

10

A HISTORY OF MUSLIM HISTORIOGRAPHY

BY

FRANZ ROSENTHAL

SECOND REVISED EDITION



LEIDEN
E. J. BRILL

1968

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	v
Bibliographical references	xiv
PART ONE	
I—Introductory remarks on history and historiography...	3
1. The objective of a work on Muslim historiography..	3
2. The concept of history, Muslim and modern	8
II—Background and environment	18
1. Historical consciousness in pre-Islamic Arabia	18
2. The historical outlook of Muḥammad	24
3. The position of history in Muslim scholarship and education	30
4. The Muslim historian	54
III—The basic forms of Muslim historiography	66
1. <i>Ḥabar</i> history	66
2. The annalistic form	71
3. Lesser forms of historical periodization	87
a. Dynastic historiography	87
b. The <i>ṭabaqāt</i> division	93
c. The genealogical arrangement	95
IV—The contents of historical works	99
1. Genealogy	99
2. Biography	100
3. Geography and cosmography	106
4. Astrology	110
5. Philosophy	113
6. Political and social science	115
7. The use of documents, inscriptions, and coins	118
V—The mixed forms of historical writing	129
1. The origins	129
2. World histories.....	133
3. Local histories	150
4. Contemporary history and memoirs	172
VI—Artistic forms of historical writing	176
1. The use of rhymed prose (<i>sajʿ</i>)	176
2. The use of verse	179

VII—The historical novel	186
VIII—An evaluation of Muslim historiography	194

PART TWO

IX—Al-Ījī's <i>Tuhfah</i>	201
1. Introduction	201
2. Translation	205
Author's introduction	205
First chapter	206
Second chapter	207
Third chapter	208
Fourth chapter	208
Fifth chapter	213
Sixth chapter	213
Introduction	214
First section	214
Second section	216
Third section	216
Fourth section	226
Fifth section	232
Sixth section	235
Seventh section	239
Eighth section	239
Ninth section	240
Tenth section	242
Eleventh section	242
Twelfth section	242
Seventh chapter	244
Eighth chapter	244
Ninth chapter	244
X—Al-Kāfiyaji's <i>Short Work on Historiography</i>	245
1. Introduction	245
2. Translation	249
First chapter	249
Second chapter	255
Third chapter	261
XI—As-Sahāwī's <i>I'lān</i>	263
1. Introduction	263
2. Translation	269

XI—As-Sahâwî's *I'ân* (cont.)

I.	A linguistic definition of <i>ta'rih</i>	271
II.	A definition of <i>ta'rih</i> as a technical term	273
III.	The object of history	273
IV.	The usefulness of history.....	273
V.	The goal of the occupation with history.....	332
VI.	The legal classification of history	332
VII.	The evidence in favor of history	338
VIII.	The blameworthiness of the critics of history .	338
IX.	The qualifications required of historians	358
X.	The introduction of the Muslim era	378
XI.	The works on history	388
	A. Historical works according to ad-Dahabî's classification	388
	1. Muḥammad	393
	2. Stories of the prophets	403
	3. The men around Muḥammad.....	404
	4. The caliphs	406
	5. The kings of Islam.....	411
	6. Wazîrs	412
	7. Secretaries	414
	8. Amîrs	414
	9. Jurists	414
	10. Qur'ân readers	420
	11. <i>Ḥadîṭ</i> experts	421
	12. <i>Ḥadîṭ</i> scholars.....	421
	13. Historians	422
	14. Grammarians	422
	15. Littérateurs.....	423
	16. Lexicographers	423
	17. Poets	423
	18. Servants of God and Ṣûfis	425
	19. Judges	427
	20. Singers	428
	21. <i>Ašrâf</i>	429
	22. Noble persons	429
	23. Quick-witted persons.....	429
	24. Intelligent persons	429
	25. Physicians	429
	26. Aš'arites	429

XI—As-Sahâwî's *I'ân* (cont.)

27. Innovators	430
28. Ši'ah	431
29. Misers and spongers	432
30. Courageous men	432
31. The one-eyed, weak-sighted, blind, and hunchbacked	432
32. Monks	432
33. Those killed by the Qur'ân	432
34. Lovers	433

B. Historical works according to as-Sahâwî's
classification

1. Muḥammad and the prophets	433
2. The men around Muḥammad	433
3. The <i>ašraf</i>	433
4. The Qurašites and other special families	434
5. Clients	435
6. Reliable and weak transmitters	435
7. Men connected with the science of <i>ḥadīṭ</i>	446
8. <i>Mu'jams</i> and <i>mašyahahs</i>	451
9. Works on men of a particular name	454
10. Macrobiotics and young men	454
11. Works on men of a particular period or dynasty	454
12. Biographies of particular individuals	455
13. Local histories	457
14. Geographical works	486
15. "Straight" historical works	488
a. Histories of events	488
b. Histories of events and dates of death	490
c. Biographical works	499
XII. An alphabetical list of historians	501
d. Works on dates of death	511
e. Miscellaneous works. Travels	515

XIII. The chief representatives of personality
criticism

XII—Ṭāšköprüzâdeh on historiography	530
1. Introduction	530
2. Translation	531

PART THREE

1—Ibn Farigûn, <i>Jawâmi' al-'ulûm</i>	539
2—Fah̄r-ad-dîn ar-Râzî, <i>Ḥadâ'iq al-anwâr</i>	540
3—Ibn al-'Adîm, <i>Buğyat aṭ-ṭalab</i>	541
4—Ibn Sînâ, <i>Šifâ'</i>	542
5—Al-Maqrîzî, <i>al-Ḥabar 'an al-bašar</i>	543
6—Qudâmah, <i>Ḥarâj</i>	543
7—Ibn al-'Adîm, <i>Buğyat aṭ-ṭalab</i>	544
8—Abû Zakariyâ' al-Azdî, <i>History of Mosul</i>	545
9—Al-Ġumrî, <i>Daḥîrah</i>	546
10—Al-Kâfiyaji, <i>al-Muḥtašar fî 'ilm at-ta'riḥ</i>	547
11—Aḍ-Ḍahabî, <i>Mu'jam and Ṭabaqât al-qurrâ'</i>	580
12—Ibn Ḥajar, <i>Inbâ'</i>	582
13—Ibn al-Mulaqqin, <i>'Iqd</i>	584
14—Ibn Abî l-Manšûr, <i>Risâlah</i>	584
15—As-Sahâwî, <i>al-Qawl al-munbî</i>	584
16—As-Sahâwî, <i>al-Jawâhir wa-d-durar</i>	586
17—As-Silafî, <i>Mu'jam</i>	610
Index of proper names	611