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## Arab rule in Pakistan (A Historical Study of the Abbasid period)

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### **Abstract:**

The Abbasid period of Arab-Muslim history is a period of, besides large-scale conquests, cultural expansion towards the remote areas of the Arab empire. As to the Province of Sindh (now called Pakistan), the Arab authorities, after taking a firm grip on the administration in Umayyad time, now started engaging themselves in other areas like academics, dissemination of Islam and its culture and social welfare of the local masses. But all this advancement was badly shaken by the internal strife, tribal clashes, political leg-pulling among the Arab ruling dynasties in Sindh. Resultantly, the Arab rule came to an end within three hundred years. In this short piece of research endeavor, we have analyzed the whole period of 275 years of the Abbasids discussing the contribution of every Arab provincial governor and later quasi-independent Arab states to the rise or fall of the Abbasid rule in the area.

### **Keywords:**

Abbasid period, Arab-Muslim, Arab empire, Sindh, Umayyad time, Arab ruling

At the end of the year 132 A.H./ 750 A.D., the Umayyads were replaced with the Abbasids, and the Capital was moved from Damascus to Baghdad. It was not an ordinary change, a change of a dynasty or a ruling family. It was truly described as “a revolution in the history early Islam which affected all aspects of Islamic life”.<sup>(1)</sup> The nature of the revolution lies in the fact the Abbasids, besides being efficient administrators, did not succeed to rule the whole of Umayyad Empire. Spain was never ruled by them. They had to concentrate on the East, that is, on western and central Asia from Iraq to Khurasan. This change of the political geography of the Empire not only increased the influence of the Persians and later the Turks, but also led to the growth and development of the great cultural and intellectual activities in the Eastern lands of Iraq, Persia and Khurasan including Sindh and Makran.<sup>(2)</sup> But this “very noticeable qualitative change in the socio-economic set up of the Sindh” was, unevenly spread. There were some governors or Emirs whose periods remained totally ineffective due to the internal strife. But some of them were really brilliant, highly focused and efficient administrators.<sup>(3)</sup>

### Administration of Sindh under the Abbasids

The governor general of Khorasan was to supervise the affairs of Sindh, which was, during the reign of the Umayyads, administered by the viceroy of Iraq. In the Abbasid period, there were no stories of big Arab conquests. Instead the Arab culture was promoted a lot, because the Arabs had directed their attention towards the dissemination of knowledge and civilisational uplift which ushered in a new series of the cultural relationship between the Arabs and Sindhis. From 132 A.H. onward till the establishment of the quasi independent state of the Hubaris, there came some 30 governors to run the provincial affairs. “Some of these governors



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enjoyed the powers for some months and some for few days only, while some could not set their feet on the soil of Sindh.”<sup>(4)</sup>

### **In the Caliphate of Abu Al-Abbas Al-Saffah (132- 136 A.H.)**

#### **Muflis bin Al-Sirri Al-Abdi (132 A.H.)**

As the Abbasid government was established, Abu Muslim Al-Khurasani became the governor general of the Eastern Provinces of the Empire including Khurasan and Sindh. He dispatched troops, under the command of Muflis bin Al-sirri Al-abdi, to Sindh to establish an Abbasid government there. But he was stopped, at the city of Debul, by Manzoor bin Jumhoor Al-Kalbi, the brother of Mansoor Al-Kalbi. After a brief fighting, Manzoor was defeated and killed. On this, Mansoor Al-Kalbi, along with a mammoth army, invaded the city of Mansoorah and arrested Muflis and a large number of his associates. Later on, Muflis was assassinated in revenge for the murder of his brother.<sup>(5)</sup>

#### **Musa bin Ka'b Al-Tamimi (134 -141 A.H.)**

After the death of Muflis Al-Abdi, Abu Muslim Al-Khurasani sent Musa bin Ka'b Al-Tamimi with 20'000 men to establish his rule in Sindh. Musa, having expertise in administration as well as warfare, first got the support of the elders of the tribes in Mansoorah for his government and then attacked on the city. After a fierce fighting, Mansoor was defeated and arrested.<sup>(6)</sup>

Musa kept on ruling Sindh for full 7 years judiciously and adroitly. He died in 141 A.H.

### **In the Caliphate of Abu Jafer Al-Mansoor (136 - 158 A.H.)**

#### **Uyaynah bin Musa Al-Tamimi (141 - 142 A.H.)**

Uyaynah bin Musa was serving as his father's deputy in Sindh. So, after the death of the latter, he became the governor of the land and kept on governing, though for a short period, till he was removed by the Caliph Abu Jafer and replaced with Umar bi Hafs. As to the cause of his removal, it is said that in his period the bloody clashes between the Arab tribes renewed vigorously. He used to support the Nazarites against the Yemenites and assassinated many of them. Consequently, the Yemenite elders rose in revolt against him which compelled the Caliph to remove him.<sup>(7)</sup>

#### **Umar bin Hafs Al-Ataki (142 -151 A.H.)**

No sooner had Umar bin Hafs reached Sindh and occupied the city of Al-Mansoorah than he arrested the last governor, Uyaynah, he refused to give in and did not let the new Governor enter the capital. Hafs remained in Sindh for about 9 years running the affairs of the government adroitly. No significant Arab tribal clashes nor political intrigues by the Sindhis were reported to have occurred in his period of governorship.<sup>(8)</sup>

As to his fate, that was not very much different from that of the last governor, Uyaynah. He, too, was dismissed by the Caliph Al-Mansoor in the Year 151 A.H. on the accusation of assisting the Alawides and political Shiit movement in Sindh. It was reported that he had surreptitiously provided lodging for an enemy of the Abbasids, Abdullah Al-Ashtar bin Muhammad bin Abdullah bin Al-Imam Hasan, and, then, forwarded him to a neighbouring Sndhi king to escape from the wrath of the Caliph.<sup>(9)</sup>

#### **Hisham bin Amr Al-Taghlibi (151 - 157 A.H.)**

Unlike Hafs bin Umar who had used delaying tactics against Abdullah Al-Ashtar and his movement, the new governor, Hisham, who has been appointed in 151 A.H. by Al-Mansoor,



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came up to the expectations of the caliph. He, firstly, got Abdullah along with his ten companions killed near the city of Al-Mansoorah at the hands of his brother Safanj bin Amr Al-Taghlibi. Then, he moved to the Sindhi king who had provided shelter to Abdullah and his associates, and got him killed too. Besides this, he recovered Abdullah's son, Muhammad, and sent him back to the Caliph. <sup>(10)</sup>

One of the most remarkable features of Hisham's six-year long period in Sindh is that he was the first Abbaside governor who started thinking to put some efforts to extend "Islamic influence" far into the Indian territories. He dispatched troops to various directions, and conquered some parts of Qandhar and Kashmir. Impressed by his military and administrative skills, Caliph Mansoor handed the affairs of Kirman in Iran over to him.<sup>(11)</sup>

Another feather to his cap was he contributed a lot in establishing intellectual relations between the Arabs and Sindhis on a large and comprehensive scale which, later on, positively affected other parts of the Arab-Islamic Caliphate also. In 156 A.H., he dispatched to Caliph Mansoor a delegation consisting of intellectual and political personalities of Sindh. Notable among them was a Sindhi scholar who presented, to the Caliph, a book, namely "Sidhant" (The Arabs used to call it by the name "Al-sind Hind", which turned out to be a great source of information in the field of astronomy and mathematics not only for the Arabs but for the whole Europe too in later centuries. <sup>(12)</sup>

### **Ma'bad bin Khalil Al-Tamimi (157 - 159 A.H.)**

He was sage and ran his administration with sagacity, but could not last long and died in 159 A.H.<sup>(13)</sup>

### **In the Caliphate of Al-Mahdi bin Al-Mansoor (158-169 A.H.)**

The eleven years long period of Caliph Al-Mahdi was a period of anarchy and instability in the province of Sindh. The people of this region had to welcome eleven governors in as many years. The situation went to such an alarming extent that the caliph had to change three governors within single year. <sup>(14)</sup>

### **Ruh bin Hatim (159 A.H.)**

After the death of Ma'bad, Ruh was appointed as the Governor, but he could not suppress the disturbances of the "Jats" in the western parts of Sindh. Consequently, the Caliph had to remove him after few months.<sup>(15)</sup>

### **Bistam bin Amr Al-Taghlibi (159 - 160 A.H.)**

After the removal of Ruh, the caliph appointed Bistam, the brother of Ex Governor Hisham, who had spent almost six years as a deputy Governor of the Province. He administered the affairs adroitly and compelled the riots. But the caliph changed him just two years without any reasonable justification.<sup>(16)</sup>

### **Ruh bin Hatim (Second Term 161 A.H.)**

Ruh bin Hatim who had been transferred to Africa was again called by the caliph to take the administrative control of Sindh. But he was destined to fail again and, consequently, removed from his seat the same year.<sup>(17)</sup>

### **Nasr bin Muhammad Al-Khuza'i (161 A.H.)**

After the failure of Ruh bin Hatim, Nasr bin Muhammad was sent to manage the affairs. But he, too, could not do better than his predecessor and was dismissed by the caliph in the same year.<sup>(18)</sup>

**Muhammad bin Sulaiman Al-Hashmi, Abdul Malik Al-Masma'i and Nasr bin Muhammad Al-Khuza'i (Second Term) (161 A.H.)**



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The year 161 A.H. saw three governors replacing each other at the helm of the affairs. The appointments and, then, removals in haste clearly showed how mismanagement and confusion had eroded the political dispensation of the Abbasids in Sindh. To begin with, Muhammad bin Sulaiman Al-hashmi, a prominent personality in the Abbasid State, was given the control of the Province, but he, instead of going himself, hired another man namely Abdul Malik bin Al-Masma'i to go to Sindh in his place. Al-Masma'i could not stay in Sindh more than eighteen days and was called back. Then came the second term of Nasr bin Muhammad, but he again was removed within few months.<sup>(19)</sup>

### **Zubair bin Abbas (162 A.H.)**

After the second removal of Nasr Al-Khuza'i, Zubair bin Abbas, a member of a noble family, was chosen to do the job, but he could not come up to the expectations and was suspended just after few months.<sup>(20)</sup>

### **Musbih bin Amr Al-Taghlibi (162 A.H.)**

After the fall of Zubair, Musbih Al-Taghlibi, younger brother of Hisham Al-Taghlibi the ex-governor of the Province, was selected for the post. He, though, was an experienced man and controlled the situation by defeating the "Jats" of Sindh, but, bad luck to him, could not please the Arab local tribes. Resultantly, a civil war was started between the Yemenite and Nazarite Arab clans and the Province reached an edge of collapse. The Caliph was left with no option but to call him back in the same year.<sup>(21)</sup>

### **Nasr bin Muhammad Al-Khuza'i (Third Term) (162 -164 A.H)**

At the end of 162 A.H., Nasr Al-Khuza'i was appointed for third term without any valid reason. But he, this time too, failed to run the administration effectively and died in 164 A.H.<sup>(22)</sup>

### **Satih bin Amr Al-Taghlibi (164 A.H.)**

He, too, was the brother of above-mentioned Hisham Al-Taghlibi and ruled the Province for few months as a stop-gap measure.<sup>(23)</sup>

### **Al-Lais bin Tareef (164 -170 A.H.)**

Al-Lais bin Tareef proved to be a "last hope" of Caliph Al-Mahdi to correct the debilitating situation of Sindh. He was a great leader gifted with political acumen and successfully took the Province out of the crisis within no time. He, on the one hand, reconciled between the warring Arab tribes and vanquished the "Jat" elements on the other. He remained in the region for six years ruling with peace and normalcy. He was removed from his post in 175 A.H. by caliph Haroon Al-Rashid.<sup>(24)</sup>

### **In the Caliphate of Haroon Al-Rashid (170 -193 A.H.)**

#### **Saalim Al-Tunisi (171 -174 A.H.)**

He enjoyed the fruits of his predecessor's reconciliatory policies and ruled the region for four peaceful years. In 174 A.H., the Caliph transferred him to a big post.<sup>(25)</sup>

#### **Ishaq bin Sulaiman Al-Hashmi (174 A.H.)**

He was a scholar and encouraged literary and scholarly activities. He patronized the projects of translation to the Arabic language. But he died just after few months of his arrival.<sup>(26)</sup>

#### **Taifoor bin Abdullah Al-Himyari (174 -175 A.H.)**

Since he was Yemenite, his appointment as a governor was not accepted by the Nazarite group which was in majority. Resultantly, a civil war started and an administrative chaos prevailed. The caliph had to remove him just after one year of his rule.<sup>(27)</sup>



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## **Jaabir bin Ash'as Al-Ta'i (175 -176 A.H.)**

He did not prove better than his predecessors and was dismissed within a year.<sup>(28)</sup>

## **Kaseer bin Muslim Al-Bahli (176 -179 A.H.)**

Kaseer bin Muslim was appointed by his brother Saeed bin Muslim, the viceroy of Iraq. Since the former was not a good administrator, the masses got fed up with him after three years and was removed by the central government.<sup>(29)</sup>

## **Muhammad bin Adi Al-Taghlibi (179 -181 A.H.)**

This Muhammad bin Adi was too weak to stop the animosity between the Yemenites and the Nazarites. He is said to have once decided to shift his capital from Mansoorah (in Sindh) to Multan (in Punjab), but the people of Multan did not let him enter the city. When the caliph got notice of it, he removed him from the governorship in 181 A.H.<sup>(30)</sup>

## **Abd Al-Rehman (181 -182 A.H.)**

To end the tribal clashes the eyes of the caliph fell on this man, but he failed miserably and was removed next year.<sup>(31)</sup>

## **Ayub bin Jafer (182 -184 A.H.)**

This governor too came to Sindh with a clear mandate to achieve reconciliation among the Arab tribes. He, though, tried hard in this connection but to no avail. He returned in 184 A.H.<sup>(32)</sup>

## **Mugheera bin Yazeed Al-Muhallabi (184 -185 A.H.)**

After the successive failures by the governors, caliph Haroon put this tedious responsibility on the shoulders of Daud bin Yazeed. But he, instead of going himself, sent his brother Mugheera who fell hard on the Nazarites. When they retaliated, he fled to the western parts of Sindh in 185 A.H.<sup>(33)</sup>

## **Daud bin Yazeed Al-Muhallabi (185 -205 A.H.)**

When Daud bin Yazeed got knowledge of his brother's defeat, he himself headed towards the capital of Sindh to fight with the troubling elements. After a fierce battle with the Nazarites, the peace was restored and he kept on ruling the Province peacefully for long 20 years, 8 years in the period of caliph Haroon, 5 years in the period of his son Al-Ameen and 7 years in the period of his another son Al-Mamoon. He is also remembered for his having introduces reforms in the fields of culture, science and trade. He died in the reign of Al-Mamoon in 205 A.H.<sup>(34)</sup>

## **In the Caliphate of Al-Mamoon (198 -218 A.H.)**

### **Bishr bin Daud Al-Muhallabi (205 -212 A.H.)**

After the death of Daud bin Yazeed, his son Bishr was given the charge of administration in 205 A.H. Initially, he followed the administrative pattern of his late father, but after some years there came a shocking change in his politics and he stopped paying annual revenue to the central government. The Caliph had to remove him in 212 A.H. Thus the rule of the Daud family lasting for 28 years came to an end.<sup>(35)</sup>

### **Hajib bin Salih (212 A.H.)**

The new Governor, Hajib bin Salih, reached Kirman which was under the Arab government and demanded the brother of Bishr bin Daud who was ruling the Province of Makran (in Baluchistan) to hand its control over to him, but he refused. On this, Hajib did not advance further and wrote to the Caliph about the situation.<sup>(36)</sup>

### **Ghassan bin Abbad Al-Muhallabi (213 -216 A.H.)**



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After sensing disobedience from Bishr and his brother, the caliph selected a brave man, namely Ghassan Al-Muhallabi, and ordered him to proceed Sindh with a huge army and bring Bishr back to the Capital. Ghassan soon arrested Bishr and kept on managing provincial affairs for next three years. In 216 A.H., he handed the charge over to Musa bin Yahya Al-Barmaki and came back to Baghdad.<sup>(37)</sup>

### **Musa bin Yahya Al-Barmaki (216 -221 A.H.)**

Musa ruled the Province for five years, three of them in the period of Caliph Al-Mu'tasim Billah the brother of Al-Mamoon. He was a good administrator and left admirable impression. His rule was distinctive for two reasons; one, he adopted a policy of "neutrality" in the tribal clashes between the Yemenites and Nazarites and spent his time complaint-free. Second, he improved intellectual relations between the Arabs and Sindhis. It is to his credit also that he invaded a region ruled by an arrogant and disobedient Hindu Raja called "Bala" and arrested him. He died in 221 A.H.<sup>(38)</sup>

### **In the Caliphate of Al-Mu'tasim Billah (218 -227 A.H.)**

### **Imran bin Musa Al-Barmaki (221 -226 A.H.)**

No sooner had Imran, the son of Musa Al-barmaki, taken the charge of the Province after the death of his father than he faced a bundle of problems, one after another. To start with, the "Jat" tribes of Sindh rose in revolt every where, especially in the western parts of the Indus River. The reason for their uprising was the severe action taken by the caliph who, fed up with their illegal activities of looting and plundering, had ordered them to be driven out of Basra and Wasit in Iraq to the region of Asia Minor. Imran had to fight them fiercely till he controlled the situation.<sup>(39)</sup>

After the "Jats", another group called the "Medes" came into action and started troubling. He had to kill three thousand warriors of them to bring normalcy in the area.<sup>(40)</sup>

Peace was still far away. As Imran was inclined to the Yemeni group, their opponents, the Nazarites, reacted violently and revolted under the leadership of Umar bin Abdulaziz Al-Hubari. They ultimately succeeded in assassinating the Governor in 226 A.H.<sup>(41)</sup>

### **Anbah bin Ishaq Al-Dhabbi (226 -236 A.H.)**

After the death of Imran, Anbah Al-Dhabbi was appointed by the Viceroy of Kuhrasan, Aitakh Al-Turki. The new Governor fully concentrated on bringing peace back. He not only reconciled with the angry tribal elders, but also constructed a central jail at Debul to rein in the unbridled conspirator elements. When Caliph Al-Mutawakkil ascended the throne, he put Aitakh Al-Turki into prison. On hearing this, Anbah resigned from his post and reported to Baghdad.<sup>(42)</sup>

### **In the Caliphate of Al-Mutawakkil A'lallah (232 -247 A.H.)**

### **Haroon bin Khalid Al-Marwazi (235 -240 A.H.)**

The new Governor, though, joined his duties in 235 A.H., but could not counter the conspiracies hatched up by Umar Al-hubari. Consequently, he, too, was assassinated in 240 A.H.<sup>(43)</sup>

### **Umar bin Abd Al-Aziz Al-Hubari (240 A.H.)**

On the assassination of Haroon bi Khalid, Umar Al-Hubari took the control of Mansoorah in 240 A.H. He, then, wrote to the Caliph Al-Mutawwakil showing him his sincerity and faithfulness to appoint him legitimate governor of the Province. The Caliph, burdened with many other political problems, had to accept his demand.



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With the appointment of Al-Hubari, the region of Sindh witnessed another type of political dispensation. He started adopting "independent" approach towards the administrative matters. At last, he founded a new Arab state in Mansoorah pledging nominal allegiance to the Abbasid Caliphate. His successors kept on ruling the Province for more than a century.<sup>(44)</sup>

## **Quasi-independent Arab States in Pakistan**

When Caliph Al-Mutawakkil replaced Al-Wathiq, the weakening of the administration encouraged the governor of the Province, Umar Al-Hubari, to ignore the authority of the Caliph. He refused to pay tribute to the Central Treasury. That was the beginning of the family rule of the Hubari dynasty in Sindh.<sup>(45)</sup>

With the establishment of the Arab Hubari State in Mansoorah, other semi independent Arab states also came into existence at Multan, Makran, Tauran and Budha. Let us discuss them all in some detail:

### **The Hubari Arab State at Mansoorah (240 - 401 A.H.)**

The history of the Hubari Family traced back to Hubar bin Aswad, a renowned companion of the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H.). His grandson, Munzir bin Zubair, had moved to Sindh in 112 A.H. with the army of Hakam bin Uwanah Al-Kalbi and preferred his stay over there. The founder of the Hubari State was said to be the grandson of that Munzir.<sup>(46)</sup>

The chronology of the ruling family is as follows:

### **Umar bin Abd Al-Aziz Al-Hubari (240 -270 A.H.)**

As to ascending of Umar Al-Hubari to the seat of government, it has been described earlier. But one aspect of his rule should not be gone unnoticed that he, all along the thirty years of his administration, did not try to disassociate himself with the Abbaside caliphate politically, culturally and economically. The Friday Sermons in Sindh mosques used to be read in the name of the Caliph at Baghdad. Besides this, he always acted as subsidiary ruler to the Viceroys of Turkistan, Sijistan, Kirman and Eastern Provinces.

His rule which lasted for 30 years is characterized as a period of peace and prosperity across the region. He died in 270 A.H.<sup>(47)</sup>

### **Abdullah bin Umar Al-Hubari (270 -301 A.H.)**

After the death of Umar Al-Hubari, his son Abdullah Al-Hubari sat, as a hereditary claim, on the seat of government and, thus, the appointment of the governors from Iraq came to an end. But, despite this, the relationship between Mansoorah and Baghdad was always termed as cordial. He was truly chip of the old block. That is why when an earthquake which had killed tens of thousand people struck the city of Debul in 280 A.H., the Caliph Al-Mu'tazid (279 A.H.-289 A.H.) dispatched a swift assistance to help the people out. He died in 301 A.H. after serving for almost 30 years.<sup>(48)</sup>

### **Umar bin Abdullah bin Umar Al-Hubari (302 A.H.-????)**

After the death of Abdullah, his son Umar kept on governing the Province for a period not defined in books of history. What little we know about him is that he had captured cities surrounding Mansoorah and contributed a lot in beautifying its suburban areas.<sup>(49)</sup>

### **Muhammad bin Umar Al-Hubari and Ali bin Umar Al-Hubari**

Umar Al-Hubari had two sons Muhammad and Ali. They both ruled the region for more than half a century probably because when Al-Maqdasi, a famous Arab Historian and geographer, visited Sindh in 375 A.H., he found this family at the helm of affairs there.<sup>(50)</sup>



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## **Arab Shi'it State of Al-Mansoorah**

When the Hubaris got weakened and could not maintain their hold on the region, the Arab Shias of Multan, driven out by Sultan Mahmood Ghaznavi in 401 A.H., captured the city of Mansoorah and established their state over there. But their government could not last long. Sultan Mahmood attacked their newly established state in 415 A.H., killed a lot of them and destroyed their administrative structure.<sup>(51)</sup>

## **Arab States of Multan**

Apart from Sindh, there emerged some Arab states in the region of Multan as well. They are:

### **The State of Daud Family (94 A.H.-290 A.H.)**

Daud bin Waleed Al-Omani was the first governor of Multan appointed by Muhammad bin Qasim in 94 A.H. It is guessed by the historians that this Daud and his successors might have founded an independent state after the departure of Ibn Qasim because in later years many an attempt has been made by Mansoorah establishment to unite Sindh and Multan, but all in vain. In 151 A.H., for example, the Governor of Sindh Hisham Al-Taghlibi attacked on Multan but had to face defeat. Then in 181 A.H., a war broke out between the Sindhi and Multani armies when a Sindhi Governor Muhammad bin Adi had tried to enter the city of Multan by force. This fact clearly shows that the Daudis did not let the Al-Mansoorah bureaucracy to exert its influence in Multan. They had been ruling peacefully till 290 A.H.<sup>(52)</sup>

### **The State of Banu Sama (290 A.H.-375 A.H.)**

In 290 A.H. and onward the Daudis, as it appeared from the history of this region, were replaced by new rulers called Banu sama or Banu Munabbih. The great historians Al-Masudi, Al-Istakhari and Ibn Hauqal who had visited Multan in 303 A.H., 340 A.H. and 367 A.H. respectively that the region of Multan was administered at that time by a Qureshite Sunni family called Banu sama or Banu Munabbih.<sup>(53)</sup>

### **The Shi'it State of Multan (375 A.H.- 401 A.H.)**

Around 375 A.H., a Shi'it government had been installed by a "coup d'etat" in place of the Sunni government. This metamorphosis was initiated by a Shi'it propagandist, Jalm bin Shayban, who heavily assisted by the Egyptian Fatimide Caliph Al-Muiz Lideenillah had spread Shi'it teaching in the area and ultimately founded a new Shi'it State with the Friday Sermons read in the name of the Fatimid Caliph instead of the Abbasid.<sup>(54)</sup>

In 381 A.H., Jalm was replaced by another Shi'it propagandist Al-Shiekh Hameed. It goes to his credit that he had saved Multan from wrath of Sultan Subektigeen by signing a peace pact with him. Subektigeen was angry with the ruler of Multan because the latter had sided with the ruler of Lahore against the Ghaznavids.<sup>(55)</sup>

### **The End of Arab Shi'it Rule in Multan**

When Daud bin Nasr, the grandson of Al-Shiekh Hameed ascended the throne in 395 A.H., he dishonoured the above-mentioned pact by not helping Sultan Mahmood Ghaznavi in his war against the ruler of Bhatia, an area adjoining Multan. He, instead, assisted the other party. Next year Sultan Mahmood resolved to teach him a lesson and laid siege to city of Multan for seven days. Daud had to get the siege lifted after paying the Ghaznavides a heavy fine. Few years later, the ruler of Multan again disobeyed and refused to pay the annual tribute. On this, Sultan Mahmood made, in 401 A.H., a severe attack on Multan killing a lot of Shi'it warriors as



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well as arresting many of them including Daud bin Nasr. Multan and Sind, thus, were annexed to the Sultanate of Ghazna and the existence of the Arab State came to an end.<sup>(56)</sup>

### **The Arab State of Makran**

It was situated in the coastal regions of Makran in Baluchistan with Kinnazbur as its capital. As to the founder of the State, what is known is that he was a localized Arab. The prominent rulers were Ma'daan and his two sons Isa and Husain and Mutahir bin Rija.. The State was annihilated at the hands of Sultan Ghiyas Al-Din Ghouri in 471 A.H.<sup>(57)</sup>

### **The Arab State of Turan**

It comprised of the region around Khuzdar (in Baluchistan) which was its Capital. Its founder was Mugheera bin Ahmad. This State, too, was destroyed by Sultan Ghiyas Al-Din in 471 A.H.<sup>(58)</sup>

### **The Arab State of Budha**

It was situated in the region of North-western Baluchistan. Qandabil was its Capital. <sup>(59)</sup>

In short, the Abbasids who had inherited a submissive and peaceful land of Sindh with an enviable administrative structure tried, though, their hard to tighten security, maintain law and order and initiate other welfare-oriented steps in the Province, but could not become complete successful due to internal political clashes resulting in a chaotic administrative situation unable to be controlled by any one. Benefiting from the political and administrative chaos, intriguing elements within the Province established independent states of their own. This precipitated the ouster of the Abbasids from Sindh at the hands of the Ghaznavids. Their good performance in other fields like education and architect could not save them from this destiny. (This is the second and last in a series of two articles. The first has been published in "Oriental College Magazine", Issue.85 – 2)

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