

Mongols from infiltrating into Syria (see *Baybars tarīhi*, T. tr. Ş. Yalçkaya, Istanbul 1941, 85). Under Kālāwūn, however, he allied himself with Sunkur al-Ashkar, who had rebelled at Damascus taking the title al-Malik al-Kāmil, and entered into contact with ‘Alā’ al-Dīn ‘Atā’ Malik Djuwayni, who was governing Baghdad for the Ilkhānid ruler: in 679/1280 he and Sunkur began a correspondence with Abākā, to whom, through the intermediary of Djuwayni, he sent his son. Abākā presented the son with a *khil’ā* and granted to him part of the revenues of Baghdad (D’Ohsson, *Histoire des Mongoles*, iii, 522). This rapprochement did not, however, last long: ‘Isā visited Cairo in 680/1281, was pardoned by Kālāwūn, and, at the battle of Hims [q.v.], commanded all the Bedouin levies as leader of the vanguard of the right wing of the Mamlūk army (see Abu ‘l-Fidā’, *al-Mukhtaṣar fī aḥbār al-baḥar*, Istanbul 1286, iv, 15; D’Ohsson, iii, 526). ‘Isā died in Rabi’ I 683/May 1284, the *ṣalāt al-ghā’ib* being performed for him in the Great Mosque of Damascus on the 9th of the month/26 May (see Ibn al-Furāt, viii, 13). During his twenty years of rule, ‘Isā, in spite of his approaches to the Ilkhānids, followed a sound policy, ensuring internal peace and order in his territories, and he is praised by the sources as a good and pious man (Ibn al-Furāt, viii, 13; al-Yāfi’i, *Mir’at al-djinn*, Ḥaydarābād 1338, iv, 199).

His son and successor as leader of Āl ‘Isā, Husām al-Dīn Muhannā, the lord of Tadmur, pursued his father’s policy; but in 692/1293, the Mamlūk Sultan Khalil had him arrested at Hims, together with his brothers Muḥammad and Faḍl and his son Mūsā, and brought to Cairo, where they were imprisoned in Kal’at al-Djabal (Abu ‘l-Fidā’, iv, 29; Ibn Khaldūn, v, 438; *Ṣubḥ*, iv, 206). Two years later, however, he was restored as Amīr al-‘Arab. He performed the Pilgrimage, with much pomp, in 697/1298 (Wüstenfeld, *Chron. der Stadt Mecca*, ii, 275). Soon afterwards he fell out with al-Malik al-Nāṣir Muḥammad, and in 712/1312, 716/1316, and especially 720/1320, allied himself with the Ilkhānids (Ibn Khaldūn, v, 439). As a result, the Āl ‘Isā were fiercely persecuted by the *nā’ib* of Damascus and by one party of Bedouins, and his *ikhā’s* were taken away (Abu ‘l-Fidā’, iv, 91-3; al-‘Umari, 79). Nevertheless, when the Mamlūks and the Ilkhānids made peace in 723/1323, Muhannā returned to Syria. During his emirate the clan was divided into two branches, Bayt Muhannā b. ‘Isā and Bayt Faḍl b. ‘Isā (al-‘Umari, 79; *Ṣubḥ*, iv, 205, 208; *Muḥṣid*, 155), and a third branch, named the Āl-Muhannā, came into existence under Muhannā’s grandson Nuḥayr (Muḥammad b. Djabbar b. Muhannā) (for Nuḥayr, see M. C. Sebābeddin Tekindağ, *Barḳūk devrinde Mamlūk Sullānīği*, Istanbul 1961, 59, 65, 72-3, 75, 81-2, 95-6). These families seem to have retained the post of Amīr al-‘Arab until 879/1474.

Bibliography: further to references in the text: Makrīzī, *K. al-Sulūk*, Cairo 1939, i/3, 725-6; Weil, *Chalifen*, iv, 12 f.; Gaudelroy-Demombynes, *La Syrie à l’époque des Mamlouks*, Paris 1923, 186 f.; Zirikī, *al-Aḥlām*, v, 296.

(M. C. SEBĀBEDDİN TEKINDAĞ)

‘ISĀ B. MŪSĀ B. MUḤAMMAD B. ‘ALĪ B. ‘ABD AL-LĀH B. AL-‘ARRĀS. ‘Abbāsīd prince, nephew of the first two caliphs of the dynasty. Governor of al-Kūfa in the reign of al-Saffāh [q.v.], he was then designated as the second heir after Abū Dja‘far, and it was he who, at al-Anbār, administered the oath of allegiance on behalf of al-Manṣūr, who was in Mecca at the time when al-Saffāh died.

‘Isā b. Mūsā kept his post of governor during the reign of al-Manṣūr. He directed military operations against the ‘Alids Muḥammad b. ‘Abd Allāh, and then Ibrāhīm, who were in revolt. In Dhu‘l-Ka‘da 145/February 763 he won the victory of Bākhmrā [q.v.] but was obliged to renounce his rights as heir apparent in favour of al-Mahdi in 147/764-65. Again in Muḥarram 160/October-November 776, al-Mahdi, who had become caliph, put pressure on ‘Isā, so that he would renounce his rights in favour of his own son, Mūsā, the future al-Hādī. ‘Isā b. Mūsā died in 167/783-4 at Kūfa aged 85.

It seems he took an active part in the planning of Baghdad (the reason, according to certain sources, for the name of Nahr ‘Isā [q.v.]), and the chroniclers mention a palace which had belonged to him and which became the property of the descendants of the Caliph al-Ma‘mūn. Moreover, the foundation of the castle of al-Ukhaydir is generally attributed to him. This castle is situated in the steppe not far from al-Kūfa and has, as has recently been remarked, a strategic importance. Its construction seems to have been related to the repression of the ‘Alid movements in the region.

Bibliography: Tabarī, iii, index; Ibn al-Athīr, index; Ya‘kūbī, index; Mas‘ūdī, *Murūdj*, index; *Aghānī*, Tables; Balādhūri, *Ansāb*, Ms. Istanbul Aṣīr Ef. 597, fol. 569; L. Caetani, *Cronografia*, Rome 1923, fasc. i, *passim*; Le Strange, 66 and index; K. A. C. Creswell, *Early Muslim architecture*, ii, Oxford 1940; W. Caskel, *al-Uhaydir*, in *Isl.*, xxxix (1964), 28-37. (D. SOURDEL)

‘ISĀ B. AL-SHAYKH B. AL-SALĪL, ABŪ MŪSĀ AL-DHULĪ AL-SHAYBĀNĪ no doubt belonged to the Rabi‘a (Bakr) tribe of the Banū Shaybān of Djabira (for which see al-Kalkashandī, *Nihāyat al-arab fī ma‘rifat ansāb al-‘Arab*, Baghdad 1332, 259; idem, *Ṣubḥ al-A‘shā*, i, 338; al-Nuwayrī, *Nihāya*, ii, 335-6; Ibn Kutayba, *Kitāb al-ma‘ārif*, Cairo 1300, 32-3, ed. Okasha² 1969, 97; cf. M. Canar, *Hist. de la dynastie des Hamdānides*, 134 ff., 141). We do not know the exact name of his father, who was called al-Shaykh or Shaykh, and elsewhere Ahmad (Ibn Taghribirdī, iii, 46 note, and Defréremer, *Recherches...*) or ‘Abd al-Razzāk (al-Mas‘ūdī, *Murūdj*, viii, 134). ‘Isā’s early history is shrouded in obscurity. He seems to have made his first appearance in 234/848 during the reign of al-Mutawakkil, in the following circumstances. There was a member of a Rabi‘a tribe of Adharbāyḍjān, Muḥammad b. al-Ba‘īth (or Bu‘ayth), whose father and grandfather had set up for themselves a fief in Marand and around the lake of Urmīya, and who, at certain times as the ally of Bābek and at other times as his adversary, had been imprisoned in Sāmarrā; he had taken flight, and had then returned to Marand and fortified himself there. An army was sent against him, under the command of Bughā al-Sharābī. ‘Isā b. al-Shaykh was a member of this force. Bughā used him to negotiate with the besieged, and since these were for the most part of Rabi‘a like himself, ‘Isā secured the surrender of a certain number of the companions and relations of Ibn al-Ba‘īth. The latter escaped, but was captured and taken to Sāmarrā [see MARAND].

It does not appear to be true that ‘Isā was governor of Damascus in 247/861, as is suggested by Zambaur (*Manuel de chronologie*, 28), who confused him with ‘Isā b. Muḥammad al-Nawshari. Under the year 251/865, two items of information relating to ‘Isā b. al-Shaykh are to be found in al-Tabarī. The first states that he fought against a Khāridjī named al-Muwaffak and took him prisoner. According to