Méditerranée orientale, Paris 1994; D. Warriner, Land reform in principle and practice, Oxford 1969; Publications and documents of the relevant states and organisations, as well as those of international and regional institutions, in particular: International Cooperative Alliance (1895-), Geneva; Organisation Arabe pour le Développement Agricole (League of Arab States, 1970-), Khartūm. (J. Couland)

TA'AWWUDH (A.) means the use of the phrase a'ūdhu bi 'llāhi min..."I take refuge with God against ... ", followed by the mention of the thing that the utterer of the phrase fears or abhors. The term isti'ādha "seeking refuge", is often used as a synonym. The phrase, with variants, is well attested in the Kur'ān, in particular in the last two sūras which each consist of one extended ta'awwudh [see AL-MU'AWWIDHATĀN']. The litany-like enumeration of evil things in the first of the two foreshadows similar strains in a number of Prophetic invocations recorded in the Ḥadīth collections (see e.g., several abwāb in the kitāb al-da'awāt of al-Bukhārī's Sahīh, which actually have the terms ta'awwudh or, less frequently, isti'ādha in their titles). With such precedent it is not surprising that ta'awwudh becomes a clearly recognisable subgenre of du'ā' "invocation", in the devotional literature (see C.E. Padwick, Muslim devotions, London 1961, 83-93). Remarkably, ta'awwudh here often forms part of a twopronged prayer in which the praying person asks for the good in the thing that is the object of the prayer and takes refuge against the evil in that very same thing (ibid., 89). If it is God's wrath (ghadab) that the praying person wants to guard against, refuge can only be taken with God's good pleasure (rida), which leads to the mysterious formula "I seek refuge from Thee with Thyself" (ibid., 90-2).

More specifically, ta'awwudh is also used to denote the formula a'ūdhu bi 'llāhi mina 'l-shayṭāni 'l-radjīm which usually precedes any Kur'anic recitation (and thus also the salāt) as a safeguard against misspeaking, omission of words, and other such mistakes. It is the counterpart of the formula sadaka 'llāhu 'l-'azīm which follows any formal recitation. The works on Kur'anic readings [see KIRĀ'ĀT] have extended chapters on the ta'awwudh, dealing with its exact wording, its correct delivery, and its legal status (see e.g. Ibn al-Djazarī, al-Nashr fi 'l-kirā' āt al-'ashr, ed. 'A.M. al-Dabbā', 2 vols.,

Cairo n.d., i, 243-59).

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(W.P. HEINRICHS)

TABAĶA (A., pls. tibāķ or atbāk), a term of Mamlūk military organisation. The tibāk were the barracks in the Cairo Citadel, Kal'at al-Djabal, where the Mamlūk sultans (648-922/1250-1517) had their Royal Mamlūks quartered and which also housed the military academies where newly-bought mamlūks received their training. We first learn of the tibāk during the reign of al-Zāhir Baybars who "established . . . barracks for the mamlūks which overlooked the great al-Dirka gate, and inside the al-Karāfa gate he put up... a large building with small halls for the mam $l\bar{u}ks$ ' quarters, and above them barracks for those who were married" (Ibn Shaddad, 341, 343). According to the sources, there were seventeen tibak during the third reign of al-Nāṣir Muḥammad (709-41/1310-41 [q.v.]), but their number may have varied, as old ones were habitually demolished to make room for new ones and barracks could bear more than one name. The historian al-Zāhirī speaks of twelve barracks in the next century, each of which could house 1,000 mamlūks. Some of the better-known tibāk were Ţabakat al-Rafraf, Țabakat al-Zimām or al-Zimāmiyya, Tabakat al-Hawsh, Tabakat al-Tāziyya, Tabakat al-Mukaddam, Tabakat al-Şandaliyya and Tabakat al-Ashrafiyya.

As their appellation indicates, many of the tibak were named after the eunuchs who had the overall responsibility for their administration. The tibak's staff of teachers and instructors, too, was mainly composed of eunuchs, according to a strict hierarchy: at the bottom were the tawāshiyya, or khuddām al-tibāk, responsible for training small groups of mamlūks only; placed above them were the mukaddamū 'l-tibāk, each of which stood at the head of a tabaka, and at the apex stood the mukaddam al-mamālīk al-sultāniyya, who carried the responsibility for all Royal Mamlüks. Then there were religious scholars (fakīh, pl. fukahā') who were charged with the religious education of the mamlūk trainees. One of the adult mamlūks of each tabaka was appointed as leader (aghā, pl. aghāwāt, lit. "elder brother") of the younger mamlūks (inī, pl. iniyyāt, lit. "younger brother") whose task it was mainly to help them acclimatise to the life and discipline of the tabaka. Ties between guardian and trainee were often kept up long after the period of training at the tibak had come to an end. Upon entering the military academies, mamlūks were divided into peer groups, according to age and ethnic origin, and further split up into smaller groups so as to make their instruction as efficient as possible. Two principal stages characterised a mamlūk's education: the first lasted into adolescence and concentrated on religious studies, e.g., reading the Kur'an, the Islamic prescriptions and the shari'a, so as to make him a Muslim, while the second began at adolescence and was only concluded when the young mamlūk's professional skill in the arts of war was deemed to have reached the highest level of accomplishment. The period of training at the tibak culminated in a special ceremony ('itk) during which mamlūks of one and the same age group (khardi) were released from servitude and became members of the Mamlūk household of the Sultan at the Citadel.

Bibliography: Ibn Shaddad, Ta'rīkh al-Malik al-Zāhir, ed. A. Ḥuṭayṭ, Wiesbaden 1983, 341, 343; Makrīzī, Khitat, Cairo 1987, ii, 213-14; Khalīl al-Zāhirī, Zubda, Paris 1894, 27; D. Ayalon, L'esclavage du Mamelouk, in Oriental Notes and Studies, i, Jerusalem 1951, 9-22, repr. in The Mamlūk military society, Variorum, London 1979, no. I; A. Levanoni, A turning point in Mamlūk history, Leiden 1995, 14-19.

(Amalia Levanoni) TABAĶĀT (A.), pl. of tabaka, "everything which is related to another and which is similar or analogous to it, which comes to mean a layer of things of the same sort (Flügel, Classen, 269, n. 1). From this a transition can be made to the idea of a "rank, attributed to a group of characters who have played a role in history in one capacity or another, classed according to criteria determined by the religious, cultural, scientific or artistic order etc." (Hafsi, i. 229; cf. al-Tahānawī, Kashshāf, 917). In biographical literature it is the "book of classes" of characters arranged by "categories" and organised into "generations".

A. Lexicography and literature.

1. This term does not appear in the Kur'ān, but two other expressions approaching it do: tabak and tibāķ "analagous things which follow each other" (in a temporal or qualitative sense) or "placed on top of each other" (in a spatial sense); "You shall surely ride stage after stage" (LXXXIV, 19, tr. Arberry: tabakan can tabakin from one state to another, or from one calamity to another; see al-Tabarī, Tafsīr); "[God] who created seven tibākan" (the ranks or stages of the heavens, LXVII, 3; LXXI, 15). The common point

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