

**al-Aḳra' b. Ḥābis b. 'Iḳāl b. Muḥammad b. Sufyān b. Mudjāshi' b. Dārim,** Tamīmite warrior. *Al-Aḳra'* is an epithet ("bald"); his proper name (Firās? Ḍull?) is disputed. He is said to have been the last judge in the *djābiliyya* at 'Ukāz, having inherited this office (which was a privilege of Tamīm) from his ancestors; he performed this duty until the rise of Islam, giving his judgments in *sadj'* (al-Djāhiz, *Bayān*, i, 236). He is said also to have been the first to prohibit games of chance (*ḳimār*), but was accused of partiality in the controversy between Badjīla and Kalb. He took part, and was captured, in the battle of Zubāla (or Salmān, according to al-Balādhurī and Yāḳūṭ) and was freed by Bisṭām b. Ḳays. Another exploit of al-Aḳra' was the raid on Nadjirān after the battle of al-Kulāb al-thānī (see *al-Naḳā'id*, 46, 448; Ibn Ḥabīb's statement (*Muḥabbar*, 247) that he took part in al-Kulāb al-awwal is due to a confusion with his ancestor Sufyān: see *Aghānī*, xi, 61). Ibn Ḥabīb also states that he was one of the *djarrārūn*, who succeeded in uniting a whole branch of his tribe, the Banū Ḥanzāla, under his banner. According to Ibn Ḳutayba (*al-Ma'ārif*, 194) and Ibn al-Kalbī (quoted in the *Iṣāba*) he was a Zoroastrian (*madjūsī*); this is of importance for the estimation of Persian influence on some sections of Tamīm.

Nothing is known of his attitude towards Muḥammad up to the time when he joined the Prophet in al-Suḳyā during the expedition to Mecca in 8/630. He took part in the conquest of Mecca and was one of *al-mu'allafa ḳulūbubum* who were presented with gifts, which gave occasion to a famous verse of 'Abbās b. Mirdās. He took part also in the battle of Ḥunayn and refused to return his booty, in spite of the Prophet's request. (For Muḥammad's somewhat negative opinion of him see also Ibn Hishām, iv, 139.) He participated later in the deputation of Tamīm to the Prophet, the traditional account stressing his arrogant conduct; nevertheless, he was appointed to collect the *ṣadaḳāt* of part of the Banū Ḥanzāla (*al-Ansāb*, x, 970<sup>f</sup>). Together with other chiefs of Tamīm, he

interceded for the captives of the Banu 'l-'Anbar, and was a witness to a letter despatched by the Prophet to Nadjran.

During the *ridda*, according to Sayf (al-Ṭabarī, i, 1920), al-Aḳra' and al-Zibriḳān proposed to Abū Bakr to guarantee the allegiance of Tamīm against the grant of the *kharādj* of Baḥrayn, and it was only 'Umar who prevented Abū Bakr from accepting the proposal. In view of the situation of Tamīm at this period, this tradition does not seem trustworthy, but it may reflect 'Umar's attitude to al-Aḳra' (cf. *Bayān*, i, 253, and *Uyūn al-Akḥbār* (Cairo), i, 85). Sayf relates also that he took part in the battle of the *ridda* alongside Khālid b. al-Walīd, and was in the vanguard at the battles of Dūmat al-Djandal and al-Anbār. His name is last mentioned in 32/652-3, when he was sent by al-Aḥnaf b. Ḳays to subdue Djūzdjān; he must have been a very old man at that time. Al-Balādhurī mentions that his descendants lived in Khurāsān.

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