

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 Islāmic 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-`Ardī 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-`ārifīn 2:302, silk al-durar 4:65, mūjam al-mu'allifīn 9:308 (from the preface of the book *'shratu's sā`a'*, dār al-minhāj: Jeddah.

His Works:

- 1. irshād al-awwāh ilā ma`ana hadīth "man qara'a harfan min kitābillāh"
- 2. al-ishā`ah li-ashrāt' al-sā`ah
- 3. idāt al-nibrās li-izāhat al-waswās al-k.hannās
- 4. al-a`ajūba fī a`amāl al-maktūba
- 5. anhār al-salsabīl li-riyād anwār al-tanzīl
- 6. al-ihtidā'a fīl jamī bayna ahādīth al-ibtidā'a
- 7. īqādh dhaw al-intibā li-fahm al-ishtibāh al-wāqī li-bni nujaym fīl ashbāh
- 8. al-tarjīh wal-tashīh li-salāt al-tasabīh
- 9. tasqīli lawh al-īmān bi-tanzīhi `arsh al-rahmān
- 10. rijal al-tāwūs fī sharh al-gāmūs
- 11. al-sanā wal sunūt fī ahkām al-qunūt
- 12. raf`a al-isr`an ma`anā kawnihi sallallāhu `alayhi wa-sallam ummiyan lam yantiq al-shīr
- 13. al-nawāfið lil-rawāfid
- 14. al-qawl al-sadīd fī jawābi rasm al-imāmi wal-tajwīd
- 15. al-qawl al-mukhtasar fi-tarjamat ibn hajar
- 16. al-targhīb wal-tarkhīm li-munkar al-ta`azīm wal-tafkhīm
- 17. khālis at-talkhīs mukhtasar talkhīs al-miftāh
- 18. al-sabīl fī īrābi hasbunallāh wa nīm 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 'ashrāt 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 Allâh 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-Husaynī 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-`ājil, 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-jānīl dāni fī manāqib al-shaykh `abd al-qādir al-jaylānī.
- 5. al-rawd al-mīt'ār fīmā yahiddīl sayyid muhammad min al-ash`ār.
- 6. al-shaqā'iq al-utrujiyya fī manāqib al-ashrāf al-barzanjiyya.
- 7. al-tawālīl 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 nā'ib al-sharī al-sharīf.
- **11.** al-nafkh al-farajī fī fathi jitta jī²
- 12. nuhūđ 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-barʒanjī'* and named it *'al-qawl al-munjī, `alā mawlid al-barʒanjī'*. The date of his passing away is given as: 1299 AH.



² a historical work.

³ vol.5, page 211; entry al-Barzanjī, under bab al-jīm.