



## LIFE AND SCIENTIFIC HERITAGE OF HASAN IBN ABI BAKR AL-MAQDISI

Ubaidullaev Davud

2nd year student of International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan

11, A. Kadiri, Tashkent, 100011, Uzbekistan.

Phone: +99890 346 21 46.

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Received:	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	In this article, the life and scientific legacy of Hasan ibn Abī Bakr al-Maqdisī and his work “Ghayat al-Maram fi Sharh Bahr Al-Kalam” written as a reference to Abū al-Mu‘īn al-Nasafī’s “Bahr Al-Kalam” is studied.
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Almost no information is found in the sources about the life and scientific heritage of Hasan ibn Abi Bakr al-Maqdisi. For this reason, we aimed to provide more complete information about this scientist. In order to carry out a comprehensive study of this scholar, he wrote a commentary entitled<sup>1</sup> "Ghayat al-Maram fi Sharh Bahr Al-Kalam" on the famous work of Abū al-Mu'in al-Nasafi, a prominent representative of the teachings of Māturīdiyyah - Bahr Al-Kalam which can be the basis. The availability of a modern scientific and critical edition of "Ghayat al-Maram" gives us an opportunity to get more information about its author.

The work "Ghayat al-Maram fi sharh Bahr Al-Kalam" was published in 2011 in the Egyptian publishing house "Dar al-Kutub al-Misriya" by researchers Abdullah Muhammad Abdullah Ismail and Mohamed Sayed Ahmad Shahota. This publication contains valuable information about the author of the work.<sup>2</sup> In the preface of the publication, the full name of the scholar is Hasan ibn Abi Bakr ibn Ahmad al-Badr ibn ibn Sharaf ibn Shihab al-Qudsi and then Al-Qahiri.<sup>3</sup> However, on the cover of the work, the scientist's surname is not al-Qudsi, but al-Maqdisi written the researchers relied on popular encyclopedic works such as "Shazarat al-Zahab", "Kashf al-zunun", "Ad-Dav'u-l-lami" to obtain this information.

All sources agree on the scholar's date of birth, that is, he was born in 760/1359 in Jerusalem.

According to the researchers of the work, there are several reasons why the date of birth of the scientist is clearly indicated:

Firstly, of course, he may have mentioned the year of his birth in his works.

Secondly, of course, when the scientist himself and his family members are at a high level and in a high position. Because it is natural for historians to be interested in the birth years of people who grew up in a high-ranking family, and as a result, they recorded their birth years precisely.<sup>4</sup>

Hasan ibn Abi Bakr al-Maqdisi was known by the nickname "Badriddin ibn Buqaira" and was also called by the nickname "an-Nahwi" due to his knowledge of Nahw science.<sup>5</sup> According to the book "Al Badru At Tholi",<sup>6</sup> he was known as "Ibn Buqaira" in Jerusalem, and "Buqaira" was his father's nickname.<sup>7</sup>

Unfortunately, the sources did not provide much information about the scientist's family members. Also, in the same book "Al Badru At Tholi" Ash-Shams Muhammad al-Ati, the author of the work "Ad-Dav'u-l-lami" which was considered one of the notable works of his time, stated that he was the brother of Hasan ibn Abi Bakr al-Maqdisi. The author of "Ad-Dav'u-l-lami" said that he got this information from his uncle Ash-Shihab Ahmad and Sharihi, but Ash-Shams Muhammad al-Ati was not Egyptian.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Abū al-Mu'in al-Nasafi and "Bahr al-kalam" for the work look at: Okilov S. Abū al-Mu'in al-Nasafi – kak reformator teologicheskogo ucheniya « Māturīdism » v Maveraunnahre // Rossiya I musulmanskii mir / Nauchno – informatsionniy byulleten Rossiyskoy Akademii Nauk. 2018 god, 3-vipusk. – S. 101-114.

Look at again: Okilov S. Rukopisi sochineniya Abū al-Mu'in al-Nasafi «Bahr al-kalam», xronologicheskaya i fondah Tashkenta / Modernizatsiya i traditsii / XXVI mejdunarodnaya konferentsiya Istosnikovedeniye I istoriografiya stran Azii I Afriki. – Sankt-Peterburg: 2011 god, 20-22 april. – S. 114-115.

<sup>2</sup> Look at: al-Maqdisi, Hasan ibn Abi Bakr. Ghayat al-Maram fi Sharh Bahr Al-Kalam. – Cairo: "Dar al-Kutub al-Misriya", 2011 (After this: Ghayat al-Maram).

<sup>3</sup> Ghayat al-Maram. – P. 19.

<sup>4</sup> That work. – P. 20

<sup>5</sup> That work. – P. 21.

<sup>6</sup> Unfortunately, the name of the author of this book is not given in the publication.

<sup>7</sup> That work. – P. 21.

<sup>8</sup> Ghayat al-Maram. – P. 23



From this point of view, we have reason to doubt that Ash-Shams Muhammad al-Ati is a relative of the scholar we are studying. Because he is from another country is the basis for our assumption. In addition, no special research was conducted in encyclopedic sources about the members of Hasan ibn Abī Bakr al-Maqdisī's nobility.

In the publishing house called "Dar al-Kutub al-Misriya", researchers Abdullah Muhammad Abdullah Ismail and Mohamed Sayed Ahmad Shahota express the opinion in the preface of the work that there is a possibility that the scientist lived in Egypt without a family.

However, according to our opinion, the news that the scientist did not start a family is also a bit speculative. The reason for our reasoning is that how can a person who has been promoted to the position of a judge in his country and who has gained attention among famous Hanafi scholars not have a family.

However, there was no information about the scientist's children in any source.<sup>9</sup> We assume that if al-Maqdisī had children, he might have gone to Jerusalem outside of Egypt, not paying much attention to science. It is also possible that the scientist was childless, or even if he had children, his children died during his lifetime. That is why researchers may not have paid attention to the scientist's family in encyclopedic literature.

A scientist named Ibn Imad stated in his work entitled "Shazarat al-Zahab" that Maqdisī worked in various positions in Jerusalem, then in Damascus, and then in Cairo from 1380. He knew Arabic, Persian and several other languages well and was a wise man.<sup>10</sup>

In addition, it is recorded in the same source that al-Maqdisī was the guardian (leader) of Mashikhah al-Shaykhuniya, which was founded in his time. He reached the rank of a judge from an apprentice.<sup>11</sup>

Al-Ayni, a scholar, stated that when al-Maqdisī arrived in Egypt, he was given special attention along with other students and started working as a supervisor in the local market. Then he rose to the rank of sheikh without even imagining a single person.<sup>12</sup>

Information about only two works of al-Maqdisī has reached us:

1. The work "As-Surur fi Sharh Shuzur". Dedicated to Nahw science.
2. "Ghayat al-Maram fi sharh Bahr Al-Kalam".

Hasan ibn Abī Bakr al-Maqdisī died on the 3rd day of the month of Rabi' al-Akhir 836/1432 AH at the age of 73.

Now let us talk directly about the scholar's work "Ghayat al-Maram fi sharh Bahri-l-kalam", this work was written as a reference to the work "Bahr Al-Kalam" by Abū al-Mu'in al-Nasafi, a famous representative of *Māturīdiyyah* doctrine. This work has been overlooked by many researchers in history. There are several reasons for this. Firstly, there is little information about the author of "Ghayat al-Maram" and the age of "Bahr Al-Kalam" itself is easy and since it was written in an understandable language, there was no need for scholars to comment on it. In any case, there is a reason to accept Hasan ibn Abī Bakr al-Maqdisī's work "Ghayat al-Maram fi sharh Bahr Al-Kalam" as an independent work written in the direction of the *Māturīdiyyah* kalam school. We will provide full analytical information about this work in our next articles.

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4. Okilov S. Abū al-Mu'in al-Nasafi is a reformer of the theological school "Māturīdism" in Mavaraunnakhre // Russia and the Muslim world / Scientific and informative bulletin of the Russian Academy of Sciences. 2018, 3rd edition.

<sup>9</sup> That work. – P. 23.

<sup>11</sup> Shazarat al-Zahab. – J. V. – P. 217

<sup>12</sup> Ghayat al-Maram. – P. 23.

<sup>10</sup> Ibn Imad. Shazarat al-Zahab. – Bayrut: "Dar al-kutub al-ilmiya", VII volumes. – J. V. – P. 217.