

a fifth/eleventh-century member of the family, 'Alī b. Ibrāhīm b. Bukhtīshū', was the author of a treatise on the anatomy of the eye and the treatment of diseases of the eye, composed circa 460/1068. The treatise is preserved in a manuscript now in Cairo (Dār al-Kutub, MS Ṭibb Taymūr 100).

The biographies of members of the Bukhtīshū family that appear in the histories of physicians by Ibn Juljul (d. c.384/994), Ibn al-Qifī (d. 646/1248), and Ibn Abī Uṣaybi'a (d. 668/1270) are characterised by a measure of similarity: a number of leitmotifs tend to recur—success in treating ailments that had baffled other physicians, generous rewards from grateful caliphs, immense wealth and prestige, machinations by envious rivals, and loss of favour and subsequent triumphant reinstatement. This suggests that the brilliant history of the family may be, at least in part, something of a “retrospective historiography” forged by the Bukhtīshū's themselves, with a view to enhancing the prestige and medical authority of their lineage (Pormann and Savage-Smith, *Medieval Islamic medicine*, 20–1). Even so, they undoubtedly figured prominently in the development and practice of the art of medicine in the Islamic world for some three hundred years.

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BRUCE INKSETTER

Ibn al-Durayhim

Tāj al-Dīn Abū l-Ḥasan 'Alī b. Muḥammad b. 'Abd al-'Azīz (d. 762/1361), known as **Ibn al-Durayhim** al-Mawṣilī, was a polymath and merchant. He was born in Mosul in Sha'bān 712/December 1312. Orphaned as a child, he was dispossessed of his inheritance by his legal guardians and could only recover a small part of his father's large property when he came of age. Nevertheless, he acquired a good education in the traditional sciences and in mathematics, studying under several scholars in Mosul. Among his teachers were Zayn al-Dīn Ibn Shaykh al-'Uwayna al-Shāfi'ī al-Mawṣilī (d. after 750/1349), with whom he studied grammar, Shāfi'ī law, and mathematics, and Abū Bakr b. 'Alam al-Dīn Sanjar al-Mawṣilī (d. early eighth/fourteenth century), who taught him Qur'ānic sciences. He later studied

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