



Biography of Shaykh al-Barzanjī

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Shaykh Muhammad ibn `Abdul Rasūl ibn `Abdul Sayyid al-`Alawī al-Husaynī al-Mūsawī al-Shaharzūrī al-Barzanjī, and thenceforth al-Madanī. He was born in Shahrzūr, a Kurdish town in Iraq on Friday, the 12th of Rabī al-Awwal, 1040 AH.

He grew up in Shahrzūr and read the holy Qur`ān and other Islāmīc sciences with his father. He also studied under Mullā Zayrak and Mullā Sharīf al-Siddīqī al-Kawrānī.

He traveled to many cities seeking knowledge and thus he studied under Ahmad al-Salahī in Mardayn, Abul Wafā al-`Arđī and Muhammad al-Kawākibī in Aleppo, `Abd al-Bāqī al-Hanbalī and `Abd al-Qādir al-Saqūrī in Damascus, Shaykh Mudlij in Baghdad and in Yemen. In Egypt he studied under the Shaykhs Muhammad al-Bābilī, `Alī al-Shibrāmilsī, Sultān Mizāhī, Muhammad al-`Anānī and Ahmed al-`Ajamī. Finally, he settled in Madīnah where he became a disciple of the great shaykhs: Ibrāhīm ibn Hasan al-Kawrānī and Ahmad al-Qashshāshī.

He was the Chief Muftī of the Shāfi`īs in Madīna. The Shaykh passed away in Muharram in Madīna in 1103 AH. He was buried in al-Baqī alongside other prominent Barzanjīs. Many of his descendants became prominent scholars and many held the post of the 'Chief Muftī of Shāfi`īs' in Madīna. ¹

¹ hadyat al-`ārifin 2:302, silk al-durar 4:65, mūjam al-mu'allifin 9:308 (from the preface of the book *'shratu's sā`a'*, dār al-minhāj: Jeddah.

His Works:

1. *irshād al-anwāb ilā ma`ana hadīth “man qara’a barfan min kitābillah”*
2. *al-ishā`ah li-asbrāt’ al-sā`ah*
3. *idāt al-nibrās li-izābat al-waswās al-kebannās*
4. *al-a`ajūba fī a`amāl al-maktūba*
5. *anhār al-salsabīl li-riyād anwār al-tanzīl*
6. *al-ibtidā’a fil jamī bayna ahādīth al-ibtidā’a*
7. *īqādh dhaw al-intibā li-fahm al-ishtibāh al-wāqī li-bni nujaym fil ashbāh*
8. *al-tarjīb wal-tashīb li-salāt al-tasabīb*
9. *tasqīli lawh al-imān bi-tanzīhi `arsh al-rahmān*
10. *rijal al-tānūs fī sharh al-qāmūs*
11. *al-sanā wal sunūt fī ahkām al-qunūt*
12. *raf`a al-isr`an ma`anā kawnibi sallallāhu `alayhi wa-sallam ummiyan lam yantiq al-shīr*
13. *al-nawāfīd lil-ravāfīd*
14. *al-qawl al-sadīd fī jawābi rasm al-imāmi wal-tajwīd*
15. *al-qawl al-mukhtasar fī-tarjamat ibn hajar*
16. *al-targhib wal-tarkhīm li-munkar al-ta`āzīm wal-tafkhīm*
17. *kebālīs at-talkhīs mukhtasar talkhīs al-mištāh*
18. *al-sabīl fī irābi hasbunallāh wa nim al-wakīl*
19. *sadād al-dīn wa-sidād al-dīn fī-ithbāt al-najāti wal darajāti lil-wālidayn*
20. *al-sāfī `an al-kadar fī ahādīth al-qasā’a wal-qadar*

He writes an endnote in ‘*asbrāt al-sā`a*’, thus:

The author, a supplicant of Allāh, Muhammad ibn `Abdul Rasūl ibn `Abdul Sayyid al-`Alawi al-Husayni, al-Mūsawī, al-Shaharzūrī, al-Barzanjī; and thence, al-Madanī, may Allāh forgive him. I have finished this book, on Wednesday, 11th Dhul Qa`ada, 1076 AH, in the city of the Prophet ﷺ in my place of al-Zaqqāq also known as Suwayqa. I praise Allāh, send salawāt on Rasūlallāh ﷺ along with many prayers; and beseech forgiveness for all Muslim men and women; may Allāh make this a means for my salvation on the day of judgment, for the sake of the Prince of the pious. Amen.

In the appendix of ‘*kashf al-zunūn*’, al-Barzanjī is mentioned as:

Al-Barzanjī: Ja`far ibn al-Sayyid Hasan ibn `Abdul Karīm ibn Muhammad ibn `Abdul Rasūl al-Husayni al-Barzanjī al-Madanī; the [chief] Mufti of Shāfi`īs in Medina. He passed away in 1177 AH. This Barzanjī is a great grandson of the notable scholar mentioned above.

His works include:

1. *al-birr al-`ajil, bi-ibāhat al-shaykh muhammad ghāfil.*
2. *jāliyat al-kadar bi-asmā'i ashābi sayyid al-malā'iki wal bashar.*
3. *jāliyat al-kurab bi-asmā'i sayyid al-`ajami wal-`arab.*
4. *al-jānil dāni fī manāqib al-shaykh `abd al-qādir al-jaylānī.*
5. *al-rawd al-mū'ar fīmā yahiddil sayyid muhammad min al-ash`ār.*
6. *al-shaqā'iq al-utrujiyya fī manāqib al-asbrāf al-barzanjiyya.*
7. *al-tawālil as`adiyya min al-matāl al-mushriqiyya.*
8. *al-`arīn li asmā'il sahābat al-badriyyīn.*
9. *fath al-Rahmān `alā ajwibat al-sayyid ramadān.*
10. *al-fayd al-Latīf bi ijābati na'ib al-sharī al-sharīf.*
11. *al-nafkḥ al-farajī fī fatḥi jitta jī* ²
12. *nubūd al-layth li-jawābi abil ghayth* ³

A Moroccan Shaykh by the name of Muhammad ibn Ahmad `Alīsh, al-Mālikī, al-Maghribī, al-Shādhilī has written a commentary on the book '*mawlid al-barzanji*' and named it '*al-qawl al-munji, `alā mawlid al-barzanji*'. The date of his passing away is given as: 1299 AH.



² a historical work.

³ vol.5, page 211; entry al-Barzanji, under *bab al-jim*.