

The History of al-Ṭabarī

VOLUME XXXIII

Storm and Stress along
the Northern Frontiers of the
'Abbāsīd Caliphate



TRANSLATED BY C. E. BOSWORTH



Contents



Preface / v

Abbreviations / xi

Translator's Foreword / xiii

Table I. Genealogy of the 'Abbāsids / xx

Map I. The Central Lands of the Caliphate during the Reign of
al-Mu'taṣim / xxi

The Events of the Year 218 (cont'd) (833/834) / 1

The Succession of Abū Ishāq al-Mu'taṣim on His Brother
al-Ma'mūn's Death / 1

An Expedition Sent against the Khurramiyyah / 2

The Events of the Year 219 (834/835) / 5

The Rebellion of the 'Alid Muḥammad b. al-Qāsim at al-
Ṭālaqān / 5

The Campaign against the Zuṭṭ / 7

The Events of the Year 220 (835) / 10

The Deportation of the Captured Zuṭṭ / 10

- The Affair of Bābak and His Outbreak / 14
 The Reason for This Battle between al-Afshīn and Bābak / 19
 The Reason for al-Mu'taṣim's Departure for al-Qātūl / 25
 The Reason behind al-Mu'taṣim's Anger against al-Faḍl b.
 Marwān and His Imprisoning of the Latter, and the Reason for
 al-Faḍl's Connection with al-Mu'taṣim / 28
- The Events of the Year 221 (835/836) / 36*
- The Clashes of Bughā al-Kabīr and al-Afshīn with Bābak, and the
 Reasons behind them / 36
 The Killing of Bābak's Commander Ṭarkhān / 43
- The Events of the Year 222 (836/837) / 46*
- The Engagement between al-Afshīn's Forces and Bābak's
 Commander Ādhīn and Its Causes / 46
 The Capture of al-Badhhdh, How It Was Achieved, and the Reasons
 for This / 50
- The Events of the Year 223 (837/838) / 84**
- Al-Afshīn's Bringing of Bābak and His Brother to al-Mu'taṣim at
 Sāmarrā and Their Execution / 84
 The Byzantine Emperor's Attacks on the Muslims at Zibaṭrah
 and Malatyah / 93
 The Reason for the Byzantine Ruler's Behaving Thus with the
 Muslims / 94
 Al-Mu'taṣim's Campaign against 'Ammūriyyah / 97
 The Reason for al-Mu'taṣim's Imprisoning al-'Abbās b. al-
 Ma'mūn / 121
- The Events of the Year 224 (838/839) / 135*
- The Reason for Māzyār's Open Rebellion against al-Mu'taṣim and
 His Severe Measures with the People of the Plain / 136
 The Story of the Poet Abū Shās / 155
 The Continuation of the Operations against Māzyār and His
 Capture and Execution / 156
 The Reason behind Minkajūr's Rebellion in Ādharbayjān / 175

The Events of the Year 225 (839/840) / 178

The Reason for al-Mu'taṣim's Anger against al-Afshin and His
Imprisoning Him / 180

The Events of the Year 226 (840/841) / 194

The Rebellion of 'Alī b. Ishāq in Damascus / 194

Al-Afshin's Death, the Treatment of Him at That Time, and
What Was Done with His Corpse after His Death / 196

The Events of the Year 227 (841/842) / 202

The Reason for Abū Ḥarb al-Mubarqa's Rebellion and Its
Eventual Outcome / 203

Al-Mu'taṣim's Fatal Illness, the Length of His Life, and His
Physical Characteristics / 207

Something about al-Mu'taṣim's Character and Behavior / 210

Bibliography of Cited Works / 217

Index / 231