



Muḥammad ibn Ḥusayn Bahā' al-Dīn al-‘Āmilī (1547–1621)

Tashrīḥ al-aflāk (Anatomy of the celestial spheres)

including **Sharḥ Tashrīḥ al-aflāk**
(Commentary on Tashrīḥ al-aflāk)

Manuscripts in Arabic

Copist Muhammad bin Fazlullah Sharīf

1072 H (1656 AD)

186pp., c. 11 x c. 19 cm.

Simple leather cover

Muḥammad ibn Ḥusayn Bahā' al-Dīn al-‘Āmilī (ca. 1547–1621), also known as Shaykh Bahā'ī, was one of the most respected Imāmī (Twelver Shī'ī) Ṣafavid theologians during the reign of Shah ‘Abbās I (1581–1629) was probably the last scholar in the chain of universal and encyclopedic scholars that Islamic civilization was still producing as late as the 16th century. A major figure in the cultural revival of Safavid Iran, he wrote numerous works on astronomy, mathematics, and religious sciences and was one of the very few in the Islamic world to have propounded the possibility of the Earth's movement prior to the spread of Copernican discoveries in astronomy.

In his summary of theoretical astronomy entitled *Tashrīḥ al-aflāk* (Anatomy of the celestial spheres), al-‘Āmilī upholds the view of the positional rotation of the Earth, arguing that no sufficient proof has been offered so far to the contrary. In expressing this view, Bahā'ī stands out as one of the very few Muslim scholars to have advocated the feasibility of the Earth's rotation as early as the 16th century, this independent of Western influences.

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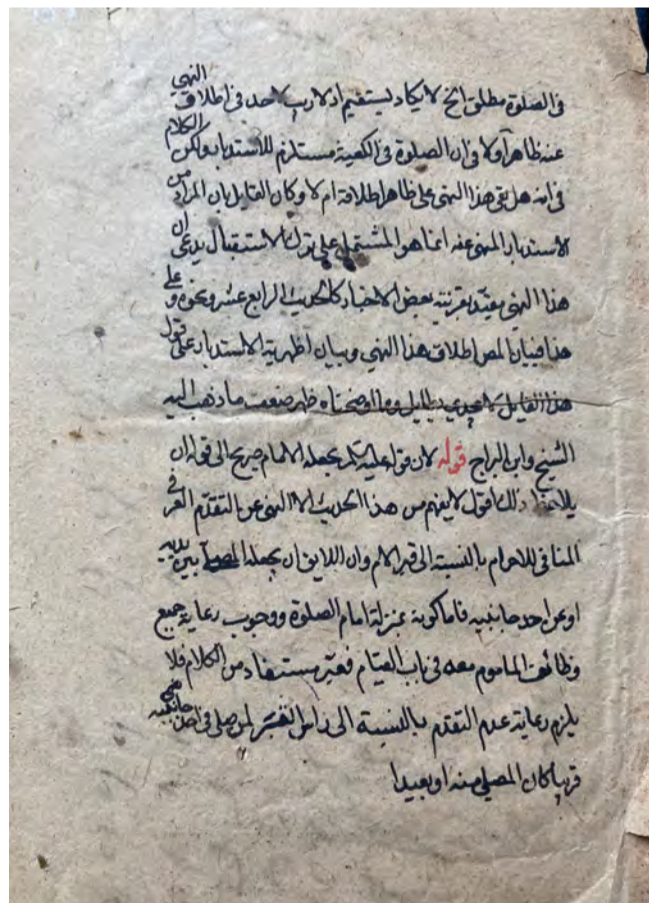
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