

EDITIONS AND TRANSLATIONS

'The Laws of King Röger II (ca. 1140s)', trans G. Loud in K.L. Jansen, J. Drell and F. Andrews (eds), *Medieval Italy*, Philadelphia PA, 2009, 175-86

O. Zecchino (ed.), *Le Assise di Ariano*, Cava dei Tirreni, 1984

'The Assizes of Roger', ed. F. Brandileone in his *Il diritto romano nelle leggi normanne e sveve del regno di Sicilia*, Rome, 1884, 89-138

STUDIES

Metcalf, *The Muslims of medieval Italy*, pp. 150-52

K. Pennington, 'The Normans in Palermo. King Roger II's legislation', *Haskins Society Journal: Studies in Medieval History* 18 (2007) 140-67

Houben, *Roger II of Sicily*, pp. 135-47

O. Zecchino, 'Le assise di Ariano', in M. D'Onofrio (ed.), *I Normanni*.

Popolo d'Europa 1030-1200, Venice, 1994, pp. 182-87

Matthew, *The Norman kingdom of Sicily*, pp. 184-88

Alex Mallett

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Ibn 'Awf

Abū l-Ṭāhir Ismā'īl ibn Makkī ibn Ismā'īl ibn 'Awf al-Zuhrī
l-Kurashī l-Iskandarānī

DATE OF BIRTH 1092
PLACE OF BIRTH Unknown; presumably Alexandria
DATE OF DEATH October-November 1185
PLACE OF DEATH Alexandria

BIOGRAPHY

Ibn 'Awf was an important Mālikī jurist in Ayyubid Egypt whose lineage went back to the Companion of the Prophet, 'Abd al-Raḥmān ibn 'Awf. He was the stepson of the eminent Andalusī scholar Abū Bakr al-Ṭurṭūshī (d. 1126; q.v.), who had settled in Alexandria. He learnt under al-Ṭurṭūshī law and Hadith (al-Suyūṭī, i, p. 453), and studied with him in particular Mālik's *Muwaṭṭa'* and Abū Dāwūd's *Sunan* (Fierro, pp. 77-78). He also transmitted al-Ṭurṭūshī's *Kitāb birr al-wālidayn* (Fierro, p. 55).

Ibn 'Awf was known for his piety and modesty, and he was highly esteemed by Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn (Saladin), who used to correspond with him and consult him on matters of law (see al-Ṣafadī, p. 185). He played an important role in Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn's reinstatement of the *ṣādir*, an additional export tax exacted from Christian merchants, particularly Franks, at the Alexandrian frontier (*thaghr*), and was appointed to oversee the monthly distribution of the funds that were accrued (Ibn Farḥūn, i, pp. 293-94).

In 1138, Ibn 'Awf was appointed to a teaching position at the newly founded *madrassa* in Alexandria by the anti-*dhimmī* Sunnī vizier of the Fatimid caliphate, Riḍwān ibn Walakhshī, who had a close relationship with him. (When Riḍwān tried to depose the Caliph al-Ḥāfiẓ li-Dīn Allāh, it was Ibn 'Awf and two other scholars whom he consulted [see al-Maqrīzī, p. 167].) This was the first *madrassa* to be established in Egypt. The written statement of appointment issued by al-Ḥāfiẓ li-Dīn Allāh and addressed to Ibn 'Awf reveals that the school was initially named *al-madrassa l-Ḥāfiẓiyya* (al-Qalqashandī, x, - x, p. 458), but it subsequently came to be known as *al-madrassa l-'Awfiyya* (Ibn Farḥūn, i, p. 293). He had many disciples, among them the Hadith scholar Abū Ṭāhir al-Silafī (d. 1180). In addition, Ṣalāḥ al-Dīn and his sons are reported to have

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