

# Islamic Thought in the Middle Ages

Studies in Text, Transmission and Translation,  
in Honour of Hans Daiber

Edited by  
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A TREATISE ON METEOROLOGY BY MUHAMMAD IBN  
MUSĀ AL-ṬĀLISHĪ (MS. DAIBER COLLECTION II, 82)\*

Hidemi Takahashi

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Besides the immeasurable debt I personally owe Prof. Daiber as the ever-patient and ever-resourceful supervisor of my doctoral dissertation, as one of those engaged in Islamic and germane studies in Japan, I count myself among those who are indebted to him for the fact that a wondrous collection of some 520 Arabic, Persian and Turkish manuscripts has found its home in Japan at the Institute of Oriental Culture in the University of Tokyo, increasing the number of such manuscripts found on Japanese soil by a significant proportion and providing (mostly) young Japanese scholars with valuable material to work with.<sup>1</sup> It seemed

\* I am indebted to Prof. Modjtaba Sadria, a neighbour, at the time of writing, at Chuo University, for his help in deciphering the Persian quotations which occur in the manuscript discussed here, and to my friend Mr. Jean Fathi-Chelhod (Riyadh) for saving me from a good number of blunders in the edition of the Arabic text.

<sup>1</sup> The manuscripts are described in: H. Daiber, *Catalogue of the Arabic Manuscripts in the Daiber Collection. Institute of Oriental Culture. University of Tokyo* (Tokyo, 1988); and idem, *Catalogue of the Arabic Manuscripts in the Daiber Collection ii. Institute of Oriental Culture. University of Tokyo* (ibid., 1996).—Digital images of all the manuscripts in the collection have recently been made accessible online in the database section of the website of the Institute of Oriental Culture at: [http://ricasdb.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/daiber/db\\_index.html](http://ricasdb.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/daiber/db_index.html). At the time of going to press, the instructions for the use of these pages are available only in Japanese, but Prof. Shigeru Kamada of the Institute of Oriental Culture informs me that preparations are under way for the provision of English instructions. Prof. Kamada has further had the kindness of conveying to me the names of the following publications by Japanese and non-Japanese scholars which are based to a greater or lesser extent on the study of manuscripts in the collection: Yasushi Tonaga, 'Controversies on the Orthodoxy of *Wahdah al-Wijūd* in the Late-Mamlūk Period' (in Japanese), *The World of Islam* (Association for Islamic Studies in Japan) 33/34 (1990), pp. 51–72 (Suyūfi, *Tanbih al-ghabi fī tanzih Ibn al-Arabī*, ms. Daiber [i], 156); Hiroshi Tarui, 'Treatise on Sufi Love: Hūdā's "Seed of Love"—edition, translation and commentary' (in Japanese), *Annals of Japan Association for Middle East Studies* 9 (1994), pp. 273–307 (*Habbat al-mahabba*, ms. Daiber ii, 142, fol. 239v–246v, and Bologna, Marsigli 240a); Shigeru Kamada, 'Manuscripts of the Classics (5): Islamic Studies' (in Japanese), *Reconstruction of the Study of the Classics* 5 (Jan. 2000), front and inside cover (with photograph and Japanese translation of a page out of ms. Daiber [i], 23 [Mawlānāzādah, *Sharḥ Hidāyat al-ḥikma*]; the Japanese text of the article, but not the

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