

# Introduction

*The Book of Ġawāhīr al-Akhhbār wa-Mulaḥ al-Ash'ār*, Gems of the Tales and Anecdotes of Poetry, by Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad ibn Abī 'Aqāma Al-Yamanī, the Judge who died about 480 AH, is on literary lectures and anecdotes. It is not limited to literary tales but contains theological, jurisprudential, and linguistic issues.

The author divided his book into two parts, which included a hundred stories from authentic transmission, including eloquent poetry. The book contains 429 poems and stanzas on his tales. The first part ends with the end of story number 63, while the second part lasts from story number 64 to story number 100. Then, he adds twenty popular aphorisms and proverbs. The author surveyed the explanations of the authors who preceded him; they differed in some issues as they disagreed on others, so he collected what they differed and gave a full explanation. Moreover, these popular aphorisms and proverbs contain poems like they are in the hundreds, but they are not different from the others in the first part, except they contain aphorisms and proverbs.

He does not only narrate the tale, but he also mentions the different nunations, comments, explanations, quotes, documents and tells. The great literary and documentary value of this book is not only in being the first book written by authors of Yemen in this rut, nor in the fact that it includes unknown texts in poetry and prose, but also the book attributes the tales as the connected transmission in the books of the prophet tradition, Hadith, or close to them. 7 Introduction, which makes it possible to verify its authenticity or weakness; this is few in literary books, with variety in the tales between the pre-Islamic, Islamic, and Abbasid periods. He tells some women's tales and their poetry, focusing on prose and poetry, with some linguistic aspects in the tales. The author's choices for the tales indicate the peculiarity of Yemeni literary writings at this age; these writings are interesting in tales and stories of Ahl al-Bayt, the prophet's family, and their victory without being Shiites.

All this encouraged me to edit the book, despite the difficulties and problems which I found, such as a lot of errors and misspellings in the manuscripts of the book, and the mistakes of some editors sometimes in reading some words in the printed copies which I checked to document some of the tales and poetry which contain. Because of the difficulty of the content and language of the book, it requires a great deal of accuracy and prudence in editing the book. I hope that I have succeeded in editing this book. Finally, thank Allah first and foremost, for his acceptance, compromise, and responsibility, only for his power.

The editor of the book

*Noha*

## The author of the book

He is Abū Muḥammad, Al-Ḥasan ibn Abī 'Aqāma ibn Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad ibn Hārūn Al-Taghlibī known as Mu'taman al-Dīn.

### His works:

1. *A book of al-Mukhtaṣar fī 'Ilm al-Far'id wa al-Ḥisāb*, or A Brief in the Science of Inheritance and Arithmetic.
2. *Al-Mulaṭāf fī 'Ilm al-Misāḥa*, or A brief in Surveying.
3. He has a nonfiction poem that indicates the breadth of his knowledge and his high energy.
4. The author mentioned in this book that we have in the sixty-second news that he has a book called "Naqḍ al-Shī'r".
5. Nawādir Madhhab Abī Ḥanīfa al-Nu'mān, or Anecdotes of the Ḥanafism.

## The edited text

1-Documenting the title of the book, and attributing the book to his author:

### The book

It was written on the covers of the manuscripts of the book which we have got: "*Ğawāhir al-Akhhbār wa-Mulaḥ al-Ash'ār*, by Al-Qādī Mu'taman Al-Dīn Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad ibn Abī 'Aqāma Al-Yamanī".

In the introduction to the manuscripts of the book is what it says: "the great judge, Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad ibn Abī 'Aqāma, said: Praise be to Allah for His countless blessings, and may Allah's prayers be upon His Prophet whom he was sent by the most honorable book, and upon his Family. This book contains a brief of tales, including eloquent poems ... ". At the end of the first part of the manuscripts of the book, it is written as follows: "The first part of *The Book Ğawāhir al-Akhhbār wa-Mulaḥ al-Ash'ār*."

## Other sources

1. *The book of Qiladat al-Naḥr* by al-Ṭayyib Bā'akhrāma (3/521) says: "Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad ibn Abī 'Aqāma ibn Al-Ḥasan ibn 'Alī ibn Muḥammad ibn Hārūn Al-Taghlibī, from his works: *Kitāb Ğawāhir Al-Akhhbār*."
2. *The Book of Tuḥfat al-Zamān fī Tārīkh Sadāt al-Yaman* by al-Ḥusayn ibn 'Abd al-Raḥmān al-Aḥḍal al-Yamanī (d. 855) in the translation of Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad ibn Abī 'Aqāma (1/181) says: "He has *Ğawāhir Al-Akhhbār*."

3. *The Book of Hadāyat al-ʿĀrifīn* (1 /277) says: “Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad ibn Abī ‘Aqāma ibn Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad Al-Taghlibī, ... , who died in 483 AH.” One of his books is *Ġawāhir Al-Akhhbār*.
4. *The Book Kashf al-Dhunūn* (1 /512) says: “*Ġawāhir Al-Akhhbār* by Abū Muḥammad Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad ibn Abī ‘Aqāma Al-Yamanī, who died in the year 480 AH (483).”
5. *The Book of Muḡam Al-Awla*, in (3/286) says: “Al-Ḥasan ibn Muḥammad ibn Abī ‘Aqāma Al-Yamanī Abū Muḥammad by *Ġawāhir Al-Akhhbār*.”

## Secondly: the manuscripts of the book

I have got three manuscripts of the book *Ġawāhir al-Akhhbār wa-Mulaḥ al-Ashʿār*. The first is in the library of Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud University No. (2503). the second is in the Institute of Arabic Manuscripts No. (1233 literature). The third is in the Arabic Manuscripts Department of the National Library in Paris No. (6878).

## Thirdly: The strategies of editing the book

After reading carefully the three manuscripts of the book, I have studied and examined them well. There is no original manuscript by the author. I used symbols for each of the three manuscripts as follows (A) for the manuscript preserved in the Arabic Manuscripts Department in the National Library in Paris with the symbol; (B) manuscript preserved in the Al-Ahd Library in Yemen with the symbol; (E) for the manuscript in al-Ahdal library

Second: I connected the name of persons, countries, tribes, poems, and ... etc.

Third: I wrote an introduction to the book clarifying its importance.

Fourth: finally, I supplied the book with indexes.

