

## 2.2.2.1 The Qadariyya

When it came to hadith, Ḥasan al-Baṣrī had not exercised any particular care.<sup>1</sup> A gradual change took place over the following generations; among his pupils we already find some who would become indispensable to the science of tradition later. More than a few of them, possibly even the majority, were Qadarites like he; if this was known, they are mentioned as such in *rijāl* works. Until the third century they did not have to fear criticism in the city greatly. Aḥmad b. Ḥanbal had no choice but to accept the Qadarites among his Basran authorities because, as he said, on closer inspection they made up around a third of the resident *muḥaddithūn*,<sup>2</sup> and Muqaddasī would write around 380/990 that the majority of Basrans were Shī'ites (sic!) and Qadarites.<sup>3</sup> In Kufa it was said that each of them claimed to provide his own guidance.<sup>4</sup> Nowhere else do we find *isnāds* that are Qadarite for generations;<sup>5</sup> and nowhere else do we hear so clearly that Qadarite traditionists were preferred to the "orthodox" colleagues<sup>6</sup> or that people had a great following whose reputation would later not be among the best.<sup>7</sup> Like the Murji'a in Kufa the Qadariyya in Basra was not really a "sect"; the Mu'tazila was the first to cause offence. It is remarkable that neither Ash'arī nor Baghdādī or Shahrastānī used the term as classifying criterion in their heresiographical works.

Outside of Ash'arite heresiographical tradition the term Qadariyya sometimes replaced the Mu'tazila entirely, thus e.g. in Abū Muṭṭ' al-Nasafī. Kulīnī, *Kāfī* I 351, –6 makes clear that both groups were still distinguished in Kufa after 150/767 (concerning the text see vol. I 403, n. 66 above). Regarding the origin of the word *Qadariyya* cf. HT 122ff. In fact, it did not refer to the school or "sect" only but also to the doctrine: cf. *qadariyyatī* "my Qadarite convictions" in TB VII 147, 15.

- 1 Ritter 2f.; 'Abbās 144ff.; Juynboll, *Muslim Tradition* 49ff.
- 2 TB XII 200, 1ff. and TT VIII 114, 11 with reference to Abū Qaṭan 'Amr b. al-Haytham who died 198/814 (see p. 84f. below).
- 3 *Aḥsan al-taqāsīm* 126, 13f. This raises the question of whether he included the Mu'tazilites among the Qadarites.
- 4 Ibn al-Faqīh, *Buldān* 168, 16f.; similar also Kardarī, *Manāqib Abī Ḥanīfa* II 85, 7ff. with reference to Ḥasan al-Baṣrī.
- 5 See p. 84f. below.
- 6 See p. 76 below.
- 7 See p. 80f. below. For general information cf. also HT 62ff.