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Barāq Ḥājib

Naṣr al-Dunyā wa-l-Dīn Abū l-Fawāris Qutluḡ Sulṭān b. Quldūz **Barāq Ḥājib** (d. 632/1235), the founder of the Qara Khiṭāy dynasty of Kirmān (r. 619–706/1222–1306), was a scion of the ruling house of the Qara Khiṭāy. The sources contain several versions of his story, but he clearly manipulated the turmoil in Central Asia before and after Chinggis Khān’s invasion to secure a regional base for himself and his descendants under Mongol aegis. In the early seventh/thirteenth century, Barāq was sent to Khwārazm to collect its taxes for the Qara Khiṭāy. He was either detained by the Khwārazm Shāh from then on (Shabānkāra’ī, 195; Nasawī, 174) or, more probably, captured after the 607/1210 battle in which the Khwārazm Shāh Muḥammad (r. 596–617/1200–20) took Transoxania from the Qara Khiṭāy (Juwaynī, 2:211–2, trans. Boyle, 476). Impressed by his talents, the Khwārazm Shāh appointed him chamberlain (*ḥājib*), a position he might already have held under the Qara Khiṭāy. Barāq was later attached to Muḥammad’s son Ghiyāth al-Dīn (d. c.625/1228). After

Muḥammad’s death the latter established himself in ‘Irāq al-‘Ajam, appointing Barāq governor of Iṣfahān and perhaps also of Kirmān (Nasawī, 174). Or, after a quarrel with Ghiyāth al-Dīn’s *wazīr*, Barāq received permission to go to the Delhi Sultanate, to his kinsman Iltutmish (r. 607–33/1211–36). Passing through Kirmān on his way, he was attacked by the local governor, defeated him after a long siege, and conquered the province, giving up the idea of continuing to India (Munshī Kirmānī, 22–3; Juwaynī, 2:211–4, trans. Boyle, 476–8). Jalāl al-Dīn Khwārazm Shāh (r. 617–28/1220–31), Muḥammad’s heir, grudgingly confirmed his appointment in 620/1223–4, conferring upon him the title Qutluḡ Khān (“Fortunate Khān”). Two years later he intended to expel Barāq from Kirmān but was convinced not to confront him. Simultaneously, Barāq, a newly converted Muslim, asked the ‘Abbāsīd caliph for an investiture, and the latter conferred upon him the title Qutluḡ Sulṭān. In 625/1228 Ghiyāth al-Dīn arrived in Kirmān as a refugee, after having fought with his brother. Barāq humiliated him by marrying his mother, eventually executing

both mother and son. Soon afterwards, or when Mongol commanders reached Sistān in 629/1232, Barāq submitted to the Mongols, sending his son to the Mongol court (Juwaynī, 2:214, trans. Boyle, 479). Ögödei (r. 626–39/1229–41), Chinggis Khān's successor, accepted Barāq's submission and allowed him to retain his title of Qutluḡ Khān, also borne by his successors. Barāq cemented his position by marrying his daughters to the Chinggisid family, local Muslim notables such as the Atabegs of Yazd, and his nephew. His dynasty remained a loyal vassal of the Mongols, its Muslim troops participating in the Mongol conquest of Baghdad in 656/1258 and its female descendants later marrying into the Īlkhānid family. While using Muslim and Iranian legitimation, Barāq and his descendants retained their connection to the infidel Qara Khiṭāy, their Khiṭāy character being manifested in the high position of women among their rulers, their use of shamans, and the practice of levirate marriages. In the post-Mongol period, they were assimilated into the Iranian Muslim population.

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MICHAL BIRAN

Birgivī, Mehmed

Birgivī (Birgili) **Mehmed** Efendī (929–81/1523–73) was an Ottoman teacher and scholar of *ḡadīth*, jurisprudence, and Arabic grammar, best known for his uncompromising stance on certain kinds of popular devotion and vociferous opposition to some Ottoman state practices, such as the cash *waqf* (charitable endowment) and contemporary policies of land tenure and taxation. In several popular works of exhortation (*wa'z*) and advice (*naṣīḡa*), Birgivī articulated a conservative religiosity that would enjoy great popularity up to the modern period.

Born into a provincial family of scholars and Ṣūfīs in the western Anatolian town of Balġkesir, Mehmed b. Pīr 'Alī was first educated by his father, 'Alī b. İskender Efendī, a local master of the Bayrāmī Ṣūfī order. He was sent to Istanbul for further studies and earned his