

Table of Contents

Letter from the General Editor	iii
Abbreviations used in the Introduction and Translation	x
Introduction	xi
Notes to the Introduction	xiv
THE EPISTLE OF FORGIVENESS	1
On Hypocrisy	2
Hypocrisy in humans and animals	2
On Ibn al-Qāriḥ's excessive praise of Abū l-'Alā'	10
The Sheikh's Return to Aleppo	16
Ibn al-Qāriḥ's arrival in Aleppo	16
The stolen letter	26
Proverbs	26
The plight of men of letters	30
Heretics, Apostates, and Impious Poets	36
Al-Mutanabbī and the diminutive	36
Al-Mutanabbī, the would-be prophet?	38
Other poets: Di'bil and Abū Nuwās	40
Heretics in Islam: Quraysh	40
Stories about al-Mutanabbī	42
On collaborative authorship	44
Al-Mutanabbī on Time	46
More heretics and apostates	50
Ṣāliḥ ibn 'Abd al-Quddūs	56
The Fuller, the Box-Maker, and others	58
Al-Walīd ibn Yazīd	64
Abū 'Īsā, the son of al-Rashīd	66
Al-Jannābī	68
The leader of the Zanj	68
Al-Ḥallāj	74
Ibn Abī 'Awn	84

Table of Contents

Various forms of belief	84
Shi'ite beliefs	88
Ibn al-Rāwandī's books	92
Ibn al-Rūmī and his superstition	100
Abū Tammām	108
Al-Māzyār and Bābak	114
Abū Muslim	114
The vanity of worldly things	114
Claims of extremist Shi'ites	116
Old Age, Grave Sins, Pilgrimages, and Sincere Repentance	122
Old age	122
Servants, slaves or freemen	130
On drinking wine and other sins	134
Repentance	152
The author's acquaintance with Ibn al-Qāriḥ	156
Pilgrimages	162
The Sheikh's thoughts in Antioch and Malatya	174
Ibn al-Qāriḥ's praise of al-Ma'arrī	178
Pleasure and wine	182
The Stolen Dinars and the Number Eighty	188
Ibn al-Qāriḥ's eighty stolen dinars	188
The number eighty	200
The Sheikh's naughty niece	208
Finis	214
Notes	217
Glossary	272
Bibliography	293
Concordance with <i>Risālat al-Ghufrān</i> , 9th edition, edited by Bint al-Shāṭi'	305
Index	330
About the NYU Abu Dhabi Institute	344
About the Typefaces	345
About the Editor-Translators	346