. Ḥammād, *Kitāb al-fitān*, British Museum Or. no. 9449, f. 97bff.
- <sup>21</sup> Ibn Ishāq, *Leben Mubammed's*, vol. i, pp. 341ff. = 231ff.
- <sup>22</sup> Abū 'Ubayd al-Qāsim b. Sallām, *Kitāb al-amwāl*, ed. M. K. Harās, Cairo 1968, pp. 29off.

- <sup>23</sup> Thus the *min* between *al-muslimīn* and *Quraysh* in the opening line has fallen out, *min dūni* has become *dūna* (both p. 291), *umma ma' a al-mu'minīn* has become *umma min al-mu'minīn* (p. 293), and *dahama Yathrib* has become *rabama Yathrib* (p. 294).
- <sup>24</sup> In Ibn Ishāq the document is issued by *Muhammad al-nabī*, in Abū 'Ubayd by *Muhammad al-nabī rasūl Allāh*; *kullu tā'ifa* is glossed by *min khum*; *Banū'l-Hārith* is glossed by *b. al-Khayrāj*, (p. 291); a blessing follows the mention of God, and that following Muhammad's name is more elaborate (p. 294). Ibn Ishāq has 'believers and Muslims' once, but Abū 'Ubayd twice.
- <sup>25</sup> Most strikingly a large number of clauses on p. 343 in Ibn Ishāq are missing from the corresponding p. 294 in Abū 'Ubayd; but two famous clauses are also missing from p. 292, and one from p. 293. There are also several minor differences.
- <sup>26</sup> From Zuhri, Ibn Abī Khaythama (d. 279) similarly provided the document with an *isnād*, but brought it all the way back to Kathīr b. 'Abdallāh al-Muzāni from his father from his grandfather (Ibn Sayyid al-Nās, '*Uyūn al-athar fī funūn al-maqbāzī wa'l-shamā'il wa'l-siyār*, Cairo 1356, vol. i, p. 198; cf. M. Gil, 'The Constitution of Medina: a Reconsideration', *Israel Oriental Studies* 1974, p. 47). Ibn Hishām knew of another recension which may well have been Abū 'Ubayd's: he tells us that some have *al-birr al-muhsin* for *al-birr al-mahd*, which is precisely what Abū 'Ubayd has (Ibn Ishāq, *Leben Muhammed's*, p. 343; Abū 'Ubayd, *Amwāl*, p. 294). And in some respects Abū 'Ubayd's version is the more archaic. It lacks the invocation (p. 291); where Ibn Ishāq later qualifies Muhammad as *rasūl Allāh*, Abū 'Ubayd by contrast calls him *nabī* (p. 294); and it was presumably Ibn Ishāq who omitted the Jews from the clause on *sulh* rather than Abū 'Ubayd who put them in (*ibid.*).
- <sup>27</sup> A. J. Wensinck, *Muhammad and the Jews of Medina*, Freiburg 1975, pp. 64ff.; cf. Gil, 'The Constitution of Medina', p. 48. The Shi'ite references to the Constitution are even vaguer, if indeed they are references to it at all (cf. R. B. Serjeant, 'The "Constitution of Medina"', *Islamic Quarterly* 1964, pp. 5f.).
- <sup>28</sup> Cf. R. Brunschwig, 'Ibn 'Abdalhakam et la conquête de l'Afrique du Nord par les Arabes', *Annales de l'Institut des Études Orientales de l'Université d'Alger* 1942-7.
- <sup>29</sup> Cf. below, p. 52.
- <sup>30</sup> The Islamic tradition on this battle describes in profuse detail how the last legitimate caliph defeated Mu'āwiya, the governor of Syria, only to be bitterly cheated of the fruits of his victory. It does not emerge from this tradition that the Syrian side regarded itself as having won: a Syriac source casually refers to Siffin as the battle in which Mu'āwiya defeated Abū Turāb (S. Brock, 'An Early Syriac Life of Maximus the Confessor', *Analecta Bollandiana* 1973, p. 313 = 319; cf. p. 329), and the Syriac tradition used by Theophanes was similarly innocent of the knowledge that Mu'āwiya had been defeated (Theophanes, *Chronographia*, ed. C. De Boor, Leipzig 1883-5, A.M. 6148). In fact the Syrians may very well have won, for the story of the Korans on their lances is certainly apocryphal (for a possible

Vorlage see A. Noth, *Quellenkritische Studien zu Themen, Formen und Tendenzen frühhistorischer Geschichtsüberlieferung*, Bonn 1973, p. 154). Nor does it emerge that the Syrians never recognized 'Ali as caliph and that it was only in mid-third-century Iraq that the *abl al-sunna wa'l-jamā'a* accepted him as the fourth of the *Rāshidūn* (cf. W. Madelung, *Der Imam al-Qāsim ibn Ibrāhīm und die Glaubenslebre der Zaiditen*, Berlin 1965, pp. 223ff.). 'Ali is, however, omitted from the mid-Umayyad Syriac 'king-lists' and the Hispano-Muslim chronicle (P. N. Land (ed.), *Anecdota Syriaca*, vol. ii, Leiden 1868, p. 11 of the 'Addenda'; I. Guidi et al. (eds. and trs.), *Chronica Minora* (CSCO, Scriptores Syri, third series, vol. iv), Louvain 1903–7, p. 155 = 119; 'Continuatio Byzantia Arabica' in T. Mommsen (ed.), *Chronica Minora*, vol. ii (Monumenta Germaniae Historica, Auctores Antiquissimi, vol. xi), Berlin 1894, p. 343; cf. p. 368). On the Muslim side the refusal to count him among the caliphs is attested only in the ninth-century work of the Damascene Abū Zur'a (Rotter, 'Abū Zur'a', pp. 94f.).

<sup>31</sup> Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, p. 177, note 60.

<sup>32</sup> Mukhtār's *mabdi* hardly knew that he was the messiah, let alone how to behave when he was told, and Mukhtār's *kursī* was just an old chair of 'Ali's he had got out of Umm Ja'da's attic. Both points can still arouse the merriment of students. (See the account in Balādhurī, *Ansāb al-ashrāf*, vol. v, ed. S. D. F. Goitein, Jerusalem 1936, pp. 214ff.)

<sup>33</sup> Tabarī, *Ta'rīk al-rusul wa'l-mulūk*, ed. M. J. De Goeje et al., Leiden 1879–1901, ser. ii, pp. 881, 979ff. The Shabib affair and its antecedents take up the better part of the years 76 and 77.

<sup>34</sup> For the references see below, part II; C. Van Arendonk, *Les Débuts de l'imāmat zāidite au Yémen*, Leiden 1960, pp. 25ff; *The Encyclopaedia of Islam*, Leiden and London 1960–, s.vv. 'Abd Allāh b. Mu'āwiya', 'Dahhāk b. Kays al-Shaybāni'. The accounts of these rebellions are of course both biased and confused, but that is a different and far more familiar problem.

<sup>35</sup> Notably Muhammad al-Nafs al-Zakiyya and Husayn, the rebel at Fakhkh (Van Arendonk, *Débuts*, pp. 45ff, 57f).

<sup>36</sup> The longest is that relating to Mulabbad, who was clearly made of the same stuff as Shabib, but who nonetheless gets only three pages in Tabarī (ser. iii, pp. 120, 122ff). For others see *ibid.*, pp. 631, 645, 649, 688, 711.

<sup>37</sup> Needless to say, modern historians have adopted a determinedly materialist approach to the migration of the Icelanders: even the prospect of trade (with the Eskimos?) has been held out as a more plausible motive than mere dislike of state structures (G. Jones, *A History of the Vikings*, Oxford 1973, pp. 28of). Contrast the complete break-down of materialism in the account by an Icelandic Marxist, for whom the withering away of the state is clearly a restoration of the Icelandic past (E. Olgeirsson, *Fra Áttesamfunn til Klassestat*, Oslo 1968, pp. 49ff). The Marxist account is in this case by far the more persuasive. Had overpopulation or the like been all there was behind the exodus, it is odd that Iceland did not become a Norwegian colony or an independent monarchy. Monarchy was by now as indispensable an ingredient

of civilization as was Christianity, and the oddity of the Icelanders was noticed (cf. Adam of Bremen's surprise that 'with them there is no king except the law', cited with approval by Olgeirsson, *Ættesamfunn*, p. 43, or the thirteenth-century cardinal who 'thought it unreasonable that this country would not serve a king even as all other countries in the world', cited with scathing comment by E. O. Sveinsson, *The Age of the Sturlungs*, Ithaca 1953, p. 14). The Icelanders themselves felt the attraction of the Norwegian kings, whose hirdmen they became, whose institutions they imitated, and whose sagas they wrote. But though they did not long resist the coming of Christianity, it was only in A.D. 1264 that the collapse of their archaic society brought them to surrender to kings.

<sup>38</sup> The contrast between the evolution of the conquerors of Normandy and the settlers in Iceland is well brought out by Olgeirsson, *Ættesamfunn*, pp. 42f. Note also the role of physical isolation in the preservation of the Irish *jábilyya*.

<sup>39</sup> The Icelanders collected the *Edda* and wrote the *Heimskringla* and *fornaldasögur* about the Scandinavian past. The Arabs collected the *Mu'allagāt* and wrote *akbbār* about Arabia (*ayyām*, *asnām*, *ansāb* and *ambāl al-'arab*).

<sup>40</sup> The *Landnámabók* of the Icelanders, the *kutub al-futūh* of the Arabs.

<sup>41</sup> The *Íslendingabók* and *Íslendingasögur* of the Icelanders, the *ansāb* and *akbbār* literature of the Arabs.

<sup>42</sup> It might have been different if the Icelanders had decided to remain pagan: Snorri's *Heimskringla*, a universal chronicle beginning with Odin, has all the aspirations of a *Tā'rikh al-rusul wa'l-mulūk*.

<sup>43</sup> To that extent the sagas are comparable with the *Shāhnāmeb*. Whereas the *Iliad* or the *Mababbhārata* were literary remains from the heroic age handed down by oral tradition, the sagas and the *Shāhnāmeb* were literary creations about the heroic age composed on the basis of literary records. And the forcefulness with which these dirges for the past conjure up the lost society testifies to the bitter loss which the authors felt.

<sup>44</sup> Sayf's long account of the conquest of Damascus, for example, is told under a single *isnād* (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 2147f, 215off). But his much longer account of the battle of Qādisiyya consists of a mass of smaller pieces (*ibid.*, pp. 2212ff).

<sup>45</sup> Contrast the way in which a saga written almost 250 years after the Christianization of Iceland turns on the working of inexorable fate (A. M. A. Madelung, *The Laxdala Saga: its Structural Patterns*, Chapel Hill 1972, pp. 17f, 158ff).

<sup>46</sup> It is not for nothing that anthropologists have completely failed to use the *Sīra* for information on tribal Arabia, though they have had no inhibitions about combing the *Secret History* for information on Mongolia.

<sup>47</sup> A. Noth, 'Iṣfahān-Nihāwānd. Eine quellenkritische Studie zur frühislamischen Historiographie', *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 1968; *id.*, *Quellenkritische Studien*, pp. 24ff, 182ff and *passim*. To some extent the narrative technique analysed by Noth is that characteristic of epics (or fairy tales) rather than of rabbinic literature, that is to say stock themes have been

put together in a variety of ways to form coherent narratives, and the historical contents of the tradition have been worn away and replaced by a wealth of details providing general verisimilitude, but little fact. To that extent the *futūh* belong to the tradition of *ayyām* rather than *hadīth*. But the 'rabbinic' influence is manifest in the insistence on 'Umar's guiding hands, the exposition of the Islamic creed in the *da'was* to Islam, the searches for martyrdom and so forth. It is also evident in the restraints placed on the narrative imagination: the *futūh*, despite their roots in the *ayyām*, do not often make exciting reading.

<sup>48</sup> Who participated in the battle of Siffin is as loaded a question as who participated in that of Badr.

<sup>49</sup> The typical Syrian *sharif* fights against 'Ali at Siffin, goes to the Hijāz to persuade Ibn al-Zubayr to pay allegiance to Yazid I, and reappears at Jābiya and/or Marj Rāhit. The typical Iraqi *sharif* fights against Mu'awiya at Siffin, deserts Husayn at Karbalā', fights against Mukhtār under Mus'ab and deserts Mus'ab for 'Abd al-Malik at Maskin (cf. Appendix I). A man to whom a career of this pattern is attributed is a *sharif*.

<sup>50</sup> W. Caskel, 'Aijām al-'arab', *Islamica* 1930 (Supplement).

<sup>51</sup> Thus for example Sayf's accounts of the 'irāfas or the land exchange under 'Uthmān, which are so strangely free of halakhic interests (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 2496, 2854ff). It is thanks to the survival of this kind of material, and above all thanks to Sayf, that Hinds' reconstruction of the situation in the provinces at the time of the civil war carries conviction (for the references see the bibliography).

<sup>52</sup> Thus the accounts of the shifting genealogies of Qudā'a, the tribal feuds in Basra, the participants at Jābiya or the wars between the Syrian tribes after Marj Rāhit (below, ch. 4). What the tribesmen remembered of the politics of Mukhtār was likewise genuine.

<sup>53</sup> Ibn Ḥabib, *Kitāb al-Muḥabbar*, ed. I. Lichtenstädter, Hyderabad 1942. In it the interested reader will find the answer to questions such as who wore turbans in Mecca to hide their beauty from women (pp. 232f), who was the father-in-law of four caliphs (p. 243), what women could count ten caliphs within their forbidden degrees (pp. 404f), who had Christian or Ethiopian mothers (pp. 305ff), and what *asbrāf* lost an eye in battle, were crucified or had their heads put on a stake (pp. 261f, 478ff, 490ff). Noth was also struck by the absurdity of this book (*Quellenkritische Studien*, p. 90).

<sup>54</sup> The phrase was coined by E. L. Petersen, '*Ali* and *Mu'awiya* in Early Arabic Tradition, Copenhagen 1964, p. 24.

<sup>55</sup> That the Muslims sensed this themselves comes across in the reason which 'Abida b. Qays, a Kufan *tābi'*, is said to have given for his refusal to engage in *tafsīr*: 'those who knew what the Koran was revealed about have died' (Ibn Sa'd, *al-Ṭabaqāt al-kubrā*, Beirut 1958–60, vol. vi, pp. 94f; for the doctrinal point at issue see H. Birkeland, *Old Muslim Opposition against Interpretation of the Koran*, Oslo 1955).

<sup>56</sup> A. Noth, 'Der Charakter der ersten grossen Sammlungen von Nachrichten zur frühen Kalifenzzeit', *Der Islam* 1971; *id.*, *Quellenkritische Studien*, pp. 13ff.

<sup>17</sup> For his Syrian origins see Appendix III, no. 87. That he was biased in favour of the Umayyads was first maintained by Yāqūt (*Irsbād al-arīb ilā ma'rifat al-adīb*, ed. D. S. Margoliouth, London 1923–31, vol. vi, p. 94); it was endorsed by the latter's editor (D. S. Margoliouth, *Lectures on Arabic Historians*, Calcutta 1930, pp. 52f), and again by Duri, though with the qualification that he also has anti-Umayyad material (Duri, 'The Iraq School of History', pp. 48f). S. A. El-Ali saw no evidence of bias in favour of either the Umayyads, Kalb or Kufa (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'Awāna b. al-Hakam'), and Petersen claimed that on the whole he is anti-Umayyad ('*Ālī and Mu'āwiya*', p. 53n). In short, 'Awāna had material in favour of contradictory views, precisely as had the other compilers.

<sup>18</sup> Noth, 'Der Charakter'; *id.*, *Quellenkritische Studien*, pp. 13ff; Naṣr b. Muzāhim's *Waq'at Siffīn* is not really an exception. It is indeed thoroughly Shi'ite, but then it does not belong among the first compilations: most of it is based on Abū Mikhnaf (cf. U. Sezgin, *Abū Mikhnaf*, Leiden 1971, pp. 128ff). It thus belongs in the same category as Ya'qūbī (cf. note 60).

<sup>19</sup> For the forms of Islamic historiography see F. Rosenthal, *A History of Muslim Historiography*, Leiden 1952.

<sup>60</sup> Cf. G. Richter, *Das Geschichtsbild der arabischen Historiker des Mittelalters* (Philosophie und Geschichte, vol. xliii), Tübingen 1933, pp. 19f. Ya'qūbī is largely a digest of Abū Mikhnaf (Petersen, '*Ālī and Mu'āwiya*', p. 169), and to the extent that Abū Mikhnaf and most of the other first compilers were Shi'ite sympathizers, one can claim with equal validity that the Sunnī sources do not give us the Sunnī experience of Islamic history. But whereas the *abl al-sunna* eventually made the tradition their own, the Shi'ites acquired theirs only by repeating the process whereby the mainstream tradition had been created, that is to say blurring the old contours and creating new ones. Where Ya'qūbī merely intersperses his selections from Abū Mikhnaf with curses, Naṣr b. Muzāhim embroiders his with exaltations of 'Ālī, Shi'ite piety and sentiments (*Waq'at Siffīn*, ed. 'A. M. Hārūn, Cairo 1946), and in Ibn A'tham al-Kūfi secondary material of this kind tends to swamp the Sunnī history behind it (for his authorities see *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v., where his *Kitāb al-futūh* is dated 819; for an estimate placing it almost a century later see Sezgin, *Geschichte*, vol. i, p. 329). Ibn A'tham's work is stuffed with letters to and from the caliph expounding the principles of Islam, deliberations in which 'Ālī invariably distinguishes himself, elaborate invitations to the enemy to convert, and lengthy descriptions of battles yielding a minimum of information; and in his account of the conquest of Jerusalem virtually everything that the mainstream tradition remembered has given way to Shi'ite reconstruction: Abū 'Ubayda begins by appointing a Kufan Companion governor of Damascus (Ibn A'tham al-Kūfi, *Kitāb al-futūh*, Hyderabad 1968–, vol. i, p. 289; cf. Khalifa b. Khayyāt, *Kitāb al-tabaqāt*, ed. A. D. al-'Umarī, Baghdad 1967, p. 127 (*Sa'īd b. Zayd*)); 'Umar complies with the request that he come to Syria thanks to 'Ālī's advice (Ibn A'tham, *Futūh*, p. 292); the treaty, which they have preserved to this day, but the text of which

is not given, was negotiated by a supposed 'musta'rib whose *kunya* was Abū'l-Ju'ayd' (*ibid.*, p. 296); 'Umar goes, not to the temple rock, but to the cathedral: it is here that Ka'b al-Ahbār converts from Judaism and makes his speech which has now lost its messianic content and Biblical flavour to become Arab *saj'* (*ibid.*, pp. 296f; contrast Ṭabārī, ser. i, pp. 2408f). The account of the conquest of Jerusalem is by no means an isolated example: Sunni history is once and Shi'ite history twice removed from reality (cf. also the Shi'ite 'memory' of the Constitution of Medina referred to above).

<sup>61</sup> Kindī's recollection of an iconoclast edict clearly derived from a local tradition (cf. Crone, 'Islam, Judeo-Christianity and Byzantine Iconoclasm', note 45), and Abū Zur'a's refusal to count 'Ali among the caliphs presumably also represents local tradition, not just doctrinal choice (cf. above, note 30). But such examples are rare.

<sup>62</sup> Cf. Noth, *Quellenkritische Studien*, p. 15; Wansbrough, *Quranic Studies*, p. 90.

<sup>63</sup> Just how much information can be brought together by combing sources early and late, printed and manuscript is superbly demonstrated by Kister's work (for a recent example see M. J. Kister, 'The Battle of the Harrā' in *Studies in Memory of Gaston Wiet*, ed. M. Rosen-Ayalon, Jerusalem 1977).

<sup>64</sup> For a striking exception see the description of the Roman nobles who cover their heads with their cloaks and await death refusing to survive the ignominy of defeat (Ṭabārī, ser. i, pp. 2099; cf. M. De Goeje, *Mémoire sur la conquête de la Syrie*<sup>2</sup>, Leiden 1900, p. 62). But such exceptions are very few indeed.

<sup>65</sup> Compare J. H. W. G. Liebeschuetz, *Antioch: City and Imperial Administration in the Later Roman Empire*, Oxford 1972, or P. Brown, 'The Rise and Function of the Holy Man in Late Antiquity', *Journal of Roman Studies* 1971, two vivid portraits of the Syria which the Arabs conquered, and H. Lammens, *Etudes sur le règne du Calife Omayyade Mo'awiyah Ier*, Paris 1908, or P. K. Hitti, *History of Syria*, London 1951, two portraits of the Syria which the Arabs saw. In part, of course, the contrast arises from the different dates and very different historical and literary talents of the authors, but basically it arises from the sources: it is no accident that one of the most successful sketches of the encounter between the Arabs and late antiquity comes from a scholar to whom these sources are not accessible (P. Brown, *The World of Late Antiquity*, London 1971, pp. 189ff).

<sup>66</sup> Noth, *Quellenkritische Studien*, pp. 128f.

<sup>67</sup> Th. Nöldeke (ed. and tr.), 'Zur Geschichte der Araber im 1. Jahr. d. H. aus syrischen Quellen', *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 1875, p. 92 = 97.

<sup>68</sup> The examples of *takbīrs* adduced by Noth certainly are *topoi* and legends. In the same way the invitations to conversion issued to the enemy clearly are schematic and over-elaborate, and the promises of complete equality often do bear all the signs of being arguments for a gentile Islam (Noth, *Quellenkritische Studien*, pp. 131ff). But precisely such an invitation was issued with precisely such a promise to the garrison at Gaza (H. Delahaye (ed.), 'Passio sanctorum sexaginta martyrum', *Analecta Bollandiana* 1904, p. 302:

'et estis sicut nos, et habetis honorem sicuti unus e nobis'). And Noth's dismissal of Sebeos' account of Mu'awiya's letter to the Byzantine emperor is certainly wrong: the fact that it does not sound like a classical Islamic *da'wa ilā'l-islām* hardly proves that it was a Christian *topos* (Noth, *Quellenkritische Studien*, pp. 146f). What the Muslim sources do not tell us is that those who refused the *da'wa* in the days of the early conquests were liable not just to be defeated and subjected to the *jizya*, but also to be martyred.

<sup>69</sup> Cf. Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, p. 173, note 276.

<sup>70</sup> Cf. *ibid.*, pp. 5, 28 and 178, note 69; 'Ali appears as Muhammad's brother in R. G. Khoury (ed.), *Wahb b. Munabbib: der Heidelberger Papyrus PSR Heid. Arab. 23*, Wiesbaden 1972, p. 166 (for the Shi'ite character of this work see M. J. Kister, 'On the Papyrus of Wahb b. Munabbib', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 1974, pp. 556ff); compare the reference to Abū Tālib as Muhammad's father in U. Rubin, 'Pre-existence and Light', *Israel Oriental Studies* 1975, p. 75n.

<sup>71</sup> Thus W. M. Watt, *Muhammad at Mecca*, Oxford 1953; *id.*, *Muhammad at Medina*, Oxford 1956. Watt's desire to find social malaise in the desert would have been more convincing if the Meccans had been members of OPEC rather than the *hilf al-fudūl*. Similarly M. A. Shaban, *The 'Abbāsid Revolution*, Cambridge 1970; *id.*, *Islamic History, a New Interpretation*, Cambridge 1971–6, through whose work runs the conviction that the Arabs were eminently modern-minded people who did not allow religious or tribal side-issues to cloud their grasp of the realities of politics in general and trade in particular; even the East African slaves in the salt marshes of Basra have here become pioneers of a trade as all-explaining as that which supposedly led the Norwegians to flock to Iceland (*Islamic History*, vol. ii, pp. 101f).

<sup>72</sup> One of the rare exceptions is R. B. Serjeant, 'Haram and Hawtah, the Sacred Enclave in Arabia' in A. Badawi (ed.), *Mélanges Taha Husain*, Cairo 1962. The disappearance of the unreality which is so striking in this sketch arises from the fact that it is based on tribal studies in modern South Arabia, plus the Constitution of Medina, to the exclusion of the rest of the *Sīra*. (The South Arabian model does not, of course, fit very well in the north, still less does it explain why the holy man should preach a new religion; but then Serjeant, like Arsūzī, sees only what was pre-Islamic in Islam.)

<sup>73</sup> Watt's *Muhammad at Mecca*, and *Medina*, Serjeant's 'Haram' and M. Rodinson, *Mohammed*, London 1971, merely happen to be about the same subject; Watt's book has found favour among historians, Serjeant's article among anthropologists, and Rodinson's book is good for students to read, but nobody *works* on them: in fact modern scholars tend not to work on the Prophet at all (contrast the situation before the First World War). Similarly, it was not the cumulation of previous research which led Shaban to write his new interpretation of Islamic history.

<sup>74</sup> J. Wellhausen, 'Prolegomena zur ältesten Geschichte des Islams' in his *Skizzen und Vorarbeiten*, vol. vi, Berlin 1899; *id.*, *Prolegomena zur ältesten Geschichte Israels*, Berlin 1883.

- <sup>75</sup> Given the immense period covered by the Pentateuch, even the most credulous scholar will probably never know as much about the origins of Judaism as even the most sceptical scholar knows about those of Islam; but what the Biblical scholar knows makes infinitely better sense.
- <sup>76</sup> For a fair critique of the Scandinavian *jacquerie* against Wellhausen see the chapter by C. R. North in H. H. Rowley (ed.), *The Old Testament and Modern Study*, Oxford 1951. The application of the rabbinic model in Islamic guise to the Pentateuch is not a little anachronistic, and the basic trouble of the Graf–Wellhausen hypothesis was clearly that it threatened to create work shortage in an overpopulated field.
- <sup>77</sup> Noth, 'Der Charakter'; *id.*, *Quellenkritische Studien*, pp. 9ff. For the Syrian school see Rotter, 'Abū Zur'a'. For an attack on Wellhausen from a somewhat different point of view see Sezgin, *Abū Miḥnaf*, pp. 10ff.
- <sup>78</sup> Sellheim, 'Prophet, Chalif und Geschichte'. Sellheim identified two strata consisting of miracle stories and 'Abbāsid propaganda respectively: all the rest is labelled *Grundschicht* and characterized as *Felsbrocken* (p. 48). It is, however, this layer which is in need of analysis, and the assurance that it reflects the events of history more or less directly is hardly borne out by the soundings on pp. 73ff.
- <sup>79</sup> Noth, 'Isfahān-Nīhāwānd'.
- <sup>80</sup> Noth, *Quellenkritische Studien*; for the warning see p. 29. Noth does not deny that Islamic history can be written: his work is meant as a practical guide (*ibid.*, p. 28). But he himself writes none.
- <sup>81</sup> I. Goldziher, *Muhammedanische Studien*, Halle 1889–90, vol. ii.
- <sup>82</sup> H. Lammens, *Fātimā et les filles de Mahomet*, Rome 1912; C. H. Becker, 'Prinzipielles zu Lammens' Sirastudien', *Der Islam* 1913 (also published as 'Grundsätzliches zur Leben-Muhammed-Forschung' in his *Islamstudien*, Leipzig 1924–32, vol. i). Lammens saw the *Sīra* as nothing but a Midrash to the Koran, but nonetheless proceeded to a hazardous interpretation rather than a rejection of the Islamic tradition; Becker formally reinstated the historical recollection behind the *tafsīr* and *ḥadīth* of which he saw the *Sīra* as composed, but knew of no method other than subjective intuition for deciding which was which; Levi Della Vida was accordingly free to reinstate the historicity of the Medinan period of Muḥammad's life (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, Leiden 1913–38, s.v. '*Sīra*'); and Watt proceeded to reinstate that of the Meccan one as well, so that by 1953 Islamic studies were back to square one. Schacht himself seems to have regarded Lammens' theories as responsible for the backlash (for the reference see the following note), but Islamic scholarship in general seems to have stalled about 1914–20 at the very moment when it was about to take off, and however many sins Lammens may have had on his conscience, he certainly was not responsible for that (cf. the fate of Wellhausen's theories and the separation of Syriac and Islamic studies about the same time; cf. also Cook, 'Monotheist Sages', note 264).
- <sup>83</sup> J. Schacht, 'A Revaluation of Islamic Traditions', *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* 1949. Schacht's misgivings as regards the effects of Lammens on

Islamic scholarship are found on p. 143n. Despite the general reluctance to accept the implications of his theories, his success in structuring an amorphous mass of traditions makes it unlikely that a reaction of quite the same magnitude could ever recur.

<sup>84</sup> Schacht, *Origins*; *id.*, *An Introduction to Islamic Law*, Oxford 1964, part one, a somewhat easier survey of this evolution.

<sup>85</sup> H.-P. Raddatz has applied Schacht's theories in his own field (*Die Stellung und Bedeutung des Sufyān at-Taurī*, Bonn 1967; 'Frühislamisches Erbrecht nach dem Kitāb al-farā'id des Sufyān at-Taurī', *Die Welt des Islams* 1971); in the neighbouring fields Van Ess (*Zwischen ḥadīt und Theologie*), Wansbrough (*Quranic Studies*), Burton (*The Collection of the Qur'an*), and Cook ('Monotheist Sages') are similarly indebted to Schacht (and Goldziher). Considering the deference with which Schacht is usually cited, it is surprising that no more work has been carried out under his aegis.

<sup>86</sup> Schacht, 'Revaluation'; *id.*, 'On Mūsā b. 'Uqba's Kitāb al-Maghāzī', *Acta Orientalia* (Copenhagen) 1949.

<sup>87</sup> J. Schacht, 'The Kitāb al-Tārīh of Halifa b. Hayyāt', *Arabica* 1969; cf. 'Mūsā b. 'Uqba', p. 293. Schacht's conclusions were confirmed not only by the late Umayyad fragment on the battle of Badr (Grohmann, *Arabic Papyri from Hirbet el-Mird*, no. 71), but also by the archaic third-century chronicle of Abū Zur'a (Rotter, 'Abū Zur'a').

<sup>88</sup> Watt disposes of Schacht by casuistry (W. M. Watt, 'The Materials used by Ibn Ishāq' in B. Lewis and P. M. Holt (eds.), *Historians of the Middle East*, London 1962, p. 24). Gibb defends the authenticity of a narrative relating to the mid-Umayyad period with reference to its superior *isnād* (H. A. R. Gibb, *Studies on the Civilization of Islam*, London 1962, p. 53). Shaban pretends never to have heard of Schacht, or for that matter any other critic of the sources (see in particular his *Islamic History*, vol. i, p. 1). The reactions of the Arabists are very similar. R. Paret, 'Die Lücke in der Überlieferung über den Islam', *Westöstliche Abhandlungen Rudolf Tschudi*, ed. F. Meier, Wiesbaden 1954, takes Schacht seriously, but nonetheless ends by endorsing the soundness of the *Sīra*. A. Guillaume seems to be under the impression that the only attack ever made on the historicity of the *Sīra* is that by his own research students in respect of the *Sīra*'s poetry (see his introduction to his translation of the *Sīra*; similarly his 'The Biography of the Prophet in Recent Research', *Islamic Quarterly Review* 1954). Sellheim's innocence of Schacht has already been noted. Abbott and F. and U. Sezgin are of course anything but deaf, but their method consists in believing what the Muslims said about the formation of their own tradition while abstaining from too close an analysis of the character of this tradition which so flagrantly contradicts it: the conclusions of Schacht (and now also Noth) are denied, but not disproved. The only serious attempts to refute Schacht are those of N. J. Coulson, *A History of Islamic Law*, Edinburgh 1964, pp. 64ff (who accepts the essentials of Schacht's conclusions), and Azmi, *Studies* (who disagrees fundamentally with both Goldziher and Schacht).

<sup>89</sup> Nor for that matter by anyone else.

- <sup>90</sup> That, of course, was precisely the inference which Lammens and Becker drew from Goldziher's theories.
- <sup>91</sup> For example, we are told that Muḥammad's grandfather vowed to sacrifice his son and had to ransom him (Ibn Ishāq, *Leben Muhammed's*, vol. i, pp. 97ff = 66ff). The story is modelled on Abraham and Isaac and presumably once had a point, but as it stands it is remarkably pointless, and except for a general Pentateuchal obsession, the doctrinal structure to which it belonged has utterly gone. It is, so to speak, a case of *naskh al-hukm dūna al-tilāwa*.
- <sup>92</sup> J. M. B. Jones, 'The Chronology of the *maghāzī* – a Textual Survey', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 1957 (the chronology of Muḥammad's campaigns becomes gradually improved); Wansbrough, *Quranic Studies*, pp. 38ff (the chronology of the revelation is arbitrary); Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, p. 157, note 39 (there is disagreement on the number of years Muḥammad spent in Medina).
- <sup>93</sup> Sellheim, 'Prophet, Chalif und Geschichte', pp. 75, 77f (every year has one major event, Muḥammad was born, performed the *bijra* and died on Monday 12th Rabi' I).
- <sup>94</sup> E. Mittwoch, 'Muhammeds Geburt- und Todestag', *Islamica* 1926 (Moses also was born and died on the same day). The doctrinal inspiration is, however, particularly clear in the tight synchronization of Muḥammad's relations with the Jews and Koranic revelation in the first years after the *bijra*, and in the date of the Prophet's death (cf. the following note).
- <sup>95</sup> Viz. the year of the death of the Prophet (Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, pp. 4, 24).
- <sup>96</sup> Sellheim's view that falsifications are as good as unthinkable in the prosopographical lists is flatly contradicted by his own research: if the lists could be manipulated to include and exclude 'Abbās and Abū Sufyān in accordance with political demands *after* A.D. 750, it is somewhat gratuitous to assume that they were stable until then (Sellheim, 'Prophet, Chalif und Geschichte', pp. 73f). In fact, lists of first converts (Abū Bakr, 'Alī, 'Umar) clearly reflect discussions of the imamate; similarly lists of commanders: in Sunnī tradition it was 'Amr b. al-'Āṣ whom the Prophet charged with the expedition to Syria, but in Shi'ite tradition it was 'Alī (Kister, 'On the Papyrus of Wahb b. Munabbih', pp. 557ff). Lists of those who became brothers in Medina not only pair Muḥammad and 'Alī as one might expect (cf. above, note 70), but also include Salmān al-Fārisī, a figure whose genesis can to some extent be followed (J. Horovitz, 'Salmān al-Fārisī', *Der Islam* 1922; cf. also Crone, 'Islam, Judeo-Christianity and Byzantine Iconoclasm', especially note 179). In general, who participated in the events of the Prophet's life was so loaded a question that it would be more interesting to know how and why the relevant men came to be included in the lists than whether they actually did participate: even if we knew the historical names, we would still not have the historical information required to identify the men behind them.
- <sup>97</sup> And that despite the fact that in 1954 Cahen used a Syriac source to draw a vivid picture of the Mesopotamian countryside quite unlike anything one

can get out of Muslim fiscal manuals (C. Cahen, 'Fiscalité, propriété, antagonismes sociaux en Haute-Mésopotamie au temps des premiers Abbâsides', *Arabica* 1954): his first worthy follower in this field is M. G. Morony (cf. the bibliography). Cahen was also the first to turn to these sources for religious information (C. Cahen, 'Note sur l'accueil des Chrétiens d'Orient à l'Islam', *Revue de l'Histoire des Religions* 1964); but there seems to have been a general consensus that non-Muslim sources could teach us nothing about Islam as a religion, and even Cahen used them only for the Christian reaction to Islam. (Cahen's question whether the Christians really saw Islam as an opponent or rival to Christianity has to be answered with an emphatic yes: quite apart from the fact that they suffered martyrdom at the hands of the Muslims, the Christians never described Islam as a Christian heresy (cf. Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, chh. 1f and p. 120). That John of Damascus saw it as such hardly follows from his inclusion of it in his book of heresies, cf. his inclusion of pagan, Jewish and Samaritan sects.)

<sup>98</sup> M. Allard, 'Un Philosophe théologien, Muhammad b. Yūsuf al-Āmirī', *Revue de l'Histoire des Religions* 1975, p. 62. The view that all Jews and Christians throughout the Middle East invariably interpreted all political and religious disturbances as Jewish messianic movements is inherently unlikely and factually untrue.

<sup>99</sup> The chronology and prosopography of the Rāshidūn was analysed by Noth, *Quellenkritische Studien*, pp. 40ff, 90ff, and on the whole rejected. The discussion is, however, somewhat unsatisfactory because Noth (who mysteriously does not know Schacht's work on this topic) treats the two separately and dismisses the *ta'rikh* as secondary (that the combination of *ta'rikh* and *akhbār* is secondary is obviously true, but that is another matter). Equally, he makes no distinction between lists of different types: those of governors and other magistrates clearly belong to a different tradition from those of '*ulamā'* or those of participants and fallen in battles. It is certainly true that the chronology of the conquests is confused (Noth, *Quellenkritische Studien*, p. 41), that the Rāshidūn are given Umayyad magistrates (*ibid.*, p. 43; one might add Ibn Qunfudh, 'Uthmān's supposed *sāhib shurṭa*), and that the lists of participants in battles testify to *Namenmanie* (*ibid.*, p. 96). And perhaps the *Grundschicht* of this period is as unsatisfactory as it is for the Prophet. But the case of 'Umayr b. Sa'd (cf. below), and the order which has emerged from Hinds' prosopographical studies of the rebels against 'Uthmān, suggest that there is more to be said about this subject.

<sup>100</sup> Cf. Noth, *Quellenkritische Studien*, p. 96.

<sup>101</sup> Anyone who has gone through the papyrological, numismatic or epigraphical publications must have been struck by this agreement, but it is scarcely less striking that 'Umayr b. Sa'd, the obscure governor of Ḥimṣ and Damascus in the 640s A.D., 'Abdallāh b. Darrāj, the fiscal agent and *mauliā* of Mu'āwiya, and Dīnār b. Dīnār, a subgovernor in northern Syria under 'Abd al-Malik, should have been confirmed by Syriac sources (Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, pp. 160, note 57, 162, note 11; see also Appendix II, no. 2). Not all the gover-

nors of the Umayyad period can, of course, be checked in this way, and not everything fits when they can (cf. the aberrant chronology of certain Arab-Sasanian coins in A. D. Mordtmann, 'Zur Pehlevi-Münzkunde', *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 1879, especially p. 97; the problem is not discussed by H. Gaube, *Arabosasanidische Numismatik*, Braunschweig 1973). But enough has been confirmed to make rejection of the unconfirmed extremely difficult.

<sup>102</sup> Lists of caliphs are attested from the mid-Umayyad period onwards in the form of Syriac 'king-lists', which probably reflect Arabic models, and next in Zuhri's book of *asnān al-mulūk* (Rotter, 'Abū Zur'a', p. 91; for the first 'king-list' see Land, *Anecdota*, vol. ii, p. 11 of the 'Addenda'). Lists of governors and *qādīs* must have been composed about the same time (cf. the unique and presumably archaic title of Kindī's work in which the earliest material on *qādīs* dates from the early part of the second century (Schacht, *Origins*, p. 100), and note that Abū Zur'a got his lists of caliphs and most of his lists of *qādīs* from the same informant (Rotter, 'Abū Zur'a', pp. 99f)). Lists of commanders of the summer campaigns are not attested until early 'Abbāsid Syria (*ibid.*, p. 101), but it is hard to believe that they had not been compiled before: the evidence would indicate that *ta'rīkib* originated in Syria (cf. *ibid.*, p. 92), and that the contents of the Syrian lists were caliphs and magistrates. Lists of *muhaddithūn*, on the other hand, attesting to the rabbinicization of Islam, are of later origin (*pace ibid.*, p. 92) and first appear in Iraq: we are told that Shu'ba, who died in Basra in 160, was the first to occupy himself with the study of traditionists (Ibn Hajar, *Tabdhib al-tabdhib*, Hyderabad 1325-7, vol. iv, p. 345), and in the archaic work of Abū Zur'a these lists are still only vaguely chronological, not annalistic (*ibid.*). That leaves the lists of participants and fallen in battle and other lists relating to the *asbrāf*, which clearly belong to the tribal tradition and which are the most difficult to check for authenticity. As an ingredient in the *maghāzī* they are attested in the Khirbet el-Mird fragment (above, note 4), but there is nothing to indicate that they were part of a specifically Syrian tradition, and they are unlikely always to have been dated.

<sup>103</sup> Sebeos, for example, confirms the complicity of Egyptians in the murder of 'Uthmān and the subsequent proclamation of a new 'king'; though his designation of what was clearly 'Alī as a king would indicate that his informants were not Syrians, he also has Mu'āwiya not only defeat but also kill 'Alī 'in the desert', presumably by compression of the events (Sebeos, *Histoire d'Héraclius*, tr. F. Macler, Paris 1904, p. 149; he also states that the Egyptians were allied with those in Arabia, and that Mu'āwiya later sent a victorious expedition to Arabia, both statements which could be taken at their face value; it is, however, possible that Arabia is a mistake for Iraq (mistranslation of Bēth 'Arbāyē?)).

<sup>104</sup> Cf. below, note 647.

<sup>105</sup> Below, note 572.

<sup>106</sup> J.-B. Chabot (ed. and tr.), *Chronique de Denys de Tell-Mahré*, Paris 1895, pp. 117f = 99.

- <sup>107</sup> D. Dennett, *Conversion and Poll-tax in Early Islam*, Cambridge Mass. 1950; E. Sachau (ed. and tr.), *Syrische Rechtsbücher*, Berlin 1907–14, vol. iii, p. 18 = 19 (letters of Henāñshō', Nestorian patriarch A.D. 686–93). For an even earlier reference to the poll-tax see J.-B. Chabot (ed. and tr.), *Synodicon Orientale ou recueil de Synodes nestoriens* (Notices et extraits des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque Nationale, vol. xxxvii), Paris 1902, p. 225 = 490 (synod of 676); but this was perhaps a somewhat less accessible work.
- <sup>108</sup> Most of the information in Appendix I is to be taken in this sense.

## 2. THE NATURE OF THE ARAB CONQUEST

- <sup>109</sup> K. A. Wittfogel and C.-S. Feng, *History of Chinese Society, Liao (907–1125)*, Philadelphia 1949, p. 267.
- <sup>110</sup> al-Khaṭib al-Baghdādī, *Taqyid al-ilm*, ed. Y. al-Ishsh, Damascus 1949, pp. 50f; cf. M. J. Kister, 'Haddithū 'an banī isrā'ila wa-lā ḥaraja', *Israel Oriental Studies* 1972, pp. 253ff.
- <sup>111</sup> The advice of the Celestial Turks had of course been to stay there physically (cf. V. Thomsen, *Inscriptions de l'Orkbon déchiffrées*, Helsingfors 1896, p. 117).
- <sup>112</sup> Wittfogel and Feng, *Liao*, p. 236n.
- <sup>113</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 672f; cf. also pp. 220f for other evidence of cultural assimilation.
- <sup>114</sup> It is of course also a land of desert and mountain, but no conqueror ever came forth from the Takla Makan or the Tien Shan, and it is no accident that the Tibetan Tanguts owed both their ruling house and their political tradition to the Turkish To-pa (W. Eberhard, *A History of China*, London 1950, pp. 230f; cf. *id.*, *Conquerors and Rulers, Social Forces in Medieval China*, Leiden 1952, pp. 69ff).
- <sup>115</sup> It can be cultivated as the desert cannot (L. Krader, *Peoples of Central Asia*, The Hague 1966, pp. 10ff), and tribal agriculture is attested already for the Hsiung-nu in Mongolia and the Sarmatians in southern Russia (S. I. Rudenko, *Die Kultur der Hsiung-Nu und die Hügelgräber von Noin Ula*, Bonn 1969, p. 28; J. O. Maench-Helfen, *The World of the Huns*, ed. M. Knight, Berkeley, Los Angeles and London 1973, pp. 174ff). It took only a slight relaxation of Manchu control for peasants to swamp Inner Mongolia, whereas it takes the immense determination, capital and skill of Zionism for peasants to gain a foothold in the Negev.
- <sup>116</sup> Largely restricted to the desert, the Central Asian camel is used only as a beast of burden on the steppe (R. Patai, 'Nomadism: Middle Eastern and Central Asian', *Southwestern Journal of Anthropology* 1951, p. 406).
- <sup>117</sup> See for example Rudenko, *Kultur der Hsiung-Nu*, pp. 22f for early attestation and L. Krader, 'Ecology of Central Asian Pastoralism', *Southwestern Journal of Anthropology* 1955, pp. 309f for modern conditions.
- <sup>118</sup> Cf. Krader, *Ecology*, p. 320. Whereas the high density of humans and flocks per square kilometre in certain areas of Central Asia is clearly a fact about the steppe (*ibid.*, pp. 315ff), the ratio of flocks to humans must be a fact about the animals: presumably horses are not very labour intensive because they have

a natural herding instinct, thus requiring few herdsmen (cf. note 158; I owe this point to Elizabeth O'Beirne-Ranelagh).

<sup>119</sup> Sheep have a market, but not much of a price, and camels have a price, but much less of a market, whereas horses had both until quite recent times. It is true that pastoralism is likely to have been less market-orientated in the past, and in modern Arabia there seems to be no appreciable difference of herd size between the Murra who do not sell their camels and the Rwala who do (cf. below, note 159). But the Chinese did purchase horses from the barbarians (cf. J. R. Hamilton, *Les Ouïghours à l'époque des cinq dynasties*, Paris 1955, pp. 106ff; Jing-shen Tao, *The Jurchen in Twelfth-Century China*, Seattle and London 1976, pp. 15f; D. Sinor, 'Horse and Pasture in Inner Asian History', *Oriens Extremus* 1972, p. 175), and Istakhri's claim that the wealth of Chorasmia was based on trade with the nomads also suggests that the Central Asian pastoralists were not entirely orientated towards subsistence: in modern Arabia it is only the wealth of a few families which is based on such trade (W. Barthold, *Turkestan down to the Mongol Invasion*<sup>3</sup>, London 1968, p. 247; A. Musil, *The Manners and Customs of the Rwala Bedouins*, New York 1928, pp. 278f).

<sup>120</sup> F. Barth, *Nomads of South Persia*, Oslo 1964, pp. 103ff; cf. W. Irons, 'Variation in Economic Organization: A Comparison of the Pastoral Yomut and the Basseri' in W. Irons and N. Dyson-Hudson (eds.), *Perspectives on Nomadism*, Leiden 1972, pp. 96ff. Unlike the Yomut, the Basseri are reluctant to use hired shepherds and do not call upon kinsmen in other camps for assistance, clearly reflections of the extent to which the cessation of tribal warfare has turned the Basseri camps into isolated worlds of their own (cf. Barth, *Nomads of South Persia*, pp. 46f; contrast Irons, 'Variation', pp. 93, 103). But the fact that the Basseri also lack the Yomut mechanisms for concentrating labour resources in the household suggests that there may be ecological reasons why large flocks do not pay here. Barth's point, however, remains unaffected, for even among the Yomut the very wealthy and the very poor feel the pull towards sedentarization (Irons, 'Variation', pp. 99, 101). The process is delayed, and its effects are counteracted by the fact that the proximity of settled and nomad on the one hand, and the need for military strength on the other, enable those who settle to remain members of the tribe. But it cannot be suspended, and the Yomut may thus be taken to represent the limit of the social differentiation that sheep-nomadism will permit. There are no comparable analyses for horse- or camel-rearers (D. Cole, *Nomads of the Nomads*, Illinois 1975, p. 102 asserts the existence of a point of diminishing returns among the Murra bedouin beyond which the bedouin themselves choose not to go; but no evidence is offered).

<sup>121</sup> Among the sheep-nomads who are, so to speak, dealing in cheap currency, the Yomut will accumulate up to 1000 head per household (Irons, 'Variation', p. 99), the Basseris up to somewhere between 200 and 800 (Barth, *Nomads of South Persia*, p. 103), while the Brahui will keep theirs below 500 (W. W. Swidler, 'Some Demographic Factors Regulating the Formation of Flocks

and Camps among the Brahui of Baluchistan' in W. Irons and N. Dyson-Hudson (eds.), *Perspectives on Nomadism*, Leiden 1972, p. 72. But the Brahui case clearly turns on the availability of wage-labour as an alternative source of income: the Brahui do not herd their own flocks, but place them with a hired shepherd, and their flocks, though pooled in units of about the 500 which a single shepherd can control, are commonly below the minimal size required for subsistence). Among the horse-nomads of Mongolia, however, it is worth accumulating up to several thousand head per household (Wittfogel and Fêng, *Liao*, p. 119). In other words, although the denomination is higher, the maximum figures are also higher. It is worth noting that the Mongols use or used the same methods for concentrating labour resources in the household as do the Turkish Yomut, that is ultimogeniture whereby the youngest son is kept at home, adoption, and slavery, but not, apparently, deferred independence for the elder sons. (For the far lower figures among camel-rearers see below, note 159.)

<sup>122</sup> Cf. B. Ya. Vladimirtsov, *The Life of Chingiz Khan*, London 1930, pp. 3f; A. E. Hudson, *Kazak Social Structure*, New Haven 1938, pp. 27f, 57. Note the comparable effect among the Yomut, where the sedentarized rich keep a large portion of their wealth in the form of livestock (Irons, 'Variation', pp. 99f).

<sup>123</sup> O. Lattimore, *Inner Asian Frontiers of China*, New York 1940, pp. 452f. The migration of Siberian pastoralists into the steppe is elegantly illustrated in the Pazyryk burials of horses disguised as reindeer.

<sup>124</sup> R. Grousset, *The Empire of the Steppes*, New Brunswick 1970, pp. 18, 25. The extent to which Central Asia was criss-crossed by such traffic is highlighted by the facts that the Uighurs imported their Manichaeism from *China*, while the Chinese conversely got their Buddhism, *inter alia*, from a Parthian (*ibid.*, pp. 49, 121).

<sup>125</sup> Cf. *ibid.*, pp. 29ff on the havoc wrought by the first known turmoil of this kind.

<sup>126</sup> For the varieties of fortification in the area see R. N. Frye, 'The Sassanian System of Walls for Defence' in M. Rosen-Ayalon (ed.), *Studies in Memory of Gaston Wiet*, Jerusalem 1977, pp. 13ff.

<sup>127</sup> Both the Hsiung-nu and the Mongols seem to have begun as hunters in the north (W. M. Macgovern, *The Early Empires of Central Asia*, New York 1939, p. 100; B. Vladimirtsov, *Le Régime social des Mongols*, Paris 1948, p. 39; cf. also the downward movement of the Oirots in G. Hambley *et al.*, *Central Asia*, London 1969, p. 245). The Kirghiz who overran the Uighur empire certainly came from the Yenisei.

<sup>128</sup> The two major exceptions, Timur Lenk and the Manchus, were both synthetic imitations of the Mongols.

<sup>129</sup> L. Krader, 'Principles and Structure in the Organization of the Asiatic Steppe-Pastoralists', *Southwestern Journal of Anthropology* 1955, pp. 84f.

<sup>130</sup> L. Krader, *Social Organization of the Mongol-Turkic Pastoral Nomads*, The Hague 1963, p. 202; compare the *buiruk* and the *kara bodun* of the Orkhon Turks (R. Giraud, *L'Empire des Turcs célestes*, Paris 1960, pp. 82, 86ff).

<sup>131</sup> Krader, *Social Organization*, pp. 20ff, 128ff, 183f; *id.*, 'Principles', pp. 79ff.

Krader's evidence is of course largely post-Chingizid and modern, but it fits very neatly with the analysis of pre-Chingizid Turkish tribes given by a Sinologist (Eberhard, *Conquerors and Rulers*, pp. 69ff). Compare also the early attestation of social differentiation and thus presumably political organization at Pazyrkyk (S. I. Rudenko, *Frozen Tombs of Siberia*, London 1970, p. 215), and contrast the far more rudimentary organization of the Turks and Kirghiz of the mountains and the Mongols of the forests (Krader, 'Principles', p. 85; Vladimirtsov, *Life of Chingiz Khan*, p. 4).

<sup>132</sup> A. Waley (tr.), *The Secret History of the Mongols*, London 1963, p. 125 = P. Pelliot (ed. and tr.), *Histoire secrète des Mongols*, Paris 1949, section 33. The wisdom finds concrete illustration in the fate of the acephalous tribe at the hands of Bodonchar and his brothers: 'those people have no chief to rule them; they make no difference between great and small; such a people would be easy to take. Let us go and make prisoners of them' (Waley, *Secret History*, p. 220 = Pelliot, *Histoire secrète*, section 35).

<sup>133</sup> O. Lattimore, 'Feudalism in History' (review article), *Past and Present* 1957, pp. 51f.

<sup>134</sup> Vladimirtsov, *Régime social*, pp. 8off.

<sup>135</sup> The effect of warfare on the 'difference between great and small' can be followed in Sarmatian graves (T. Sulimirski, *The Sarmatians*, London 1970, p. 33), and social stratification in Mongolia is strikingly illustrated both in the graves of the Hsiung-nu and in the Orkhon inscriptions (Rudenko, *Kultur der Hsiung-Nu*, pp. 21, 63; Thomsen, *Inscriptions de l'Orkhon, passim*). The Manchus certainly had a point when they contrasted the noble origin of the Mongol and Manchu dynasties with the common origin of those of the Chinese (F. Michael, *The Origins of Manchu Rule in China*, Baltimore 1932, p. 119).

<sup>136</sup> The *nököt* of the Mongols (Vladimirtsov, *Régime social*, pp. 110ff); cf. also Wittfogel and Feng, *Liao*, p. 509; Krader, *Social Organization*, p. 184; Hudson, *Kazak Social Structure*, pp. 59f.

<sup>137</sup> Rudenko, *Kultur der Hsiung-Nu*, p. 59; W. Eberhard, *Das Toba-Reich Nordchinas*, Leiden 1949, p. 301; Vladimirtsov, *Régime Social*, pp. 131ff.

<sup>138</sup> The precedent for Chingiz's *Yasa* goes back at least to the Celestial Turks (Thomsen, *Inscriptions de l'Orkhon*, pp. 97f).

<sup>139</sup> Spectacularly illustrated by the Goths who are said still to have spoken Gothic there in the thirteenth century A.D. (A. A. Vasiliev, *The Goths in the Crimea*, Cambridge Mass. 1936, p. 166).

<sup>140</sup> M. Rostovtzeff, *Iranians and Greeks in South Russia*, Oxford 1922, pp. 43, 211ff.

<sup>141</sup> G. Vernadsky, *Ancient Russia*, New Haven 1943, pp. 113ff, 281ff.

<sup>142</sup> Maench-Helfen, *The World of the Huns*, pp. 190ff; D. M. Dunlop, *The History of the Jewish Khazars*, New York 1967, pp. 91ff; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'Bulghār'; B. Spuler, *Die Goldene Horde*, Leipzig 1943, pp. 300ff.

<sup>143</sup> Krader, *Social Organization*, pp. 122ff, 201ff (on the Kazak and Kalmuk states). Note also how the Oirots reversed the traditional direction of tribal

movements in Central Asia when they made their exodus from Russia in A.D. 1770<sup>f</sup> or not to Hungary, but to the Ili: like the Israelites the Oirots were fleeing from an oppressive civilization (M. Courant, *L'Asie Centrale au XVIIe et XVIIIe siècles*, Paris 1912, pp. 134ff).

<sup>144</sup> Thus the Cimmerians who occupied Urartu, the Scythians who took the Dobrudja, and the Bulgars who crossed the Danube to become Slavs.

<sup>145</sup> It is important for their survival there that in southern Russia, as not in Mongolia and still less Arabia, there was an agricultural region *outside* the imperial borders, partly in the steppe itself and more particularly to the north: for all that they stayed in the steppe, the Mongols of the Golden Horde could thus feed off the agricultural revenues of Russia (cf. P. Anderson, *Passages from Antiquity to Feudalism*, London 1974, p. 227).

<sup>146</sup> Aptly illustrated by the Ch'i-tan who, though refugees from the Jurchen, were nonetheless able to found the irredentist state of the Kara-Khitai in western Turkestan, whereas the Huns, Avars, Cumans and others who reached Europe appear to have lost most of their state structures on the way.

<sup>147</sup> E. A. Thompson, *The Early Germans*, Oxford 1965. Contrast the backwardness of the Slavs, who enjoyed no such confrontation.

<sup>148</sup> Thus the *Belagines* of the Goths, if Jordanes is to be believed (Jordanes, *Getica*, in Th. Mommsen (ed.), *Monumenta Germaniae Historica, auctores antiquissimi*, vol. v, Berlin 1882, p. 74). But in practice the Germanic codes all appear *after* the barbarians have settled down in their Roman homes.

<sup>149</sup> This is of course even more true of the Slavs, whose invasion of the Balkans turned on the arrival of the Avars.

<sup>150</sup> What these horsemen would have thought of the Franks is clear from the dictum of a fifth-century To-pa king: 'the Chinese are footsoldiers and we are horsemen. What can a herd of colts and heifers do against tigers or a pack of wolves?' (Grousset, *Empire*, p. 62).

<sup>151</sup> Less so, of course, on the eastern frontier which was more exposed. But thanks to the ecological potential the Slavs were peasants who periodically lost their state structures to Central Asian invaders, not pastoralists who periodically created them (cf. Anderson, *Passages from Antiquity to Feudalism*, pp. 217ff).

<sup>152</sup> The Hsiung-nu fell to the Hsien-pi, the Celestial Turks to the Uighurs, the Uighurs to the Kirghiz, the Tanguts to the Mongols, and so forth; Roman Gaul today is France, but it is only in the archaic usage of foreigners that northern China is Tabghatch or Cathay. Contrast the viability of Korea and Vietnam.

<sup>153</sup> Cf. J. M. Wallace-Hadrill, *The Long-Haired Kings and Other Studies in Frankish History*, London 1962, p. 25.

<sup>154</sup> Already the Hsiung-nu ruler boasted of having united 'all the nations of the archers' (W. Samolin, *East Turkestan to the Twelfth Century*, The Hague 1964, pp. 20f), the Orkhon Turks very nearly did so (they lacked southern Russia), and the desire to control the entire steppe has been plausibly adduced in explanation of Chingiz's strategy (O. Lattimore, 'The Geography of Chingiz Khan', *Geographical Journal* 1963; I am indebted to Dr D. O.

Morgan for drawing my attention to this article). Conversely, note that as far west as Transoxania the Karakhanids insisted on styling themselves kings of China even after their conversion to Islam (V. V. Barthold, *Four Studies on the History of Central Asia*, vol. i, Leiden 1956, p. 99).

<sup>155</sup> For the Ch'i-tan in north China conquest of south China equalled unification of the whole world (Wittfogel and Fêng, *Liao*, p. 537), but already Attila had seen himself as destined to conquer a world which was primarily Roman (Jordanes, *Getica*, pp. 105f), and the political horizons of the Turkish kaghans included China, Byzantium and Iran. (The passage in Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, ed. and tr. J.-B. Chabot, Paris 1899–1910, vol. iv, p. 568 = vol. iii, p. 150 is not, however, a prophecy that the Turkish kaghans will conquer the world as maintained by O. Turan, 'The Idea of World Domination among the Medieval Turks', *Studia Islamica* 1955, pp. 78f: the ancestral spirits have foretold that the world will be *devastated*, and the kaghan is accordingly in tears, not rejoicing (cf. the fuller version in Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 350 = vol. ii, p. 315, and the original in John of Ephesus, *Historiae Ecclesiasticae pars tertia*, ed. and tr. E. W. Brooks (CSCO, *Scriptores Syri*, vols. livf), Louvain 1935f, pp. 322f = 244f.))

<sup>156</sup> Precisely what Chingiz had in mind when he began his conquest is of course hard to tell: as against Gregory of Akner's conviction that he had been supernaturally bidden to rule many countries, we have the failure of the *Secret History* to betray any awareness of non-Chinese civilizations (Grigor of Akanc', *History of the Nation of the Archers (Mongols)*, ed. and tr. R. P. Blake and R. N. Frye, Cambridge Mass. 1954, p. 291). But the crucial point remains that right from the start he struck out in two directions: insofar as the awareness was not there, it soon arrived.

<sup>157</sup> Horses in the desert are as great a luxury as tomatoes in the Negev.

<sup>158</sup> She-camels require differential herding, so that where one shepherd can look after a flock of 4–500 sheep (Barth, *Nomads of South Persia*, pp. 6, 22; Swidler, 'Demographic Factors', p. 74), it takes two full-time and one part-time herders at least to look after an average herd of fifty camels (Cole, *Nomads of the Nomads*, pp. 36ff); and watering them is even more labour-consuming (Musil, *Rwala*, p. 345). The Rwala thus hire shepherds as a matter of course (*ibid.*, p. 336), while the Murra dispense with them only by recourse to the extended family (cf. Cole, *Nomads of the Nomads*, pp. 65f).

<sup>159</sup> Murri herds consist of forty to seventy-five female camels with an average around fifty and twenty to thirty-five males per household, each household consisting of about seven persons (Cole, *Nomads of the Nomads*, pp. 24, 36f). For the Rwala and other great tribes further north Raswan estimates forty to fifty camels per household, each household consisting of about five persons, but only twenty to thirty among the lesser tribes (C. Raswan, *The Black Tents of Arabia*, London 1935, p. 248). In 1959 the Dosiri tribesmen of Kuwait regarded as well-off families owning eighteen female camels, two baggage camels and a few riding camels (L. E. Sweet, 'Camel Pastoralism in North Arabia and the Minimal Camping Unit' in A. P. Vayda (ed.), *Environment and*

- Cultural Behaviour*, Austin and London 1969, p. 161). It may be added that for grazing purposes the *Rwala* distinguish between herds of different sizes up to eighty, but not beyond (*Musil, Rwala*, p. 336).
- <sup>160</sup> Similarly in modern times: where in Central Asia only Outer Mongolia has preserved a precarious independence, in Arabia only the coast has a colonial history.
- <sup>161</sup> G. Monnot, 'Sabéens et idolâtres selon 'Abd al-Jabbar', *Mélanges de l'Institut Dominicain d'Études Orientales du Caire* 1974, p. 16; J. O. Maenchen-Helfen, 'Manichaeans in Siberia' in W. J. Fischel (ed.), *Semitic and Oriental Studies, a Volume Presented to W. Popper*, Berkeley and Los Angeles 1951.
- <sup>162</sup> A. von Gabain, *Das uigurische Königsreich von Chotscho 850–1250* (Sitzungsberichte der deutschen Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin), Berlin 1961, p. 13.
- <sup>163</sup> Which is why one can write a history of Central Asia, but only about events in pre-Islamic Arabia (cf. S. Smith, 'Events in Arabia in the 6th Century A.D.', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 1954).
- <sup>164</sup> Thus in the famous formulation of Abū'l-Faraj al-Isbahānī, *Kitāb al-aghānī*, Cairo 1927–, vol. xix, pp. 128f.
- <sup>165</sup> E. Bräunlich, 'Beiträge zur Gesellschaftsordnung der arabischen Beduinenstämme', *Islamica* 1934, pp. 82ff. The sins of the pre-Islamic 'tyrants' consisted in their arrogation of the rights to distribute pasture lands and determine tribal moves – commonplace privileges among Central Asian chiefs (G. E. von Grunebaum, 'The Nature of Arab Unity before Islam', *Arabica* 1963, p. 11).
- <sup>166</sup> Compare the illuminating account of decision-making in a Basseri camp by Barth, *Nomads of South Persia*, pp. 43ff and A. Jaussen, *Coutumes des Arabes au pays de Moab*, Paris 1948, p. 140. The chief of an Arab 'ashbāra' and the leader of a Basseri camp are evidently in very much the same position, but there is no Arab equivalent to the autocratic Basseri chief (Barth, *Nomads of South Persia*, pp. 71ff; cf. Jaussen, *Coutumes*, p. 127).
- <sup>167</sup> As it does today (Jaussen, *Coutumes*, p. 144).
- <sup>168</sup> Note the contrast between the orphanages of Muḥammad and Chingiz. Whereas Muḥammad is traditionally described as having been brought up within the tribal framework by his uncle and grandfather, Chingiz barely survived outside it and could only return to it as an adventurer in the service of foreign chiefs; the same pattern recurs in the career of Muḥammad Shaybānī, the founder of the Uzbek state.
- <sup>169</sup> Compare also the lighthearted vein in which pre-Islamic wars are described in the *Aghānī* and elsewhere as against the dead seriousness of the *Secret History*: a comparable gravity appears in the Arab tradition only when the tribal past is of religious significance.
- <sup>170</sup> The Turks, by contrast, went out of their way to annihilate their former suzerains, the Yüan-yüan; three thousand of them were executed on extradition from China at the demand of the Turks (Samolin, *East Turkestan*, p. 55), and their alliance with the Byzantines had Tardu vow that he would send them

- fleeing into the bowels of the earth: 'not with our swords shall we exterminate that race of slaves; we shall crush them like the meanest of ants beneath our horses' hoofs' (Grousset, *Empire*, p. 173).
- <sup>171</sup> Similarly, the Hsiung-nu and the Mongols practised collective hunting, a training for battles, whereas the Arabs hunted individually, a training for raids (Rudenko, *Kultur der Hsiung-Nu*, p. 56; Vladimirtsov, *Régime social*, pp. 48f., 102; G. Jacob, *Altarabisches Beduinenleben*<sup>2</sup>, Berlin 1897, pp. 113ff.).
- <sup>172</sup> Grousset, *Empire*, p. 546, note 13.
- <sup>173</sup> Giraud, *L'Empire des Tures célestes*, pp. 67ff; cf. also P. Poucha, 'Rang und Titel bei den Völkern des mongolischen Raumes im Laufe der Jahrhunderte', *Proceedings of the IXth Meeting of the Permanent International Altaistic Conference*, Naples 1970 (where six of the nine papers are characteristically on titles).
- <sup>174</sup> The *sanda'i* of the Kindā kings are the nearest equivalent (G. Olinder, *The Kings of Kindā*, Lund 1927, p. 73).
- <sup>175</sup> Cf. above, p. 31.
- <sup>176</sup> In Zenobia's case, moreover, the alternative to dependence on Rome was dependence on the Persians.
- <sup>177</sup> Not much of course, but the longevity of the Yemeni mukarribates, the Zaydi and the Ibādī imamates, and for that matter also the Ethiopian monarchy, testify to the fact that only extreme ecological poverty prevented the Arabs from forming similar types of states elsewhere.
- <sup>178</sup> Cf. Olinder, *The Kings of Kindā*.
- <sup>179</sup> M. Höfner, 'Beduinen in den vorislamischen arabischen Inschriften' in F. Gabrieli (ed.), *L'Antica società beduina*, Rome 1959.
- <sup>180</sup> Cf. J. J. Saunders, 'The Nomad as Empire Builder: a Comparison of the Arab and Mongol Conquests', *Diogenes* 1965, p. 81. It had of course been possible for desert tribes to conquer civilization in the remote past when civilization was an extremely vulnerable structure: no extravagant show of strength was required to overrun the petty states of the ancient Near East. Sheep- and goat-nomads such as the Hebrews and the Amorites could thus cross the Jordan and the Euphrates, while mountain tribes such as the Guti and Lullubi could conquer the valley of Babylonia. It was still possible for the Hyksos to conquer Egypt and the Kassites to conquer Babylon thanks to their possession of horses. But long before the seventh century A.D. desert tribes had ceased to be a match for civilization, and mountain tribes conquered valleys only in the Yemen.
- <sup>181</sup> When the conquests began, the Persians are said to have been convinced that the Arabs would never get beyond the Euphrates or Tigris (A. Scher (ed. and tr.), *Histoire nestorienne*, part two, in *Patrologia Orientalis*, vol. xiii, p. 580).
- <sup>182</sup> Barthold, *Turkestan*, p. 410. The same applies to the various peoples now known as Turks (*id.*, 12 *Vorlesungen über die Geschichte der Türken Mittelasiens*, Berlin 1935, pp. 35f.).

- <sup>183</sup> So at least by the time of the Nemara inscription, but doubtless before. It is thus no accident that where Central Asia has social stratification, Arabia has pariah tribes (Patai, 'Nomadism: Middle Eastern and Central Asian', pp. 410f).
- <sup>184</sup> For the Arabs as a *Kulturnation* rather than a *Staatsnation* see von Grunebaum, 'The Nature of Arab Unity'.
- <sup>185</sup> Though not of course from the point of view of the cultural history of the Middle East.
- <sup>186</sup> Given the regularity with which Christians persecuted Jews on the one hand, and the prominence of the desert fantasy among the Jews on the other, it could of course be argued that had it not happened then, it would have happened later.
- <sup>187</sup> The claim that if Muhammad had not had the idea, somebody else would is rather large. Few peoples can have stood in greater need of a programme of state formation and conquest than the Amerindians after the European conquest; Judaism was certainly around, and so even was Islam: there were Crypto-Muslim refugees from the Spanish inquisition just as there were Crypto-Jews, and Muslim slaves were later imported to Brazil. But no Amerindian ever did have the idea.
- <sup>188</sup> As the Manchus and the Mongols restaged the conquest of China in the name of their common barbarian way of life, despite their different languages, so the Jews and the Arabs restaged the conquest of Palestine in the name of their common monotheist descent, despite their different cults (D. M. Farquhar in J. K. Fairbank (ed.), *The Chinese World Order*, Cambridge Mass. 1968, p. 199; Sebeos, *Histoire d'Héraclius*, p. 95).
- <sup>189</sup> Note how the Prophet's career is *not* reenacted in Central Asia: the Seljuqs, for all that they were Muslims, were no Almoravids, and it was Chingiz, not Muhammad, that Timur chose to imitate.
- <sup>190</sup> Cf. Eberhard, *History of China*, p. 230.
- <sup>191</sup> E. Voegelin, 'The Mongol Orders of Submission to European Powers, 1245–1255', *Byzantion* 1940f.
- <sup>192</sup> John of Plano Carpini in A. Van den Wyngaert (ed.), *Sinica Franciscana*, vol. i, Karachi 1929, p. 38. Compare the prostrations of the Khazars in the presence of their kings (Dunlop, *History of the Jewish Khazars*, p. 97).
- <sup>193</sup> When Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism came to be seen as three versions of the same message in China, it was the Mongols who were Confucianized; but when Christianity, Judaism and Islam were regarded as basically the same truth in the Middle East, it was the Christians who were Islamized (I. de Rachewiltz, 'Yeh-lü Ch'u-ts'ai (1189–1243): Buddhist Idealist and Confucian Statesman' in A. F. Wright and D. Twitchett (eds.), *Confucian Personalities*, Stanford 1962, pp. 209ff; Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, pp. 84ff).
- <sup>194</sup> Cf. Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, pp. 121f.
- <sup>195</sup> This is of course only half of the explanation. For the other half, the character of the conquered civilizations, cf. *ibid.*, pp. 79ff.

## 3. THE SUFYĀNID PATTERN, 661-84 [41-64]

- <sup>196</sup> Contrast the translation of the Chinese classics into Tangut (E. I. Kychanov, *Ocherk istorii tangutskogo gosudarstva*, Moscow 1968, pp. 237ff; I owe this reference to M. A. Cook). Eventually, of course the translation of the Sāsānid records had a similar effect (witness the works of Ibn al-Muqaffa'), but not until the capital had been moved to Iraq.
- <sup>197</sup> For these dodges (ranging from the suggestion that China be turned into grazing grounds to the cumbersome system of double administration) see Eberhard, *Conquerors and Rulers*, pp. 76ff.
- <sup>198</sup> That of the Ch'i-tan lasted from A.D. 922 to 1125, that of the Mongols from 1127 to 1368 without major internal upheavals.
- <sup>199</sup> Rachewiltz, 'Yeh-lü Ch'u-ts'ai', pp. 204f.
- <sup>200</sup> B. Lewis, *The Arabs in History*<sup>3</sup>, London 1956, p. 55.
- <sup>201</sup> Cf. M. Hinds, 'The Murder of the Caliph 'Uthmān', *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 1972.
- <sup>202</sup> Cf. M. Hinds, 'Kufan Political Alignments and their Background in the Mid-Seventh Century A.D.', *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 1971.
- <sup>203</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 361f.
- <sup>204</sup> Cf. below, note 210. The tribal basis of the kingdom of Hira had been far less solid: the tribes there were *afnā' al-'arab* (Abū 'Ubayd, *Amwāl*, p. 39).
- <sup>205</sup> He married a daughter of the Quḍā'i chief, whose sons rose to great prominence under the Sufyānids (cf. Appendix I, no. 1).
- <sup>206</sup> Subtribe is used here for '*ashbīra*', a unit which though seen as a descent group is in fact defined by its possession of a common chief (for a parallel in modern usage see Jaussen, *Coutumes*, p. 127; though commonly translated as such, it is certainly not a clan in the anthropological sense of the word). The small size of the '*ashbīra*' is indicated among other things by the many mosques which even minor tribes in Kufa possessed (see for example Ibn al-Kalbi, *Ǧamharat an-nasab, das genealogische Werk des Hīšām b. Muḥammad al-Kalbi*, translated and rearranged with a commentary by W. Caskel and G. Strenziok, Leiden 1966, vol. ii, s.vv. 'Āmir, Ḥārith, Ḡadīma Šuhbān and Wahbīl b. Sa'd' for the five mosques of the small Nakha' in Kufa; cf. also Caskel's comments, *ibid.*, vol. i, pp. 23f).
- <sup>207</sup> Cf. the analysis of the modern 'Anaza by M. Freiherr von Oppenheim, *Die Beduinen*, vol. i, Leipzig 1939, pp. 62f.
- <sup>208</sup> Tabārī, ser. i, p. 2495, where one seventh is missing. For the complete list see H. Djait, 'Les Yamanites à Kufa au Ier siècle de l'hégire', *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 1976, p. 154. Compare also Nasr b. Muzāhib, *Waq'at Siffin*, pp. 131f. Abū Mikhnaf's assertion that the Kufans were once divided into fifths must represent a confusion with Basra (Tabārī, ser. ii, p. 1382).
- <sup>209</sup> Tabārī, ser. ii, p. 1382; Balādhurī, *Ansāb al-ashrāf*, vol. iv a, ed. M. Schloessinger and M. J. Kister, Jerusalem 1971, p. 190.

<sup>210</sup> L. Massignon, 'Explication du plan de Kufa', *Mélanges Maspero*, Cairo 1934–40; *id.*, 'Explication du plan de Baṣra', *Westöstliche Abhandlungen R. Tschudi*, ed. F. Meier, Wiesbaden 1954; S. A. al-'Alī, *al-Tarqīmat al-ijtīmā'-iyyā wa'l-iqtisādīyyā fi'l-Baṣra*<sup>2</sup>, Beirut 1969, pp. 53ff. The Syrian quarters have to be pieced together from a variety of sources which yield the following result. (1) Damascus: Qudā'a, Qays, Quraysh, Kinda. (2) Hims: Qudā'a, Kinda, Ḥimyar and Ḥadramawt, Qays and Iyād (and Azd?). (3) Jordan: Qudā'a, Ghassān, Hamdān and Madhhij. (4) Palestine: Kināna, Khath'ām, Lakhm and Judhām, Azd and Khuza'a (Khalifa b. Khayyāt, *Tārikh*, ed. S. Zakkār, Damascus 1967f, p. 222; Nasr b. Muṣāḥim, *Waqqāt Siffīn*, pp. 233f; Dīnawarī, *al-Akbar al-tūwāl*, ed. V. Guirgass, Leiden 1888, pp. 183f; Ibn 'Asākir, *Tārikh madīnat Dimashq*, ed. S. al-Munajjid, Damascus 1954–, vol. i, p. 262; Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1609; Balādhurī, *Ansāb al-asbrāf*, vol. iv b, ed. M. Schloessinger, Jerusalem 1938, p. 48; M. Hinds, 'The Banners and Battle Cries of the Arabs at Siffin', *al-Abhāth* 1971, pp. 25ff).

<sup>211</sup> *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'kbittā'.

<sup>212</sup> Cf. the elaborate military and administrative hierarchy described by Sayf in Ṭabarī, ser. i, pp. 2225, 2496 (both of which must refer to a somewhat later date than Sayf indicates). Cf. also *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. "arif".

<sup>213</sup> Compare Hinds, 'Kufan Political Alignments', pp. 346f.

<sup>214</sup> Cf. Appendix I.

<sup>215</sup> Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 229f, 285.

<sup>216</sup> Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 442, 684; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 242, 245; Jahshiyārī, *Kitāb al-wuzarā' wa'l-kuttāb*, ed. M. al-Saqqā' et al., Cairo 1938, p. 28.

<sup>217</sup> Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 68, 190, 196; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 93.

<sup>218</sup> Cf. J. Wellhausen, *The Arab Kingdom and its Fall*, Calcutta 1927, p. 125.

<sup>219</sup> This was very clear in 64, when the death of Yazid I deprived 'Ubaydallāh of caliphal backing at a time when the tribal disturbances caused by the immigration of Azd were coming to a head: 'Ubaydallāh had no option but to flee (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 433 ff; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 97ff).

<sup>220</sup> Cf. Appendix I, nos. 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 31, 33.

<sup>221</sup> Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 448.

<sup>222</sup> Cf. Appendix I, nos. 9, 10, 32.

<sup>223</sup> Muḥammad b. al-Ash'ath, Mundhir b. al-Jārūd, and the Zurāra family all provided daughters from Ziyād and his sons (Appendix I, nos. 21, 27, 34); similarly Asmā' b. Khārijah al-Fazārī (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 82).

<sup>224</sup> Cf. Appendix I, nos. 21, 22, 27; for early Marwānid examples see nos. 23, 26, 28, 30.

<sup>225</sup> Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 32 (cf. also the introductory section, p. 11).

<sup>226</sup> Cf. above, note 219. For another episode, see Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 129ff, 148ff.

<sup>227</sup> Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 254, 256.

<sup>228</sup> The *asbrāf* of Iraq bear witness against Hujr, betray Husayn, and desert Muṣ'ab at Maskin (cf. Appendix I, nos. 21ff).

<sup>229</sup> In addition there were the Arabian provinces which were usually dependencies of Syria. But they scarcely mattered politically.

- <sup>230</sup> Thus 'Abdallāh b. 'Āmir, the governor of Basra and Khurāsān who, quite apart from being a Qurashī and a maternal cousin of 'Uthmān, married a daughter off to Yazīd I and married a daughter of Mu'āwiya himself (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v.; Ibn al-Kalbi, *Gāmbara*, table 13; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv, b, p. 62; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 69); 'Abdallāh b. Khālid b. Asīd, an Umayyad who was governor of Kufa (Ibn al-Kalbi, *Gāmbara*, table 8; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 162, 166, 170); 'Utbā b. Abī Sufyān, Mu'āwiya's brother who was governor of Egypt (Kindī, *The Governors and Judges of Egypt*, ed. R. Guest, Leiden and London 1912, pp. 34ff); 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Umm al-Hakam, a son of Mu'āwiya's sister by a Thaqafī, who was governor of Kufa and other provinces (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, p. 5; cf. Appendix II, no. 4); Sa'id b. 'Uthmān b. Affān, an Umayyad who was governor of Khurāsān (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 177f); Ziyād b. Abīhi, a Thaqafī adopted by Mu'āwiya as his brother who became governor of the entire east (Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 119ff); 'Ubaydallāh b. Ziyād, his son who was governor of Khurāsān, Basra and later the entire east (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>1</sup>, s.v. "Ubayd Allāh b. Ziyād"); 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Ziyād, another son who was appointed to Khurāsān; he was married to a daughter of 'Utbā b. Abī Sufyān (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 188ff; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 75); Salm b. Ziyād, a third son who was governor of Khurāsān and Sīstān for Yazīd (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 391ff).
- <sup>231</sup> Thus 'Amr b. al-'Ās, Mu'āwiya's first governor of Egypt (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v.) and Dālhāk b. Qays al-Fihri, one of his governors of Kufa (*ibid.*, s.v.). But Ibn al-Zubayr's reliance on Quraysh was of course far more systematic.
- <sup>232</sup> In addition to Ibn Umm al-Hakam, Ziyād, and the sons of Ziyād, who were both Thaqafis and Umayyads, there is the famous Mughīra b. Shu'bā, Mu'āwiya's first governor of Kufa (Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 113ff).
- <sup>233</sup> Thus Nu'mān b. Bashīr, an Anṣārī from Hims who was appointed to Kufa (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 188, 216, 228; cf. Appendix IV, no. 4) and Maslāma b. Mukhallaḍ who was governor of Egypt and North Africa (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 38ff; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 94). In the same bracket one may put 'Uqba b. 'Amir al-Juhāni, a member of the small Ḥijāzī tribe of Juhayna who was governor of Egypt (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 36ff), and Sa'id b. Yazīd, a Palestinian of Azd (viz. Azd Sarāt, a small tribe before they merged with Azd 'Umān) who was similarly governor of Egypt (*ibid.*, pp. 40ff).
- <sup>234</sup> As governor of Syria the caliph led the way in this respect. Thus the Bahādal family, his affinal relatives, governed Jordan, Palestine and Qinnasrin (see Appendix I, no. 1); 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Khālid b. al-Walīd, a Qurashī, was governor of Hims and its dependencies in the thirties (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 2913f, 2921, 3057); he was succeeded by Nu'mān b. Bashīr, an Anṣārī (see Appendix IV, no. 4); Dālhāk b. Qays al-Fihri, a Qurashī, was governor of Damascus (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v.). In the same fashion Ibn 'Āmir employed two consanguine relatives of his as subgovernors of Khurāsān,

that is the cousins Qays b. al-Haytham and 'Abdallāh b. Khāzim (Ibn al-Kalbi, *Gāmbara*, s.v. 'Daḡāga bint Asmā' b. al-Ṣāt'; Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, p. 414); in Sīstān he relied on 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Samura of 'Abd Shams (Balādhurī, *Futūḥ al-buldān*, ed. M. J. De Goeje, Leiden 1866, pp. 394f, 396f). Ziyād employed one Umayyad, 'Abdallāh b. Khālid b. Asīd, who was governor of Fars or Ardashīr Khurrah (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 151f); two *ashrāf* of tribes sparsely represented in Basra, that is Ḥakam b. 'Amr al-Ghifārī who was governor of Khurāsān (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 79ff) and Rabi' b. Ziyād al-Hārithī who was governor first of Sīstān and next of Khurāsān (see Appendix III, no. 47); and one Thaqafī, 'Ubaydallāh b. Abī Bakra, in Sīstān (C. E. Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, Rome 1968, p. 21). Thereafter the eastern dependencies were all but monopolized by the sons of Ziyād (cf. Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, p. 415).

<sup>235</sup> Thus two of the interim governors of Basra, Samura b. Jundub al-Fazārī and 'Abdallāh b. 'Amr al-Thaqafī, were both local men who had previously been in charge of the *shurta* (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 71, 158, 162, 166; Balādhurī, *Futūḥ*, p. 100). But Hārith b. 'Amr/'Abd 'Amr/'Abdallāh, who was also interim governor there was a Palestinian Azdī (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 68, 71; cf. Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 222, 241). He is doubtless identical with the Hārith b. 'Abd who appears as governor of Palestine under Mu'āwiya in seven bilingual *entagia* dated 54–7 A.H. (P. Colt 60–6 in C. J. Kraemer, *Non-literary Papyri (Excavations at Nessana*, vol. iii), Princeton 1958, pp. 181ff).

<sup>236</sup> *Silat al-rahim* in the contemporary phrase.

<sup>237</sup> 'Ubaydallāh b. Abī Bakra gave the contents of the treasury in Sīstān to a Qurashī who was his guest or deputy governor (Balādhurī, *Ansāb al-ashrāf*, vol. i, ed. M. Hamidallāh, Cairo 1959, p. 498). He was later outdone by Tamīm b. Zayd, the most generous Arab, who found eighteen million dirhams in the treasury in Sind and hastened to dispose of them (*id.*, *Futūḥ*, p. 443). Yazid I honoured a deputation of Medinese whose faltering loyalties were in need of buttressing, with gifts in the range of 100 000 dirhams (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 402ff), and the same method was later adopted by Ibn 'Umar in Iraq (*ibid.*, p. 1881). Early Marwānid poetry sold at the rate of 100 000 dirhams (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 175, 177); Sufyānid poetry was scarcely less expensive.

<sup>238</sup> Cf. the size and the fate of the sums involved in the following note.

<sup>239</sup> Mu'āwiya gave Ibn 'Āmir the choice between dismissal with permission to keep what he had taken and renewal of office at the cost of paying up (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 69; he opted for dismissal); 'Abdallāh b. Khālid b. Asīd protested at the *muhāsaba* of his son Umayya at the hands of Ziyād, whereupon Ziyād let Umayya keep half of the 50 000 dirhams he had embezzled as governor of Sūs (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, pp. 174f); 'Abd al-Rahmān b. Ziyād admitted having made a profit of twenty million dirhams as governor of Khurāsān, but Yazid let him keep it (Jahshiyārī, *Wuzarā'*, p. 29); Ibn Zubayr, however, got five million dirhams out of Salm b. Ziyād on the latter's arrival from Khurāsān (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 76).

## 4 SYRIA OF 684 [64]

- <sup>240</sup> Cf. Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, p. 32.
- <sup>241</sup> Ibn 'Abd al-Barr, *al-Inbāb 'alā qabā'il al-ruwāb*, Najaf 1966, pp. 59ff; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. i, pp. 15ff; M. J. Kister and M. Plessner, 'Notes on Caskel's Ġamharat an-nasab', *Oriens* 1977, p. 56; W. Robertson Smith, *Kinship and Marriage in Early Arabia*<sup>2</sup>, London 1903, pp. 8f.
- <sup>242</sup> Cf. above, note 210.
- <sup>243</sup> Kinda even has a Ma'addī genealogy (cf. Kister and Plessner, 'Notes', pp. 58f). Ibn al-Kalbī may of course be right that this genealogy is merely the outcome of scholarly confusion arising from the fact that Kinda had lived in Ma'addī territory (Olinder, *The Kings of Kinda*, p. 32); but in fact the Yemeni origin of Kinda was so firmly imprinted on scholarly minds that this genealogical articulation of Kinda's part is more likely to reflect Hassān's attempt to consolidate the Qudā'i confederacy.
- <sup>244</sup> Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. i, pp. 82f. Cf. also Appendix I, nos. 13f, 16, 19. The immigrants were not of course all of Qays, but the predominance of this confederacy in Qinnasrin and the Jazīra is manifest.
- <sup>245</sup> Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 132.
- <sup>246</sup> *Agbānī*, vol. ix, p. 314; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. i, pp. 36f.
- <sup>247</sup> Caskel in Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ġambara*, vol. i, pp. 34f.
- <sup>248</sup> Tabari, ser. ii, pp. 468ff; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 132.
- <sup>249</sup> Tabari, ser. ii, pp. 474ff; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 134f.
- <sup>250</sup> Cf. *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'Dahhāk b. Ḳays'.
- <sup>251</sup> Tabari, ser. ii, p. 469; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 132.
- <sup>252</sup> Tabari, ser. ii, p. 468; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 132; note also the attitudes of Kurayb b. Abraha, Shurahbil b. Dhī'l-Kalā' al-Himyarī, and 'Abdallāh b. Yazid al-Bajali to Ibn al-Zubayr (Appendix I, nos. 2 and 11).
- <sup>253</sup> Tabari, ser. ii, p. 468; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 132; cf. also Appendix I, no. 19.
- <sup>254</sup> Tabari, ser. ii, pp. 477ff. Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, pp. 136ff.
- <sup>255</sup> For a detailed account see J. C. Wilkinson, 'Arab Settlement in Oman: the Origins and Development of the Tribal Pattern and its Relationship to the Imamate', Oxford D. Phil. thesis 1969, vol. i, pp. 57ff.
- <sup>256</sup> Cf. 'A.-A. 'A. Dixon, *The Umayyad Caliphate, 65-86/684-705*, London 1971, ch. 3.
- <sup>257</sup> Ibn 'Abd al-Barr, *Inbāb*, pp. 6of; cf. Caskel in Ibn al-Kalbī, *Ġambara*, vol. ii, pp. 73ff; Kister and Plessner, 'Notes', p. 57; Robertson Smith, *Kinship and Marriage*, p. 9.
- <sup>258</sup> Tabari, ser. ii, pp. 473f.
- <sup>259</sup> Note that there is no Zubayrite sect in Islam.

## 5 THE MARWĀNID EVOLUTION, 684-744 [64-126]

- <sup>260</sup> The first Syrians abroad are the troops sent against the *Azāriqa* in Tabaristān

in 77 under Sufyān b. al-Abrahān al-Kalbī (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1018; Balādhurī, *Ansāb al-asbrāf*, vol. xi (*Anonyme arabische Chronik*), ed. W. Ahlwardt, Greifswald 1883, pp. 338f), against Shabib in Iraq under the same commander and under Habib b. 'Abd al-Rahmān al-Hakamī in the same year (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 943f), and against Ibn al-Ash'ath in Iraq under the same two commanders and others in 82 (*ibid.*, pp. 1060, 1064, 1069f, 1072, 1076; the three events are hopelessly confused, and the muddle culminates in the Muṭarrif affair where all the participants are brought together in unlikely constellations). In Khurāṣān they are first met under Yazid b. al-Muhallab when they are said to have numbered 60 000 (*ibid.*, pp. 1318, 1327; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 335f). They likewise appear in Sind from the time of Hajjāj onwards (Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 436; *ibid.*, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 313). Emergency troops were sent to North Africa under Kulthūm b. 'Iyād by Hishām, but Syrians had presumably been stationed there before; there were still Syrians in North Africa in 183 (E. Lafuente y Alcántara (ed. and tr.), *Ajbar machmuā*, Madrid 1867, pp. 30f; Ibn al-Qūtiyya, *Tārīkh iftiāh al-Andalus*, ed. 'A. A. al-Tabba' [Beirut 1958], pp. 40f; Ibn 'Idhārī, *Kitāb al-bayān al-mugribi*, ed. G. S. Colin and E. Lévi-Provençal, Leiden 1948–51, vol. i, pp. 89f).

<sup>261</sup> That is to say the troops of Khurāṣān, Sīstān, Sind, Spain, North Africa and Syro-Mesopotamia. The Syro-Mesopotamians had three frontiers to defend, viz. Armenia and Azerbayjan, the Mesopotamo-Byzantine frontier (the so-called right *sā'iṭa*) and the Syro-Byzantine frontier (the so-called left *sā'iṭa*). Qinnasrin and to a lesser extent Hims were thus in the unusual position of being both field and frontier troops.

<sup>262</sup> There were two exceptions. In Armenia and Khurāṣān the non-Muslim rulers continued to be subject to forced levies; and the Medinese may have been subject to conscription until the end of the period (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1192, 1983). Neither affects the argument.

<sup>263</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 40, 857ff.

<sup>264</sup> First it mutinied at Rustaqābādh, the centre of mobilization (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 266ff), and next it rebelled under Ibn al-Ash'ath, whose troops only wanted to go home (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1054, 1059; cf. also *ibid.*, pp. 870f and Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 271). Henceforth the old *muqātila* was only a local police force (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1381, 1702).

<sup>265</sup> Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 273; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 890. For recruits in Egypt about the same time, see Kindī, *Governors*, p. 49. Voluntary enlistment had previously been limited to bedouin (cf. the stories in Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 29, vol. v, pp. 130, 194; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1633; Yāqūt, *Jacut's geographisches Wörterbuch*, ed. F. Wüstenfeld, Leipzig 1866–73, vol. vi, p. 133).

<sup>266</sup> Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 429; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1545. Balādhurī's version makes it quite clear that *ghāya* means limit here, not purpose; the instruction is thus that Junayd may recruit fifteen thousand or more (*pace* Shaban, *'Abbāsid Revolution*, p. 116).

- <sup>267</sup> Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 84ff; cf. above, p. 54.
- <sup>268</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1873; Khalifa, *Tārīkh*, p. 564.
- <sup>269</sup> Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, ch. 9; Shaban, 'Abbasid Revolution', pp. 155ff. Note that on the arrival of the Khurāsānis in Iraq they enrolled five thousand men at Shahrazūr (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 10).
- <sup>270</sup> Balādhuri, *Futūh*, pp. 373f.
- <sup>271</sup> Thus the *Bukhāriyya* of 'Ubaydallāh b. Ziyād (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 170; Narshakī, *Description de Boukbara*, ed. C. Schefer, Paris 1892, p. 36 = *ibid.*, *The History of Bukbara*, tr. R. N. Frye, Cambridge Mass. 1954, p. 37).
- <sup>272</sup> This is the kind of servant intended when we are told that the Basrans under 'Ali numbered 60 000 men, not counting the children, slaves and *mawālī*, that the Kufans numbered 57 000 Arabs and 8 000 slaves and *mawālī*, or that Ibn al-Ash'ath disposed of 10 000 regular soldiers 'and a like number of *mawālī*', while Yazīd b. al-Muhallab had 100 000 men, 'not counting the *mawālī*, slaves and volunteers' (Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 3370ff, ser. ii, pp. 1072, 1318). The slaves rarely participated in battle. They accompanied their masters as ordinary servants (cf. *ibid.*, ser. ii, p. 45) and were unarmed: a Kufan mortally wounded in battle against Shabīb handed over his weapons and horse to his slave, who continued in his place (*ibid.*, p. 937). They were in charge of the camp, but had only tent-poles to defend it with, and being non-combatants, they were spared execution in defeat (*ibid.*, pp. 368, 1547, 1910, 1941, ser. iii, p. 39). This is the situation Wāqidī projects back to the Prophet's Arabia when he has an informant say that because in those days he was a slave, he was left behind in the camp, only two slaves participating in the battle itself (Wāqidī, *Kitāb al-maghāzī*, ed. M. Jones, Oxford 1966, vol. i, p. 230). The freedmen, on the other hand, commonly fought side by side with their masters (thus, among countless examples, Tabarī, ser. i, pp. 3190, 3293, 3302, ser. ii, pp. 335, 596, 757), particularly as standard-bearers, a role in which slaves occasionally also appear (*ibid.*, ser. i, pp. 3203, 3427, ser. ii, pp. 326, 990, 998ff, 1582, 1705; Dinawarī, *Akkābār*, p. 267). The use of slaves and freedmen as standard-bearers were clearly new (cf. Tabarī, ser. i, p. 3175), but is again projected back to the Prophet's Arabia (*ibid.*, pp. 1940, 1945).
- <sup>273</sup> Both the *mawla* quarters and the alternative procedure are ascribed to 'Umar I (Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 458). The fact that the *mawālī* were put in a *qabilah* of their own obviously does not mean that they were segregated: one might as well accuse the Umayyads of having segregated the Azd from the Tamīm.
- <sup>274</sup> 'Abd al-Malik set up a *rub'* consisting of runaway slaves (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 300). No other *mawla* quarters are heard of in Syria, and it is possible that here the non-Arabs were integrated in the Arab divisions, presumably from the time when the Syrian quarters themselves disappeared (cf. below, note 288 and Appendix IV, no. 9).
- <sup>275</sup> Two *mawla* commanders in charge of two thousand and a thousand men (at least in the one case similarly *mawālī*) appear in 76 (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 919). These commanders are quite distinct from Hajjāj's own *mawālī* and slaves whom he armed for the occasion (*ibid.*, p. 958).

- <sup>276</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1290f; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 423; Hayyān al-Nabaṭī is their *ra's al-qabila*. Compare also the poem in which the *mawālī* are enumerated as a sixth *qabila* along with the *akbmās* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1303; Madhhij is poetic licence for *abl al-'aliya*).
- <sup>277</sup> Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 51, 70, 96; cf. H. I. Bell (ed.), *Greek Papyri in the British Museum*, vol. iv, London 1910, index, s.v. 'mauleus'.
- <sup>278</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1268, 1306, 1893; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, pp. 423, 567, 597; Yāqūt, *Wörterbuch*, vol. iv, p. 932. The *Waddābiyya* was unusual in having its own hereditary commander.
- <sup>279</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1702, 1708; cf. Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqāt*, vol. vii, p. 325.
- <sup>280</sup> Guidi, *Chronica Minora*, p. 72 = 56.
- <sup>281</sup> Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 453 = vol. ii, p. 484; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1037, 1318; Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, p. 313; Lafuente, *Ajbar*, pp. 3f, 31.
- <sup>282</sup> The hierarchy was *fāris*, *qā'id*, *ra's al-qawm* (cf. Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1074). On mobilizing the Syrians Marwān II put a *qā'id* over every *jund* (*ibid.*, p. 1895; cf. Kindī, *Governors*, p. 84). Thābit b. Nu'aym gathered his *jund* and his *qawm* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1894; for the *qawm*, see above, p. 55). A Syrian refused the governorship of Iraq on the ground that he had no *jund* (*ibid.*, p. 1836). A general took hostages *min kulli jund min quwwādibim* (Lafuente, *Ajbar*, p. 38). And so forth.
- <sup>283</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1839, 1899, 1904, ser. iii, p. 21; 'Abd al-Ḥamid b. Yaḥyā, 'Risāla fi naṣīhat wali'l-'ahd' in M. K. 'Alī (ed.), *Rasā'il al-bulaghā'*, Cairo 1954, p. 204.
- <sup>284</sup> When Asad b. Yazīd b. Mazyad was imprisoned in 192, the *dafātir aṣḥāb Asad* were passed over to the new commander (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 838f). In 123, however, Maghrā' b. Ahmar seems to have been transferred from Khurāsān to Iraq only with his *abl* (*ibid.*, ser. ii, p. 1722).
- <sup>285</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1723 (*abl al-'aliya*).
- <sup>286</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 1954, 1957. The quarter of Kharraqān was clearly geographically defined: we are told that a certain village was located in it (*ibid.*, pp. 1953, 1957). So presumably the same was the case with the quarter of Saqādūm (differently Shaban, *'Abbāsid Revolution*, p. 158).
- <sup>287</sup> In 159 the Basrans were mobilized *min jam'i'l-ajnād*, not *min jam'i'l-akbmās*; similarly the Khurāsānis in 163 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 460, 494).
- <sup>288</sup> The Syrian *arbā'* are last mentioned in 77 (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 969f) and must have become somewhat *de trop* when the Syrians began to be stationed abroad: the division into five *ajnād* would have sufficed. Instead, however, the grouping of these *arbā'* into Qays and Yemen appears to have been given official sanction: thus a Qinnasrīni in Khurāsān in 120 is described as *ra's Qays* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1637), and on his departure from Armenia Marwān II appointed a *ra's* to both Qays and Yemen (*ibid.*, p. 1871; Khalifa, *Ta'rikh*, p. 564; cf. Appendix I, no. 16. Compare also the disappearance of the *mawlā* quarter(s) (above, note 274) and Marwān II's interest in reviving Judhām's Asadī genealogy (below, note 312)).

- <sup>289</sup> He appointed one brother to Egypt (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. ‘Abd al-‘Azīz Marwān’), another to Kufa and later the whole of Iraq (*ibid.*, s.v. ‘Bishr b. Marwān’), and a third, Muhammad b. Marwān, to the Jazīra, Armenia and Azerbayjan (Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, p. 393). Khālid b. ‘Abdallāh, an Umayyad, was appointed to Basra (Tabārī, ser. ii, p. 818). Umayya b. ‘Abdallāh, his brother, was appointed to Khurāsān and Sīstān, and he in turn appointed his son ‘Abdallāh b. Umayya to Sīstān (Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, pp. 49ff; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, p. 153). On Bishr’s death Iraq was made over to Hajjāj b. Yūsuf, a Syrian whose daughter married a son of Walīd I while his niece married Yazid II and became the mother of Walīd II (Tabārī, ser. ii, p. 1810; M. J. De Goeje (ed.), *Fragmenta Historicorum Arabicorum*, Leiden 1871, p. 13; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. ‘Hadjdjādj b. Yūsuf’).
- <sup>290</sup> Yāqūt, *Wörterbuch*, vol. ii, p. 387; Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 396; M. J. Kister, “Call Yourselves by Graceful Names . . .”, *Lectures in Memory of Professor M. Plessner*, Jerusalem A.M. 5355 [1974f], p. 14.
- <sup>291</sup> Wilkinson, ‘Arab Settlement’, vol. ii, ch. 3, note 7. The assertion that Qabīsa b. Abī Šufrā had held the *riyāsa* of Azd in Basra carries little conviction (*Agbānī*, vol. vi, p. 417).
- <sup>292</sup> Mūsā b. Nuṣayr is said to have been an Arab, an Arab prisoner-of-war, a non-Arab prisoner-of-war, or a slave; but at all events a client (Tabārī, ser. i, p. 2064; Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 230; Lafuente, *Ajbar*, p. 3).
- <sup>293</sup> Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, p. 427; Shaban, ‘Abbāsid Revolution’, pp. 54f.
- <sup>294</sup> Tabārī, ser. ii, p. 1209.
- <sup>295</sup> Muḥallab’s sons were Mu‘āwiya, Yazid, ‘Abd al-Malik, ‘Abd al-‘Azīz, Marwān, Muhammad and Hajjāj (Ibn al-Kalbi, *Gāmbara*, table 204). Mūsā’s were ‘Abd al-‘Azīz and Marwān after his patron ‘Abd al-‘Azīz b. Marwān (Kindī, *Governors*, index).
- <sup>296</sup> Cf. Appendix III, no. 33; note that Qutayba also named a son Hajjāj.
- <sup>297</sup> Cf. Appendix I, nos. 6 and 11 (Junayd al-Murri and Khālid al-Qasrī), Appendix III, nos. 16 and 74 (Jarrāḥ al-Hakamī and Sa‘id al-Harashī), Appendix IV, no. 54 (‘Āsim b. ‘Abdallāh al-Hilālī).
- <sup>298</sup> Cf. Appendix II. The Jazīra was of course similarly governed by kinsmen, viz. Muhammad b. Marwān, Maslama, and Marwān b. Muhammad, but since the Jazīra was a frontier province, all three were generals (note the comparable tendency for the Umayyad princes to become generals in Qinnasrin and, to a lesser extent, Ḥims).
- <sup>299</sup> Especially in the event of disintegration. The crucial role of chaotic fighting in the spread of the conquest ethnicity is neatly demonstrated by the contrasting case of Frankish Gaul against Visigothic Spain, or Turkish Anatolia against barbarian China.
- <sup>300</sup> There is of course no telling how this might have happened. It is easy to imagine ‘Abd al-Malik as a Reccared or Manṣūr as a Charlemagne; but the Persians might well have expelled the Arabs as the Chinese expelled the Mongols, just as the Byzantines might have reconquered Syria as they reconquered Ostrogothic Italy and Bulgaria.

<sup>301</sup> It is striking that whereas the Arabs had the Judaic and the Mongols the barbarian tradition, the Goths could make neither a Mecca nor a Karakorum of their 'hallowed grave' and 'ancient seat' (cf. Maenchen-Helfen, *The World of the Huns*, pp. 152f).

<sup>302</sup> Cf. Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, pp. 92ff.

<sup>303</sup> Gibb, *Studies on the Civilization of Islam*, p. 63.

<sup>304</sup> The peculiarity of this situation can also be brought out by contrasting the evolution of the later Roman empire, where the militarization of power did not stop short of the metropolis. The generals having risen to the imperial office, the senatorial aristocracy was displaced, the special status of Italy abolished, the provinces reorganized, subdivided and subjected to close control: in short, the military revolution meant the transition from Principate to Dominate. But just as 'Abd al-Malik was no Recared, so not even Hisham was a Diocletian.

#### 6 THE MARWĀNID FACTION

<sup>305</sup> This comes out very clearly in the case where a governor, contrary to the normal pattern, is succeeded by a man of his own factional background: 'Āsim b. 'Abdallāh al-Hilālī did not hesitate to imprison and torture the appointees of Junayd b. 'Abd al-Rahmān al-Murrī (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1564f). Clearly, had one faction succeeded in eliminating the other, it would have split into two itself.

<sup>306</sup> It is thus hard to accept the suggestion that Qays and Yemen were political parties (cf. Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. i, pp. 120ff).

<sup>307</sup> See Appendix IV. Out of eighty-five cases there are eight certain exceptions and two uncertain ones (nos. 2, 12, 22, 37, 77–9, 82–4; cf. also Appendix I, no. 8 and Appendix III, no. 37).

<sup>308</sup> This is clear in the civil war (see below, note 326); but one certainly never hears about factional *merchants*.

<sup>309</sup> One of the instigators of the Yemenī brawl in Marw in 126 was a *mawlā* of Azd (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1856). Similarly, one of the Muḍarīs who remained faithful to Kirmānī was a *mawlā* of Sulaym (*ibid.*, p. 1934). And a *mawlā* of Layth was included in Naṣr's Muḍarī *wafḍ* to Abū Muslim (*ibid.*, p. 1895). Since the *mawlā* units were subdivided into regiments by the tribes in which the *mawlātī* had their *walā'*, the *mawlātī* had no troubles in aligning (cf. Kindi, *Governors*, p. 51).

<sup>310</sup> It would have been very different if the competitors had *been* the authorities. In republican Rome where the old aristocracy fought in the metropolis with provincial resources, *factio* and *amicitia* were as legitimate titles to power as *sbaraf* and *qarāba*, however deplorable their excesses.

<sup>311</sup> Outside Syria there were the three groups of Mudar, Rabi'a and Yemen, but though in theory the Rabi'a could swing both ways, in practice their alignment was fixed: in Basra they fought with Yemen, in the Jazira with Qays.

<sup>312</sup> In contrast to the *asbrāf* of the Sufyānid period, the generals took not the slightest interest in genealogy except for the purpose of abuse. It was Marwān II, not a *ra's al-qabila*, who tried to revive Judhām's old Asadī genealogy (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. i, p. 36; cf. above, p. 34. As Asadīs the Judhām would now have belonged to Mudar, a genealogy that would have aligned them with Marwān's Qaysī army instead of setting them against it). And it was because the generals had no knowledge of genealogy that one general could maintain that Naṣr b. Sayyār had the *bayt* of Kināna while another maintained that on the contrary he was a mere *mulṣaq* (Dīnawarī, *Akbār*, p. 356; Ibn al-Kalbi, the professional genealogist, has nothing to say about Naṣr's father and grandfather, cf. his *Gāmbara*, s.vv. 'Saiyār b. Rāfi' and 'Rāfi' b. Juday').

<sup>313</sup> 'Never did I see such 'aṣabiyya', as a Syrian Yemeni said on hearing of Naṣr b. Sayyār's uniformly Mudarī appointments (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1664).

<sup>314</sup> Cf. Appendix III, nos. 1–47.

<sup>315</sup> Cf. above, note 260.

<sup>316</sup> Cf. Appendix III, nos. 48–64.

<sup>317</sup> Cf. above, note 260.

<sup>318</sup> Cf. Appendix III, nos. 65–122.

<sup>319</sup> Cf. Yūsuf's visions of getting a hundred million dirhams from Khālid's governors after Khālid had readily paid nine (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1654).

<sup>320</sup> See for example Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1419f., 1564f.; Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, p. 334; Appendix III, nos. 80, 85; Appendix IV, no. 24.

<sup>321</sup> Cf. the graphic account of the preparations for Khālid's removal (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1649ff.).

<sup>322</sup> When Naṣr b. Sayyār was threatened with dismissal his subgovernors raised about a million each (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1920). When Khālid was in the same situation his fiscal agent suggested the same solution, but Khālid refused on the ground that he could not ask back what he had allowed his subgovernors to take (*ibid.*, p. 1651).

<sup>323</sup> It is not that there were no cases of desertion: Ṣalih b. 'Abd al-Rahmān, Hajjāj's fiscal agent, is an obvious example. When the accession of Sulaymān made the fall of Hajjāj's family a certainty, Ṣalih avoided falling with them, doubtless by guaranteeing to pay what they were deemed to have embezzled while in office: that would explain why he was appointed to the *kbarāj* and was given a free hand with the family whom he subjected to torture (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1282f.; Ibn al-Athīr, *al-Kāmil fi'l-ta'rīk*, ed. C. J. Tornberg, Leiden 1851–76, vol. v, p. 465). But he paid for his treachery in the end: when Ibn Hubayra was appointed, he was killed under torture for a debt of 600 000 dirhams (Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, p. 58). Ṣalih's behaviour can be reconstructed by a comparison with Tāriq, the fiscal agent of Khālid al-Qasrī, who was accused of having schemed to take Iraq in *qabāla* on Khālid's fall (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1651); in fact he didn't: he died on the rack (Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, p. 63).

<sup>324</sup> Hajjāj had demanded six million dirhams from Yazīd and got three before Yazīd and his family managed to escape to Palestine, where he sought refuge

with local Azdis and got in touch with Sulaymān, the governor of Palestine at the time. Sulaymān, who was threatened with exclusion from the succession, assumed liability for the remaining three, secured *amān* for Yazīd and, when in fact he did succeed, appointed Yazīd to Iraq and Khurāsān (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1208ff). Compare the flight of Mūsā b. Nusayr to 'Abd al-'Azīz as reported by Ibn 'Idhārī, *Bayān*, vol. i, pp. 39f.

## 7 SYRIA OF 744 [126]

<sup>325</sup> Cf. Appendix IV.

<sup>326</sup> The Syrian *asbrāf* who rebelled against Yazīd were all Yemenis by descent, but all opponents of the *Yamanīyya*. Note also how the sharifian descendant of Bahdāl was head of Walīd II's *shurta* while a descendant of Ḥusayn b. Numayr joined Marwān II (Appendix I, nos. 1 and 5).

<sup>327</sup> Appendix I, no. 3; Appendix IV, nos. 5 and 7.

<sup>328</sup> Appendix I, nos. 2, 4, 5, 9f (cf. also Appendix IV, no. 5).

<sup>329</sup> For a particularly striking contrast compare the descendants of Rawḥ b. Zanbā' and Thābit b. Nu'aym (Appendix I, no. 9 and Appendix IV, no. 34).

<sup>330</sup> Cf. Appendix IV, nos. 8, 15, 27f, 31–3, 35, 40–2.

<sup>331</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, 1836ff. The few Syrians who left with Yūsuf b. 'Umar are enumerated on p. 1841.

<sup>332</sup> Cf. the account of the war in Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, ch. 7.

<sup>333</sup> The very first troops to arrive in Iraq had probably been drawn from Damascus and Jordan: they were commanded by a Kalbī and a Ḥakamī (cf. above, note 260). And the subsequent predominance of the Yemenis in Iraq is clear from Appendix IV: of the *Qaysīyya* only nos. 67 and 71 have served in Iraq. The Jazīra was certainly exempt from the duty of garrisoning Iraq, and Qinnasrīn almost certainly was: it appears to have supplied fewer troops than the other *ajnād* even for emergencies (Lafuente, *Ajbar*, p. 31). Ḥimṣ was in an intermediate position in that it provided troops for both the frontier and Iraq.

<sup>334</sup> Note the interchangeability of Qays and Qinnasrīn in Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1637.

<sup>335</sup> Cf. Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. i, p. 155.

<sup>336</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1883. Here as elsewhere the Syrians appear to have stayed on after the revolution (cf. *ibid.*, ser. iii, p. 460).

<sup>337</sup> Cf. Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 317ff; Appendix III, nos. 65ff.

<sup>338</sup> The extent to which Khālid's governorship protected Yemeni interests is neatly illustrated in Khurāsān: when Khurāsān was attached to Iraq Khālid appointed his brother Asad, a protector of Yemenis like himself; when it was detached from Iraq the caliph appointed two Qaysīs from the Jazīra, Ashras al-Sulamī and 'Āsim al-Hilālī (for the latter see Appendix IV, no. 54). For his other governors see Appendix III, nos. 79ff.

<sup>339</sup> Cf. the use of Khālid's name as a slogan in the rebellion, which is presented as a grand act of revenge (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1809, 1823f).

<sup>340</sup> Appendix III, no. 37; Appendix IV, nos. 78, 82–4. Two are uninteresting:

Appendix IV, nos. 12 and 22 were both appointed by a Qurashī and one was moreover a local *sharif*.

<sup>341</sup> Compare 'Ubayda b. 'Abd al-Rahmān al-Sulamī, a Jordanian *sharif* who joined the Qaysī faction as governor of North Africa, and the sons of Yazid al-Sulamī, doubtless also Jordanians, who joined Yazid III's *Yamaniyya* (Appendix II, no. 11 and Appendix IV, no. 2). 'Uthmān b. 'Abd al-Ālla al-Azdī may have been a Damascene, but his (and his brother's) career had clearly been enacted in the north, whence his appearance among the *Qaysīyya* (Appendix II, nos. 24 and 43). Similarly the case of Qays b. Thawr al-Sakūnī (Appendix I, no. 8).

<sup>342</sup> See for example F. Omar, *The 'Abbāsid Caliphate*, Baghdad 1969, pp. 81f., 94.

<sup>343</sup> For a convenient list of the leaders of the revolution see *ibid.*, pp. 352ff.

<sup>344</sup> Cf. J. Van Ess, 'Les Qadarites et la Gailāniya de Yazid III', *Studia Islamica* 1970.

<sup>345</sup> Note that the list of persons whom the Muslim convert to Christianity has to abjure includes Mu'āwiya and even Yazid I as well as Zubayr and Ibn al-Zubayr (E. Montet, 'Un Rituel d'abjuration des Musulmans dans l'église grecque', *Revue de l'Histoire des Religions* 1906, p. 149; 'Abdallāh' clearly is Ibn al-Zubayr, not Muhammad's father as suggested by Montet, *ibid.*, p. 156). Wellhausen also has it that the 'Abbāsid avengers spared Mu'āwiya's grave (*Kingdom*, p. 552), but he gives no source and those used by Omar do not confirm it (*'Abbāsid Caliphate*, p. 263). But even 'Abd al-Malik could be invoked to authorize a legal doctrine on a par with the Prophet and the *a'immat al-budā* by *qādis* as late as the 750s A.D. (C. Pellat (ed. and tr.), *Ibn al-Muqaffā*, 'Conseiller' du Calife, Paris 1976, § 35 (translation of *al-risāla fi'l-sabāba*)).

<sup>346</sup> *Qum yā amīr al-mu'minīn rāshidān mabdiyyān*, as one of the Yemeni generals said to Yazid III (De Goeje, *Fragmenta*, p. 136; cf. Van Ess, 'Les Qadarites et la Gailāniya', p. 279).

<sup>347</sup> Or, for a more spectacular example, the Japanese.

<sup>348</sup> Cf. the Mu'tazilite recognition of Yazid III as a rightful imam (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'imāma'). The righteousness of the Yemenis also comes across very strongly in Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. i, in which their Qaysī opponents are described in the vocabulary of modern political abuse.

#### 8 UMAYYAD CLIENTAGE

<sup>349</sup> The two were distinguished as 'upper' and 'lower *mawlā*'. I hope to deal with the legal aspects of *walā'* in an article entitled 'The Roman Origin of Islamic Clientage'.

<sup>350</sup> Nor individuals and groups. When a man is described as a *mawlā* of Tamīm it means that he is a *mawlā* of a Tamīmi.

<sup>351</sup> Thus Marwān II distinguished between the *mawlā tibā'a* and *mawlā itāqa* (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1852f.). Compare Sulaymān b. Hishām's *mawaliya wa-man istaba'anī* (*ibid.*, p. 1913) and Nuṣayb's *muttakbidh mawlāka mawlāya*

- wa-tābi' ubu* (*Agbānī*, vol. i, pp. 327f; cf. Kindi, *Governors*, pp. 57f).
- <sup>352</sup> Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqāt*, vol. v, pp. 295, 304; Ibn Ḥibbān al-Bustī, *Kitāb mashābir 'ulamā' al-amsār*, ed. M. Fleichhammer, Wiesbaden 1959, p. 23).
- <sup>353</sup> Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqāt*, vol. v, pp. 295, 307; cf. Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1204.
- <sup>354</sup> *Agbānī*, vol. xii, p. 44. The *mawlā khidma* is all but identical with the eastern *shākirī* (cf. for example Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1695).
- <sup>355</sup> *Walā' al-muwālāt* is the technical term for voluntary clientage in legal literature, but it is also quite common in non-legal texts (see for example *Agbānī*, vol. v, p. 278).
- <sup>356</sup> Crone, 'The Roman Origin of Islamic Clientage'.
- <sup>357</sup> Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, pp. 120ff.
- <sup>358</sup> Even in law conversion was no condition for the validity of *walā'*, be it of manumission or commendation, and in practice many non-Muslim *mawālī* are known. Yuḥannas, the *mawlā* of Zubayr, was presumably a Christian freedman (Khalifa, *Tabaqāt*, p. 242); Sarjūn b. Mansūr was a Christian *mawlā muwālāt* of Mu'āwiya (Balādhurī, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b, pp. 2, 60, 81f; Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 228, 239; D. J. Sahas, *John of Damascus on Islam*, Leiden 1972, pp. 17ff, 26ff); Tarkhūn, the *mawlā* of Qutayba, and Diwastū, the *mawlā* of Jarrahī, were non-Muslim rulers of eastern Iran (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1249; V. A. Kračkovskaya and I. Y. Kračkovsky, 'Drevneyshiy arabskiy dokument iz Sredney Azii', *Sogdiysky Sbornik* (Akademiya Nauk SSSR, Institut Vostokovedeniya), Leningrad, 1934, p. 55 (I owe this reference to M. A. Cook); compare also Īrak, a Sogdian prince who was *munqati' an ilā Sulaymān* and who appears in the latter's *Dhakwāniyya* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1204). Karbeas, the leader of the Paulicians, was a *mawlā* of the Tāhirids (Mas'ūdī, *Kitāb al-tanbih wa'l-isbrāf*, ed. M. J. De Goeje (Bibliotheca Geographorum Arabicorum, vol. viii), Leiden 1894, p. 183 = *id.*, *Le Livre de l'avertissement et de la révision*, tr. B. Carra de Vaux, Paris 1896, p. 248); but Photius has it that Karbeas pretended to follow the religion of the Arabs, so this spectacular example may in fact be none (Ch. Astruc *et al.* (eds. and trs.), 'Les Sources grecques pour l'histoire des Pauliciens d'Asie Mineure', *Travaux et Mémoires* 1970, p. 171 = 170).
- <sup>359</sup> Whence, of course, *mawlā* in the sense of non-Arab Muslim.
- <sup>360</sup> With the notable exception of eastern Iran where the laboriousness of the conquests forced the Arabs to come to terms with the existing power structure (cf. Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, pp. 130f).
- <sup>361</sup> Thus, for example, Ibn al-Muqaffā'. Note also how a descendant of the Iranian gentry becomes a musician training slave girls for an Arab caliph (above, p. 52 and *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'Ibrāhīm al-Mawsili').
- <sup>362</sup> Thus Sarjūn b. Mansūr (above, note 358) and the Asāwira. The sources are unanimous that the latter converted on joining the Arabs in 17 (Tabarī, ser. i, p. 2563; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 373), but when they reappear in the second civil war almost fifty years later, their leader is called Māh Afridhūn (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 452, 454), while another member of their ranks, Yazid b. Siyāh al-Uswārī, clearly represents the first generation of Muslims (*ibid.*, p. 579). The

Asāwira who were transferred from Basra to Antioch by Mu'āwiya appear likewise to have been non-Muslims at the time: Ḥassān b. Māhawayh al-Anṭāki represents the first generation of converts here at the time of Hishām (Balādhuri, *Futūḥ*, p. 166, cf. p. 117).

<sup>363</sup> Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, p. 90.

<sup>364</sup> M. G. Morony, 'The Effects of the Muslim Conquest on the Persian Population of Iraq', *Iran* 1976, pp. 54f.

<sup>365</sup> The commonly reiterated view that the Persian aristocracy converted in order to maintain its position and escape the poll-tax after the conquest is very misleading. There is a case for it in eastern Iran (cf. B. Spuler, 'Der Verlauf der Islamisierung Persiens. Eine Skizze', *Der Islam* 1948, where the evidence comes overwhelmingly from the east; most of it, however, is late Umayyad and early 'Abbāsid). But as far as western Iran and Iraq are concerned, the evidence consists of legal proof-texts on poll-tax (cf. Dennett, *Conversion and Poll-tax*, pp. 32f); the fact that *dībqāns* are the protagonists in these *hadiths* does indeed show that some *dībqāns* converted at some stage in the Umayyad period, but it shows no more than that. The evidence which Morony ('The Effects of the Muslim Conquest') adduces from Christian sources provides an important corrective to the accepted view, and his conclusion that it needs to be 'qualified in several ways' is certainly correct.

<sup>366</sup> Just how many is presumably beyond calculation, but the huge numbers which were taken in Armenia give a good idea of the scale involved (Sebeos, *Histoire d'Héraclius*, p. 101; cf. pp. 100, 110, 146). Note also the extent to which Kufa was flooded with such prisoners-of-war at the time of Mukhtār's revolt (Bar Penkaya in A. Mingana (ed. and tr.), *Sources syriques*, Leipzig n.d. [1907] pp. \*156–68 = \*183–95).

<sup>367</sup> Ibn Ishāq was the grandson of a Christian prisoner-of-war from 'Ayn al-Tamr, Abū Ḥanifa the grandson of a pagan prisoner-of-war from Kabul, but for all one can tell it might as well have been the other way round.

<sup>368</sup> Cf. S. Treggiari, *Roman Freedmen during the Late Republic*, Oxford 1969.

<sup>369</sup> The equivalent of Oriental cults in Rome is Shi'ite *ghuluw* in Islam.

<sup>370</sup> Not so, of course, in Syria and Mesopotamia where there were no garrison cities and where the Arabs had been settled on the land from the start. Pseudo-Dionysius testifies to the existence of an Arab peasantry in Mesopotamia in the early 'Abbāsid period (cf. Cahen, 'Fiscalité, propriété, antagonismes sociaux', pp. 140ff), and the Arabs who took to cultivating their own land on losing their stipends in the 760s doubtless illustrate precisely how this peasantry had come into being (*ibid.*, pp. 145f; the date given should of course be A.D. 767f, not 667f).

<sup>371</sup> Cf. Morony, 'The Effects of the Muslim Conquest', pp. 55f.

<sup>372</sup> Balādhuri, *Futūḥ*, pp. 67, 293; cf. Morony, 'The Effects of the Muslim Conquest', p. 56. Note that the *dībqān* who appears under Khālid al-Qasrī in 120 is no longer a tax-collector, but a private agent of Khālid's (Tabārī, ser. ii, p. 1647).

<sup>373</sup> Thus it was Maslama who benefited from the reclamation of swamps under

Hajjāj, just as it had been Mu‘awiya who benefited from it after the first civil war (Morony, ‘The Effects of the Muslim Conquest’, p. 56; Dennett, *Conversion and Poll-tax*, pp. 29f). It was Khālid al-Qasrī, a Syrian governor and general, who acquired vast estates in Iraq, just as it had been Ziyād and his sons, the governors and kinsmen of the caliph, who acquired them under the Sufyānids (Tabārī, ser. ii, p. 1647; M. G. Morony, ‘Landholding in Seventh Century ‘Irāq’, unpublished paper prepared for the Conference on the Economic History of the Near East, Princeton 1974, p. 32).

<sup>374</sup> For a list of Iraqi landowners see Morony, ‘Landholding’, pp. 33f. Morony’s views on this subject are somewhat contradictory. On the one hand, he explicitly states that the tribal aristocracy of Iraq did not become a landed one, most of the land passing into the ownership of the state (*ibid.*, p. 33). On the other hand, he concludes that ‘the second half of the seventh century saw the emergence of a class of Muslim Arab landed aristocrats assimilated to the local dāhāqīn’ (*ibid.*; similarly ‘The Effects of the Muslim Conquest’, p. 56), and in both articles *talji‘a* is presented as an important mechanism in the formation of this class (‘Landholding’, p. 23; ‘The Effects of the Muslim Conquest’, p. 56). Morony’s second view represents what we would have expected to happen, but the evidence is on the side of the first. (Neither of the two examples cited in fact concerns *talji‘a*. The *dibqān* who sells his land to Ibn Mas‘ūd, but continues to pay *kharāj*, clearly illustrates the point that *kharāj* land cannot be transformed into *usbr* land: it is hard to see how this *dibqān* can epitomize a search for protection. And no local landholders put their land under Maslama’s protection: Maslama is the subject and the verb is in the fourth form.)

<sup>375</sup> S. D. Goitein, ‘The Rise of the Near-Eastern Bourgeoisie in Early Islamic Times’, *Journal of World History* 1956.

<sup>376</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 586–96.

<sup>377</sup> ‘Degenerate heirs appear, who adopt boorish ways and forsake noble manners and lose their dignity in the sight of people. They busy themselves like tradesmen with the earning of money, and neglect to garner fair fame’, as Tōsar has it in his account of aristocratic decay (M. Minovi (ed.), *Tansar’s Letter to Goshrasp*, Tehran 1932, p. 19 = M. Boyce (tr.), *The Letter of Tansar*, Rome 1968, p. 44). For the priestly reasons why ‘the lowest activity is commerce’ see the passage from the Dēnkart cited by M. Molé, *Culte, mythe et cosmologie dans l’Iran ancien*, Paris 1963, pp. 424f. For the reappearance of such sentiments among the Muslim *kuttāb* see Goitein, ‘Bourgeoisie’, p. 597.

<sup>378</sup> E. R. Hardy, *The Large Estates of Byzantine Egypt*, New York 1931, pp. 60ff; Dennett, *Conversion and Poll-tax*, p. 69.

<sup>379</sup> There were fugitives in the later Roman empire just as there was *talji‘a* even under the Umayyads, but the shift of primacy is undeniable (cf. F. de Zulueta, ‘De Patrocinii Vicorum’ in P. Vinogradoff (ed.), *Oxford Studies in Social and Legal History*, vol. i, Oxford 1909; C. Cahen, ‘Note pour l’histoire de la *himāya*’, *Mélanges Louis Massignon*, vol. i, Damascus 1956).

<sup>380</sup> Dennett, *Conversion and Poll-tax*, pp. 79, 110ff; cf. also C. Cahen, ‘Histoire économico-sociale et islamologie. Le problème préjudiciel de l’adapta-

- tion entre les autochtones et l'Islam', *Colloque sur la sociologie musulmane, actes*, Brussels 1962, pp. 205ff.
- <sup>381</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1122f, 1354, 1435, 1507ff; Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. xi, pp. 336f; Mubarrad, *al-Kāmil*, ed. W. Wright, Leipzig 1864–92, p. 286; Jahshiyārī, *Wuzara'*, p. 57; Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqāt*, vol. v, p. 386; Narshakhi, *Description*, p. 58 = 59f.
- <sup>382</sup> Note how the Persian who killed Mas'ūd b. 'Amr in 64 was either an Uswārī or an 'ilj who had converted and migrated to Basra (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 461, 465). Companion *hadīths* on clientage of conversion also assume that the convert is a *rajul min abl al-ard* (Shāfi'i, *Kitāb al-umm*, Būlāq 1321–5, vol. vii, p. 121; Sarakhsī, *Kitāb al-mabsūt*, Cairo 1324–31, vol. viii, p. 91). That people converted in order to escape the *jirya* was perfectly well known to the lawyers (cf. Abū 'Ubayd, *Amwāl*, pp. 66f).
- <sup>383</sup> As the Muslims remember the converts as peasants who flee from their taxes, so the *dbimmīs* remember the Arabs as Hagarenes who impose them (see for example Īshō'yahb III, *Liber Epistolarum*, ed. and tr. R. Duval (CSCO, Scriptores Syri, second series, vol. lxiv), Paris 1904f, p. 251 = 182; Bar Penkaya in Mingana, *Sources syriaques*, p. \*147 = \*175; E. Beck (ed. and tr.), *Des heiligen Ephraem des Syrers Sermones III* (CSCO, Scriptores Syri, vols. cxxxviiif), Louvain 1972, p. 61 = 81; B. Lewis, 'An Apocalyptic Vision of Islamic History', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 1950, p. 321, cf. p. 323; H. W. Bailey, *Zoroastrian Problems in the Ninth-Century Books*<sup>2</sup>, Oxford 1971, p. 195).
- <sup>384</sup> *Agbānī*, vol. v, p. 154; cf. Ibn al-Nadīm, *Kitāb al-fibrīst*, ed. G. Flügel, Leipzig 1871f, p. 140 = id., *The Fibrīst of al-Nadīm*, tr. B. Dodge, New York 1970, p. 307.
- <sup>385</sup> Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 426; Ibn 'Abd al-Hakam, *Futūh Miṣr*, ed. C. C. Torrey, New Haven 1922, p. 155; Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqāt*, vol. v, p. 384.
- <sup>386</sup> Cf. above, pp. 37f.
- <sup>387</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1354.
- <sup>388</sup> Cf. above, note 281.
- <sup>389</sup> Cf. above, note 272.
- <sup>390</sup> Despite the abundance of prisoners-of-war, such retinues do not appear to have been very common in the Sufyānid period. Apart from the *Bukhāriyya* of 'Ubaydallāh b. Ziyād, there is some rather weak evidence for slaves and freedmen in the retinues of 'Abbād b. Ziyād and 'Amr b. Sa'id al-Ashdaq in the second civil war (cf. Appendix VI, nos. 6f), and there are many examples of people arming both their own and other people's slaves and freedmen in the same civil war (cf. below notes 646f); but most of the passages suggesting the existence of standing retinues have to be discounted (cf. Appendix VI, nos. 1–5).
- <sup>391</sup> Already Yazid b. al-Muhallab fought with *mawālī* in his revolt (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1381, 1403); he is reputed to have wondered why Mūsā b. Nuṣayr, who also had a great many, did not similarly rebel (Ibn al-Qūtiyya, *Iftitāh*, pp. 161f). Khālid al-Qasrī also had a fair number, though whether they were

armed is not clear (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1813ff, 1819f). In the civil war a Yemeni in Iraq gathered his *ashâb* and *mawâlî* (*ibid.*, p. 1839), while 'Abbâs b. al-Walîd in Syria and Zabbân b. 'Abd al-'Azîz in Egypt fought with their kinsmen and *mawâlî* (*ibid.*, p. 1803; Kindi, *Governors*, pp. 87, 90). Muhammad b. Khâlid al-Qasrî rebelled in favour of the 'Abbâsids with Yemeni *fursân* and *mawâlî* (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 19), and shortly after the revolution Khâzîm b. Khuzayma recruited men from among his family, kinsmen and *mawâlî* in Marw (*ibid.*, p. 78), while Ma'n b. Zâ'îda left a large number of *mawâlî* and fellow-tribesmen for his nephew on his death in Sîstân (Ya'qûbî, *Historiae*, ed. M. Th. Houtsma, Leiden 1883, vol. ii, p. 463). The 'Abbâsids themselves had a retinue known as the *Sharawîyya*, presumably after the Sharâh in which they were settled (Ya'qûbî, *Kitâb al-buldân*, ed. A. W. T. Juynboll (Bibliotheca Geographorum Arabicorum, vol. vii), Leiden 1892, p. 243, cf. pp. 245, 247 = *id.*, *Les Pays*, tr. G. Wiet, Cairo 1937, pp. 20, 23, 29).

<sup>392</sup> The Yemeni in Iraq gathered thirty companions and clients, but he may of course have had more (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1839); 'Abbâs b. al-Walîd had about 150 sons and clients (*ibid.*, 1803).

<sup>393</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1941; cf. also *ibid.*, pp. 1830, 1892, 1897, 1908f, 1913; Michael the Syrian, *Cchronique*, vol. iv, p. 464 = vol. ii, p. 505). The *Râsibîyya*, *Şâhsâbiyya*, and *Dâliqîyya* were presumably client retinues of the same order (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 2, 40; Jâhîz, 'Risâla ilâ'l-Fath b. Khâqân fi manâqib al-turk wa-'âmmat jund al-khilâfa' in *Tria Opuscula*, ed. G. Van Vloten, Leiden 1903, p. 10 = *id.*, 'Jahîz of Basra to al-Fath Ibn Khaqan on the "Exploits of the Turks and the Army of the Khalifate in General"', tr. C. T. H. Walker, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* 1915, p. 644; they were obviously not tribal units as suggested by Omar, '*Abbâsîd Caliphate*', p. 122). After the revolution Khuzayma b. Khâzîm had an armed retinue of 5000 *mawâlî* (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 602).

<sup>394</sup> Thus doubtless the *mawâlî* who appear in the seventies and who do not yet form permanent retinues (as for example those of 'Uthmân b. Qaṭân, Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 919); similarly Muslim b. Dhakwân, the commander of the *Dhakwâniyya* who was a freedman of Yazid III (*ibid.*, pp. 1852f), and Yazid al-Aslâmî, the *mawâlî* who was sent against Abû Muslim and who was a freedman of Naṣr b. Sayyâr (*ibid.*, pp. 1057ff). The sources certainly tend to take it for granted that a client is a freedman unless otherwise specified.

<sup>395</sup> Thus the four hundred slaves of 'Abdallâh al-İsbâhânî in the second civil war (Balâdhûrî, *Futûh*, p. 366), and the retinue of *gbilmân* belonging to Târiq, the fiscal agent of Khâlid al-Qasrî (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1653). When Naṣr b. Sayyâr faced dismissal, he bought a thousand slaves whom he armed and mounted (*ibid.*, p. 1765); cf. Appendix VI, no. 7). Note also the *hadîth* 'man i'tazza bil-'abîd adhallahu Allâh' (Abû Nu'aym al-İsfâhânî, *Hilyat al-awliyâ*, Cairo 1932-8, vol. ii, p. 174. I owe this reference to Professor M. J. Kister).

<sup>396</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1920.

<sup>397</sup> The 'Abd Rabbih b. Sîsan who appears as the agent of Naṣr's *şâhib shurta* was

- presumably Yūnus' father (*ibid.*, pp. 1923f). Yūnus himself is described as one of Naṣr's trusted companions (*ibid.*, p. 1995). He was later killed by Abū Muslim (*ibid.*, pp. 1989, 1995).
- <sup>398</sup> Compare the Persian *mawlā* of Quraysh who changed his *walā'* on taking military service with the B. Fahm (R. Guest, 'Relations between Persia and Egypt under Islam' in *A Volume of Oriental Studies presented to E. Browne*, Cambridge 1922, p. 165).
- <sup>399</sup> Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1024.
- <sup>400</sup> Severus b. al-Muqaffa', *History of the Patriarchs of the Coptic Church of Alexandria*, ed. and tr. B. Everts in *Patrologia Orientalis*, vol. v, p. 116; cf. R. Basset (ed. and tr.), *Le Synaxaire arabe-jacobe (rédition copte)* in *Patrologia Orientalis* vol. xvi, p. 233. It is not clear in Kindī (*Governors*, pp. 84ff) that the recruits were converts, though presumably the mysterious *maqāmīsa* were some non-Arab group (for a somewhat implausible suggestion as to their identity see Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. i, p. 158). On his flight to Egypt Marwān II similarly promised to enrich all converts, and many converted (Severus, *Patriarchs*, pp. 158f). A few years after the revolution the 'Abbāsids themselves promised tax-remission to converts, but by now the purpose was scarcely military (*ibid.*, p. 189).
- <sup>401</sup> Cf. Hardy, *Large Estates*, pp. 60ff.
- <sup>402</sup> *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, ed. M. Sh. Bahār, Tehran 1314, p. 91 is commonly adduced as an example of forced conversion under Mu'āwiya. But the people whom Rabi' b. Ziyād forces to learn '*ilm*, *Qur'ān* and *tafsīr* are evidently Arabs, and the 'many Zoroastrians' who converted are said to have done so voluntarily, impressed by his good conduct. Governors were supposed to teach the people of the *amṣār* their religion and the *sunna* of their Prophet (Abū Yūsuf, *Kitāb al-kbarāj*', Cairo 1352, p. 14 = A. Ben Shemesh (tr.), *Taxation in Islam*, vol. iii, Leiden and London 1969, p. 47).
- <sup>403</sup> Note also how the Arabs could afford to discriminate against their subjects with *dhimmi* regulations where the Jurchen and the Manchus desperately tried to impose barbarian hair-styles and clothes on the Chinese.
- <sup>404</sup> In Iraq, where the presence of the highest echelons of the Persian nobility was politically intolerable, it was the lower ranks that survived longest (cf. Morony, 'The Effects of the Muslim Conquest', p. 54), but on the plateau, where the nobility could stay out of sight, it appears to have been members of the lower echelons such as Māhān and his in-laws that went first.
- <sup>405</sup> Morony, 'The Effects of the Muslim Conquest', pp. 57ff has scraped the barrel for the contribution of the *dībgāns*. Though the case is overstated (the Arabs evidently did not acquire the 'attitudes and lifestyle appropriate to a landed aristocracy' (p. 59)), it is clear from it that there would not have been much of a Persian heritage in Islam without the *kuttāb*.
- <sup>406</sup> When 'Umar II allowed Jarrāḥ b. 'Abdallāh to keep the 10 000 or 20 000 dirhams he had taken from the treasury while in office, Jarrāḥ spent them on stipends to his *qawm* (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1355); two Kufans spent the 100 000 dirhams they had received from Ibn 'Umar in the same way (*ibid.*, pp. 1855, 1883); Naṣr b. Sayyār recruited men from among his *qawm* of B. Salama and

others (*ibid.*, p. 1919); and Syrian generals appear with their *qawm* in the civil war (*ibid.*, pp. 1894, 1899).

<sup>407</sup> This is clear not only in the examples in note 406 above, but also in the case of Nuṣayb, who was allowed to give *fard* to his *qawm* by way of reward (*Agħānī*, vol. i, p. 373), and Hārūn b. Sha'š who in the early 'Abbāsid period was told to recruit 200 men of his *qawm* on his receipt of *amān* (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 304).

<sup>408</sup> If the recruits were paid 60 or 70 dirhams, one could get a sizeable retinue for 100 000 (cf. *Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 1855, 1883).

<sup>409</sup> Cf. *Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 1628; ser. iii, pp. 52, 126.

<sup>410</sup> *Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1468f; Azdī, *Ta'rikh al-Mawṣil*, ed. 'A. Ḥabība, Cairo 1967, pp. 22f.

<sup>411</sup> Both *Tabarī* and Azdī have '*iqtaraḍtu*' which makes no sense and is clearly to be emended to '*iftaraḍtu*'.

<sup>412</sup> Cf. Appendix III, no. 100.

<sup>413</sup> *Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1885ff.

<sup>414</sup> As they were to avenge Khālid (cf. above, note 339).

<sup>415</sup> *Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 85.

<sup>416</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 117.

<sup>417</sup> Cf. below, note 610.

<sup>418</sup> For clients (free or freed) avenging their patrons see *Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1049, 1849, 1890; *Balādhurī*, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 338.

<sup>419</sup> And note that the clients in point are either Transoxanian princes (thus *Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 1249) or poets (*Agħānī*, vol. ii, pp. 217, 419, vol. v, p. 82).

<sup>420</sup> For Māhān see above, p. 52 Muslim b. Yasār, evidently a non-Arab, was a foster-brother of 'Abd al-Malik (Ibn Ḥibbān, '*Ulamā'*, p. 121). Yazīd b. Abī Muslim, the governor of North Africa under Yazid II, was likewise a *mawlā* and foster-brother of Hajjāj (Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā'*, p. 42; cf. *Balādhurī*, *Futūḥ*, p. 231).

<sup>421</sup> Thus the *Bukhārkhudā* named a son Qutayba and the *Sāmānkhudā* named one Asad after their patrons (Narshakī, *Description*, pp. 8, 57 = 10, 59); Hayyān al-Nabatī, a freedman of Maṣqala b. Hubayra who had become a client of Muqātil b. Ḥayyān al-Qurashi, named one Muqātil (*ibid.*, pp. 56f, cf. p. 61 = 58, cf. 63; *Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1204, 1330, 1504 etc.); a client of Mansūr named a son Ja'far (*Agħānī*, vol. xii, p. 44). Compare Mūsā b. Nuṣayr and Muḥallab, above, notes 295f.

<sup>422</sup> Though there had of course been Arab freedman in the past.

<sup>423</sup> In due course the lawyers were to turn all the *mawālī* into naturalized Arabs by their interpretation of *walā'* as a kinship tie, and the idea was taken up by the *mawālī* themselves. But for Jāhiz *mawālī* claiming as much were still a recent sprout ('Risāla fi bani Umayya' in H. al-Sandūbi (ed.), *Rasā'il al-Jāhīz*, Cairo 1933, p. 299).

<sup>424</sup> There is of course also such a thing as private ties which are parasitical upon the state apparatus, but the emotional character of such ties is a far cry from what we have to do with here.

<sup>425</sup> Note that these ties developed no further under the 'Abbāsids with whom the

moral vacuum disappeared: 'Abbāsid companionship and clientage were public ranks (cf. below, part III).

#### 9 THE ABORTIVE SERVICE ARISTOCRACY

<sup>426</sup> See for example *Akbbār al-dawlat al-'abbāsiyya wa-fīhi akbbār al-'Abbas*, ed. 'A.-A. Dūrī and 'A.-J. al-Muṭalibī, Beirut 1971, p. 376; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 51, 64f.

<sup>427</sup> Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1974; cf. the poem by Naṣr b. Sayyār in Dīnawarī, *Akbbār*, p. 360. In Ṭabarī, ser. ii, p. 1937 and ser. iii, p. 25 the instruction is only to kill every speaker of Arabic in Khurāsān, presumably the Syrians and their local sympathizers, and this is of course more likely to have been the original instruction, if such an instruction was given at all. But the point is unaffected: the Khurāsānis were foreigners who saw Arabic as the language, not of the common past, but of the common oppressor.

<sup>428</sup> Cf. the outburst of the people of Mosul on the appointment of Muḥammad b. Ṣūl: 'are we to be ruled by a *mawla* of Khath'am?'. In this case the Arabs did indeed end up by being exterminated (Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', pp. 312ff). The view that Abū Muslim had instigated the slaves of Khurāsān against their masters reflects the same paranoia, though it was not of course entirely untrue (Ibn 'Asākir, *Tahdhīb ta'rīkh Ibn 'Asākir*, ed. 'A.-Q. Badrān and A. 'Ubayd, Damascus 1911–32, vol. ii, p. 291; Theophanes, *Chronographia*, A.M. 6240; cf. Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', p. 96).

<sup>429</sup> E. Lévi-Provençal, *Histoire de l'Espagne musulmane*, Paris and Leiden 1950–3, vol. i, p. 132.

<sup>430</sup> See for example Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, pp. 630, 673ff, 695, 706, 743f.

<sup>431</sup> For a stray accusation of '*asabiyā*' in Khurāsān in 135 see Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 83. The charge is unlikely to have been true.

<sup>432</sup> Local factionalism is attested in Syria under Hārūn and Mu'tamid (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 625, 639; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 495, 623; cf. Appendix I, nos. 1, 6), in Mesopotamia under Hārūn (Appendix IV, no. 53), in Egypt under Ma'mūn (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 567) and in Sind under Mansūr, Hārūn and Mu'tasim (*ibid.*, pp. 448, 494; Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 446). That it also continued in Sīstān is clear from the *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 191.

<sup>433</sup> E. Tyan, *Institutions du droit public musulman*, vol. i (*Le Califat*), Paris 1954, p. 451.

<sup>434</sup> D. Sourdel, *Le Virjarat 'abbāside de 749 à 936*, Damascus 1959f, pp. 589ff.

<sup>435</sup> R. Levy, *The Social Structure of Islam*, Cambridge 1969, pp. 362. As Levy points out, it was by no means a consistent policy (see for example Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 110, 111, 120, 121 as against *ibid.*, pp. 117, 118, 119, 121 etc.), though there was a distinct tendency for the Iraqi governorships to be even further subdivided (Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, pp. 675; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 465f).

<sup>436</sup> *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'barid'.

- <sup>437</sup> D. Sourdel, 'Questions de cérémonial 'abbaside', *Revue des Études Islamiques* 1960.
- <sup>438</sup> E. Tyan, *Histoire de l'organisation judiciaire en pays d'Islam*, Paris and Beirut 1938–43, vol. i, pp. 182f (overstated). Compare the Christian use of such titles as 'father of fathers' and 'shepherd of shepherds' for the catholicos (M. G. Morony, 'Religious Communities in Late Sasanian and Early Muslim Iraq', *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 1974, p. 118). Pellar's suggestion that the title of the *qādī'l-quḍāt* is modelled on *dātvarān* *dātvar* rather than *mōbedbān mōbedb* is unlikely to be correct (C. Pellar (tr.), *Le Livre de la couronne attribué à Ḥāfiẓ*, Paris 1954, p. 44n). It was the *mōbedbs* who worked as judges, their judicial functions were comparable to those of the *qādīs*, and *qādī* is a standard translation for *mōbedb* in Muslim sources (cf. M.-L. Chaumont, 'Recherches sur le clergé zoroastrien: le hērbad', *Revue de l'Histoire des Religions* 1960, pp. 166, 169).
- <sup>439</sup> And note that they were also debarred from perpetuating the image of the polity that had collapsed in the civil war: where Augustus could pose as a *princeps*, the Marwānids had gone on too long for Mansūr to masquerade as a *protosymboulos*.
- <sup>440</sup> It is with reference to this concept that Sarakhsī justifies rulings on *walā'* (*Mabsūt*, vol. viii, pp. 89, 96).
- <sup>441</sup> Coulson, *Islamic Law*, pp. 117f. The Imāmīs, as Coulson points out, took the opposite view.
- <sup>442</sup> As indeed it often is in modern works. Consider the idea of blaming the decay of the Merovingians on their failure to retain the simple ways of their tribal past.
- <sup>443</sup> Or more correctly proto-Sunnīs. I use 'Sunnī' here to mean adherents of the traditionists who were eventually to emerge as the *abl al-sunna wa'l-jamā'a*, as opposed to adherents of heresy and theology.
- <sup>444</sup> Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 337ff; W. Tucker, 'Rebels and Gnostics: al-Muğīra ibn Sa'id and the Muğīriyya', *Arabica* 1975.
- <sup>445</sup> W. Tucker, 'Abū Mansūr al-'Ijli and the Mansūriyya: a Study in Medieval Terrorism', *Der Islam* 1977.
- <sup>446</sup> Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 506ff; T. Lewicki, 'The Ibādites in Arabia and Africa', *Journal of World History* 1971, pp. 74ff.
- <sup>447</sup> The Yamaniyya were Ghaylānīs and Hārith b. Surayj perhaps a Murjī'ite; his secretary was certainly a *mutakallim* (Van Ess, 'Les Qadarites et la Gailāniya'; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'al-Hārith b. Suraydj').
- <sup>448</sup> Thus Qutayba could flatter his soldiers as '*dibqāns* of the Arabs', while Asad could let himself be flattered as a paradigm of *katkbudāniyya* (Tabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1247, 1636f).
- <sup>449</sup> As they were to say in no uncertain terms when they became Shū'ubis.
- <sup>450</sup> For the syncretic potential which this implies see Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, pp. 131ff. Cf. also above, note 441 for the Shi'ite attitude to the *Shāfi'*. Note also that there were Shi'ites who could accept the Büyid use of the title King of Kings, whereas the Sunnis pelted the *khatibs* with pieces of brick

when it was read in the Friday sermon (W. Madelung, 'The Assumption of the Title Shāhānshāh by the Büyids and the "Reign of Daylam (*Dawlat al-Daylam*)"', *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 1969bis, pp. 175n, 181).

<sup>451</sup> Schacht, *Introduction*, pp. 52f.

<sup>452</sup> S. Pines, 'A Note on an Early Meaning of the Term *Mutakallim*', *Israel Oriental Studies* 1971. (The two supposedly further passages adduced by J. Van Ess, *Anfänge muslimischer Theologie*, Beirut 1977, p. 20n, are in fact both to be found in Pines' article (pp. 239n and 240n).)

<sup>453</sup> Pellat, *Ibn al-Muqaffa'*, § 12. This passage suggests that the *mutakallims* played the role not only of disputants and propagandists *vis-à-vis* outsiders, but also of official religious instructors inside the army itself (cf. Pines, 'Note', p. 239n): were the caliph to make the outrageous demand, it would clearly be transmitted through them. (Pellat's translation is unusable here in that it omits the crucial word.)

<sup>454</sup> For a typical Sunnī view of the Ismā'īlīs see S. M. Stern, 'Abū'l-Qāsim al-Bustī and his Refutation of Ismā'īlism', *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* 1961, p. 25. It was only Nasr b. Ṣayyār who saw the 'Abbāsids as a threat to Islam (Dīnawārī, *Akbbār*, p. 360).

<sup>455</sup> Cf. C. Cahen, 'Points de vue sur la "révolution 'abbāside"', *Revue Historique* 1963, pp. 330f.

<sup>456</sup> The 'Testament of Abū Hāshim', of course, leaves no doubt that the 'Abbāsids had staged the revolution in the name of the imamic rights which they had inherited from a son of Ibn al-Ḥanafīyya (*Akbbār al-dawlat al-'abbāsiyya*, p. 165; Nawbakhti, *Kitāb firaq al-shi'a*, ed. H. Ritter. Istanbul 1931, p. 42; J. Van Ess, *Frühe mu'tazilische Häresiographie*, Beirut 1971, pp. 31ff), but this is certainly an imamic revision of a story that originally had a different point; for inasmuch as Ibn al-Ḥanafīyya was the *mabdī*, there was nothing for his son to inherit, let alone bequeath. The story establishes a doctrinal connection between Mukhtār and the 'Abbāsids, and virtually the only thing they can have shared is a belief in the coming of the *mabdī*. Now just as Mukhtār's *mabdī* was known as Ibn al-Ḥanafīyya, so we find Abū'l-'Abbās predicted as Ibn al-Ḥārithīyya (*Akbbār al-dawlat al-'abbāsiyya*, pp. 167f, 169); and just as Mukhtār assumed the title of *wazīr* of the *mabdī*, so Abū Salama was known as *wazīr* of the family of Muḥammad from among whose ranks he presumably expected the *mabdī*; it was similarly as *wazīr* to the *mabdī* that Sunbādh, an ex-'Abbāsid soldier, expected Mazdak to return (G. H. Sadighi, *Les Mouvements religieux iraniens au IIe et au IIIe siècles de l'hégire*, Paris 1938, p. 139; contrast the completely non-messianic use of the title in the writings of a contemporary Iraqi secretary (Pellat, *Ibn al-Muqaffa'*, §§ 32f, 44). It looks, in other words, as if the 'Abbāsids began by expecting the *return* of a redeemer, whoever he might be. All this does not, of course, do much to solve the enigma of the role which Ibrāhīm al-Imām was expected to play. He bore neither the names nor the title of the *mabdī*, and yet his death clearly meant that the redemption failed; or to put it the other way round, he bore the title of *imām*, and yet his death left the succession question completely

open, not only to Abū Salama, but also to other supporters of the 'Abbāsids (cf. *Akbbār al-dawlat al-'abbāsiyya*, p. 403).

<sup>457</sup> Abū'l-'Abbās and Dāwūd b. 'Alī both claim the caliphate as their birthright in the accession speeches of 132 (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 29ff; there is no reference to the Testament of Abū Hāshim). Similarly Mansūr in his correspondence with Muhammad al-Nafs al-Zakiyya (*ibid.*, pp. 211ff).

<sup>458</sup> 'There has not been a caliph between you and the Prophet except 'Alī b. Abī Tālib and the man behind me', as Dāwūd b. 'Alī put it to the Kufans on the accession of Abū'l-'Abbās (*ibid.*, p. 37; contrast the more diplomatic avoidance of *rafd* in Abū'l-'Abbās' own reference to the first three caliphs on p. 30).

<sup>459</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 29f.

<sup>460</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 30ff; cf. Jāhīz, *Manāqib al-turk*, pp. 8, 15 = 642, 651.

<sup>461</sup> Wellhausen, *Kingdom*, pp. 551ff; S. Moscati, 'Le Massacre des Umayyades dans l'histoire et dans les fragments poétiques', *Archiv Orientální* 1950.

<sup>462</sup> B. Lewis, 'The Regnal Titles of the First Abbasid Caliphs' in *Dr Zakir Husain Presentation Volume*, New Delhi 1968.

<sup>463</sup> Jāhīz, *Manāqib al-turk*, p. 8 = 642f (where they are explicit); for Khurāsān as a *dār al-bijra* see above, p. 61.

<sup>464</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 531, 931, 1068.

<sup>465</sup> Cf. Mansūr's eulogy of the Khurāsānis, *ibid.*, pp. 43off, and the boasts of the Khurāsānis in Jāhīz, *Manāqib al-turk*, p. 8 = 641f.

<sup>466</sup> As they do in Jāhīz, *Manāqib al-turk*.

<sup>467</sup> D. Ayalon, 'The Military Reforms of Caliph al-Mu'tasim, their Background and Consequences', unpublished paper read at the Congress of Orientalists, New Delhi 1964, pp. 4ff (I am indebted to Prof. Ayalon for letting me have a copy of this paper). Note in particular *abnā' al-shi'a al-kburāsāniyya* and *abnā' al-jund al-kburāsāniyya* (*Agbānī*, vol. xx, pp. 14, 188) and *ibn dawlatika wa' l-mutaqaddim fi da'watika wa'bn man sabaqa ilā bay'atika* (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 531). The 'Abbāsids themselves are never known as *abnā' al-dawla*.

<sup>468</sup> M. Talbi, *L'Emirat Agblabide 184-296/800-909: Histoire politique*, Paris 1966, pp. 144f, 166; Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 732, 1274. Cf. also W. Madelung, 'The Minor Dynasties of Northern Iran' in R. N. Frye (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Iran*, vol. iv, Cambridge 1975, p. 200 for Abnā' in Ṭabaristān, Kindī, Governors, p. 147 for Abnā' in Egypt under Amīn, and Van Arendonk, *Débuts*, pp. 101n, 107, 122n for Abnā' in third-century Yemen.

<sup>469</sup> Ayalon, 'The Military Reforms', pp. 7f. In the fourth civil war they numbered 20 000 men or more (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 826).

<sup>470</sup> Notably the Barmakids and the sons of Qahtaba and 'Isā b. Māhān (Appendix V, nos. 7, 9, 18).

<sup>471</sup> Appendix V, nos. 1-19.

<sup>472</sup> The Abnā' are *muwalladūn* and sons of *dibqāns* (Ayalon, 'The Military Reforms' p. 6 = Tayfür, *Kitāb Baghdād*, ed. H. Keller, Leipzig 1908, p. 143; Khwārizmī, *Kitāb mafātiḥ al-'ulūm*, ed. G. Van Vloten, Leiden 1895, p. 119). They are sons of kings (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 414).

<sup>473</sup> The phrase is Jāhīz's (*Manāqib al-turk*, p. 15 = 651); cf. the Banawi's boast

that his root is Khurāṣān and his branch Baghdad (*ibid.*). For the identification of the *abl Baghdād* and the *Abnā'* see also Ayalon, 'The Military Reforms', pp. 6ff.

<sup>474</sup> Appendix V, nos. 1, 11f, 14, 16f. Primarily, the *shurṭa* in question was clearly not the urban police force, but rather the military division which fought in the vicinity of the caliph, prince or general in battle under the leadership of a commander who was responsible for discipline, the hearing of complaints, the meting out of punishments and the *amr al-'askar* in general (cf. 'Abd al-Ḥamīd b. Yaḥyā, 'Risāla fi naṣīḥat wali'l-'ahd', pp. 181, 193f, 199, 200, 205); apparently he was also responsible for recruitment (cf. Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 555). The leadership of this *shurṭa* was symbolized by the javelin (*birba*), and 'Abd al-Ḥamīd b. Yaḥyā recommends that the post should be filled with men from among the *abl buyutāt al-sharaf*, as in fact it was in both the Umayyad and early 'Abbāsid period ('Abd al-Ḥamīd b. Yaḥyā, 'Naṣīḥa', p. 199). Baghdad of course also had a *shurṭa* in the sense of police force, doubtless drawn from the army settled there, and the leader of this *shurṭa* seems likewise to have been concerned with the administration of justice, for the office was known as the '*adwa*, 'redress' (cf. Ibn Ḥabīb, *Muḥabbār*, pp. 374f; Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, pp. 683, 750), and it was as leader of the '*adwa*' that Sindi b. Shāhak was instructed to enforce the *dbīmmī* regulations under Hārūn (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 713, cf. Appendix V, no. 43); but unlike the *birba* this office was open to usurpation by clients such as Sindi himself.

<sup>475</sup> Appendix V, nos. 2, 6, 8f, 13, 19. Note that although the Umayyad *ashāb al-haras* had usually been *mawālī*, they were not usually *mawālī* of the caliph himself (as were the *hujjāb*), an indication that the office was not a menial one. It is in keeping with this that the 'Abbāsid *ashāb al-haras* were in charge not just of the caliph's bodyguard, but also of the general supervision of the army and at least sometimes also of the *kbarā'in* (cf. Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 654; 'Abd al-Ḥamīd b. Yaḥyā, 'Naṣīḥa', p. 208); thus it was in his capacity of *sāhib al-haras* that Muhriz b. Ibrāhīm was responsible for fitting out the troops which were sent to India in 159 and proved acceptable as a guarantor of pay to the mutinous troops on Mahdi's death in 169 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 461, 547, cf. Khalifa, *Ta'rīk*, p. 700). Muhriz was also one of the *abl al-dawla*, cf. Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1955ff, 2001, ser. iii, p. 1).

<sup>476</sup> Appendix V, nos. 2, 6f, 12, 14, 19.

<sup>477</sup> Appendix V, nos. 1, 3–8, 10–18.

<sup>478</sup> Appendix V, nos. 1–3, 6–9, 12–14, 18.

<sup>479</sup> See the lists of governors in, for example, Khalifa's *Ta'rīk* under the years of the caliphs' deaths.

<sup>480</sup> Both Abū Muslim and Hasan b. Qaḥṭaba were said by the 'Abbāsids to be *minnā abl bayt* (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1949, 1952, ser. iii, p. 64). According to W. Ivanow, *The Alleged Founder of Ismailism*, Bombay 1946, pp. 165ff, the expression is simply a hackneyed compliment paid to worthies, and in the examples he cites there certainly is no question of spiritual adoption (cf. also below, note 484). In the case of Abū Muslim and Hasan, however, the point of

the expression was not to flatter the men thus designated, but to justify their position of power (it was said of them, not to them, in both cases to men who had asked for a member of the 'Abbāsid house); spiritual adoption may not be quite what the expression amounted to, but it clearly established a *rank*.

<sup>481</sup> Thus the Barmakids, Muḥammad b. Muqātil and Ḥusayn b. Mu'ādh (Appendix V, nos. 7, 13, 15); cf. also Jāhīz, *Manāqib al-turk*, p. 16 = 653.

<sup>482</sup> Jāhīz, *Manāqib al-turk*, p. 16 = 653.

<sup>483</sup> Khālid b. Barmak identified himself to Abū'l-'Abbās as *mawlāka* (*Jahshiyārī, Wuzarā'*, p. 89), but the Barmakids never appear as *mawālī* of the caliph on their coins, so his terminology was hardly technical.

<sup>484</sup> Sc. Salmān al-Fārisī (Ibn Ishāq, *Leben Muhammed's*, vol. i, p. 677 = 764). Umayyad nominees were not necessarily *mawālī*, cf. Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqāt*, vol. vii, p. 271; Ibn 'Abd al-Ḥakam, *Strat 'Umar b. 'Abd al-'Aṣṭaq*, ed. A. 'Ubayd, Cairo 1927, p. 28 (where 'Umar pronounces none other than Ḥajjāj *minnā abl bayt*).

<sup>485</sup> Cf. above, p. 56.

<sup>486</sup> In the words of Mahdi to Yahyā b. Khālid b. Barmak: 'I have been looking through the lists of the sons of my *sbī'a* and the people of my *dawla* and have chosen from among them a man whom I shall attach to my son Hārūn . . . and my choice fell on you. I thought you had the better right to it because you are his foster-father (*murabbī*) and intimate' (*Tabarī*, ser. iii, p. 498).

<sup>487</sup> Omar, '*Abbāsid Caliphate*', p. 279.

<sup>488</sup> *Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 435f.; al-Khaṭīb al-Baghdādi, *Ta'rīkh Baghdād*, Cairo 1931, vol. i, p. 89 = J. Lassner, *The Topography of Baghdad in the early Middle Ages, Texts and Studies*, Detroit 1970, p. 69 (misidentified as companions of the Prophet).

<sup>489</sup> Thus 'Abdallāh b. Yazīd al-Hakamī (Appendix IV, no. 6); Abū Zurāra (Azdī, *Mawsil*, p. 178; unidentified, but by implication a Syrian Yemeni); Ja'far b. Hanzala al-Bahrānī (Azdī, *Mawsil*, p. 178, cf. *Tabarī*, ser. iii, pp. 116, 125, 224, 291f., 318), a former commander of the *jund* of Ḥimṣ in Khurāsān, who had been interim governor of Khurāsān in 120 (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, pp. 1609, 1612, 1635, 1638, 1659, etc.), fought under Ibn Hubayra at Wāsīt (*ibid.*, ser. iii, pp. 68f.), and conducted a summer campaign in 139 (*ibid.*, p. 125; Azdī, *Mawsil*, p. 171); the family of Khālid al-Qasrī (Appendix I, no. 11); Mālik b. Adham al-Bāhilī (?; Appendix IV, no. 67); Ma'n b. Zā'ida al-Shaybānī (Appendix IV, no. 68); Ibrāhīm b. Jabala b. Makhrama al-Kindī (Azdī, *Mawsil*, p. 178), the son of an Umayyad general who had himself been governor of Hadramawt in 129 (*Tabarī*, ser. ii, p. 1402; Khalifa, *Ta'rīkh*, p. 582); 'Uthmān b. 'Umāra al-Murri (Appendix I, no. 6); Ishāq (and Bakkār?) b. Muslim al-'Uqaylī (Appendix I, no. 16); Hazzān b. Sa'id al-Ruhāwī (Appendix III, no. 88).

<sup>490</sup> S. A. El-Ali, 'The Foundation of Baghdad' in A. H. Hourani and S. M. Stern (eds.), *The Islamic City*, Oxford 1970, p. 96.

<sup>491</sup> For the references see above, note 489.

<sup>492</sup> Thus the descendants of Sa'id al-Ḥarashī (Appendix III, no. 74; but then the

- <sup>493</sup> Abbāsid Ḥarashīs might not be descendants of the Umayyad ones), ‘Īsā b. Qays al-Sakūnī (Appendix I, no. 8), and Hishām b. ‘Amr al-Taghlabī and his relatives (Appendix IV, no. 62).
- <sup>494</sup> Pellat, *Ibn al-Muqaffa'*, § 41.
- <sup>495</sup> Though whether Mahdi's successors thought that the institution had accomplished his purpose or that it never would is anyone's guess.
- <sup>496</sup> If the order in which the various members of the 'Abbāsid court are enumerated in the sources is to be trusted, the *mawālī* ranked below the 'Abbāsids and the *sabāba*, but above the *quwwād* (cf. El-Ali, 'The Foundation of Baghdad', p. 96).
- <sup>497</sup> Appendix V, nos. 37f, 40, 49.
- <sup>498</sup> Appendix V, no. 37 (Mūsā b. Muṣ'ab). The bestowal of the title on Rabi‘ b. ‘Abdallāh al-Ḥārithī points in the same direction (Ya‘qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 489, cf. Appendix III, no. 100).
- <sup>499</sup> Rabi‘ b. ‘Abdallāh was certainly an Arab (see the note above), but few other cases are so clear-cut: despite their *nisbas*, men such as Jawwās b. al-Musayyab al-Yamānī and Abū l-Sarī al-Shāmī may very well have been non-Arabs (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 323; Ya‘qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 244 = 21; differently Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. ii, p. 10).
- <sup>500</sup> Only by the most wilful reading of the sources could one get around this fact. Several *mawālī* are explicitly said to have been slaves (Appendix V, nos. 23, 25, 28, 30, 32f, 35f, 38, 46), and even when it is not stated, their fancy names and by-names (*ibid.*, nos. 21, 24, 33, 47f), their description as eunuchs (*ibid.*, nos. 22, 27, 34) and their lack of patronymics are incontrovertible evidence of their servile origin.
- <sup>501</sup> ‘And if you do not know their fathers they are your brothers in religion and *mawālī*’ (33:5), a verse which clearly provided the Islamic rationale for the 'Abbāsid clients. Compare Ya‘qūbī b. Dāwūd, the secretary and *mawlā* of Sulaym, who rose from prison to the status of Mahdi's 'brother in God' (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 461; Sourdel, *Vizirat*, p. 106).
- <sup>502</sup> Rabi‘ b. ‘Abdallāh al-Ḥārithī was a Yemeni noble (cf. Appendix III, no. 100), but Tayfūr was 'the son of the tailor' (Appendix V, no. 45). Compare Ghīṭīf b. al-A‘tā', Ḥārūn's maternal uncle who likewise held office on behalf of his kinsman (though apparently without the title of *mawlā*), and who was the brother of a Yemeni slave-girl (Khaṭīb, *Ta’rikh*, p. 83 = Lassner, *Topography*, p. 66; Khalifa, *Ta’rikh*, pp. 742, 745; Ya‘qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 304 = 132).
- <sup>503</sup> Cf. Appendix V, nos. 20ff. The domestic origin of the clients is well caught in expressions such as '*baram*, *biṭāna*, *mawālī* and *gbilmān*' or '*mawālī* and *hasham*' (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 744, 809).
- <sup>504</sup> For recommendations of the use of freedmen attributed to Mansūr and Mahdi, see *ibid.*, pp. 414, 448, 531f; similar sentiments are attributed to Mu‘āwiya in Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv a, pp. 23f. Marwān II's preference for freedmen rather than free clients (Ṭabarī, ser. ii, pp. 1852f) may be more historical. It ought, however, to be clear that the Barmakids were not technically freedmen as suggested by S. D. Goitein, *Studies in Islamic History and Institutions*, Leiden 1968, p. 180.

- <sup>104</sup> They were grooms, attendants, chamberlains and the like (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 392, 429, 531; Ibn Habib, *Muhabbar*, pp. 259f; Appendix V, nos. 21, 38).
- <sup>105</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 456, 679, 681, 720f, 726, 764, 771, 955; Appendix V, nos. 27, 34–6, 44, 48; Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. ii, p. 10. These positions were considered menial; cf. D. Ayalon, 'Preliminary Remarks on the Mamluk Military Institution in Islam' in V. J. Parry and M. E. Yapp (eds.), *War, Technology and Society in the Middle East*, Oxford 1975, p. 49 (= Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 414).
- <sup>106</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 461, 766, 1166.
- <sup>107</sup> Appendix V, nos. 21, 25, 32f, 40, 46–9.
- <sup>108</sup> The same is of course true of Spain, where *mamlūks* appeared in the army shortly after the secession (Lévi-Provençal, *Espagne musulmane*, vol. i, pp. 129f).
- <sup>109</sup> Cf. above, note 456.
- <sup>110</sup> *Akbar al-dawlat al-'abbasiyya*, p. 165; Nawbakhtī, *Firaq*, p. 43; Van Ess, Häresiographie, pp. 31ff. Already Mansūr claimed priority for the 'Abbāsids on grounds of descent from the Prophet's uncle (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 211ff; cf. T. Nagel, 'Ein früher Bericht über den Aufstand des Muhammad b. 'Abdallāh im Jahre 145 h', *Der Islam* 1970, p. 251).
- <sup>111</sup> The view that Mahdi's position enabled the 'Abbāsids to seek the approval of the Sunnis and Shi'ites without imams is rather odd (R. Mottahedeh, 'The 'Abbāsid Caliphate in Iran' in R. N. Frye (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Iran*, vol. iv, Cambridge 1975, p. 67). Note that unlike the 'Abbāsid zealot who compiled the *Akbar al-dawlat al-'abbasiyya*, the Sunnī chroniclers maintain a polite silence on the question of the 'Abbāsid imamate.
- <sup>112</sup> Thus Mansūr in Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 213ff; cf. Nagel, 'Ein früher Bericht', p. 250.
- <sup>113</sup> Cf. C. Pellat, 'La "Nabita" de Djâhîz', *Annales de l'Institut d'Études Orientales de l'Université d'Alger* 1952, pp. 314ff.
- <sup>114</sup> The Sunnī chroniclers give ample and sympathetic attention to the 'Abbāsid revolution, though they leave the 'Abbāsid imamate to the heresiographers.
- <sup>115</sup> On the model of 'Abdallāh b. Mu'āwiya who dies as a *mahdi* handing over to an 'Aliid in Nawbakhtī, *Firaq*, p. 31.
- <sup>116</sup> 'The children of the Prophet must be the successors of the Prophet', as he said when he started his revolt in Bukhārā in the aftermath of the revolution (Omar, *'Abbāsid Caliphate*, p. 158).
- <sup>117</sup> The Shi'ites can get just as worked up about the martyrdom of 'Ali al-Ridā as they can about that of Husayn; but what is the grandeur of Mansūr to that of 'Umar among the Sunnis?
- <sup>118</sup> Cf. D. Sourdel, 'La Politique religieuse du calife 'Abbâside al-Ma'mûn', *Revue des Études Islamiques* 1963, p. 32.
- <sup>119</sup> I owe the point that 'Mansūr and the *mihna*' would have made as good or better sense than 'Ma'mûn and the *mihna*' to the independent observations of Drs F. W. Zimmermann and G. M. Hinds.

<sup>120</sup> Cf. Goitein, *Studies*, pp. 149ff.

<sup>121</sup> Thus it is *only* the imam who is empowered to execute the *hudūd* and *ahkām* according to the *kitāb* and *sunna*, to deal with matters of war, appointments and revenues, and to use his discretion where there is no *atbar*; and whoever disobeys him in these matters loses his soul (Pellat, *Ibn al-Muqaffā'*, § 17; the translation of *atbar* as 'disposition scriptuaire' is very odd: Shaybānī's *Kitāb al-āthār* is a book of traditions, not of Koranic legislation). Similarly, it is only the *wulāt al-amr* who have received *ra'y* from God, the people having no business to do other than give advice when asked (*ibid.*, § 20). Hence both 'āmma and *kbāṣṣa* are in need of the imam for their *salāb*, and it is for their good that God has placed among them *kbawāṣṣ min abl al-dīn wa'l-'uqūl* to whom they may turn (*ibid.*, §§ 57f).

<sup>122</sup> *Ibid.*, §§ 10 (catechism for the army), 36 (legal code), 55 (necessity of giving people religious instruction).

<sup>123</sup> *Ibid.*, § 55.

<sup>124</sup> *Ibid.*, §§ 44ff. The main criteria of aristocracy are given as kinship, religious learning and military prowess (*rabim, fiqh fi'l-dīn, balā'*), the main aristocratic groups as Anṣār and Muhājirūn, kinsmen of the caliph and *abl buyūtāt al-'arab* (§ 47).

<sup>125</sup> Thus the caliph is advised not to appoint soldiers to the administration of taxes, partly because it corrupts the army and partly because it is a *degrading* occupation for a man of military dignity (*ibid.*, 23). Cf. also the attention military nobility in §§ 47f.

<sup>126</sup> *Ibid.*, §§ 47ff. Reliance on such persons dishonours power (*kāna lī'l-sultān shābi'an*, § 48).

<sup>127</sup> He even contrives to cite Arabic poetry in defence of aristocracies (§ 46).

<sup>128</sup> Or if he did, it was only in very minor ways such as the separation of fiscal and military authority and the creation of a Syrian *sabāba*. And that despite the fact that both the lay-out of Baghdad and the idea behind the Abnā' testify to a similar vision.

<sup>129</sup> Cf. G. Vajda, 'Les Zindiqs en pays d'Islam au début de la période abbaside', *Rivista degli Studi Orientali* 1938.

<sup>130</sup> Ibn al-Muqaffā' seems to have written shortly after these events; he refers to people who had shared in the caliph's power '*alā gbayr ṭariqatibī wa-ra'yibī*', but whom God has now eliminated for him (Pellat, *Ibn al-Muqaffā'*, § 8), and the good wishes for the future also give the impression that we are at the beginning of Mansūr's reign (§ 9). Ibn al-Muqaffā' apparently saw the liquidation of Mansūr's rivals as an appropriate moment for the execution of his plan, and it is of course possible that another caliph would have taken the opportunity. But given the youth of the regime and the magnitude of what Ibn al-Muqaffā' suggested, it is not altogether surprising that Mansūr did not dare.

<sup>131</sup> The transformation of the Abnā' into Ḥanbalites is eloquently documented in I. M. Lapidus, 'The Separation of State and Religion in the Development of Early Islamic Society', *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 1975.

<sup>532</sup> Appendix V, no. 7; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'Ahmad b. Ḥanbal'; Ḥanbal b. Hilāl, who had been governor of Sarakhs under the Umayyads, was a missionary in the *da'wa*. For Muḥammad b. Ḥanbal as one of the *abnā' qurwād Khurāṣān* see W. M. Patton, *Aḥmed ibn Ḥanbal and the Miḥna*, Leiden 1897, p. 10.

<sup>533</sup> Sourdel, 'Politique religieuse', pp. 28ff; *id.*, *Vizirat*, pp. 176ff; Goitein, 'Bourgeoisie', p. 597.

<sup>534</sup> Cf. Lapidus, 'Separation of State and Religion', p. 380.

<sup>535</sup> For this interpretation of the fall of the Barmakids see Sourdel, 'Politique religieuse'.

<sup>536</sup> And note the complete assurance with which Abū Yūsuf preaches hell-fire to Hārūn, dwelling on the terrible responsibilities he has as a ruler, while at the same time serving him traditions playing down his political role: the imam is merely a shield, or he is a scourge of God (*Kitāb al-kharāj*, pp. 9f = 42f). It is a far cry from the gingerly manner in which Ibn al-Muqaffa' suggested to Manṣūr that he was the source of all religious authority.

<sup>537</sup> Omar, 'Abbāsid Caliphate', pp. 268ff.

<sup>538</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 183ff.

<sup>539</sup> Cf. I. M. Lapidus, 'The Conversion of Egypt to Islam', *Israel Oriental Studies* 1972, pp. 256f.

<sup>540</sup> Omar, 'Abbāsid Caliphate', pp. 316f.

<sup>541</sup> Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, pp. 87ff.

<sup>542</sup> Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. ii, p. 33.

<sup>543</sup> Sadighi, *Mouvements religieux iraniens*.

<sup>544</sup> Barthold, *Turkestan*, p. 205.

<sup>545</sup> Omar, 'Abbāsid Caliphate', pp. 327ff.

<sup>546</sup> Talbi, *Emirat Aglabide*, pp. 369f.

<sup>547</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 107ff.

<sup>548</sup> Tabārī, ser. iii, pp. 842ff; cf. Appendix IV, no. 54.

<sup>549</sup> Tabārī, ser. iii, p. 830; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 532; Ṣafadī, *Umarā' Dimashq fi'l-Islām*, ed. S. al-Munajjid, Damascus 1955, pp. 37, 57, 83 (nos. 122, 185, 251). Note also the fear under Hārūn that Syrian discontent might yet again provide fuel for the ambitions of 'Abbāsid princes (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 513).

<sup>550</sup> Tabārī, ser. iii, pp. 1319ff; Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, pp. 541f = vol. iii, p. 103.

<sup>551</sup> Cf. E. J. Hobsbawm, *Primitive Rebels*, Manchester 1959, p. 22.

<sup>552</sup> *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 162ff; G. Scarcia, 'Lo scambio di lettere fra Hārūn al-Rashid e Ḥamza al-Khāriġī secondo il "Ta'rīkh-i Sīstān"', *Annali dell'Istituto Universitario Orientale di Napoli* 1964. Hārūn evades the question of the imamate, harps on the theme of obedience and holds out the prospect of material rewards: no wonder Ḥamza was disgusted.

<sup>553</sup> Omar, 'Abbāsid Caliphate', pp. 192ff; cf. Goitein, *Studies*, p. 156.

<sup>554</sup> Note also how Ya'qūb the Coppersmith used to say that the *dawlā* of the 'Abbāsids was founded on treachery, the 'Abbāsids having killed Abū Salama,

Abū Muslim, the Barmakids and Fadl b. Sahl: it did not escape contemporary notice that all the victims were Persians (*Tārikh-i Sīstān*, pp. 267f).

<sup>155</sup> Cf. V. Lanternari, *The Religions of the Oppressed*, London 1963, a helpful survey of nativist movements in which the syncretic prophets of both the Iranians and the Berbers ought to have been included. Note in particular the Congolese conviction that 'Christ is a French God', whence the trinity of 'the Father, Simon Kimbangu and André Matswa', which compares so well with Sunbādh's trinity of Mazdak, Abū Muslim and the *mabādī* (Lanternari, *Religions of the Oppressed*, p. 16; Sadighi, *Mouvements religieux iraniens*, p. 139).

<sup>156</sup> 'At first we had the land and you had the Bible; now we have the Bible and you have the land' is a statement which the Iranian rebels could with appropriate modifications have made their own (Lanternari, *Religions of the Oppressed*, p. 5).

<sup>157</sup> The very fact that the revolts took the form of nativist millenarism, as opposed to national restorationism, testifies to the fact that the local aristocracy had defected to the conquerors. But at least one member of it, the prince of Bukhārā, decided to make common cause with the 'āmmī insurgents (Sadighi, *Mouvements religieux iraniens*, p. 169).

<sup>158</sup> He was the grandson of Naṣr b. Sayyār, the last Umayyad governor of Khurāsān.

<sup>159</sup> Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 515.

<sup>160</sup> So Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 707f. If this story is not true, it is certainly well told. It is set in the remote frontier town of Samarqand, where a woman has been left behind by a husband who has gone to Baghdad. The woman finds it hard to be without a man and Rāfi' fancies both her and her wealth, so they use the trick of letting her feign apostasy, which immediately dissolves her marriage, whereupon she converts and marries Rāfi'. Outraged, the husband in Baghdad makes use of his access to the caliph to have the marriage dissolved, and Rāfi', though he escapes the statutory lashing, is paraded around in the streets on a donkey and thrown into jail. Having escaped, he eventually kills the governor who had administered the humiliation and becomes a rebel. It is the combination of the deep insult to Rāfi' 's *omertā* and a state that insists on imposing its own rules that makes this story so eminently plausible (compare Hobsbawm, *Primitive Rebels*, pp. 15f; *id.*, *Bandits*, Harmondsworth 1972, esp. p. 43).

<sup>161</sup> Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 528. According to Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. ii, p. 38, Rāfi' enjoyed the support of the 'chiefs and princes' of Sogdiana, Transoxania and Tukhārīstān, but apart from the Qarluq chief whose help Rāfi' invoked, Ya'qūbī mentions only the people of these areas.

<sup>162</sup> Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 528; for Muqanna' see Sadighi, *Mouvements religieux iraniens*, p. 170. The Qarluq chief is described as a convert, but other Turks such as the Toghuz-Oghuz were clearly not, and for Ya'qūbī the revolt consisted in *qīṭāl al-sultān wa-qatl al-muslimīn*.

<sup>163</sup> M. Kaabi, 'Les Origines tāhirides dans la *da'wa* 'abbāside', *Arabica* 1972,

p. 163; Ya'qūbī only mentions that Rāfi' 'called to others than B. Hāshim' (*Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 529).

<sup>164</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 732.

<sup>165</sup> Cf. above, p. 46.

<sup>166</sup> F. Gabrieli, 'La successione di Hārūn al-Rashīd e la guerra fra al-Amīn e al-Māmūn', *Rivista degli Studi Orientali* 1926–8, pp. 383ff.

<sup>167</sup> The 'Abbāsid Middle East and Salian Germany are thus inverse cases. The Salian use of *ministeriales* turned on the entrenched character of the German aristocracy, the 'Abbāsid use of *mawālī* on the insecurity of the Islamic equivalent; in Germany the aristocracy eventually absorbed the *ministeriales*, whereas in the Middle East the *infami* and *vilissimi homines* eventually ousted their noble competitors.

#### 101 THE EMERGENCE OF THE SLAVE SOLDIERS

<sup>168</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 459, cf. p. 495.

<sup>169</sup> Appendix V, nos. 24, 31f, 36f, 39, 41, 46, 48.

<sup>170</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 495, 531.

<sup>171</sup> Appendix V, nos. 20, 22f, 26, 28–30, 32, 38, 41, 45.

<sup>172</sup> Chabot, *Chronique de Denys de Tell-Mahré*, pp. 84f = 72. Note also that Mansūr had a *Khwārizmīyya* (Khatīb, *Ta'rīk*, p. 85 = Lassner, *Topography*, p. 68; cf. Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 246 = 27).

<sup>173</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 631; cf. Chabot, *Chronique de Denys de Tell-Mahré*, p. 85 = 72, where Chabot's translation of *mwly* as 'plénitude' is clearly wrong; the context indicates that an Arabic term is being reproduced, and in Chabot's second edition of Pseudo-Dionysius the word is marked with plural signs: it is certainly to be read *mawlāyē* = *mawālī* (cf. J.-B. Chabot (ed.), *Incerti auctoris Chronicon pseudo-Dionysianum vulgo dictum* (CSCO, Scriptores Syri, vol. liii), Louvain 1933, p. 229).

<sup>174</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 631; cf. above, note 469.

<sup>175</sup> That comes across very strongly in Mahdī's explanation of his preference for *mawālī*: they can be made to do the meanest jobs (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 531f).

<sup>176</sup> Talbi, *Emirat Aglabide*, pp. 136, 150.

<sup>177</sup> Lévi-Provençal, *Espagne musulmane*, vol. iii, pp. 71ff; there had been slaves already in 'Abd al-Rahmān I's armies (cf. *ibid.*, vol. i, pp. 129f), but Ḥakam was the first to enrol them in the palace guard which formed the nucleus of all the classical slave armies.

<sup>178</sup> Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 513 = vol. iii, p. 59. 'Ubaydallāh was governor of Egypt between 822 and 826 when he was finally dislodged by 'Abdallāh b. Tāhir, but the black slaves may well have been recruited by his father who distrusted the leaders of the *jund* and had a number of them disposed of (Kindi, *Governors*, p. 171).

<sup>179</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 740, cf. Appendix V, nos. 2, 7, 9, 12, 14, 18.

<sup>180</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 740; Ghīṭrif b. al-'Atā' was the brother of Hārūn's mother, a Yemeni slave-girl (cf. above, note 501); Mansūr b. Yazīd b. Mansūr was a

descendant of Mansūr's Ḥimyarī brother-in-law (cf. Appendix V, no. 45).

<sup>181</sup> Appendix V, no. 8.

<sup>182</sup> Cf. Gabrieli, 'La successione di Hārūn', pp. 346ff.

<sup>183</sup> Though typically enough by a slave-girl: there were no dynastic marriages between the caliphs and Iranian princesses.

<sup>184</sup> Cf. the elaborate clauses in the succession document designed to avert it (Gabrieli, 'La successione di Hārūn').

<sup>185</sup> Cf. Amīn's solemn reference to their being *abl al-sabq ilā'l-budā* (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 931).

<sup>186</sup> The term applied to the Syrians whom Amīn had so unsuccessfully tried to enrol (cf. Ayalon, 'The Military Reforms', pp. 18ff).

<sup>187</sup> A Banawī denigrated Tāhirī's forces as just that (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 829).

<sup>188</sup> Cf. Appendix V, nos. 2, 4, 7, 10, 12, 13.

<sup>189</sup> Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 618; cf. also Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1510.

<sup>190</sup> Cf. Ma'mūn's sentiments in Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1068; and note the inconsequentiality of the commander who vaunts the virtues of the Abnā' in Tayfūr, *Kitāb Baghdād*, p. 143: they defeated the Turks, led the revolution, rebelled against Ma'mūn and later submitted to him.

<sup>191</sup> F. Gabrieli, *al-Ma'mūn e gli 'Alidi*, Leipzig 1929, pp. 35ff.

<sup>192</sup> The practice is well described in Minovi, *Letter of Tansar*, p. 9 = 34f.

<sup>193</sup> Narshakhi, *Description*, p. 8 = 10.

<sup>194</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 57 = 59, where the city in question is wrongly given as Balkh, Asad's capital.

<sup>195</sup> L. Bouvat, *Les Barmécides*, Paris 1912, p. 32.

<sup>196</sup> Cf. Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 478; Barthold, *Turkestan*, pp. 206f. It is not clear, however, that Mahdi asked these rulers to convert as much as to submit.

<sup>197</sup> Balādhurī, *Futūh*, pp. 43of; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 550. The throne and the crown which the Kābulshāh sent to Ma'mūn on his conversion were put on display in Mecca (Sourdel, *Vizirat*, pp. 204f). Note also Ma'mūn's attempt to make the Qārinwandid ruler of Ṭabaristān convert so that he could call him *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn* and make him governor of Ṭabaristān, as eventually happened after Māzyār b. Qārin had lost his kingdom to rival members of his family (Ibn Isfandiyār, *Tā'rikh-i Ṭabaristān*, ed. 'A. Iqbāl, n.p., n.d. [Tehran 1941], vol. i, pp. 205ff = E. G. Browne, *An Abridged Translation of the History of Ṭabaristān*, Leiden and London 1905, pp. 145ff; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 582; cf. Balādhurī, *Futūh*, p. 339). It also appears to have been in the time of Ma'mūn that the Khwārizmshāh adopted Islam (E. Sachau, *Zur Geschichte und Chronologie von Khwārizm*, part one (*Sitzungsberichte der phil.-hist. Classe der kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften*, vol. lxxiii), Vienna 1873, p. 32n, cf. p. 33).

<sup>198</sup> Thus Harthama, an intermediary figure between the Abnā' and the new Khurāsānis, and, more to the point, Faḍl and Ḥassan b. Sahl (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'al-Faḍl b. Sahl b. Zādhānfārūkh'). Faḍl was a *mawlā islām* of Ma'mūn (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 709).

<sup>599</sup> Thus for example Ḥasan b. ‘Alī al-Ma’mūni, a native of Bādghis who became governor of Armenia; he was clearly a *maawlā* of Ma’mūn (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 985; Ya’qūbi, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 566). Similarly Kaydar Nasr b. ‘Abdallāh al-Ushrūsanī who was governor of Egypt at the time of Ma’mūn’s death and responsible for the removal of the Arabs from the *dīwān* (Kindi, *Governors*, p. 193); he was a *maawlā amīr al-mu’minīn* (A. Grohmann (ed.), *Corpus Papyrorum Raineri Archiducis Austriæ*, III, vol. i, part two, Vienna 1924, p. 145). Note also the appearance of ‘Abbās b. Bukhārkhudā among Tāhir’s men in Iraq (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 852). Tāhir himself, the descendant of a *maawlā islām* of Khuzā‘a, was likewise new to caliphal service.

<sup>600</sup> Cf. Ma’mūn’s views on class structure (Kister and Plessner, ‘Notes’, p. 50) and on the ignominy of trade (Goitein, ‘Bourgeoisie’, p. 600; Goitein’s attempt to explain away these statements is somewhat unconvincing).

<sup>601</sup> Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 777.

<sup>602</sup> Gabrieli, ‘La successione di Hārūn’, p. 396. Ma’mūn was both *ibn ukbtinā* and *ibn ‘amm al-nabī* to the Persians, as were the Husaynids (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 774; cf. G. Le Strange and R. A. Nicholson (eds.), *The Fársnáma of Ibnu'l-Balkí*, London 1921, p. 4).

<sup>603</sup> For their overwhelmingly negative reaction see Madelung, *al-Qāsim*, pp. 78f. It is not in the least unlikely that some Shi’ites were ‘jubilant, though by no means won over’ (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. ‘‘Alī al-Ridā’), but it is hard to see how one can tell, inasmuch as the Shi’ite sources are all wise after the event. Ya’qūbi is brief and dispassionate (*Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 545, 550f.). Abū l-Faraj and Ibn Babūyeh are agreed that al-Ridā had the choice between compliance and death, and Ibn Babūyeh is particularly anxious to exonerate al-Ridā from participation in what to him was a cunning plot to taint the imams with lust for worldly power (Abū l-Faraj al-Isbahāni, *Kitāb maqātil al-Talibiyīn*, Najaf 1353, pp. 368ff; Ibn Babūyeh, ‘Uyūn akhbār al-Ridā, ed. M. M. Kharsān, Najaf 1970, vol. ii, pp. 137ff). The explanations advanced in justification of al-Ridā’s behaviour clearly became more extravagant in time, but there is not much trace of a view that his succession might have been a good thing: the analogies drawn in Ibn Babūyeh with Joseph’s rule in Pharaonic Egypt and with ‘Alī’s participation in the *shūrā* are the closest ones comes to it.

<sup>604</sup> Fadl b. Sahl, the evil spirit behind Ma’mūn, claimed descent from the Sāsānid kings, adopted Sāsānid practices, was a *majūsī*, and wanted an ‘Alid heir in order to restore the Sāsānid monarchy (Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā*, pp. 313, 316f; Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1006; Ibn al-Tiqtaqā, *al-Fakbri*, ed. H. Derenbourg, Paris 1895, p. 304); Ma’mūn continued the power and religion of Kisrā while the Muslims were humbled (Mottahedeh, ‘The ‘Abbāsid Caliphate in Iran’, p. 72); hence Yahyā b. ‘Āmir b. Ismā‘il, a quintessential Banawī, greeted Ma’mūn as *amīr al-majūs* or *amīr al-kāfirin* (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 1001; Ibn Habib, *Muḥabbat*, p. 488; cf. Jahshiyārī, *Wuṣarā*, p. 318). Yahyā’s father was Marwān II’s killer; on his death Mansūr had prayed over him and accorded him burial in the cemetery of the Hāshimites (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 46, 49ff, 390f).

<sup>605</sup> Gabrieli, *Ma'mün e gli 'Alidi*, pp. 48ff.

<sup>606</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 55ff. It is of course just possible that al-Ridā died a natural death, but if so his death was very opportune; Ma'mün did not designate another 'Alid (though some Shi'ites say he planned to, cf. Madelung, *al-Qāsim*, p. 75), and his order that the *minbars* on which al-Ridā's succession had been proclaimed should be washed certainly suggests that the unfortunate 'Alid had been deliberately removed (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 170). There is of course not the slightest reason to doubt that Ma'mün was genuinely grieved.

<sup>607</sup> Sourdel, 'Politique religieuse', pp. 38ff. It is not quite correct that Ibn al-Aktham dissuaded Ma'mün from having Mu'awiya publicly cursed by pointing out that it would cause discontent in Khurāsān. The text referred to has Ibn al-Aktham say *inna'l-'āmma lā tahtamilu dhālika siyyamā abl Khurāsān*, which clearly means that the populace in general and the Abnā' in particular would not put up with it (*ibid.*, p. 39; compare Madelung, *al-Qāsim*, pp. 223ff.).

<sup>608</sup> Patton, *Ahmed ibn Hanbal and the Mihna*. Why did Ma'mün choose the dogma of the created Koran? There is of course no longer any question of seeing an attempt at a compromise between Shi'ites and Sunnis here; neither Zaydis nor Imāmīs had adopted Mu'tazilite theology at this stage (Madelung, *al-Qāsim*; *id.*, 'Imāmīsm and Mu'tazilite Theology' in *Le shī'isme imāmī*, Paris 1970, as against Sourdel, 'Politique religieuse'), and the whole point of the inquisition was clearly to undermine the position of the '*ulamā'* by showing up the stupidity of the vulgar '*'āmma*' who were too blind to see the reality of God's religion because of their weak minds (cf. Ma'mün's letter in Patton, *Ahmed ibn Hanbal and the Mihna*, pp. 57ff.). Ma'mün's interest, then, lay in finding a theological dogma that would demonstrate this weakness of the traditionist mind; and had he chosen free will, which was really the only alternative, the traditionists would have found it far too easy to harp on the theme of divine omnipotence (free will and divine omnipotence may be compatible to theologians, but the doctrines whereby this compatibility is achieved never make simple shibboleths).

<sup>609</sup> Cf. Kaabi, 'Les Origines tāhirides', from which it emerges that the ancestors of Tāhir may very well have been non-Khurāsānis, that they rose to prominence by joining the 'Abbāsid *da'wa*, and that they took their reward in the form of a hereditary governorship of Būshang and Herat, as opposed to Banawī status in Baghdad. The fact that it was *not* as Abnā' that they received their appointment to Khurāsān neatly illustrates the extent to which the *dawla* had lost its legitimating force.

<sup>610</sup> Tāhir appears as *mawlā'l-Ma'mün* on his coins (G. C. Miles, *The Numismatic History of Rayy*, New York 1938, pp. 96ff). 'Abdallāh b. Tāhir is addressed as 'my brother and *mawlā*' in a poem by Ma'mün (Kindī, *Governors*, p. 181), and Muḥammad b. 'Abdallāh b. Tāhir appears as *mawlā amīr al-mu'minin* in a letter of Muntasir (Tabari, ser. iii, p. 1489). Tāhir's use of the caliph's name in the construction of his title was doubtless an indication of the particular intimacy of his bond. The more formal version of the title was later held by the Sāmānids, the Karakhānids and the Büyids (C. E. Bosworth, 'The Titulature

of the Early Ghaznavids', *Oriens* 1962, pp. 214, 222; Madelung, 'The Assumption of the Title Shāhānshāh', p. 105). But note how even when read as caliphal vassalage, the title had too strong connotations of dependence for Mazyār and Mahmūd to accept it without modifications (Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 277 = 81; Bosworth, 'The Early Ghaznavids' p. 218).

<sup>611</sup> Ibn Ḥabib, *Muhabbat*, pp. 375ff. Tāhir himself had of course also held the *shurta* before his appointment to Khurāsān.

<sup>612</sup> Cf. D. Sourdel, 'Les Circonstances de la mort de Tāhir Ier au Ḫurāsān en 207/822', *Arabica* 1958.

<sup>613</sup> The idea of the arrangement was doubtless to prevent the Tāhirids from losing interest in the unitary state, not just by giving them a highly honoured position at the centre, but also by selecting the Khurāsānī governors from among members of the Baghdādi branch: a similar system had been adopted for Muḥallabid North Africa (Talbi, *Emirat Aglabide*, p. 76). In fact, however, as the caliphs ran into troubles with their Turkish slaves, the Tāhirids preserved their interest in the caliphate largely by inheriting what was left of it. Only Tāhir and 'Abdallāh b. Tāhir, Ma'mūn's adopted brother (or son according to Shābushti), went to Khurāsān from Iraq: another two were supposed to go, but did not. But from Iraq to the eastern border it was the Tāhirids who maintained order, and more revenues soon went to Khurāsān than came from there (C. E. Bosworth, 'The Tāhirids and the Ṣaffārids' in R. N. Frye (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Iran*, vol. iv, Cambridge 1975, pp. 94ff; Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, p. 308 = 138).

<sup>614</sup> Ayalon, 'The Military Reforms', p. 24, citing Maqrīzī, *Die Kämpfe und Streitigkeiten zwischen den Banū 'Umajja und den Banū Hāsim*, ed. G. Vos, Leiden 1888, p. 63. No early source confirms Maqrīzī's contention. It is clear that Ma'mūn received large numbers of Turkish slaves as tribute and gifts, and that some of these slaves were put to military use (H. Töllner, *Die türkischen Garden am Kalifenhof von Samarra, ihre Entstehung und Machtergreifung bis zum Kalifat al-Mu'tadids*, Bonn 1971, pp. 18f), but the practice was still unsystematic, and no slaves appear to have been bought.

<sup>615</sup> Töllner, 'Die türkischen Garden', pp. 21ff.

<sup>616</sup> Thus, among others, the Afshin who had converted in the days of Ma'mūn, but was known as a *mawlā* of Mu'tasim (Balādhuri, *Futūh*, pp. 43of; Dīnawarī, *Akkbār*, p. 398); Barzand b. al-Marzubān, a *mawlā* of Mu'tasim who fought under the Afshin (Dīnawarī, *Akkbār*, p. 398); 'Amr al-Farghānī who commanded the *abnā' al-mulūk* at Amorium in 223 (Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 1246); Muḥammad b. Khālid Bukhārkhudā who fought under the Afshin against Bābāk (*ibid.*, p. 1203; Dīnawarī, *Akkbār*, p. 398); the Qārinwandids of Tabaristān who had converted under Ma'mūn and who are found in 'Abbāsid service long afterwards (Balādhuri, *Futūh*, p. 134; Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, pp. 605, 607; Ṭabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1276, 1288, 1534, 1622, 1663f; the Bundār b. Mūsā al-Ṭabarī, *mawlā amīr al-mu'minīn* who appears on p. 1573 and elsewhere, was perhaps also one of them); cf. also Shaban, *Islamic History*, vol. ii, p. 64 (the presence of these and other *abnā' al-mulūk*

- rightly impressed Shaban, but his attempt to wish away all slaves from the 'Abbāsid armies and the Muslim world in general is somewhat farfetched).<sup>617</sup>
- <sup>617</sup> Cf. the account of his trial (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1309ff).
- <sup>618</sup> O. S. A. Ismail, 'Mu'tasim and the Turks', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 1966, p. 17.
- <sup>619</sup> Whenever soldiers are described as *mawālī* one may take it that they have been manumitted, and there are also stories assuming that this was normal procedure (see for example Z. M. Hassan, *Les Tulunides*, Paris 1933, p. 27). Of the Aghlabid slaves we are explicitly told that they were manumitted (Balādhūrī, *Futūh*, p. 234). There is no example of unconverted slaves in the 'Abbāsid armies.
- <sup>620</sup> Already Dionysius of Tell-Mahrē, as preserved in Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, pp. 536ff = vol. iii, pp. 98ff, speaks of Mu'tasim's black and Turkish slaves ('abdē) at Amorium without ever calling them *mawlāyē*.
- <sup>621</sup> Muslim names appear only in the second generation (Ahmad b. Tulūn, Mūsā b. Bughā etc.); similarly in Mamlūk Egypt (D. Ayalon, 'Names, Titles and "Nisbas" of the Mamlūks', *Israel Oriental Studies* 1975, pp. 193ff).
- <sup>622</sup> Even in the 'Abbāsid armies manumission was no condition for service, for we are explicitly told that some of the *Maghāribā* were slaves at the time of Mutawakkil's accession, and *ghilmān* are frequently mentioned (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 1370, 1385, 2185, 2204 etc). Sāmānid and Ghaznavid soldiers are consistently known as *ghilmān*, and that in fact they were unfree is clear from the story of the general who wished to be manumitted before his death (C. E. Bosworth, 'Ghaznevid Military Organization', *Der Islam* 1960, p. 42). All Janissaries were the sultan's slaves and the free men who eventually usurped their position *ipso facto* acquired the same status (R. C. Repp, 'A Further Note on the *Devshirme*', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 1968; H. A. R. Gibb and H. Bowen, *Islamic Society and the West*, Oxford 1950–7, part one, p. 45). It was only in Mamlūk Egypt, where there was no sultan above the *mamlūks* to own them, that the slaves were systematically freed before being allowed to fight (D. Ayalon, *L'Esclavage du mamelouk* (Oriental Notes and Studies published by the Israel Oriental Society, no. 1), Jerusalem 1951, pp. 17ff).
- <sup>623</sup> But even conversion was sometimes omitted. The Franks, Slavs and Galicians who made up the guard of Ḥakam I in Spain doubtless remained Christians, for they were commanded by the (free) Christian *comes* Rabī b. Teodulfo, who appropriately also collected the uncanonical taxes (Lévi-Provençal, *Espagne musulmane*, vol. iii, p. 73). Ibn Abī 'Āmir also used Christian soldiers (R. Dozy, *Histoire des musulmans d'Espagne*<sup>2</sup>, Leiden 1932, vol. ii, p. 232), and even the zealous Almoravids ended up by importing Christian troops complete with churches and chaplains to Morocco (H. Terasse, *Histoire du Maroc*, Casablanca 1949f, vol. i, p. 248). Further east the Zirids also made use of Christian slaves (H. R. Idris, *La Berbérie orientale sous les Zirides*, Xe–XIIe siècle, Paris 1962, p. 530). And most of the Indians in the service of Mahmūd of Ghazna were pagans (thus the *Tārikh-i Sīstān*, p. 355; they may

have been mercenaries, but they are more likely to have been slaves, cf. Bosworth, 'Ghaznevid Military Organization').

<sup>624</sup> Patton, *Aḥmed ibn Ḥanbal and the Mihna*, p. 91. The two things were the *shahāda* and the caliph's kinship with the Prophet, so that for Bughā Islam was largely *Shinto*.

<sup>625</sup> Cf. Ya'qūbī, *Buldān*, pp. 258f = 49f. The immediate cause of Mu'tasim's withdrawal to Samarra may well of course have been the hostility of the Baghdadī populace in general and the Abnā' in particular to the new soldiers (cf. O. S. A. Ismail, 'The Founding of a New Capital: Sāmarrā', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 1968, pp. 3ff).

<sup>626</sup> Female emancipation consists in giving women a public status as men.

<sup>627</sup> As was said of al-Malik al-Sāliḥ (D. Ayalon, 'Aspects of the Mamlūk Phenomenon (Part II)', *Der Islam* 1977, p. 26). The comparison of the relationship between slave and master to that between father and son is, of course, quite common (see for example G. Forand, 'The Relationship of the Slave and the Client to the Master or Patron in Medieval Islam', *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 1971, pp. 61f).

<sup>628</sup> Thus Ibn Tūlūn and Mahmūd of Ghazna were great zealots on behalf of the caliph. The acquisition of sovereignty of course had a similar effect: the Mamluks of Egypt, for all that they were first-generation slaves, could not afford to be as ignorant of Islam as Bughā. But zealotism was largely restricted to their sons.

<sup>629</sup> The tenuous position of the *awlād al-nās* between their Turkish fathers and the Egyptian society they had to join has been well described by U. Haarmann, 'Mamluks and *awlād al-nās* in the Intellectual Life of 14th Century Egypt', unpublished paper read at the Colloquium on the Islamic World after the Mongol Conquest, Oxford 1977.

<sup>630</sup> The Bektašī affiliation of the Ottoman Janissaries was a subculture better designed to seal them off against Muslim society at large than to draw them into it. It can be seen as a substitute for the considerable tribal and ethnic homogeneity which the Egyptian Mamluks enjoyed.

<sup>631</sup> Ibn Tūlūn imported his from Baghdad (Hassan, *Les Tulunides*, pp. 249ff); Mahmūd of Ghazna got both his genealogy and his culture from Iran (C. E. Bosworth, 'The Development of Persian Culture under the Early Ghaznavids', *Iran* 1968); the Mamluks continued the political and cultural traditions of the Ayyūbids until the late thirteenth century A.D. when they established their identity as Turks, first on Mongol and next on Ottoman models (R. Irwin, 'Real and Fictitious Authority under the Early Mamluk Sultans', unpublished paper read at the Colloquium on the Islamic World after the Mongol Conquest, Oxford 1977; D. Ayalon, 'The Great Yāsa of Chingiz Khān. A Re-examination (C<sup>1-2</sup>)', *Studia Islamica* 1972, pp. 130ff; 1973, pp. 134f; J. M. Rogers, 'Evidence for Mamlūk-Mongol Relations 1260-1360', *Colloque International sur l'Histoire du Caire*, Gräfenhainischen n.d.; U. Haarmann, 'Altūn Hān und Čingiz Hān bei den ägyptischen Mamluken', *Der Islam* 1974; *id.*, 'Mamluks and *awlād al-nās*'.

- <sup>632</sup> It was because the Janissaries were just soldiers that they could not assimilate European warfare when it ceased to be a mere craft (cf. V. J. Parry, 'La Manière de combattre' in V. J. Parry and M. E. Yapp (eds.), *War, Technology and Society in the Middle East*, London 1975, pp. 255f).
- <sup>633</sup> Whence the Muslim stereotype of the Turk as stupid and good for nothing except warfare (Haarmann, 'Mamluks and *awlād al-nās*').
- <sup>634</sup> Though not necessarily a more cherished one. 'Whom do I meet when I look around? Apes riding on saddles', as Ibn Landak put it (Goldziher, *Muslim Studies*, vol. i, p. 152).
- <sup>635</sup> Though they certainly came very close to doing so at times, particularly in Mamluk Egypt, where ideally they were tolerated only for such tasks as handling the disreputable firearms (D. Ayalon, *Gunpowder and Firearms in the Mamluk Kingdom*, London 1956, pp. 63ff).
- <sup>636</sup> They were still employed by the Qu'aytī sultans in the 1940s (D. Ingrams, *A Survey of Social and Economic Conditions in the Aden Protectorate*, Eritrea 1949, p. 52).
- <sup>637</sup> The popularity of *mamlūks* in the Middle East thus does not rest on any intrinsic superiority of the institution (*pace* D. Ayalon, 'Aspects of the Mamlük Phenomenon (Part I)', *Der Islam* 1976, p. 206).
- <sup>638</sup> It is thus difficult to explain the spread of the institution with reference to the superior qualities of the Turks, for all that Turks were clearly preferred (*pace* Ayalon, 'Aspects of the Mamlük Phenomenon (Part I)', p. 206).
- <sup>639</sup> When potential slave soldiers were available in the form of Saxons and Slavs, they failed to be used: the Slavs became *mamlūks* only among the Muslims. Conversely, when the Europeans went out of their way to get slaves, the purpose was economic, and despite the intense unpopularity of military service among the colonial aristocracy in Latin America, nobody thought of enrolling the slaves. Slaves did participate (on both sides) in the Portuguese wars against the Dutch and the French in Brazil, and in the American war of independence, but their enrolment turned on the outbreak of an emergency and was usually preceded or followed by manumission (C. R. Boxer, *The Dutch in Brazil*, Oxford 1957, p. 140; *id.*, *The Golden Age of Brazil*, Berkeley and Los Angeles 1969, pp. 89, 96, 101f; J. H. Franklin, *From Slavery to Freedom*, New York 1964, pp. 130ff). In precisely the same way slaves had been manumitted and enrolled in times of extreme crisis in antiquity (K.-W. Welwei, *Unfreie im antiken Kriegsdienst, erster Teil: Athen und Sparta*, Wiesbaden 1974; Y. Garlan, *War in the Ancient World*, London 1975, pp. 78ff; I owe my knowledge of Garlan's study to Dr Th. Wiedemann). There is also at least one example from the period of the Umayyads (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 1543).
- <sup>640</sup> Thus Benedikt Churipechitz, a sixteenth-century Austrian official (J. W. Bonnstedt, 'The Infidel Scourge of God', *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society* 1968, pp. 38f). But note that for Churipechitz imitation of the Ottomans reduces to elimination of the aristocracy: it is the fact that neither the *sipahis* nor the Janissaries are privileged aristocrats that impresses

him, not that the Janissaries are slaves. And Ivan Peresvetov, his contemporary, took slaves to mean serfs, so that for him the creation of an Ottoman-style army meant the emancipation of the Russian peasantry! (W. Phillip, *Ivan Peresvetov und seine Schriften zur Erneuerung der Moskauer Reiche*, Berlin 1935, pp. 17ff). The centralized state which both dreamed about eventually emerged without recourse to servile ties.

<sup>641</sup> The German *ministeriales*, the Teutonic Knights and the French Foreign Legion are comparable to the *mamlük* institution in terms of recruitment or organization, though they were responses to quite different problems (cf. above, note 567; M. A. Cook in *id.* (ed.), *A History of the Ottoman Empire to 1730*, Cambridge 1976, p. 7n). The Russian *Oprichnina* was a response to a similar problem, but lacked the slaves (Cook, *History of the Ottoman Empire*, p. 8).

<sup>642</sup> Thus also Ayalon, 'Aspects of the Mamlük Phenomenon (Part I)', p. 196.

<sup>643</sup> The kings of Muslim Java, unlike those of Muslim Persia, had aristocracies instead of slaves.

<sup>644</sup> Thus the employment of female *mamlüks* in Mauryan India in the form of Greek women purchased for armed service in the palace guard (V. Smith, *The Early History of India*, Oxford 1914, p. 123) is clearly related to the alien character of imperial state structures in pre-Ásókan India: the Mauryan empire (*ca* 320–183 B.C.) was a state more Achaemenid than Indian in inspiration; it was founded by a man who lived in constant fear of assassination and maintained by an elaborate security system; and the political tradition represented by the *Arthaśāstra* is marked by a striking divorce of state-craft from religion and morality. A ruler of the Hunnish invaders of China in the fourth century A.D. similarly created a palace guard of 10 000 women, all expert archers who fought on foot and on horseback; the background was no doubt uncertainty as to ethnic allegiance, these Huns being neither barbarians nor Chinese (Macgovern, *Early Empires of Central Asia*, p. 341; cf. the subsequent massacre of the Hunnish subjects on p. 350). The kings of Dahomey likewise had a formidable army of Amazons who guarded the palace and constituted the crack troops (J. Argyle, *The Fon of Dahomey*, Oxford 1966, pp. 63ff); and here too the problem was one of ethnicity, the Dahomeyans having none (that surely is why the Dahomeyan state almost swallowed Dahomeyan society). The use of slaves for military purposes is widely attested in West Africa (cf. J. F. A. Ajayi and M. Crowder (eds.), *History of West Africa*, vol. i, London 1971, pp. 146f, 216, 280f, 396, 399, 456ff); it is invariably associated with the slave trade, and though Islam was present in the area, it clearly was not an Islamic institution: slaves here replace private ties in the tribal synthesis of state structures. In at least one case, however, it is directly comparable with the Islamic institution. In Senegal the Wolof kings preyed upon their own subjects for purposes of slave trade with the Europeans; when citizens have to pay protection money to avert enslavement at the hands of their own kings, the destruction of political meaning can hardly be more total; and here the kings relied almost exclusively

- on their own slaves (D. B. Cruise O'Brien, *Saints and Politicians*, Oxford 1975, pp. 25f).
- <sup>64</sup> There is in other words no need to look for the root in pre-Islamic Arabia. That slaves participated in warfare then just as they did in recent times need not, of course, be doubted: we are explicitly told that the bedouin who martyred the monks of St Saba in A.D. 797 were accompanied by armed Ethiopians (*Acta Sanctorum*, ed. J. Bollandus et al., Paris 1863–, vol. iii, p. 172 (20 March); cf. Musil, *Rwala*, p. 227). But after the conquests attitudes predictably changed (cf. above, note 272). Arming slaves was now something which individuals might do, usually for illicit purposes, but not an activity in which the state engaged until the early 'Abbāsid period, and it is not for nothing that the 'Abbāsids at first systematically freed their slaves. But the *jābiliyya* does of course do something to explain why the Muslims should have opted for slaves rather than Amazons, for if the settled Muslims found the idea of armed slaves a repugnant one, that of armed women would certainly have been even more alien to them. (With the Dahomeyans it was apparently the other way round; there was no lack of slaves and yet it was for female armies that they opted.).
- <sup>64</sup> For a semi-popular account see M. Grant, *Gladiators*, London 1967, pp. 25f, 93. Compare Ibn Umm al-Hakam who distributed arms among the freedmen of the Umayyads on the eve of the battle of Marj Rāhit, Miswar b. Makhrama who armed his own freedmen on behalf of Ibn al-Zubayr, and the Basran who hired out his slaves as soldiers in the same civil war (Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. iv b., pp. 48, 54, vol. v, p. 138; Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 800). Private individuals maintaining bodyguards and armed gangs of slaves on a permanent basis were another risk that all slave-owning societies ran (cf. J. Vogt, *Sklaverei und Humanität, Studien zur antiken Sklaverei und ihrer Erforschung* (Historia, Einzelschriften, vol. viii), Wiesbaden 1965, p. 28; L. B. Rout, Jr, *The African Experience in Spanish America*, Cambridge 1976, p. 78; above, note 395).
- <sup>64</sup> There is no need to belittle the role of foreign slaves and freedmen in Mukhtār's revolt, as does Shaban (*Islamic History*, vol. i, p. 95). For one thing, his involvement with the prisoners-of-war of Kufa is superbly attested not only in the Islamic tradition, but also in a contemporary Syriac source (Bar Penkaya in Mingana, *Sources syriaques*, pp. \*156ff = \*183ff). For another, he was hardly the only person in the civil war to get the idea of using other people's slaves: as Mukhtār took Kufa with the help of Kufan prisoners-of-war, so Ibn Abī'l-Nims is said to have taken Damascus with those of the Damascenes (Tabarī, ser. ii, p. 477; the parallel version in Balādhuri, *Ansāb*, vol. v, p. 136, however, omits the slaves, and the late version in Maṣ'ūdī, *Kitāb murūj al-dhabab*, ed. and tr. A. C. Barbier de Meynard and A. J.-B. Pavet de Courteille, Paris 1861–77, vol. v, p. 224 omits Ibn Abī'l-Nims). Promising freedom to slaves who would join one's cause – *man jā'anā min 'abd fa-huwa hurr* – was an obvious way to undermine the position of one's opponent, and like everything else it is said to have been used by the Prophet himself (Ibn Sa'd, *Tabaqāt*, vol. ii,

p. 160); it is attested for the 'Abbāsids (above, note 428) and for the 'Alid rebel at Fakhkh (Tabarī, ser. iii, p. 556); and the technique was eventually put to startling use when 'Ali b. Muḥammad raised the Zanj (A. Popovic, *La Revolte des esclaves en Iraq au IIIe/LXe siècle*, Paris 1976). It was also used in the Americas. On the outbreak of the American war of independence in 1775 Lord Dunmore, the British governor of Virginia, promised freedom to all slaves who would join His Majesty's troops (Franklin, *From Slavery to Freedom*, p. 132); and in 1793 Sonthonax, the French commissioner in Haiti, similarly promised freedom to those who would take up the cause of the République (T. O. Ott, *The Haitian Revolution*, Knoxville 1973, p. 71; Sonthonax was an 'Alī b. Muḥammad manqué: the slaves had begun their revolt before he arrived and had no need of him in the long run).

## II THE EMERGENCE OF THE MEDIEVAL POLITY

<sup>648</sup> Cf. the caliphate of Nāṣir (A.D. 1180–1225).

<sup>649</sup> Merovingian *fainéance* meant Carolingian consolidation, just as 'Abbāsid *fainéance* was in due course to mean Seljuq unification.

<sup>650</sup> Not all the Samarran soldiers were Turks, but neither the Iranians nor the *Maghbārība* were able seriously to rival the Turks, cf. the envious observation of the *Maghbārība* that the Turks made and unmade caliphs and viziers every day (Tabarī, ser. iii, pp. 168ff).

<sup>651</sup> The systematic exclusion of sons of *mamlūks* from the army is likely to have been a Mamluk innovation, but the strong tendency to heredity in the Ayyūbid armies clearly turns on the fact that slaves did not predominate in them (cf. R. S. Humphreys, 'The Emergence of the Mamluk Army', *Studia Islamica* 1977, p. 92).

<sup>652</sup> The importance of ethnic diversity is stressed in the 'mirrors for princes' (Bosworth, 'Ghaznevid Military Organization', p. 51).

<sup>653</sup> It is, however, likely that the Aghlabids committed the same beginners' mistakes as the 'Abbāsids without suffering the same fate (cf. Talbi, *Emirat Aglabide*, pp. 136, 150n; *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'al-'Abbāsiyya').

<sup>654</sup> V. J. Parry in Cook, *History of the Ottoman Empire*, pp. 133ff.

<sup>655</sup> The restoration began with Muwaffaq's assumption of the command against the Zanj who were threatening to conquer the metropolis itself. It was in other words warfare against rebellious slaves which enabled the caliphs to regain control of their mutinous slaves.

<sup>656</sup> L. Massignon, 'Recherches sur les shi'ites extrémistes à Bagdad à la fin du troisième siècle de l'hégire' in his *Opera Minora*, vol. i, Beirut 1963.

<sup>657</sup> Sourdel, *Vizirat*, pp. 365ff. Ibn al-Mu'tazz, the adult candidate for the throne, might not have made a very forceful ruler (cf. *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v.), but then power might have revealed unexpected talents in this poet, as it did in Julian the Apostate.

<sup>658</sup> Compare H. A. R. Gibb, 'Government and Islam under the Early 'Abbāsids,

- the Political Collapse of Islam' in C. Cahen *et al.*, *L'Élaboration de l'Islam, Colloque de Strasbourg*, Paris 1961, pp. 122f.
- <sup>659</sup> In this respect Iraq is on a par with Egypt. The Tūlūnid, Ikhshīdid, Fātimid and Mamluk regimes were all created, restored and toppled by armies coming from outside, whereas Syro-Mesopotamia could produce its own Ḥamdānids and Ayyūbids.
- <sup>660</sup> H. Bowen, *The Life and Times of Alī ibn ‘Īsā*, Cambridge 1928; M. Canard, *Histoire de la dynastie des Ḥamdānides de Jazīra et de Syrie*, vol. i, Algiers 1951, pp. 358ff., 386ff., 409ff.
- <sup>661</sup> When Muttaqī offered him the position of Tūzūn, the chief emir in Baghdad, he offered Muttaqī a caliphate in Fustāt (Canard, *Histoire*, p. 500). For the brief emirate of the Ḥamdānid Nāṣir al-Dawla see *ibid.*, pp. 427ff.
- <sup>662</sup> Note also that the only evidence that Yūsuf b. Abī'l-Sāj had designs on Iraq comes from his alleged confession to being an adherent of the Fātimids (M. Canard, 'L'Impérialisme des Fatimides et leur propagande', *Annales de l'Institut d'Études Orientales de l'Université d'Alger* 1942–7, p. 177).
- <sup>663</sup> As for example the Tūlūnids, Ikhshīdids, Ḥamdānids or Sājids.
- <sup>664</sup> Such as the Khārijites, Saffārids, Carmathians and Fātimids.
- <sup>665</sup> R. McC. Adams, *Land Bebind Baghdad*, Chicago and London 1965, ch. 8. Adams' analysis leaves no doubt as to the crucial role of the 'Abbāsid failure to create an imperial state in the agricultural decline of Iraq. It is scarcely surprising that the Arab conquest society had a detrimental effect on agricultural production here and, presumably, elsewhere: it was in the last resort the peasantry which had to pay for the squandering of resources by Sufyānid kinsmen and Marwānid factions. But the 'Abbāsids could have been expected to reverse this trend, partly by creating a more stable administration, and more particularly by favouring the growth of a landed aristocracy which would have been both interested in long-term investment and capable of protecting its local possessions against such outbreaks of chaos as might still occur at the centre. It was the combination of extreme instability on the part of the state and total political and economic vulnerability on the part of the countryside which made for such steep and irreversible decline. The same of course applies to the provinces: insofar as they did at all better, it was thanks to less fragile economies and/or less exposed location.
- <sup>666</sup> There were of course a few exceptions. A scatter of local rulers still survived in northern Iran, and the local populace could still band together in the isolated province of Sīstān, first against the Khārijites and next against the governor (Madelung, 'The Minor Dynasties of Northern Iran'; Bosworth, *Sīstān under the Arabs*, ch. 5). But the Islamic heartlands were as devoid of local power structures as the medieval west was full of them.
- <sup>667</sup> Uthmān b. Thumāma who took control of Qinnasrin, Antioch and Apamea was the descendant of a highly distinguished local *sharīf* (Appendix I, no. 15), as were the members of the Bayhas family who emerged as the rulers of Damascus (Appendix III, no. 111). Similarly, no doubt, the Banū'l-Simṭ who took over Hims (Appendix I, no. 10). 'Abbās b. Zufar, the ruler of Qūrus,

was the descendant of a local Marwānid general (Appendix IV, no. 54); and the same is likely to be true of Ḥabib b. al-Jahm, who entrenched himself in Kafartūthā and Ra's ‘Ayn. (Ya'qūbī, *Historiae*, vol. ii, p. 541; Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, p. 494 = vol. iii, p. 27; cf. Ṭabarī, ser. iii, p. 865). Note the friendliness of both 'Uthmān and Naṣr b. Shabath, another local warlord, towards the Christians (Michael the Syrian, *Chronique*, vol. iv, pp. 507, 513 = vol. iii, pp. 49, 60f). In Egypt the descendants of Mu'āwiya b. Hudayj al-Sakūnī, a famous conqueror and *sharīf*, likewise survived into the reign of Ma'mūn, largely as heads of the local *shurṭa*, though they also counted a governor (Kindī, *Governors*, pp. 98, 101, 102, 116–18, 121, 139, 148f), but here the bid for succession typically came from 'Ubaydallāh b. al-Sari, an imported soldier whose father had arrived in Egypt under Hārūn (*ibid.*, pp. 148, 173ff).

<sup>668</sup> Cf. B. Lewis, *The Emergence of Modern Turkey*<sup>2</sup>, London, Oxford and New York 1968, p. 447.

<sup>669</sup> The parallel with the *mulūk al-tawā'if* who ruled between Alexander and Ardashīr is explicitly drawn by Mas'ūdī in one of his moving complaints of Islamic decline (*Murūj*, vol. ii, p. 73).

<sup>670</sup> A. A. Vasiliev, *History of the Byzantine Empire*, Madison and Milwaukee 1964, vol. i, pp. 307ff.

<sup>671</sup> Birūnī, *Chronologie orientalischer Völker*, ed. C. E. Sachau, Leipzig 1923, p. 213 = *id.*, *The Chronology of Ancient Nations*, tr. C. E. Sachau, London 1879, pp. 196f; cf. Madelung, 'The Assumption of the Title Shāhānhāh', p. 87. Birūnī's account leaves no doubt that such predictions, at least as far as political restoration was concerned, were the order of the day. Note also that the Zoroastrians took the Büyid claim to the title 'King of Kings' seriously. A passage in the *Dēnkart* implores a ruler addressed in the Sāsānid style as divine majesty and King of Kings to take upon himself the traditional royal task of protecting the Zoroastrian religion from heretics and all others who do not acknowledge the Avesta, the Muslims excepted: the writer clearly envisaged the ruler in question as a sort of 'Emperor of the Two Religions' in the style of Alfonso VI (J. C. Tavadia, *Die Mittelpersische Sprache und Literatur der Zarathustrier*, Leipzig 1956, p. 62).

<sup>672</sup> Cf. W. Madelung 'Das Imamat in der frühen ismailitischen Lehre', *Der Islam* 1961, esp. pp. 49f.

<sup>673</sup> The negative component in the make-up of the notable is not usually stressed; there seems to be a general feeling that since the notables did enjoy local power, the fact that this power was not formally acknowledged is of no importance. But formal and informal power engender very different kinds of behaviour, as any academic should know, and if we simply put the local notables in the category of local aristocracies, gentries and patriciates on the ground that power is power wherever it occurs, we can hardly expect to bring out what was so peculiar about the organization of power in Islam: the comparison is certainly worth making, but it is the contrasts that are particularly illuminating.

<sup>674</sup> For descendants of *asbrāf* who became *muhabbaddithūn*, *nussāb* and *rāwīs* see

- Appendix I, nos. 9, 12, 20, 22, 27f, 30, 32f; for the Muhallabids who survived as notables at Bayhaq see Appendix III, no. 23; for another family of governors and generals from whom a notable family in Nishāpūr claimed descent see *ibid.*, no. 74.
- <sup>675</sup> Cf. I. M. Lapidus, 'Muslim Cities and Islamic Societies' in *id.* (ed.), *Middle Eastern Cities*, Berkeley and Los Angeles 1969, pp. 52f.
- <sup>676</sup> The extreme care which the Hasanid in Nishāpūr took to weep over 'Uthmān and 'Ā'isha is typical (R. W. Bulliet, *The Patricians of Nishapur*, Cambridge Mass. 1972, p. 234).
- <sup>677</sup> Abū Dulaf, the lord of Karaj who became a virtually independent ruler of Hamadhān and its surroundings in the 830s A.D., was a Shī'ite, but 'Abd al-'Azīz b. Abī Dulaf (d. 873f) ostentatiously called two of his sons Abū Bakr and 'Umar; and sure enough, Ḥasanids turn out to have arrived, bringing a fortune with which they acquired land and financed the erection of various buildings in the city; later some of them went on to Isfahān (B. Fragner, *Geschichte der Stadt Hamadān und ihrer Umgebung in den ersten sechs Jahrhunderten nach der Hīgra*, Vienna 1972, pp. 40f, 52f, 55f).
- <sup>678</sup> R. Mottahedeh, 'Administration in Büyid Qazwin' in D. S. Richards (ed.), *Islamic Civilization 950-1150*, Oxford 1973, p. 34; the 'Ijlīs at whose expense the *sayyids* rose here were members of the same Dulafid family as in Hamadhān; in both cities the *sayyids* were favoured by the Büyids, especially the Ṣāhib b. 'Abbād, and in both they had acquired immense prestige and wealth by Seljuq times.
- <sup>679</sup> Bulliet, *Patricians of Nishapur*, p. 234.
- <sup>680</sup> J. Aubin, 'L'Aristocratie urbaine dans l'Iran seldjukide : l'exemple de Sabzavār' in P. Gallais and Y. J. Rion (eds.), *Mélanges offerts à René Crozet*, Poitiers 1966, vol. i, p. 326 (I owe my knowledge of this article to Mr P. Awdi).
- <sup>681</sup> They are more common in Iran than in Arab countries, clearly because whoever is an Arab in Iran might as well be the very best sort of Arab.
- <sup>682</sup> Cf. Mottahedeh, 'Administration in Büyid Qazwin'; Bulliet, *Patricians of Nishapur*; similar quarrels broke out in Bukhārā after the fall of the Sāmānids (R. N. Frye, *Bukhara, the Medieval Achievement*, Norman 1965, p. 130). For the strong hereditary tendency in the office of *qādī* in Seljuq times and the role of the office-holder in the local administration and defence, cf. A. K. S. Lambton, 'Quis custodiet custodes? Some Reflections on the Persian Theory of Government', *Studia Islamica* 1956, pp. 133f, where Nizām al-Mulk explains that the mantle of the caliphs has devolved onto the *qādīs*.
- <sup>683</sup> Cf. Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, ch. 5.
- <sup>684</sup> A point repeatedly made by Lambton for Persia and likely to be true elsewhere (see for example A. K. S. Lambton, 'The Internal Structure of the Saljuq Empire' in J. A. Boyle (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Iran*, vol. v, Cambridge 1968, p. 203).
- <sup>685</sup> Cf. Crone and Cook, *Hagarism*, p. 227, note 46. For the stock image of the astrologers and the Christian physicians with whom the bad man surrounds himself, see A. K. S. Lambton, 'Islamic Mirrors for Princes', *Atti del convegno*

*internazionale sul tema: la Persia nel medioevo*, Rome 1971, p. 432. Compare also the combination of Jewish origin, medical training and secretarial career in Rashid al-Din (D. O. Morgan, 'Cassiodorus and Rashid al-Din on Barbarian Rule in Italy and Persia', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 1977, p. 304).

<sup>686</sup> Thus the Mīkālīs of tenth-century Nīshāpūr (who served at the court of the ruler and held the *riyāsa* of Nīshāpūr before it fell to the notables) did not intermarry with the notables and traced their genealogy to the Sāsānids (Bulliet, *Patricians of Nishapur*, p. 67; Bulliet's claim that they did not pursue religious sciences is not, however, correct, cf. C. E. Bosworth, *The Ghaznavids*, Edinburgh 1963, pp. 179ff.).

<sup>687</sup> Pace C. Cahen, 'L'Évolution de l'iqta' du IXe au XIIIe siècle', *Annales. Économies, Sociétés, Civilisations* 1953, p. 36.

<sup>688</sup> Cf. A. H. Hourani, 'Ottoman Reform and the Politics of Notables' in W. R. Polk and R. L. Chambers (eds.), *Beginnings of Modernization in the Middle East*, Chicago 1968, p. 45.

<sup>689</sup> One can certainly see them as 'politicians without a polity' from the point of view of the city (Bulliet, *Patricians of Nishapur*, p. 61), provided one remembers that they were non-politicians in the polity to which they actually belonged (in this case the Seljuq state). Unlike the Italian cities, those of the Muslim Middle East had no autonomy, and unlike the Italian patricians, the Muslim notables were ruled by their *condottieri*. Their lack of accredited political status comes out well in Hourani's account of notables' behaviour as between the city, from which they drew their social standing, and the state, whose ear they wished to gain: this anxiety to steer a middle course between appearing as the instruments of authority to the former and as the enemy of authority to the latter is characteristic of men under conditions of indirect rule, not of men possessing power in their own right (Hourani, 'Ottoman Reform and the Politics of Notables', p. 46).

<sup>690</sup> Cook in *id.*, *History of the Ottoman Empire*, pp. 7f.

<sup>691</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 8f.

<sup>692</sup> The respect for 'old families' and 'local rights' which the Büyid government, in particular the Sāhib b. 'Abbād, displayed *vis-à-vis* Qazvīn suggests a real attempt to integrate the notables into the Büyid state; but it does not represent a general Islamic pattern (Mottahedeh, 'Administration in Büyid Qazwin').

<sup>693</sup> Thus the notables of Nīshāpūr certainly went beyond the limit when they destroyed themselves and their city in a suicidal conflict of factions (Bulliet, *Patricians of Nishapur*, pp. 76ff), while those of Tripoli fell short of it when they took over local power, founding a successful dynasty of *qādīs* (*Encyclopaedia of Islam*, s.v. 'B. 'Ammār' (first article)). In general, local politics in Fāṭimid Syria seem to have been much less entropic than they were in Seljuq Iran. Note also the contrast between Ottoman Anatolia, which appears to have been relatively free of factionalism, and Ottoman Syria and Egypt, which were full of it; the fact that the local power structure in Anatolia was an Ottoman creation, whereas those in Syria and Egypt were not, is surely relevant here.

- <sup>694</sup> For this type of statement see Lambton, 'Quis custodiet custodes?'; *id.*, 'Islamic Mirrors for Princes'.
- <sup>695</sup> E. M. Sartain, *Jalāl al-dīn al-Suyūtī*, vol. i, Cambridge 1975, pp. 86ff.
- <sup>696</sup> Cf. his claim to be a *mujtabid* and his hopes of recognition as the *mujaddid* of the century (*ibid.*, pp. 61ff).
- <sup>697</sup> Lambton, 'Islamic Mirrors for Princes', pp. 435, 437. Ibn Jamā'a, the formulator of the most extreme doctrine of quietism, served the Egyptian ruler as happily as did Joseph (K. S. Salibi, 'The Banū Jamā'a: a Dynasty of Shāfi'iite Jurists', *Studia Islamica* 1958; cf. E. I. J. Rosenthal, *Political Thought in Medieval Islam*, Cambridge 1958, pp. 43ff).
- <sup>698</sup> Talbi, *Emirat Aglabide*, p. 417.
- <sup>699</sup> E. Kohlberg, 'The Development of the Imāmi Shi'i Doctrine of *jihād*', *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 1976, p. 66; and cf. pp. 78f on the parallel suspension of *jihād* in the literal sense until the coming of the *mabdī*. In the long run this doctrine proved too uncompromising even for the Shi'ites (*ibid.*, pp. 80ff).
- <sup>700</sup> D. Ayalon, 'The Great Yāsa of Chingiz Khan. A Re-examination (C')', pp. 118f. The 'Abbāsid *mamlūks* by contrast had been felt to be an outrage to Islam: they were '*ulūj* who killed and installed caliphs without regard for either the Muslims or Islamic norms (Tabārī, ser. iii, pp. 1181, 1510).
- <sup>701</sup> Karakhānids, Seljuqs and Mongols.
- <sup>702</sup> For example Mahmūd of Ghazna, the sultans of Delhi and those of Mamluk Egypt.
- <sup>703</sup> Thus the Büyids, Hamdānids, Ayyūbids and the Berber dynasties of Spain.
- <sup>704</sup> See for example B. Watson, *Ssu-Ma Ch'ien, Grand Historian of China*, New York 1958, pp. 5ff; W. Wan Lo, *The Life and Thought of Yeh Shih*, Florida and Hong Kong 1974, pp. 66, 124.
- <sup>705</sup> For Yeh Shih, for example, Heaven had allowed the Jurchen to prosper as a chastisement of the Chinese (Lo, *Yeh Shih*, p. 56).
- <sup>706</sup> 'There is a constant principle operating both in former and present times: the barbarians with their stinking filthiness cannot permanently feel at home in China' (Lo, *Yeh Shih*, p. 59).
- <sup>707</sup> Cf. the hopeful memorandum submitted by a Neo-Confucian on the Mongols in the full style of an Oxford term report: 'the basic character of the Mongol is solid and simple and as yet undifferentiated. He is capable of giving individual attention and effort. If placed in a suitable company of peers and allowed to develop for himself for a few years, he will inevitably become an excellent servant of the state' (J. W. Dardess, *Conquerors and Confucians*, New York and London 1973, p. 34).
- <sup>708</sup> The fifth Jurchen emperor suspected that Sinification lay at the root of the defeat and death of his predecessor, and Qubilai wished to know whether the employment of Chinese scholars had been responsible for the fall of the Jurchen state. But the scholars themselves had no doubt that the Jurchen had fallen because of their failure to achieve complete Sinification; they had adopted the words, but not the principles of the classics which provide guidance for

state and people. And Qubilai received the answer that foreign dynasties which adopted Chinese institutions enjoyed longer rule in China than those that did not (Tao, *The Jurchen in Twelfth-Century China*, pp. 71, 92f).

<sup>709</sup> See for example E. Rosenthal, *Ibn Khalduns Gedanken über den Staat*, Munich and Berlin 1932.

<sup>710</sup> Ayalon, 'The Great Yasa', p. 119.

<sup>711</sup> Cf. *Encyclopaedia of Islam*<sup>2</sup>, s.v. 'Ibn Khaldūn'.

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This index contains only Arabic personal names (and Arabicized ones such as Mähän); it includes all such names regardless of whether the person is of prosopographical or other interest (e.g. 'Ali, Mu'tasim). Numbers in italics refer to the notes.

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