The historian Ibn Wasil records that in 600 H. [- 1203-1204]:

"There was a violent earthquake which affected most regions of Egypt and Syria, Gazira [the Arabian peninsula], Bilad al-Rum [Byzantine territories], Sicily, Cyprus, Mosul, and Iraq; and they say it reached Sibtat [Ceuta] on the far side of the Maghreb [in Morocco]".

According to Ibn Munkala:

"Amongst the extraordinary things which happened in Cyprus, there was an earth-quake m the year 597 which was feit from Syria to Mesopotamia, Byzantine territory and Iraq. The sea withdrew from the coast as far as Cyprus, throwing ships on to the island, and ending up on its eastern shores. God only knows how many earthquake victims there were".

The historian Ibn al-Wardi records that in the year 600 H. [= 1203-1204]-

"There was an earthquake which affected Egypt, Syria, Gazira [the Arabian peninsula], Buad al-Rum [Byzantine territories], Sicily, Cyprus and Iraq. And Sur [Tyre] was destroyed".

Abu '1-Fida gives the same date as Ibn al-Athir. He maintains that in the year of the Hegira 597 [=1200-1201]

"There was a violent earthquake in the regions of Gazira [the Arabian peninsula] and Syria and along the coast, and many towns were destroyed".

For the year 600 H. [= 1203-1204], however, he writes that:

"There was a violent earthquake which spread across Egypt, Syria, Gazira, Bilad al-Rum, bicily, Cyprus, Iraq and other regions. And the town walls at Sur [Tyre] were destroyed".

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< 098) 1204 - 1236 Beroia [Greece]

source Chom., Analecta, 48, pp.216-7

historiography Kravari (1989)

literature Ambraseys (1999)

catalogue d. *Papazachos and Papazachou (1997)

On an unspecified day in the first three decades of the 13th Century the town of Beroia (now Veroia) was badly shaken by very strong earthquakes. The church of the Mother of God was destroyed. The earthquake is mentioned in a deed drawn up by Demetrius Chomatianus, archbishop of Ohrid (in present-day Macedonia) in and after 1216. We read in the document:

"Divine wrath caused the town of Beroia to be destroyed and collapse, for very strong earthquakes reduced it to dust as though in a sieve, and the above-mentioned church of the Mother of God was reduced to dust".

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The date of the earthquake can be determined only approximately: the contents of the deed allow us to establish two *termini*: the first is the taking of Constantinople by the Latins (13 April 1204), or eise, perhaps, the fall of Beroia into the hands of Kalojan, Tsar of Bulgaria (between 1205 and 1207); while the second is the year in which Demetrius Chomatianus died (c.1236). The only building to be mentioned is the church dedicated to the Theotokos Eleousa, which belonged to the Pakourianos family at the end of the 12th Century. However, we do not know where it was situated (Kravari 1989, p.65). Papazachos and Papazachou (1997, p.191) date the earthquake to 1211, but the basis for their dating is unclear. Ambraseys date this earthquake to "beginning of 1200".

A 1204-1236

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