



## Shaykh Ahmad Sukayrij

By *Shaykh Fakhruddīn al-Owaisī*<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Shaykh Fakhruddīn Owaisī al-Madanī is from the tribe of Sayyidunā Owais al-Qarnī, and a *muqaddam* of the Tijāniyya in South Africa. He was born in the USA but grew up and studied in Medina al-Munawwara for 18 years. He has an MA in Islamic Studies from the University of Cape Town and is the Imām of the Hout Bay Mosque at the last Tip of Africa. He is also the Head of the Sunni `Ulemā Council of Cape Town. Shaykh Fakhruddīn studied with Sayyid Muhammad `Alawī al-Malikī of Mecca and has *ijāzab* in Hadīth from Sayyid Muhammad al-Yaqūbī. He took the Tarīqa from the great Sufī master Shaykh Hassan Cisse of Senegal, who is the grandson and *kehalifa* of Shaykh al-Islām and Ghawth al-Anām al-Hāj Ibrahim Niyāss ؎ the possessor of the *sayda* (Spiritual Flood) predicted by Shaykh Ahmad al-Tijānī ؎. He may be contacted on [fdowaisi@gmail.com](mailto:fdowaisi@gmail.com).

He is *Sayyidinā al-Shaykh Ahmad Sukayrij al-Khazrajī al-Ansārī (nasaban) al-Fāsī (mawtīnan) al-Mālikī (madhbaban) al-Tijānī (tariqatan)*.

Shaykh Ahmad Sukayrij was the Qādī of many Moroccan cities, teacher of the Sultān and his representative to the Hijāz, as well as a major Shaykh of the Tījāniyya Tarīqa.

Among those who took the Tījānī Tarīqa from him was Mawlay ‘Abdul Hāfīz the Sultān of Morocco, who was exiled to France, and who had previously been an enemy of the Tījaniyya. <sup>2</sup>

Shaykh Ahmad Sukayrij authored about 160 works on all aspects of Islamic Knowledge <sup>3</sup>, among which are:

- 1) A 20,000 line, *Nazm* Version of al-Suyūṭī’s *Khasā’is al-Kubrā*.
- 2) A 500 line, *Nazm* version of Qādī Iyād’s *Shifa*.
- 3) A *takhmīs* of the *Burdah*.
- 4) The renowned *Kashf al-Hijāb amman Talaqa mā`a al-Shaykh al-Tijānī min al-Ashāb*, a giant encyclopedia of the Disciples and Khalīfa’s of the Seal of the Saints *al-Qutb al-Maktūm Sayyidinā* Shaykh Ahmad al-Tijānī al-Hasanī al-Fāsī ﷺ, to whose Tarīqa Sīdī Sukayrij was totally dedicated.

Shaykh Ahmad Sukayrij possessed more than 600 *ijāza’s* in various Islamic Sciences <sup>4</sup>, which he transcribed in his seminal work *Qadam al-Rusūkh fima li-Mu’allifihī min al-Shuyūkh*. In the same book, Sīdī Sukayrij wrote: “*The first one to whom I gave authorization in all these chains of transmission was the Khalīfa al-Hājj Ibrāhīm Niyās...*”. He also said to him, “*You are the ‘Alim of the Sūdān (Land of the Blacks, i.e. Africa)*”.

Although *Sabib al-Faydah al-Tijāniyya Shaykh al-Islām al-Hājj Ibrāhīm Niyās* <sup>5</sup> had numerous *Ijāzahs* in the *Tariqah Tījāniyyah*, he would always use Sīdī Sukayrij’s *ijāzah* in giving the Tarīqa as it was the closest one to *Sayyidinā al-Qutb al-Maktūm Sīdī Ahmad al-Tijānī*.

Before he passed away, Sīdī Ahmad had a dream in which he was in the company of Qādī `Iyād <sup>6</sup>. Then it so happened that he passed away while he was in Marrakech in 1944, and was indeed buried in the Mausoleum of Qādī `Iyād ﷺ.

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<sup>2</sup> His *ijāzah fil tariq* to him is found on the website: <http://www.cheikh-skiredj.com/pere-cheikh-skiredj.php>

<sup>3</sup> Most of his works are available for download at: <http://www.cheikh-skiredj.com/pere-cheikh-skiredj.php>

<sup>4</sup> An example of one of Shaykh Sukayrij’s *Asānid* is found on this link: [www.cheikh-skiredj.com](http://www.cheikh-skiredj.com)

<sup>5</sup> Shaykh Ibrāhīm Niyās had 50 million Tījānī *murids* when he passed way in 1975!

It was the appropriate place for him to be buried as, like the famous Qādī `Iyād, Shaykh Ahmad Sukayrij was also one of the great *Qudāt* of the Maghreb and a true lover of the Messenger of Allah ﷺ. May Allah ﷻ sanctify his secret. *Amin*.



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<sup>6</sup> Author of the celebrated *al-Shifā'*