

Nakhsab and villages near Bukhārā according to Narshakhī. According to Yākūt, they inhabited the village of Dargazin between Hamadān and Zandjān. The last references to Mazdakiyya occur in the Īlkhānid period, although the Mazdakiyān are listed as the fourteenth Zoroastrian sect in the *Dabistān*, and a Mazdakī community called Marāghīyya reported by Mustawfī as living in the Rūdbar of Kazwīn in the 8th/14th century still survived in seven villages there in the 20th century.

*Bibliography*: Th. Nöldeke, *Geschichte der Perser und Araber*, 455-67; idem, *Orientalischer Sozialismus*, in *Deutsche Rundschau*, xviii (Berlin 1879), 284-91; H. Graetz, *History of the Jews*, Philadelphia 1894, 1941, iii, 3-5; O. G. von Wesendonk, *Die Mazdakiten: Ein kommunistisch-religiöse Bewegung im Sassanidenreich*, in *Der Neue Orient*, vi (Berlin 1919), 35-41; A. Christensen, *Le règne du roi Kawādī I. et le communisme mazdakite*, Copenhagen 1925; Browne, *LHP*, i; G. Olinder, *The Kings of Kinda of the family of Ākil al-Murār*, Lund 1927, 63-4; N. Pigulevskaya, *Mazdakitskoye doženiye*, in *Izvestiya Akademii nauk SSSR, Seriya istorii i filosofii* (1944), i, 171-81; idem, *Goroda Irana v rannem srediekov'e*, Moscow-Leningrad 1956, tr. *Les villes de l'État iranien aux époques parthe et sassanide*, Paris 1963, 195-230; F. Altheim and R. Stiehl, *Mazdak und Porphyrios*, in *La Nouvelle Clío*, v (Brussels 1953), 356-76, repr. in their *Geschichte der Hunnen*, Berlin 1961, iii, 61-84; O. Klima, *Mazdak, Geschichte einer sozialen Bewegung im Sassanidischen Persien*, Prague 1957; idem, *Beiträge zur Geschichte des Mazdakismus*, Prague 1977; Abraham Ibn Daud, *The Book of Tradition (Sefer Ha-Qabbalah)*, ed. and tr. G. Cohen. Philadelphia 1967, 42; M. Kister, *Al-Hira, Some notes on its relations with Arabia*, in *Arabica*, xv (1968), 144-5; J. Neuser, *A history of the Jews in Babylonia*, Leiden 1970, v, 97, 104-5; P. Carratelli, *Genesi ed aspetti del Mazdakismo*, in *La Parola del Passato*, xxvii (1972), 66-88; D. Goodblatt, *Rabbinic instruction in Sasanian Babylonia*, Leiden 1975, 26; E. Arrighoni, *Manicheismo, Mazdakismo e confessione dell'eresiarca Romano-Persiano Bundos*, Milan 1982; E. Yarshater, ch. *Mazdakism*, in *Camb. hist. of Iran*, iii, Cambridge 1983, 991-1024.

(M. GUIDI - [M. MORONY])

**MAZHAR** (A.), pl. *mazāhir*, literally "place of outward appearance", hence "manifestation, theophany", a technical term used in a wide variety of contexts in aḥīsm, Šūfism, Bābism, and, in particular, Bahā'ism, where it is of central theological importance. At its broadest, the term may be applied to any visible appearance or expression of an invisible reality, reflecting the popular contrast between *zāhir* and *bāṭin*. In its more limited application, however, it refers to a type of theophany in which the divinity or its attributes are made visible in human form. The term is, therefore, of particular value in those forms of Islam in which the tension between a wholly transcendent and an incarnate God is most keenly felt.

In esoteric Shī'ism, the term is applied to the Prophet and the *imāms* in a variety of applications. Thus, prophets in general and the *imāms* in particular are the *mazāhir* in which the pre-existent Reality of Muḥammad (*al-ḥaqīka al-Muḥammadiyya*) appears; the human soul is the *mazhar* of the universal Forms in the next world; the Perfect Man (*al-insān al-kāmil*) or the *ḥaqīka Muḥammadiyya* is the *mazhar* of the divine names and attributes; and the individual *imāms* are the *mazāhir* of the "eternal *imām*" and of the divine attributes. (For these and other uses, see Corbin, *En*

*Islam iranien*, index, s.vv. "mazhar", "théophanie", "théophanies", "théophanique", and "théophanismes".)

It is the *imāms* in particular who function as loci for the visible appearance of the divinity. In a tradition attributed to the fourth *imām*, 'Alī b. al-Ḥusayn, it is claimed that the *imāms* are God's "meanings" and his external presence within creation (*nahnū ma'ānīthi wa zāhiruhu fikum*, quoted in al-Aḥsā'ī, *Sharḥ al-ziyāra*, iv, 269). Similarly, 'Alī is reported to have said: "My external appearance is that of the *imāmate* (*al-wilāya*), but inwardly I am that which is unseen and incomprehensible" (quoted in *ibid.*, ii, 135).

In the work of Ibn al-ʿArabī [q.v.] the term is closely linked to that of *taǧallū* or divine self-revelation; the *mazāhir* provide the external loci for the appearance of the *taǧallīyāt* emanating from the Absolute. In this context, the word *mazhar* is a synonym for *maǧlā*, used of an external attribute manifesting a divine name. In his theory of the Perfect Man who acts as a mirror in which the Absolute may see itself manifested, Ibn al-ʿArabī parallels the Shī'ī notion of the *imām*: man is the place of manifestation of the divinity, *huwa maǧlā al-ḥakk*. In this sense, the Perfect Man is the Isthmus or *barzakh* joining the worlds of the Absolute and Creation (See Ibn al-ʿArabī, *Fuṣūṣ al-hikam*.)

The Bāb [q.v.] developed a complex theory of theophanies in his later works, notably the *Bayān-i Fārsī* and the *Kitāb-i panǧī shaʿn*. The term *zuhūr* applies to the self-revelation of God to his creation and to the period in which he is thus manifest, as contrasted with *buṭūn*, the state and period of his concealment. This revelation takes place in the *mazhar*, a created being in whom the Divinity manifests himself to other created beings: "the hidden reality of the divine unity (*ghayb al-tawḥīd*) is only affirmed through that which is revealed in the outward aspect (*zāhir*) of the messenger" (the Bāb, *Panǧī shaʿn*, 40); and "God... makes Himself known to his creation in the place of manifestation (*mazhar*) of his own self, for whenever men have recognised God, their Lord, their recognition of him has only been attained through what their prophet has caused them to know" (*ibid.*, 125).

It is not, strictly speaking, the divine essence but the Primal Will that is manifested to men: "That command (i.e. the *mazhar*) is not the eternal and hidden essence, but is a Will that was created through and for himself out of nothing" (*ibid.*, 31); and "From the beginning that has no beginning to the end that has no end, there has ever been but a single Will which has shone forth in every age in a manifestation (*zuhūr*) (idem, *Bayān-i Fārsī*, 4:6, 120-1).

This *mazhar* (referred to variously as a "throne" (*ʿarsh*), "seat" (*kursī*), "temple" (*ḥaykal*), or "mirror" (*mirʿāt*), or as the "tree of reality" (*shadjarat al-ḥaqīka*) and "primal point" (*nukṭa-yi ūlā*) is an ambivalent creature. He is outwardly mortal ("what your eyes behold of the outward form of the thrones is but a handful of clay", *Panǧī shaʿn*, 242), but inwardly divine: "Look within them, for God has manifested Himself (*taǧallā*) to them and through them" (*ibid.*). The historical *mazāhir* are ontologically a single being, often compared to a single sun appearing in different mirrors; their number is incalculable. They are particularly identified with the chief prophetic figures of the past and with the Shī'ī *imāms*.

In the final phase of his career (ca. 1848-50), the Bāb himself claimed to be the latest *mazhar* of the Primal Will, initiating a new religious dispensation and *sharīʿa*. Beyond this, he attributed to many of his followers the status of partial or general manifesta-

tions of the divinity (see MacEoin, *Hierarchy*, 109 ff.). His chief follower, Mīrzā Muḥammad ‘Alī Kuddūs, is referred to in one source quite simply as *mazhar-i khudā* (*ibid.*, 110). In theological terms, this is explained by the concept of an infinite progression of mirrors reflecting the Divine Will and forming a complex descending hierarchy of *mazāhir*. These secondary, tertiary, and subsequent mirrors appear, not only during the lifetime of the primary mirror, but throughout the period of *butūn*, when he is in a state of concealment (*ibid.*, 117-19).

Bahā’ī doctrine follows that of Bābism very closely, but tends to be more restrictive in its attribution of the status of *mazhariyya*, which is generally limited to the founders of the major religions. The full technical term for such figures is *mazhar ilāhī* (in English Bahā’ī usage, “Manifestation of God”). At the same time, a broader definition of religious truth allows Bahā’īs to include among the *mazāhir* figures such as Buddha and Krishna (whom they regard as the “founder” of Hinduism). Bahā’ Allāh [q.v.] is the latest *mazhar* and will not be followed by another for at least one thousand years. Not only is he accorded a high status with regard to previous and future *mazāhir* (who have either prepared the way for him or will function under his shadow), but he himself often speaks in terms that are close to those of incarnationism. Thus he is “the creator of all things”, in whom “the essence of the pre-existent has appeared”; in one place, he claims that “he has been born who begets not nor is begotten” (see MacEoin, *Charismatic authority*, 168). Modern Bahā’ī doctrine, however, explicitly rejects an incarnationist interpretation of the status of the *mazāhir*.

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(D. MACEOIN)

**MAZHAR**, Mīrzā DJĀNDJĀNĀN (1111-95/1700-81), an Urdu poet and eminent Ṣūfī, was born in Tālābāgh, Mālwa. He was received into the Nakshabandī order by Sayyid Mīr Muḥammad Badā’ūnī, and into the Kādīrī order by Muḥammad ‘Ābid Sumāmī. He was shot in Dīlī by a Shī‘ī fanatic in revenge for his critical remarks about the Muḥarram celebrations, but though he survived three days, he refused to identify his assailant to the Emperor. He was—and remains—a famous religious leader. He had many disciples and was even credited with miracles. As a writer, however, his position is not so clear-cut. His letters, in Persian, have been pub-

lished together with letters addressed to him: but they shed little, if any, light on his poetry, being mostly concerned with religious and social affairs. In Persian poetry, his *diwān* is his own selection of 1,000 from 20,000 verses. The same fastidious self-criticism may perhaps explain why so little of his Urdu poetry is extant: what remains is found scattered in *tadhkiras*, anthologies and other books. Yet he has been recognised as one of the four pillars of 18th century Urdu poetry, alongside Sawdā’ [q.v.], Mīr Taqī Mīr [q.v.] and Dard. Sawdā’ complained that Mazhar’s poetic language was neither Persian nor Rēkkhā (Urdu), likening it to the proverbial “*dhobi*’s dog, neither of the house nor the river-side”. This remark is unjust, to judge by such of his poetry as remains, which makes us wish there were more.

**Bibliography:** For short accounts of Mazhar, see Muhammad Sadiq, *A history of Urdu literature*, London-Karachi, etc. 1964, 81-2 (Sawdā’’s remarks will be found in Urdu verse and English translation at pp. 74-5); Ram Babu Saksena, *A history of Urdu literature*, Allahabad 1927, 49-51; Muḥammad Ḥusayn Āzād, *Āb-i hayāl*, 7th ed. Lahore 1917, 137-41, contains interesting anecdotes but gave offence by its account of the poet’s relationship with a handsome young poet, Tabān. Published collections of his correspondence include *Maḳāmāt Mazhari* or *Laṭā‘if khamsa*, ed. Muḥammad Bēg b. Raḥīm Bēg, Dīlī 1309/1892; *Lawāyih khānkāh-i Mazhariyya*, ed. Ghulām Muṣṭafā Khān, Hyderabad-Sind 1392/1972. Most of the *tadhkiras* include short examples of his poetry, including Shēfīta, *Gulshan bēkhār* and Kudrat ‘Alī Shawk, *Tabakāt al-shu‘arā’*, Lahore 1968, 61-4. See also Karīm al-Dīn, *Ta‘rīkh-i shu‘arā’-i Urdū*, Dīlī 1848, 105-7; Sprenger, *Oude catalogue*, 488; Rieu, *Cat. Persian mss. British Museum*, i, 363a.

(J. A. HAYWOOD)

**MĀZIN**, the name of several Arab tribes who are represented in all the great ethnic groupings of the Peninsula; this finds typical expression in the anecdote recorded in *Aghānī*, viii, 141 (= Yāqūt, *Irshād*, ii, 382-3), according to which the caliph al-Wāthiq asked the grammarian Abū ‘Uthmān al-Māzinī [q.v.], who had come to his court, to which Māzin he belonged: whether to the Māzin of the Tamīm, to those of the Kays, to those of the Rabī‘a or to those of the Yemen?

The first are the Māzin b. Mālīk b. ‘Amr b. Tamīm (Wüstenfeld, *Geneal. Tabellen*, L. 12; Ibn al-Kalbī, Tab. 82); the second, the Māzin b. Manṣūr (D. 10; Ibn al-Kalbī, Tab. 92) or the Māzin b. Fazāra (H. 13; Ibn Kutayba, *Ma‘ārif*, ed. Okasha, 83); the third, the Māzin b. Shaybān b. Dhūhl (C. 19; Ibn al-Kalbī, Tab. 192); the last, the Māzin b. al-Nadjdjār a clan of the Khazraj Anṣār (19, 24). But alongside of these, many other tribes and clans bore this name. The *Djamharat al-nasab* of Ibn al-Kalbī gives no less than seventy, of whom the best known are the: Māzin b. ‘Abd Manāt b. Bakr b. Sa’d b. Dabba (Tab. 89); Māzin b. Ṣa‘ṣa‘a b. Mu‘āwiya b. Bakr b. Hawāzin (Tab. 92); Māzin b. Rayṭh b. Ghāṭafān (Tab. 92); Māzin b. Rabī‘a b. Zubayd or Māzin Madhhdj (Tab. 270); Māzin b. al-Azd (Tab. 1761-9). The large number of tribes named Māzin and their distribution over the whole of Arabia makes the hypothesis that we have here a single tribe that had been broken up into small sections impossible and we are led to suppose that the name Māzin is a descriptive rather than a proper name; since the verb *mazana* means to “go away”, one might suppose that