

ātur,¹ Paz. *ādur*, and the Mod. Pers. *آذر* used as the name of the fire demon,² and in the Persian histories given as the name of Abraham's father. Hyde, however, has fallen into error in not noticing that the name *آذر* given to Abraham in the Persian writings³ simply means "son of the fire", and has no reference to his father, but is derived from the Qur'ānic account of his experiences in Sūra, xxi.

B. Fisher in *Bibel und Talmud*, Leipzig, 1881, p. 85 n., suggested that Muḥammad or his informants had misunderstood the epithet *הַאֲזַרְחִי* (he who has sprung from the East) applied to Abraham in the Talmud (Baba Bathra 15a), and taking it to mean "Son of *אֶזְרָח*", gave his father's name as *אָזַר*.

The correct solution, however, would appear to be that given by Fraenkel in *ZDMG*, lvi, p. 72, and accepted by both Horovitz, *KU*, 85, 86, *JPN*, 157, and Sycz, *Eigennamen*, 37. In *WZKM*, iv, 338,

Fraenkel suggested that both *عازر* and *آزر* go back to the Heb. *אֶלְעָזָר*, and in *ZDMG*, lvi, 72, he argues convincingly that the Qur'ānic form is due to a confusion on Muḥammad's part of the details of the Abraham story as it came to him, so that instead of his father *אֶבְרָהָם* he has given the name of Abraham's faithful servant *אֶלְיָעָזָר*. Sycz's theory that it was a mistake between two passages *אֶלְיָעָזָר* and *עֶבְרָהָם* is a little too remote, but the confusion of names can be held as certain. The *אֶל* was probably taken as the article,⁴ and on the question of vowel change

Fraenkel compares the series *فَالْعَ ضَحَىٰ فَالْدَ*. As there is a genuine Arabic name *عِزَار* (Tab, *Annales*, i, 3384; Ibn Sa'd, vi, 214), Horovitz, *KU*, 86, thinks that Muḥammad may have been influenced by this in his formation of the name.

¹ Horn, *Grundriss*, 4; Shikand, *Glossary*, 226; Nyberg, *Glossar*, 25; Herzfeld, *Paikuli*, Glossary, 126 and 148.

² In Phlv, *מַטְרוֹן* *Ātarō* is the Angel of Fire; see West, *Glossary*, p. 7.

³ Vullers, *Lex*, i, 380.

⁴ As often, cf. examples in Geyer, *Zwei Gedichte*, i, 118 n.