

TAQVĪM ('ALMANAC')

BEGINNING. ذكر تواريخ انبيا

AUTHOR. Unknown. The fact that in the chronological table (f. 2a, third line from the bottom) he speaks with particular respect of Jalāl al-dīn Rūmī and the other shaykhs of Qonya may indicate his connexion with the Mevlevi order.

TITLE. CONTENTS. The words: *Taqvīm-i tārikhī*, *taqvīm fil-ahkām* on f. 1a may belong to the author of the dedication. F. 1b-3a: Chronological tables giving the

SIZE. FOLIOS. 34 × 23.5 cm.; written surface 27.2 × 19.3 cm., variable; numbers of lines vary; 18 folios.

BINDING. None.

SCRIPT. PAPER. Large red or black naskh headings; each page is set out in lines or table form with thin red or black naskh, within red rules. Thin, deep-cream, semi-polished paper, mounted again roughly on later margins.

SCRIBE. DATE. Most probably contemporary with the composition, i.e. before A.D. 1450.

PROVENANCE. F. 1a bears a dedication in Persian and Arabic:

برسم مطالعة خداوند اعظم ومخدوم معظم مجمع محاسن الشيم منبع اللطف والكرم سيد الصدور
شرف الاكابر مجمع الافاضل ملك المحررين ممتد الملوك والساطين حسام الملة والدنيا والدين معين
الاسلام والمسلمين دامت معاليه وطابت ليايله حسابة لدعوته

from which it appears that the Taqvīm was prepared at the special invitation of a high personage in whom one may suppose the Grand-vazīr (*sayyid al-ṣudūr*), or at least some minister particularly entrusted with correspondence (*malik al-muḥarrirīn*) and perhaps having a religious rank as indicated by his titles *Ḥisām al-milla wal-dunyā wal-dīn Mu'in al-Islām*.

On f. 1a two illegible seals arranged as Ottoman *tughrā*.

MINIATURES. ILLUMINATION. The 8 lines of dedication within a broad border of gold flowers on blue, between narrow gold bands.

F. 7b. Circular diagram of moon phases (black and gold) around a gold-flowered sun; corner-pieces of gold and red flowers on blue; radiating script. F. 12b-13a, double page map of the World (blue sea) within black circle; similar corner-pieces to f. 7b, with black and red script. F. 16b, circular diagram of small circles of script, the Ka'ba being

in centre (black, red, gold on blue, corner-pieces, &c.). F. 17a circular diagram of 8 circles, all with script; corner-pieces, &c. F. 18a, circular diagram enclosing orange, grey, gold, and blue ellipses (rainbow), within radiating script; row of small circles with script, corner-pieces, &c.